



PHOTO: STAR

Italian Ambassador Dr. Pietro Ballero called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina at her Dhanmondi residence yesterday.

'Hard work, honesty make entrepreneur successful'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Proper planning, discipline, hard work and honesty are the few qualities that make an entrepreneur successful, said noted business personalities yesterday.

Proper application of current business knowledge and ability to face various challenges are also essential to become a successful entrepreneur, they said while sharing their experiences with the future business leaders at the 3E Summit.

The three-day summit, organised by the Junior Chamber Bangladesh, began at the Sheraton Hotel yesterday.

"First you have to maintain discipline -- a key to success -- otherwise employees will not follow you," Samson H Chowdhury, a successful industrialist and chairman of Square Pharmaceuticals Limited, told the participants.

Knowledge is power, he said, adding that the employers should send their staffs to training programmes to equip themselves with

latest knowledge.

Rokia A Rahman, president of Women Entrepreneurs' Association of Bangladesh, said a business may fail due to lack of proper planning.

Emphasising the need for honesty, she said credibility also plays an important role in helping expand the business.

Firm commitment to the business and courage are required to become a successful entrepreneur, Rokia said.

"If you have the quality, you can make your business successful even at unfavourable situation," she said.

Muhammad A (Rumee) Ali, deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank, said continuous communication and sharing problems with and sympathy towards the employees are necessary to run an enterprise successfully.

Students of BGMEA Institute of Fashion and Technology and Manarat International University and JCB members joined the conference.

Italian envoy calls on Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Italian Ambassador Dr. Pietro Ballero made a courtesy call on Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her Dhanmondi residence yesterday.

They exchanged views on matters of bilateral interest. The new Italian Ambassador hoped that the existing friendly relations and cooperation between Rome and Dhaka would be strengthened further. Hasina said bilateral relation, particularly people-to-people contact between Bangladesh and Italy, is excellent.

The former prime minister hoped that the existing economic cooperation between the two countries would be expanded for mutual benefit.

AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil MP, Hasina's Political Advisor Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Press Advisor Jawadul Karim and former ambassador Mahmud Ali were present.

OIC Day today

UNB, Dhaka

The OIC Day will be observed today.

Bangladesh called for greater unity of the Muslim Ummah and an effective role of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference at this crucial juncture.

"The need for greater unity of Ummah has never been so pronounced. Recent developments in the world exposed deep divisions in the international community," President Iajuddin Ahmed said in a statement marking the OIC Day.

He noted there are concerns over the efficacy of the rules and instruments regulating world order. "Peace efforts in the Middle East have suffered yet another setback," he said, adding, "Our Iraqi brothers and sisters are suffering and they are in anguish."

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia said the relevance of the OIC is more prominent now in the face of "new challenges confronted by the Muslim World".

On the question of Iraq, she said the Iraqi people should be relieved of their sufferings and hoped that the Ummah would take more active role in the reconstruction of Iraq, along with the United Nations.

"We stand by our Iraqi brothers and sisters in support of their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and in their efforts at national reconstruction," the prime minister said.

She urged the United Nations to assume its responsibility towards the Palestinian people, implement its own resolutions and establish a sovereign, independent State of Palestine with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

Conveying greetings on behalf of the government and people of Bangladesh to the fellow-Muslim nations, the PM wished the second observance of the OIC Day should regenerate the hopes for a better future for all Muslim nations overcoming the challenges of the day.

'Proper delivery of public service can ensure good governance'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A state has to adopt some fundamental overhauling measures through transparency and proper delivery of public service in a deconcentrated manner to ensure good governance, speakers said at a lecture in the city yesterday.

"A good governance must comprise economic efficiency, transparency, ethical integrity and delivery of public utility services," said a French expert Helene Gadriot-Renard in her keynote presentation on 'Challenges to Governance', at the lecture organised by Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) at its auditorium.

Helene who is a public auditor at government accounting office and head of the governance and role of the state division in France, said

good governance is a present day buzzword faced with multiple challenges.

While pointing out how the issue of decentralised and good governance

surfaced in the forefront world over, Helene said in a globalised world system a state enters into different international accords and regional unions undertaking the pledges to do public good which requires it to rethink of governance system.

She said the public sector must communicate some traditional values to the private sector to keep up the social aspects and retain public trust in the governance system as the latter's main focus is profit-making.

She said the civil service should be "performance oriented" and there should be an efficient system to demarcate sincere and insincere public servants.

Gilles Lagarde, general secretary of the Saone et Loire prefecture of France, also spoke on local and central governments in France featuring their various structural aspects.

BISS Chairman Mufleh R. Osmany and Director General Major General Abdul Mubeen were present on the occasion.



The Fantasy Kingdom will launch Vortex Tunnel today.

New attraction at Fantasy Kingdom

The Fantasy Kingdom is going to launch its newest ride, Vortex Tunnel, today, says a press release.

The Vortex Tunnel is an amazing rotating tunnel where riders are given an experience they will never forget. The effect is like travelling to outer space and coming back to earth through a mind-boggling tunnel.

The addition of the Vortex Tunnel is part of Concord's commitment to bringing new and exciting attractions to Fantasy Kingdom on a regular basis.

Fantasy Kingdom is the largest and most beautifully decorated theme park in Bangladesh.

Punishment to killers of Ratna demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students of Dhaka Mahanagar Mohila College yesterday formed a human chain in front of the Supreme Court demanding arrest and exemplary punishment to the killers of Ratna Sarker Pakhi.

Ratna, a second year student of the college, was allegedly killed by her husband in collusion with the members of his family at their Sutrapur residence on August 29.

She was killed only three months after her marriage.

On the day of incident, Ratna's husband informed her mother-in-law over telephone that she had fallen sick and taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

But doctors at DMCH declared her dead as soon as she was taken to the hospital.

Members of Ratna's family found marks of injuries in different parts of her body and the post-mortem report also mentioned it.

But police recorded only a general diary on the incident despite filling a case in this regard.

Railway needs to replace 100 obsolete engines

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Railway (BR) needs immediate replacement of 100 obsolete locomotives from its fleet of 273 diesel electric engines, railway officials said yesterday.

"We are burdened with a huge number of age-old locomotives which have completed their 20 years of economic life. So replacement of at least 100 engines is a must," said an official.

These obsolete engines have been creating an obstacle to improving the overall standard of train service, he added.

"The obsolete engines bought from the USA and Canada have not only causing high maintenance cost, but also forcing railway to cancel trips frequently due to engine failures. And thus,

railway is losing competitiveness against highway transports," said another official.

Many of the locomotives bought from five other countries -- Hungary, Germany, South Korea, Japan and India -- have also become outdated, he said.

Railway to buy 11 metre-gauge engines

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Railway (BR) yesterday flagged a deal to purchase 11 metre-gauge mainline diesel electric locomotives at Tk 210.94 crore from Korean Samsung Corporation for uplift of railway.

Abdur Razzak, BR joint director general, and KD Kimm, vice-president of Samsung Corp, signed the agreement at an event, joined by Communications Minister Nazmul Huda and South Korean Ambassador in Dhaka Lee Kyu Hyung as chief and special guests.

The government will provide Tk 47.55 crore in purchase and Tk 163.39 crore will be given by the Korean government under its Economic Development and Cooperation Fund.

The communications minister said the project, to be complete in 19 months, would help make railway travel more comfortable and easier and modernise the railway cargo management system.

Huda said the government is committed to modernising the railway.

The Korean envoy called for continued cooperation for modernising Bangladesh's railway.



Students demonstrate their project at the science fair held at the Scholastica Senior Section Uttara Campus recently.

Science fair held at Scholastica

A science fair was held at the Scholastica Senior Section Uttara Campus recently, says a press release.

About 150 students presented 57 innovative projects in the fair.

Most notable were the arsenic mitigation project, the rainwater collection and purification project, living on Mars and the lemon battery.

Parents, guardians and students thronged the fair and an air of festivity prevailed throughout the day.

Work on to make CPA confce a success

Speaker tells Norwegian envoy

BSS, Dhaka

Speaker Barrister Jamir Uddin Sircar said the government and the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) have been sincerely working together to make the forthcoming Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) conference a success.

He said this during a meeting with newly appointed Norwegian envoy Ms

Aud Lise Norheim at his Sangsad Bhaban office yesterday.

The Speaker said, about 550 representatives from 132 national and regional parliaments of 46 countries have shown their interests to attend the conference.

They also discussed matters relating to bilateral and international issues.

Speaker Sircar said Bangladesh and Norway have a very strong diplomatic relation and the two countries are sharing their happiness and woes for long time.

The Speaker said interaction between the parliaments and exchange of delegation can greatly help the lawmakers in acquiring knowledge on parliamentary rules and practices.

Terming Norway as a development partner, the Speaker hoped that the country would continue its contribution to boost the agro-based economy of Bangladesh.

DHAKA TODAY

8.00am.

Film show
Academy Film Society will screen two films titled 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' and 'I am Sam'. Venue: 21C, Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

Meeting
A representative meeting of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation will be held. Venue: Federation office, Siddheswari Circular Road. Time: 7.00pm.

Exhibition
The inaugural ceremony of a three-day Mega Expo- 2003, organised by Conference and Exhibition Management Services, will be held with Md Barkat Ullah Bulu, advisor, ministry of commerce as chief guest. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 2.00pm. The exhibition will remain open from 10.00am to 8.00pm except on Thursday from 6.00pm to 9.00pm.

Certificate giving ceremony
The certificate giving ceremony of the 'Training programme for Trainers', organised by Soil Resources Development Institute (SRDI), will be held. Venue: SRDI conference room, Khamar Bari Road. Time: 2.00pm.

Memorial ceremony
On the occasion of the second death anniversary of Samar Das, a renowned musician, Samar Das Smriti Sangsad will place wreaths and offer special prayers at his graveyard. Venue: Christian graveyard, Wari. Time: 8.00am.

DHAKA TOMORROW

AL meeting
An extended meeting of Dhaka City Awami League will be held. Venue: 23, Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 4.30pm.

Rally
A rally, organised by Islamic Constitution Movement (ICM), will be held. Venue: North gate of Baitul Mokarram Mosque. Time: 5.00pm.

Reunion
Jogajog 92, an organisation of 92 batch students of mass communication and journalism department of Dhaka University, organises a reunion. Prof Sakhawat Ali Khan, chairman and Abdul Majid, an official will be given a reception at the function. Venue: TSC Cafeteria. Time: 4.00pm.

Street drama
The Centre for Asian Theatre will stage a street drama titled 'Tarpor', directed by Naila Azad. The drama deals with violence and human rights issues. Venue: Dhanmondi Mukta Mancha. Time: 6.00pm.

Musical evening
An exclusive musical evening by Sadi Mohammad and Fatema Tuz Zohra, organised by A V Graph, will be held. Venue: Spectra Convention Centre, Gulshan 1. Time: 7.30pm.

WEATHER TODAY

Slight fall in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at few places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi, Khulna and Dhaka divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places till 6pm today.

Slight fall in day temperature is expected over the country during the period, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sayedpur and the lowest 23.8 degree at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:52pm today and rises at 5:48am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	29.6	24.8	90	85
Chittagong	31.5	26.0	79	80
Rajshahi	31.4	26.0	80	98
Khulna	33.8	26.6	86	90
Barisal	32.0	25.0	83	83
Sylhet	30.1	23.8	95	88
Cox's Bazar	31.2	24.5	87	93



Members of the Begum Badrunessa College Alumnae Association pose for photograph at its annual general meeting held at the Officers' Club in the city on Tuesday. Principal Jahanara Begum attended the meeting as chief guest while Principal Jahanara Haq and Principal Hazara Nazrul were present as special guests. Association President Professor Khurshid Jahan presided. The election to the executive committee was also held.