



Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) released its corruption database survey report at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday. From left are Professor Muzaffar Ahmed and Professor Khan Sarwar Murshid of TIB.

# Channel i pledges to air more pro-people programmes

## Satellite channel celebrates 5th year of its launching

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Private satellite television 'Channel i' yesterday pledged to come up with more attractive pro-people programmes to serve the nation positively. "We don't think that we have achieved our goals despite all of our successes. We believe, Channel i has achieved only a little in the long path of its cherished goal," said Shaikh Siraj, director of Channel i, at a press briefing marking the 5th year of its launching at a city hotel. Channel i came into being as the country's first satellite based television channel in private sector in October 1999. It will organise a five-day programme to celebrate its founding anniversary, Siraj said. He said some of the programmes

of Channel i has direct feedback from its audience and helped flourish the democracy in the country through establishing accountability. "The channel as an electronic media will continue to work for flourishing democracy and ensuring accountability and credibility of the administration through its programme," Siraj said. He said we have plans to introduce more programmes to establish ourselves as a credible and accountable electronic media to be a partner of the progress and prosperity of the country. He said Channel i has been upholding the cultural heritage of the country and patronising the literature of the country since its inception. Siraj said audiences of the channel have started to form 'Amar

Channel i audience forum' at home and abroad. Earlier, a web site of the channel addressed: www.channel-i-news.com was officially launched. Speaking on the occasion Faridur Reza Sagar, managing director of Channel i, said the channel has a vision to reach all Bengali speaking people with standard programmes. He said Channel i has already got tremendous response from different parts of the world. The channel will release a compact disc of songs titled "Amar Channel i" on the occasion of its anniversary. A colourful rally will be brought out from its office premises at Siddeswari on October 1 as part of its anniversary celebration.



Shaikh Siraj, director of Channel i, and others cut a cake at a ceremony celebrating the 5th year of launching of the satellite channel at a city hotel yesterday.

### WEATHER TODAY

#### Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at few places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Sylhet and at one or two places over Khulna and Barisal divisions with moderately heavy falls at places in the next 12 hours till 6.00pm today.

Day temperature may rise by 1-3 degree Celsius over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions and remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country during the period, Met Office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 35.3 degree Celsius was recorded at Khulna and the lowest of 24.1 degree at Tangail.

**The sun sets in the capital today at 5:47pm and rises at 5:50am tomorrow.**

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	29.8	27.0	79	85
Chittagong	32.8	26.0	73	69
Rajshahi	32.0	25.0	93	97
Khulna	35.3	26.5	79	77
Barisal	33.6	25.8	83	81
Sylhet	32.2	24.9	92	86
Cox's Bazar	33.7	25.7	72	77

# Crack in dam 5 more villages in Khulna flooded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Five more villages in Batiaghata upazila have been wiped out by surging water of the Kazibacha river, as the breaches in the river embankment could not be mended till yesterday. The officials of the Water and Power Development Authority (Wapda) have reportedly abandoned the reconstruction of the embankment. The upazila administration has undertaken a scheme to resume the work under the FWP (food for work programme), and sought for 620 tonnes of rice. Thousands of people of the

affected areas have been marooned and face acute food and drinking water crisis. Educational and administrative activities in the affected areas have reportedly come to a halt. Work has become almost impossible in the upazila headquarters due to the floods. Demands have been raised to declare the 17 villages as flood stricken areas where relief is yet to reach the starving people. Deputy Commissioner Aftab Hasan has sanctioned 10 tonnes of rice and Tk 10,000 for the affected people. But the affected people did not get the aid till yesterday evening.

# Dhaka ready to send troops to Liberia

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh is ready to send a full brigade of armed forces as United Nations (UN) peacekeepers to the war-ravaged African country of Liberia. Armed forces sources said on Sunday that a brigade of 4,000 to 5,000 troops has been readied following a request from the UN. The brigade will be dispatched as soon as the UN confirms the exact number of troops it wants to take from Bangladesh. The sources hoped that the UN would determine the number very soon and Bangladesh troops would head for Liberia early next month. A battalion comprising around 800 troops from Sierra Leone is expected to join the new mission in Liberia. Director of the Inter-Service Public Relations (ISPR) Lt. Col. Nazrul Islam said that the first team

of four officers from Bangladesh Army left Dhaka on Sunday for Sierra Leone on way to Liberia. Lt. Col. Khairul Anam is leading the team, which includes Lt. Col AM Ilyas Reza Warsi, Lt Col Talukder Alauddin and Major Abdus Sobhan Chowdhury. The officers would undergo a pre-deployment training at Sierra Leone before joining the peacekeeping mission in Liberia as staff officers. "A level-2 hospital unit of Bangladesh Army comprising 60 members is also expected to leave Dhaka in the first week of October to join peacekeeping mission in Liberia," Col. Nazrul said. Around 4,000 Bangladeshi troops, including 2,300 in Sierra Leone, are currently working for UN peace missions across the world. Some 1,400 troops are working in Congo and 200 in other trouble-torn areas in the world, sources said.



The BBC World Service and the International Labour Organisation held a joint press conference on an educational programme of BBC titled 'Rights at Work' at a city hotel yesterday. From left are David Prosser, project manager for the 'Rights at Work', Manoshi Barua, a senior producer of BBC Bengali service, Masud Hasan Khan, a producer, and Gopal Bhattacharya, director of ILO Bangladesh chapter.

# BBC's 'Rights at Work' programme ends today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An educational programme on 'Rights at Work', which the BBC World Service Trust has been airing in its Bengali service since August, ends today. To mark the concluding ceremony of the two-month long programme, a drama titled 'Chhap' (The Spot) based on different incidents at working places, will be staged at Osmani Memorial auditorium at 4.00pm today. The 30-minute drama and a panel discussion will also be broadcast in BBC Bengali radio service at 8.00pm on October 2. Information Minister Tariqul Islam will inaugurate the function. Amanullah Aman, state minister for labour and manpower, Motiur Rahman, editor of the Prothom Alo, Laila Rahman Kabir, former presi-

dent of the Bangladesh Employers' Federation, and Nazrul Islam Khan, secretary general of the Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies, (BILS) will take part in the discussion. This was stated at a joint press conference organised by the BBC World Service and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) at a city hotel yesterday. Masud Hasan Khan, a producer, Manoshi Barua, a senior producer of BBC Bengali service in London, David Prosser, project manager for the 'Rights at Work' in Bangladesh, Gopal Bhattacharya, director of ILO Bangladesh chapter, and Kevin Cassidy, communication manager for the ILO's infocus programme were present at the conference. Manoshi said the programme of raising awareness about the rights of people at working place among

the people would not be stopped. Kevin Cassidy said they have selected Bangladesh following the request of the government in this regard and they are continuing similar programme in different countries including some African countries. With four key commitments that included freedom of association, elimination of all forms of forced labour, child labour and discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, the BBC involved three countries including Indonesia, Brazil and Bangladesh in the their respective language section of BBC radio service. For Bangladesh, a May Day live radio discussion, a radio features covering the four key commitments and some other similar programmes were broadcast during the two months.

### DHAKA TODAY

**Premier show**  
The premier show of the documentary on 'Tangur Haor' made by renowned freelance filmmaker Dr Ronald Halder, will be held. Venue: IDB Bhaban auditorium. Time: 4.00pm.

**Recitation**  
Kabita Patra organises a session of poetry recitation. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4.00pm.

**Film show**  
Academy Film Society will screen an Iranian film titled 'Gabbeh' (Life is colour). Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

**AIUB programme**  
The launching ceremony of Agribusiness MBA programme of American International University, Bangladesh (AIUB) will be held with Agriculture Minister M K Anwar as chief guest. Venue: Sonargaon hotel.

**National conference**  
The fifth National Conference of Bangladesh Sangjukta Krishak O Khetmajur Samity will be held. Venue: Mohanagar Natyamancha, Gulistan. Time: 11.00am.

**Conference**  
The inaugural session of the two-day national conference on Inter-University IT professionals in Bangladesh will be held with Prime Minister Khaleda Zia as chief guest. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre, Agargaon. Time: 12.00 noon.

**Lecture**  
A lecture on 'Application of geographical information system (GIS) in health research', organised by Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, will be held. Venue: Old Secretariat Road. Time: 5.00pm.

**Seminar**  
A seminar on 'Bangladesh-Pakistan Relation and the role of the USA', organised by the Centre for Advanced Research in the Humanities, University of Dhaka will be held. Venue: 434, Lecture Theatre. Time: 4.00pm.

**Debate**  
A debate on 'Existing social system is the main impediment to participation of girl child', organised by Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum, will be held with noted litterateur Selina Hossain as chief guest. Venue: WVA auditorium, Dhanmondi.

**Meeting**  
A co-ordination meeting of Rajshahi University Old Students Association will be held. Venue: 5/5 Block C, Lalmitia. Venue: 5.00pm.

**Rotary Sonargaon Dhaka**  
Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Sonargaon Dhaka will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.

**Rotary Ramna**  
Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Ramna will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.



An orientation programme for the students of Fall semester of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) was held recently. Visiting Professor H Eric Frank (3rd from left) attended the ceremony as chief guest while Professor Dr M Mahabub-ul-Alam, Senior Fulbright Scholar from Kansas State University, USA, (left) was present as special guest. Prof. Dr M Alimullah Miyan, vice-chancellor and founder of IUBAT (2nd from left), presided over the ceremony.



The road in front of the Dhakeswari Temple is being repaired ahead of Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of Hindu community.

# Roundtable on law and order

UNB, Khulna,

Speakers at a roundtable laid stress on solving unemployment problem and checking the entry of distasteful alien culture to improve law and order situation. They urged the political parties to build up a social resistance unitedly against terrorism and violence. The roundtable on 'Checking law and order situation in greater Khulna and its development' was held at a hotel under the sponsorship of Samannoy Committee on Sunday. Committee President and Khulna Press Club President Manik Saha read out the keynote paper in the meeting. It was presided over by Vice President and Editor of Daily Purbanchal Liakat Ali. Among others, Khulna City Corporation Mayor Toyebur Rahman, former state minister Talukder Abdul Khaleque, former minister Dr Aftab Uddn Ahmed, Prof. Golam Porwar MP, Pro-VC of Khulna University Syed Zabid Hossain and committee General Secretary Sheikh Ashraf-uz-Zaman.