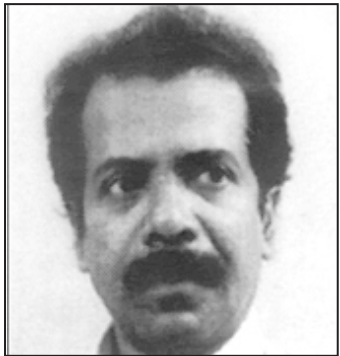


# IO of Jamal abduction case changed for fourth time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Apparently baffled police authorities here have changed for the fourth time the investigation officer (IO) of the sensational abduction of business magnate and BNP leader Jamal Uddin Ahmed Chowdhury. The law enforcing agencies so far made little headway in their efforts to trace the whereabouts of Jamal 84 days into his abduction. Police Inspector Md Yousuf Ali, who was transferred to Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) recently from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in Dhaka, was made the new IO of the case last



## Shihab Sarkar, 5 others win juvenile literary award

Shihab Sarkar, a noted poet and novelist, and five others have been awarded Bangladesh Shishu Academy Agrani Bank Juvenile Literary Award 1406. The academy informed him of the award on October 15, says a press release. Shihab Sarkar won the award for his novel titled 'Haat Baralei Surja', based on the War of Liberation and published by Columbia Prokashoni. He is working as an associate editor in the New Age. Five other recipients of the award are poet and journalist Hasan Hafiz for his book 'Takdum Takdum Bajey', ornithologist and story writer Sharif Khan for his book 'Bangladesh Pakhi' (1st part), Mizanur Rahman for his 'Lion Heart Dui Bhai', Sujon Haidar for his 'Prithibi Chharley Mahakashey' and artist Syed Enayet Hossain for illustration work of the book 'Achinpurey Sagarduipey'. Bangladesh Shishu Academy, in cooperation with the Agrani Bank, presents the award every year.

week, sources said yesterday. He replaced Detective Branch (DB) Inspector Ratan Dasgupta, who had his stint as the third IO. Yousuf has already contacted the three previous IOs for tips on the case, sources said. Meanwhile, the DB police on Wednesday prayed for another three-day remand of Sultan, an accused in the case. The remand payer will be heard tomorrow. Sultan is the bodyguard of the prime suspect in the case, Kanchannagar Union Parishad Chairman Abul Kashem Chowdhury. Earlier, Sultan was placed on a four-day remand from September 2 but police could not prise any significant information from him. Jamal Uddin was abducted from the port city's Chawk Bazar area on July 24. His family reportedly paid a big amount in ransom for his release.

## 'Introduce direct election to JS seats for women'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday called for introducing direct election to the seats for women in the Jatiya Sangsad through constitutional amendment. They also urged the government to increase the number of seats for women in parliament. The roundtable was organised by Bangladesh Mahila Parishad at CIRDAP auditorium in the city. The speakers said the people at the grassroots level would have to be united to free the parliamentary election from black money and muscle power. "In order to consolidate the country's democratic process, political right of women must be established along with their voting rights," said Ayesha Khanom, general secretary of the parishad. In her keynote paper, Rekha Chowdhury said the government should fulfill its election pledge by giving direct election to the seats for women in parliament. General Secretary of Gonoforum Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Joint Editor of the Prothom Alo Abdul Qaim and Prof MM Akash of Dhaka University also took part in the roundtable.



The National Women Workers' Committee took out a procession in the city yesterday on the occasion of women workers' council.

# 'Improve library service'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Library Year Celebrating Coordination Council, an organisation of librarians, yesterday placed an eleven-point demand with a view to improving the library services in the country. At a press conference at the National Press Club, the council leaders called for implementing the national library policy and declaring the post of librarian as a technical one. They urged the government to recruit librarians in all government colleges so that the students could use those libraries more effectively.

Apart from classroom teaching, students have to use libraries to acquire proper knowledge, but the students of our country can not use them due to shortage of books and other facilities, they added. They emphasised the need for equipping the libraries with modern facilities so that the students and academics could ensure their maximum use for study and research purpose. The council leaders urged the government to earmark 10 per cent of national budget for the development of libraries. They also called for extending the

public library facilities at upazila level in order to make the 'library year', as declared by the prime minister, a success. Council President Quazi Abdul Mazed read out a written statement at the press conference. Member secretary Dr M Mostafizur Rahman, Chairman of the Information Science and Library Management of Dhaka University Dr M Hanif Uddin, Prof AKM Saiful Islam and Dr Mirza Rezaul Islam were present on the occasion. Earlier, the council brought out a procession from the Central Public Library.



The Library Year Celebrating Coordination Council took out a colourful procession in the city yesterday to mark the Library Year-2003.

# Cervical cancer a major cause of maternal mortality

UNB, Dhaka

Cervical cancer is one of the major causes of high maternal mortality in Bangladesh and the blame goes to early marriage and early start of sexual activities. Last year, 1,047 people were admitted to National Institute of Cancer Research and Hospital (NICR&H) and 945 of them (64.8 percent) have been suffering from cervical cancer. Besides, 60 people were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and 113 to Chittagong Medical College Hospital with cervical cancer the same year. The factors behind the high prevalence of the malignancy in Bangladesh also include multiple sexual partners, uncared abortion, low socio-economic condition,

STDs and lack of screening programmes. The shocking figures came from an orientation meeting on cervical cancer screening held at IDB Bhaban on Thursday. Jointly organised by the Directorate of Family Planning (DFP) and UNFPA, the meeting was addressed by UNFPA Representative Suneeta Mukherjee, its assistant representative Tahera Ahmed, Fashir Rahman of DFP, BSMMU Pro-VC Prof MA Mannan and DFP Director (MCH-Services) Dr Jafar Ahmad Hakim. The meeting was told that cervical cancer is a most common malignancy in women across the world affecting 14 lakh women a year, but its propensity is higher in developing countries.

In developing countries, 9.6 percent women die of cervical cancer (CC). Of the total CC deaths, 40 percent occur in South Central Asia, including Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. Presenting hospital data, experts told the meeting that in Bangladesh cervical cancer constitutes about 22-29 percent of the genital tract cancer. In 2001, over 11,950 cancerous cases were detected in the country. Of these, 30 percent were genital tract cancer, most of which constituted cervical cancer. In the Bangabandhu Skeikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), 161 cases of genital tract cancer were detected between March 2000 and December 2002, of which 65 or 40.4 percent were cervical cancer.



Participants of a computer training course organised by Fair & Lovely pose with Science and Information & Communication Technology Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan at the concluding ceremony in the city yesterday.

## AL leaders visit injured nurses

UNB, Dhaka

Leaders of Awami League visited Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday to see the injured unemployed and students nurses. At least 50 nurses were injured when police clubbed the agitating unemployed and students nurses during a demonstration at Motijheel on Thursday. AL presidium member Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim MP, joint secretary Obaidul Kader, Abdul Mannan, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Ashim Kumar Ukil, Dr Iqbal Arsalan, Dr Jamal Uddin Chowdhury, Dr Mokhesuzzaman Hiru were with the AL team.

Meanwhile, Left Democratic Front (LDF) and Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) in separate statements yesterday strongly condemned the 'police attack' on agitating nurses. "The central council of the Left Democratic Front think that BNP-Jamaat ruling alliance is trying to foil movement in an autocratic style without meeting the demands of people and professionals that exposed fascist face of the anti-people government," the LDF said. CPB president Manzurul Ahsan Khan and general secretary Muzahidul Islam Selim called for meeting the demands of the nurses and demanded exemplary punishment to the those involved in the attack.

## Pak General Shahid Aziz arrives

UNB, Dhaka

Chief of General Staff of Pakistan Army Lieutenant General Shahid Aziz arrived in the city yesterday on a six-day goodwill visit. Chief of General Staff of Bangladesh Army Major General S M Ikramul Haque welcomed the Pak General at Zia International Airport. During his stay, General Aziz will meet Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Hasan Mashud Chowdhury, Defence Secretary K M Ehsanul Haq, Chief of General Staff S M Ikramul Haque and Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division Major General A M Mahmuduzzaman. He will also visit National Defence College (NDC), Army Command and Staff College, Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training, and School of Infantry and Tactics, Savar Cantonment, said a press



The Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi took out a procession in the city yesterday to mark its 14th national conference.

# 'Real estate developers cash in on people's ignorance of laws'

UNB, Dhaka

Environmentalists, experts and leaders of social organisations yesterday said that real estate developers and different interested groups were capitalising on the people's ignorance of environmental laws. "In the Detailed Area Plan (DAP) of the Dhaka City, it was clearly mentioned about the open spaces and water bodies of greater Dhaka City. But unscrupulous sections are devouring those areas one after another taking advantage of people's unawareness and inertia of the authority". They urged the government to take immediate steps for planned urbanisation in the expanding eastern and southern areas of the capital. They were speaking at a 'Report presentation and discussion meet-

ing of study circle on environment and health' at Novera Hall of National Museum. The Association of Environment and Human Resources Development organised the function to disseminate the findings and recommendations on environment and health, obtained through ten study circles involving people of different categories and profession. Chairman of Bangladesh Association for Paribesh Andolon (BAPA) and Vice-Chancellor of BRAC University Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, vice-chairman of BAPA Prof. Mozaffar Ahmed and Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Environment and Forest Ministry Nazim Uddin Alam attended the meeting as special guests.



Chief of General Staff of Bangladesh Army Maj. Gen. S M Ikramul Haque received Chief of General Staff of Pakistan Army Lt. Gen. Shahid Aziz on his arrival at the Zia International Airport yesterday.



Customs officials seized foreign banknotes worth about Tk 40 lakh from a Singapore-bound passenger at Zia International Airport on Thursday night.

DHAKA TODAY

Multimedia fair

The inaugural ceremony of a week-long multimedia fair, organised by Multimedia Association of Bangladesh, will be held with Science and Information and Communication Technology Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan as chief guest. Venue: Sheltech Sierra Market, Elephant Road. Time: 1.00pm. The fair will remain open from 10.00am to 8.00pm daily.

Launching ceremony

The launching ceremony of Universal Diary 2004, organised by 'Shikha Sangbad', a fortnightly magazine, will be held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4.00pm.

Matriculation ceremony

The University of Information Technology and Science (UITS) organises the Matriculation Ceremony of its first batch of students. Venue: UITS campus, Gulshan 2. Time: 10.30am.

Film show

The Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'Identity'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Birth centenary programme

The inaugural ceremony of a two-day programme, organised by Sammilito Sangskritik Jote to mark the birth centenary of poet Jasim Uddin and writer Abul Fazal, will be held. Venue: Rabindra-Sorobor amphitheatre, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.30pm.

Lecture

A lecture on 'Current aspects of European security policy', organised by Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS), will be held with

Lt General Dirk Boecker, vice chief of defence of German Armed Forces as guest speaker. Venue: BISS auditorium, Old Elephant Road. Time: 10.30am.

Eid Bazar

Gulshan Ladies Community Club organises an Eid Bazar to generate fund for underprivileged women and children. Venue: 83, Gulshan North Park. Time: 10.00am to 8.00pm.

Rotary central

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club, Shahbagh. Time: 1.30pm.

Rotary north west

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club, Shahbagh. Time: 5.30pm.

Reception

The Dhaka-based Bhola Zila Chhatra Kalyan Parishad organises a reception for the meritorious students marking its fifth founding anniversary with Uddin Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 4.30pm.

Plastic fair

The concluding function of International Plastic Fair will be held with Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 4.00pm.

Film show

The Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'Never say never again'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

WEATHER TODAY

Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain or thundershowers is likely at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka, Rajshahi and Chittagong divisions during the next 24 hours till 6.00pm today. Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country during the period. Met Office said. Yesterday's highest temperature of 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Sitakunda and the lowest of 23.5 degree Celsius at Faridpur, Sayedpur and Dinajpur. The sun sets in the capital at 5:30pm today and rises at 5:58 am 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	32.6	25.0	69	76
Chittagong	34.5	25.5	75	65
Rajshahi	33.0	24.8	78	88
Khulna	34.5	25.3	76	84
Barisal	34.0	25.2	80	77
Sylhet	33.2	25.6	78	80
Cox's Bazar	33.5	25.0	80	82