DU Rover Scouts

The youths should be involved in scouting to develop their latent inner faculties, speakers at a

The scouting movement in the

The scouting also helps the

country, since its beginning, has

helped inculcate righteous and

democratic leadership qualities in

youths become self-reliant and

make them competent to face the

challenges of the 21st century, the

Dhaka University Rover

Speaking as the chief guest,

Acting Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka

University Prof AFM Yusuf Haider

said the Rover Scouts have

always come forward to serve the

Referring to 1998 floods, he

said DU Rover Scout Group had

extended their helping hands by

making breads and oral saline

and distributing those among the

ties in arranging Amar Ekushey

programmes and holding its

admission programme every year,

Anam attended the function as

Prof Harun-ur-Rashid, Member of

University Grants Commission

Prof KM Mohsin, Chief Rover

Scout Leader Prof Md Ramjul

Haque and Convenor of the 40th

anniversary programme and

Deputy Secretary Md Rafiqul

At the function, Prof KM

Mohsin, Prof Md Ramjul Haque

and Md Rafiqul Islam Khan were

awarded Sonali Nakshatra

(Golden Star) Award in recogni-

tion of their outstanding contribu-

Earlier, Prof AFM Yusuf Haider

The programmes included

inaugurated the daylong

programmes of the Rover Scouts.

voluntary blood donation, reminis-

cence session, cultural show and

Islam Khan also spoke.

tion to scouting.

Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz

Dean of social science faculty

They also help the DU authori-

nation at the time of need.

flood-affected people.

he added.

special quest.

Scouts organised the function at

the TSC auditorium to mark its

celebrates 40th

anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

function said yesterday.

the youths, they said.

speakers added.

40th anniversary.

Free edn up to degree level if voted to power: Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leader of the Opposition and Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the BNP-Jamaat alliance government has been distorting the country's glorious history of the liberation war and teaching false history to the chil-

"Those who are distorting history will be treated as criminals to the nation and the day is not far away when the people of the country will bring them to book." Hasina said.

The AL chief was addressing a prize giving ceremony of Jatiya Sangskritik Pratijogita 2006, organised by Bangabandhu Shishu Kishor Mela, in front of Bangabandhu Bhaban at Road no 32 of Dhanmondi in the city.

Hasina urged the parents and teachers not to teach distorted history to the children. She also urged the prime minister not to teach false history to her (PM) grandchildren, what the AL chief said, as one day they would come to know that their grandmother (PM)

"We have a glorious history from which the children can build up their character and contribute to the nation," Hasina said. "But the coalition government are forcing the

Proshika to

Proshika International

Development Society, a global

development organisation, has

been registered under Society Act at

Victoria in Canada, says a press

March 15, with its registered office in

Vancouver and headquarters in

by Proshika, a Bangladeshi national

development organisation to oper-

ate globally with an international

registration. Proshika International

will work throughout the world

replicating the development model

and innovations made by Proshika.

Proshika has been working for

poverty reduction and empower-

ment of the poor for the last three

International will be to help reduce

poverty in Bandladesh and other

countries, as well as to protect and

promote human rights, including

rights of the poor, children, women,

indigenous communities, physically

challenged people and migrant

workers around the world. To

achieve its objectives, it will involve

Bangladeshis and expatriates in the

Proshika International will provide

credit to the poor people for imple-

menting income-generating activi-

ties, promote quality education,

preferably female education

through awarding scholarships to

the poor meritorious students,

upgrade secondary schools in

Bangladesh and provide legal

support and job information to the

Bangladeshi immigrant labourers

around the world. It will also estab-

lish Bengali language schools and

cultural centres in different coun-

tries to promote Bengali language.

culture and heritage among the

expatriate Bangladeshis and help

them cope with their cultural alien-

ation and identity crisis in a foreign

president of Proshika International

while Mahbubul Karim, Rafigul

Islam and Shah Newaz are its vice-

president, secretary and treasurer.

Dr Qazi Faruque Ahmed is the

Under its programme of action,

The major objectives of Proshika

It was conferred registration on

Proshika International is initiated

Proshika is the first Bangladeshi

operate

globally

release.

Dhaka.

NGO.

innocent children to learn false-

The former prime minister said the goals for which the country was liberated have not been attained in the last 35 years. "The percentage of education has not been raised to 100 percent in 35 years," Hasina said adding that if the father of the nation would have been alive, there would have been no poverty in the country and a single person would not have been uneducated.

Saying the AL government had taken various measurers to up the percentage of education, which stood at 66 percent during her regime, Hasina said the alliance government has not taken any step to increase the percentage of edu-

The former prime minister pledged that her party would remove illiteracy from the country and make education free up to the bachelor level for both males and females, if her party is voted

"As the prime minister and her sons are not educated, they want to keep the country in the dark so that they can loot people's wealth." the AL chief said adding that the prime minister and her family members have looted thousands of crores of taka from people in the last four

भाग्न २७।कार्छ संवित्र म

Sammilita Sangskritik Jote takes out a procession from TSC of Dhaka University yesterday demanding trial of the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

government towards people.

protector.

autocratic activities.

spirit of the liberation war.

Condemning the government for the

recent Kansat tragedy, leaders of

Sammilita Sangskritik Jote said it

proves the autocratic attitude of the

security of people as the government

itself turned oppressor instead of

the Teacher Student Centre of Dhaka

University yesterday as part of its

movement against the government's

with the movement of the distressed

people of Kansat and called upon

them to go ahead with their legitimate

movement being inspired with the

Noting the Kansat tragedy, Prof Dr

AAMS Arefin Siddique said the action

against Kansat people exposes the

President Nasiruddin Yusuf posed a

Addressing the rally, the Jote

autocratic attitude of the government.

The leaders expressed solidarity

They voiced concern over the

They were speaking at a rally at

Govt blamed for

Kansat incident

caretaker system of government and

the Election Commission but what

Kuddus, Assistant President Dr

Mohammad Samad and Assistant

General Secretary Hasan Arif of the

Lutfar to contest

as JP candidate

Jatiya party yesterday nominated

former lawmaker Lutfar Rahman

Chowdhury to contest the upcoming

Parliamentary Board meeting of the

party at its Banani office with its

chairman Hussain Muhammad

Ershad, MP, Kazi Jafar Ahmed,

ABM Ruhul Amin Howlader and

JP leaders Begum Rawshan

The nomination was given at a

Gaibandha-4 by-election.

Ershad presiding.

General Secretary Golam

about the security of people?

Jote also addressed the rally.

GAIBANDHA BY-POLL

Bss, Dhaka

Regarding the prime minister's claims of development, the former prime minister said the people did not witness any development rather they experienced price hike of essentials and crises of power, fuel, gas, water and fertiliser. "Only the family of the prime minister built their own fortunes by looting peo-

ple's money." Hasina said. "We will take appropriate measurers so that Bangladesh is known to the world as a developed country. a country of educated people and a country, that is free from terrorism, corruption, militancy and misrule," Hasina added.

"Bangabandhu was killed when the country's economy has just started to achieve stability," Hasina said. She also held the alliance government and the war criminals inside the government responsible for the killing of Bangabandhu.

Hasina demanded that the arrested militant kingpins be interrogated by the Interpol officials. "As Interpol issued warrant order against Abdur Rahman and Siddigul Islam Bangla Bhai, they must be interrogated by the Interpol so that people know their patrons, financiers, political advisors, source of arms and ammunitions and trainings." she said.

She further said the militancy

would not be obliterated from the country until the alliance government arrests all the followers of Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai. Accusing the prime minister that she harboured the militant kingnins Hasina demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the militant activists and followers for a peaceful atmosphere for the children and for the image of the country.

METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Blasting the four-party alliance government for its wide scale corruption in every sector, Hasina questioned the people of all walks of life including the army, police, officials of civil administration, journalists and others whether they would cast vote to the coalition government in the next general election to give them another chance for loot ing people's wealth in a wide scale and for immense corruption and misrule

Earlier Hasina distributed prizes

among the winners. Presided over by Bangabandhu Shishu Kishor Mela President Miah Monshef, the programme was also attended by AL's Acting General Secretary Obaidul Quader, Mela General Secretary Shirin Akther Maniu, advisors of the organisation Mohammad Jahirul Haque, Jahir Kazi and Mir Mosharraf Hossain.

One killed in Habigani clash

UNB, Habiganj

A man was killed and at least 20 people, including women and children, were injured in a fierce clash between two groups of villagers at Richi in Sadar upazila yesterday.

The dead was identified as Naveb Ali, 45.

Police and witnesses said the two groups -- one led by Nayeb Ali and another by Arab Ali -- fought the pitched battle over the use of a road at about 5.30pm, leaving 21 people

Of the injured, Nayeb died at Sadar Hospital where nine others were being treated.

Photography exhibition on Satyajit Ray begins tomorrow

Bss, Mymensingh

A five-day photography exhibition of Nemai Ghosh on world famous film director Satyajit Ray begins at Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala here today.

Bangladesh National Museum and Bengal Gallery are jointly organising the exhibition in collaboration with the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Indian High Commission in Bangladesh.

Delwar Hossain Khan Dulu, MP, will inaugurate the exhibition, while Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Veena Sikri will be present as special guest.

Eminent Artist Qayyum Chowdhury, Prof Mahmudul Haque, Director General, Bangladesh National Museum, will be present as guests of honour.

The exhibition will remain open from 11:00am to 7:00pm every day.

40 rebels surrender in Pakistan

A group of about 40 rebels downed arms and surrendered yesterday to authorities in Pakistan's restive southwestern province of Baluchistan, officials said.

"A total of 40 Bugti tribesmen including five of their commanders have surrendered with weapons and explosives in the town of Sui," the region's administrator Abdus Samad Lasi told AFP.

"They surrendered unconditionally," he added.

The government was considering the offer of an amnesty to those fighting for tribal chief Nawab Akbar Bugti who were not wanted for laying landmines and attacks on security forces and government installations, Lasi said.

The rebels have been waging a sporadic revolt in recent years in sparsely populated Baluchistan to win more political rights and a greater share of profits from the region's rich natural resources.

The government launched a fresh crackdown in Baluchistan after militants fired rockets in the town of Kohlu during a visit by President Pervez Musharraf last



Acting Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof AFM Yusuf Haider inaugurates a day-long programme marking the 40th anniversary of Dhaka University Rover Scouts at the TSC yesterday.

PRIMARY EDN DEV PROGRAMME-II

14,200 teachers to be appointed by June

PORIMOL PALMA, back from

Both the government and the development partners hoped that the Primary Education Development Programme-II (PEDP-II) would bring a massive qualitative change to primary education. They also expressed satisfaction

over the progress of the project in the last 18 months as two model schools under the programme have already witnessed positive changes, but they are concerned about replication of the interventions in all the government primary schools.

PEDP-II, the largest programme in this sector, started in September 2004 and it will end in 2009. High-level government officials

and delegates of the donor agencies visited the two schools --Jhikirabandar and Srikola government primary schools at Ullapara in Siraigani -- on April 1.

Under the six-year programme, 30,000 classrooms and 15,000 toilets will be set up in the schools, 397 Upazila Resource Centres will be constructed, 460 upazila education offices. 64 district education offices and 53 Primary Training Institutes will be expanded. National Academy for Primary Education will be renovated and 35,000 teachers will be appointed.

Imparting training to the school management committees and government officials is also a key compo-

nent of the project involving 1.81 billion dollars The government will provide 64

percent of the funds while the rest will come from a donor consortium comprising World Bank, ADB, DFID, European Commission, the Netherlands, Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Unicef.

After the visit to the schools, the government officials and the delegates of donor agencies held a meeting at the Sirajganj Circuit

AKM Shamsuddin, secretary of the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, said 14,200 teachers will be recruited by June while 14,000 classrooms will be constructed by May this year.

The progress achieved under the programme is greater than expected,

Jhikirbandar Primary School enrolled 100 percent of children of the area and there was no dropout last year. The rate of pass in grade five is 97.5 percent and a number of students obtained talent scholar-

The school has 13 teachers and 12 of them received one-year Certificate in Education training resulting in significant improvement in quality of education, said the

have also been arranging final examinations for students of class five at the district level with a view to enhancing the education quality.

After the meeting, ADB Country Director Hua Du told reports, "We are very much optimistic about improving the quality of education in Bangladesh.

She also appreciated the Local Government Engineering Department for its rapid and quality construction work of the schools. The members of the Jhikirbandar

School Management Committee also received a two-day orientation under PEDP-II and they are now actively contributing to the school development process, she said, adding that the teachers' training also benefited the students in a big way.

Khondaker M Asaduzzaman director general of Directorate of Primary Education, said the existing average dropout rate is now 33 percent and the ratio of teacher to student stands at 1:56, which are the najor challenges facing the PEDP-II.

the teacher-students ratio to 1:35, while the experts say the ideal ratio should be 1:25 for a better academic environment in the classroom.

admitted to orthopaedic hospital. The

rest were given first aid at the univer-

"I am trying to solve the problem

mutually. I have sent the injured

Dhaka for treatment," said Prof Abu

No case was filed in this connec-

UNB from Mymensingh reports:

at least 50 day-labourers were

injured when a bus plunged into a

roadside ditch at Masterbari in

Bhaluka upazila on Dhaka-

Mymensingh highway on Friday

Police said the Kurigram-bound

bus from Abdullapur of Tongi fell into

the ditch when one of its tyres punc-

tured. The accident took place when

the day-labourers were returning

Of the injured, 10 were admitted to

Bhaluka Upazila Health Complex

from where seven were shifted to

Mymensingh Medical College

home from Tongi by the bus.

Hospital in critical condition.

sity medical centre

tion till filing of the report.

Saved Khan.

midniaht.

Shamsuddin said the authorities

The PEDP-II aims to bring down

Death anniversary



raffle draw.

anniversary of Prof Fazlul Chowdhury, former vicechancellor of Dhak

University and former Science Adviser to Unesco, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at the Banani gravevard after Asr prayers.

Rashida Akhter



Today is the first Advocate Haji Rashida Akhter, wife of Shawkat Ali Hassan and human rights

press release. On the occasion, Qurankhani and milad mahfil will be held at her 49 B C Das St. Lalbagh in the city after Asr prayers today.

DHÃKA

Roundtable on telecom New Age and Odhikar will hold a

roundtable discussion on 'Bangladesh Telecommunication (Amendment) Act 2006: National Security or Infringement on Civil Rights'. Venue: Spectra Convention Centre. Time:

BMA roundtable Bangladesh Medical Association

(BMA) organises a roundtable discussion on 'New Millennium Challenge: Human Resources for Health Development in Bangladesh'. Venue: National Press Club. Time:

Roundtable on women's achievement

Women's Development Foundation and Saptahik 2000 organise a roundtable discussion on 'Achievements of women in economic sector in the 35 years of independence and our duties'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:00am.

Discussion Kendriya Kochi-Kanchar Mela will hold

a discussion to mark the 81st birthday of eminent child organiser Rokonuzzaman Dadabhai. Venue: Kochi-Kancha Bhaban. Time: 4:00pm.

One dies, 58 hurt in road crashes

STAR REPORT

At least one person was killed and 58 were injured in separate road accidents in Tangail, Mymensingh and Dhaka yesterday.

Our Correspondent from Tangail reports: A minor girl was killed and three others were injured in a collision between two speedy trucks at Kandila area under Sadar upazila in the district yesterday morning. The victim was identified as

Sharmin Akter, 10, daughter of Sanwar Hossen, a sergeant of Bangladesh Army, of Parua village under Kalihati upazila. Police said the accident took

place at around 6:00 am when North Bengal-bound goods-laden speedy truck collided with another Ghatailbound truck from Dhaka on Dhaka-Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge highway at Kandila. The victims were travailing by the Ghatail-bound truck. Local people rushed the injured to Tangail General Hospital.

Police took the body to Tangail Sadar Police Station.

Police seized the truck but its driver managed to escape.

A case was filed with Tangail Sadar Police Station in this connec-Our JU Correspondent adds: Five

people, including a student of Jahangirnagar University (JU), were injured, two of them critically, in a road accident on the campus yesterday. The injured were identified as Shahjahan, 30, a rickshaw puller, and

an inhabitant of Islamnagar in Savar, Monwara, 35, of Singair in Manikganj, Lal Mianh, a shop-owner at JU and Kamal, a student of the university. The younger brother of Kamal, who came to visit the university, was also injured in the accident. The accident occurred when a private car rammed a rickshaw

standing near the JU central mosque main gate at noon where people were waiting for rickshaw leaving the five, including rickshaw puller injured. Prof Abu Sayed Khan of Physics Department, who was driving the

vehicle, lost control over the steering of the speeding private car. Shahjahan was rushed to Dhaka

Medical College hospital with severe head injuries while Monwara was



Milly Rahman, wife of Bir Shreshtha Matiur Rahman, speaks at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

Kazi Firoze Rashid were present at question to the political parties saying they are mulling over reforms in

No change in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty to squally wind is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka, Sylhet and Chittagong divisions in the next 12 hours until Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country,

Highest temperature 36.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 20.0 degree Celsius at Sayedpur. The sun sets in the capital at 6:18pm today and rises at 5:42am

tomorrow. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns today were: Citv/Town Temperature Humidity in

percentage in Celsius Max Morning Evening 74 77 79 33.0 Chittagong 32.0 25.4 34.0 33.8 33.2 73 63 76 Rajshahi 23.4 25.5 Khulna 24.4 Barisal 67 32.2 21.4 Sylhet Cox's Bazar