

EDM chief in city

By Staff Correspondent

The Secretary General of Enfants du Monde Max Oser arrived in Dhaka Monday on a 2-week-long visit to Bangladesh.

Max Oser is accompanied by Dr. Peter Arnold, Director, Programs of EDM. They will review the EDM cooperation with the Government of Bangladesh as well as with other recipients of EDM assistance. They will also assess the prospects of future collaboration in the country.

The team will also visit some of the projects in Khulna, Chittagong and Dhaka Division, assisted by EDM.

It is to be mentioned here that one of the important projects of EDM in Bangladesh is the Rural Family and Child Welfare Project (RFCWP), which is being operated since 1974 in order to assist the Rural Social Services (RSS) program of the Department of Social Services (DSS) under a bilateral agreement between the Governments of Bangladesh and Switzerland.

The RFCWP's various components range from initiation of income-generating schemes through supervised credits, to the health care sector including family planning. So far the project cover 1192 villages in 86 upazilas of Bangladesh.

This is the first visit of Mr. Max Oser to Bangladesh while Dr. Arnold already came here three times. Both of them are leading exponents of child welfare, well-known for their forthright views on different aspects of development in Bangladesh.

Obituary

Alhaj Kazim Abdul Motaleb, a retired SP and renowned freedom fighter of Eliotganj, Comilla, died of a heart attack at a private clinic here on Saturday. He was 72, reports BSS.

Who's who in Parliament Abdur Rahman Biswas

Abdur Rahman Biswas, the newly elected Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad was born in September, 1926 in a respectable Muslim family at Shaistabad, Barisal, reports BSS.

He was a brilliant student. He had his early education in Barisal Zila School. He obtained BA (Hons) and MA and LLB degree from Dhaka University. He was a resident student of Saltmullah Muslim Hall.



He actively participated in the Language Movement. He joined the Barisal Bar in 1955 and was enrolled as an advocate of the High Court Bar in 1959. He established himself as one of the leading lawyers of the country.

Right from the beginning, he was actively associated with various social activities. He was elected Vice-Chairman of Barisal Central Co-Operative Bank, Chairman, Barisal Islamia Urban Co-Operative Bank, Co-Operative Union for several times since 1955. He founded a large number of educational institutions including Shaistabad High School, Charbaria High School, Barisal College, Barisal Law College and has been associated with all educational institutions that came into existence after 1960 in and around Barisal and all social institutions.

He was recognised by the then government as a 'Veteran Social Worker' published in the Dhaka Gazette. He was elected member of East Pakistan Provincial Assembly in 1962 and 1965. His role as a parliamentarian was appreciated by all. He was Parliamentary Secretary to the then government of East Pakistan for Finance, Planning, Service and General Administration and Education.

He was also Chairman of the Standing Committee for Law and Parliamentary Affairs.

He was member of the 10-member delegations of Pakistan to the UNO in 1967 and topped the non-official delegates.

For his excellent performances, he was offered diplomatic assignment abroad but he declined. He was an important member of Pakistan Central Jute Committee. He was also a Director of the then EP Provincial Bank.

He was elected President of Barisal Bar in 1974 against Awami League nominee re-elected in 1976, former Vice-President of Jatiya Ainjibi Samity. He was elected Chairman of Barisal Poursabha in 1977, Chairman of Chairmen's Association, Bakerganj District. Extensively toured USA, some countries of Europe, including UK and France some far eastern countries and performed Umra Hajj.

He responded to the clarion call of late President Ziaur Rahman, joined Jatiyabadi Ganatantrik Dal led by the then, Vice President Justice Abdus Sattar, was a member of the Central Committee and Convener of Bakerganj Administrative District Committee. During Presidential Election of Shahid Ziaur Rahman in 1978, he was in charge of election of the district—he was also Chairman of the District Front. His services were appreciated by late President Ziaur Rahman and all. At the request of President Ziaur Rahman, he joined his newly formed party 'Bangladesh Nationalist Party' was a member of the Original Central Committee, Convener of Barisal Sadar(S), Political District Committee, organised the party at all levels steered the MP election of 1979 at the direction of late President Ziaur Rahman and due to President Ziaur Rahman's popularity and his personal service and popularity all over the district, quite a few faces were elected as MP these facts were supported by all authentic sources. He himself was elected member of National Parliament from Barisal Kotwali Constituency by overwhelming majority votes.

He was taken in by late President Ziaur Rahman in the cabinet and given the charge of the Ministry of Jute when the position of jute and jute industry was in a precarious condition. Against all odds, jute sector for the first time earned record profit of Tk. 116 crores. Due to over excessive work he fell ill and was relieved of the charge of the ministry.

He was Chairman of the Board of Directors of Agrani Bank and also Chairman of Estimates Committee of the parliament.

During the Presidential Election of 1981, he was given in charge of election of Barisal political district. He was again taken in by President Justice Abdus Sattar as a member of the Council of Ministers and was assigned the charge of the Ministry of Health and Populations Control and remained there till power was virtually taken over by Hossain Muhammed Ershad. He was thereafter elected Chairman of Public Undertaking Committee of the parliament. He is equally loved by all sections of the people. He was awarded civic reception by the people of Barisal in 1981.

In the current movement under the able and unique leadership of Begum Khaleda Zia for restoration of democracy by removing the illegal government of Hossain Muhammed Ershad. He actively participated in the movement. He has been Secretary, Law Affairs of the National Executive Committee of Bangladesh Nationalist Party and made his contributions.



The Canadian High Commissioner H. E. Mr. Emile Gauvreau and Dr. Demissie Habte, Director, ICDDR,B seen at the signing ceremony of the grant under which CIDA will give financial assistance to ICDDR,B for four years.

Plea to appoint 25 more HC judges Bill to separate judiciary from executive sought

By Staff Correspondent

Mohammad Mohsen Rashid and M. Saleem Ullah, President and Secretary General of the Association for Democratic and Constitutional Advancement of Bangladesh (ADCAB) have congratulated the Acting President for his frank and meaningful speech in the Parliament, objectively highlighting various national issues of great importance for the country's overall development. They thanked him for special remarks directed towards the necessity of bringing reforms in the judiciary.

In this context they appealed to the members of the Jatiya Sangsad and the Government to introduce a bill in the present session of the Parliament for effecting necessary amendments to the Constitution and other laws for separation of the judiciary from the executive. They said it is only such separation which can ensure Rule of Law. They further said that the representatives of

the people, by separating the judiciary from the executive, shall discharge their obligation towards the people. Separation of judiciary is also necessary for proper functioning of meaningful democracy in the country, they added.

They appealed to the Acting President to increase the strength of the Supreme Court judges by appointing 25 more judges to the High Court Division bringing it at par with the strength of Calcutta High Court for ensuring quick and adequate dispensation of justice. West Bengal, less in area and population has strength of 50 judges. The judges must be chosen by the Chief Justice in consultation with other judges. We have working strength of only 19 judges. Due to insufficient number of judges, constitutional petitions are not being disposed of within the reasonable time due to shortage of judges. The delay negates the very concept of

speedy relief under the writ jurisdiction. Citizens are, therefore, being deprived of their right of speedy remedy under the Constitution, thus crippling the effect and importance of Articles 44 and 102 of the Constitution, they alleged.

DPRK envoy meets Speaker

The North Korean Ambassador to Bangladesh, Kang Dal Son, called on the Speaker, Abdur Rahman Biswas, at his chamber in the Sangsad Bhabna Monday morning, reports BSS.

The Envoy stayed with the Speaker for sometime and discussed parliamentary issues and other matters of common interest.

Parties compromised with autocracy

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar on 'constitution and sovereignty of the people' said the political parties compromised with the autocratic regime in the name of maintaining the continuity of the Constitution, which actually was destroyed earlier by imposing martial law.

The seminar organised by the 'Committee for Democracy' held Monday at the TSC Seminar Room of Dhaka University, was addressed by Dr Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Advocate Shamsul Haque Chowdhury, Dr Emajuddin Ahmed, Gazul Haque, Dr Hasanuzzaman, Farhad Mazhar, Nazimuddin Alam, Shah Alam, Namul Haque Pradhan and Sarker Amin with Md Jahangir Alam in the chair.

Dr Sirajul Islam Chowdhury termed the movement of 1990 as the movement of the 'urban and middle class people' and said the movement was stopped at the middle stage of its way as part of the conspiracy to protect the existing anti-people system.

He stressed the need for a movement against imperialism and feudalism in order to establish an exploitation-free

society. Advocate Shamsul Haque Chowdhury said the Parliament which resumed its first session with the chairmanship of Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, the Speaker of the autocratic government, may not give anything to the nation.

Dr Emajuddin Ahmed said our politicians still could not master the process of exercising the norms of parliamentary democracy. He said the compromise which the political parties had to do was inevitable as the situation in our country at that time was critical.

Dr Hasanuzzaman stressed the need for an infrastructural change in the country's system and said the controversy over simply the parliamentary and presidential system would not bring anything for the general people. A total change in the system is essential, he added.

Farhad Mazhar said the holy Constitution was repeatedly polluted by different ruling party by repeated anti-people amendment. He stressed the need for a second movement to realise the democratic rights of the people.



Prof Khaleda Salahuddin honoured

The American Biographical Institute Board of International Research has nominated Professor Khaleda Salahuddin of Bangladesh for the title of 'Professione' of the Year, 1990. A teacher by profession, she has about 25 years of teaching experience at the graduate and post-graduate levels as a member of the Bangladesh Civil Service: Education cadre.

As trainer/resource person, she has been participating in training programmes related to management development. Women-in-Development (WID) and other programmes organised by institutions and agencies which included Bangladesh Project Management Institute, Ministry of Textiles, Women For Women, a research and study Group, BIDS and NIEAR.

Japan to extend help to control floods

Japanese Ambassador in Bangladesh Toshio Saiki called on Agriculture, Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister Majedul Haq at his office Monday, reports BSS.

Official sources said. They discussed matters relating to bilateral issues with particular emphasis on agriculture and irrigation sectors.

The Minister explained to Saiki different measures taken by the government for flood control in Bangladesh.

The Ambassador appreciated the Government plan for flood control and assured that Japan would extend its help and assistance in this sector.

The Minister laid stress on visits of the Bangladeshi farmers and extension officials to Japan so that they could know the Japanese modern method of cultivation for all-out development of the agricultural sector.

The BGS in a statement said the demand by the engineers had undermined the contributions of other professionals and scientists in the said organisations.

All these organisations are multi-professional ones and other professionals like the Geologists and Geophysicists can also made heads of the corporations, the BGS said.

They explored further possibilities of promoting cooperation in different areas of agriculture and irrigation like extending high yielding variety crops and introduction of Japanese technique of farming for increasing agricultural output in Bangladesh.

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Former MP Mafiz ailing: help needed

Prof Mafizul Islam, an educationist and former MP, is now bed-ridden at his residence in town after a second stroke in January last, reports UNB.

Prof Islam, a vocal member in the 1979 parliament, who had undergone a brain surgery about a year back, has become bed-ridden.

The treatment of Prof Islam is being hampered because of financial constraints, they said and urged the authorities and his well-wishers to help in this regard.

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THE DAILY STAR

Dateline Khulna Arrest of JP hoodlums demanded

From Syed Isa

KHULNA Apr 8: All Party Students Unity Khulna Unit on Sunday gheraoed the office of the metropolitan Police Commissions demanding immediate arrest of the alleged criminals of the city. Earlier APSU held a rally which was addressed by Ismail Hossain, Shamim Reza, Golam Mostafa, Jahangir Alam, Sardar Ruhin Hossain Prince, Mahbur Rahman, Manut Hossain, Ayub Ali and Saiful Haque.

The APSU leaders criticised the police administration for its incompetence in maintaining law and order situation in the city. They demanded immediate arrest of all Jatiya Party hoodlums including former Deputy Mayor Ikhtiaruddin Babu.

demanding terror-free city.

Concern over smuggling
A local APSU leader and the president of Jatiyabadi Chattrra Dal Khulna district unit Jahangir Alam Friday expressed his grave concern over the laxity of concerned government agencies to curb smuggling for greater national interest.

Khulna City Unit of Jatiyabadi Samajik and Sangskritik Sangstha in a press statement Friday has expressed their concern over unabated smuggling of Indian goods into Bangladesh territory.

The leaders of JSS also strongly condemned the incapability of the government agencies in this regard. The Khulna Custom Task Force who conducts anti-smuggling drives at local markets time to time is also seems

to be ineffective these days.

The Annual conference and council meeting of the Jatiyabadi Chattrra Dal, Khulna District Committee held in the City Thursday where a 41-member committee has been formed.

Mohammad Jahangir Alam and Mohammad Sultan Mahmud elected as the new President and General Secretary respectively of the organisation.

Women societies ineffective
Most of the women voluntary organisations registered under the Women Directorate of the greater Khulna district are reported to be ineffective presently due to fund shortage. About 20 per cent of the total 65 women societies of Khulna, Bagerhat and Satkhira districts are reported to be running well.

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