Soviet Ambassador Vitaly Smirnov addressing a Press

Kartini Day celebrated

Democracy helps tap

women's potentials'

briefing in city Sunday on Lenin

Democracy in Bangladesh has

both women," according to

a noted Indonesian writer

women in power in

Bangladesh did earn men's

love and sympathy as the

latter had given the former

the mandate to run the

But then she pointed out

Hestia Soemakno.

China to help exploit energy, mining

China will extend its best cooperation for the development of energy and coal mining of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

This was stated by the Chinese Ambassador in Bangladesh Chen Sohnglu when he made a call on the State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources, Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain

in Dhaka on Sunday. The State Minister apprised the Envoy about the progress and future of the Energy and Mineral Resources Sector especially the progress of the different on-going projects financed by the government of China.

The Ambassador expressed. his satisfaction and keen interest in the development of Energy and Mineral Resources

of Bangladesh. The State Minister said that China was a best old friend of Bangladesh. Recalling the bright era of closest friendship during the tenure of the government of late President Ziaur Rahman, they hoped that the bond of friendship between the two countries would be further strengthened in the years to come.

Exhibition on World Astronomy Day

The National Museum o Science and Technology has arranged a discussion and exhibition on April 23 at 4 pm at its auditorium at Agargaon in observance of the World Astronomy Day '91, reports

Veteran astronomer Professor M Abdul Jabbar will be the chief guest on the occasion while renowned educationist D. Abdullah al Moti Sharafuddin will preside.

Saifur leaves for Canada today

Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman will leave here today (Monday) for Canada to attend the 24th annual meeting of the Board of Governments of the Asian Development Bank, reports

The three annual ADB Board of Governor's meeting will be held in Vanguover city. Canada from April 24.

Rahman who is also the governor to the ADB meeting will lead a five member

Bangladesh delegation. Enam Ahmed Chowdhury. Secretary of the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance is the alternate Governor to the ADB meeting.

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THE DAILY STAR

YEARLY

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FM to visit Moscow

Better ties with Dhaka soon: Soviet envoy

The Soviet Ambassador in Bangladesh, Mr Vitali S Smirnov, on Sunday said his country expected a greater cooperation with Bangladesh reports BSS.

"We believe political, economic and cultural relations between Moscow and Dhaka will enhance after the recent changes in Bangladesh," he told newsmen in Dhaka. The Ambassador said Soviet

Union had nothing to say about the domestic affairs of Bangladesh but it had always sympathised with the people's aspirations in any country.

"Bilateral ties would hopefully be further reinforced after a government has taken over through elections", he said.

Mr Smirnov expressed his country's readiness to cooperate with Bangladesh in a greater manner and said he had already mentioned this when he called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

He deplored that there was no high political level visit from Bangladesh to Soviet Union in last many years and expressed the hope that a visit by the Foreign Minister to Soviet Union would materialise shortly, "we will be happy as soon as the visit takes place". the Ambassador observed. Speaking about V I Lenin's 121st birth anniversary. Mr Smirnov said today's innovative changes in the Soviet Union in the form of Perestroika would strengthen the concept of socialism envistoned by Lenin.

The changes w are having today are something that we need now and the level of democracy in our country is higher from the western world because it suits our needs and our people, and money power and other tactics can not influence democratic verdict in Soviet Union", the Ambassador remarked.

Security measures in Ctg Varsity

CHITTAGONG, Apr 21: The Chittagong University administration has taken some measures to ensure safety and security of students and a congenial academic atmosphere on the campus when its halls and classes reopen on April 23 and 24 respectively, a university press release said today, reports BSS.

BFUJ, DUJ concerned at Observer situation

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) have resented the despotic acts and conspiracy to destroy the Bangladesh Observer by the owner of the paper Hamidul Hug Chowdhury.

BFUJ President Reazuddin Ahmed and Secretary General Amanullah Kabir, DUJ President Zahidul Huq and General Secretary Ruhul Amin Gazi in a joint statement on Sunday expressed concern at the termination of nine employees including two journalists, threat to terminate more employees, harassment of the employees, non-payment of Eid bonus and violation of Wage Board award.

The journalists leaders said though the owner of the paper Hamidul Huq Chowdhury promised not to harass any journalist or employee of the paper while he took ownership of the paper from autocratic Ershad in 1984 he has since terminated more than two hundred journalists and employees. Chowdhury also violated orders of the labour court by depriving the journalists and employees of their legal dues and benefits, they said.

The BFUJ and DUJ leaders said Chowdhury was awarded one month's imprisonment in each of the 17 cases for not carrying out the labour court's orders to pay legal dues to the employees.

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While staying on the camuniversity area.

Only those students who have been alloted seats will be allowed to reside in the halls. The resident students will only be allowed to enter the halls between 10 am and 9 pm. On April 23 and until further order between 9 am and 9

Labour Minister off to Beijing

State Minister for Labour and Manpower, Rafigul Islam Mia left Dhaka for Beijing. China Sunday to attend the 12th conference of Labour Ministers of the countries of Asia-Pacific region to be held from April 23 to April 26 there, reports BSS.

pus the students shall have to carry their identity cards with all the time. Unauthorised outsiders will not be allowed to enter the

helped develop potentials of women so much so that it is unique in the whole world Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition in the South Asian country are

By Staff Correspondent affairs of the country either as Prime Minister or the Leader of the Opposition. This man-woman equality was in fact highlighted to the world by Raden Ajeng Kartini, a pioneer of the Indonesian women's liberation movement.

- Star photo

While speaking at a function in Dhaka on Sunday, Hestia Soemakno, who is also the wife of the Indonesian Ambassador in Bangladesh, said during her whole life, Kartini fought for the



Hestia Soemakno leading a musical chorus in honour of Kartini, a pioneer of women's liberation at a function in city on Sunday. A discussion meeting was organised by Dharma Wanita (Association of Indonesian Civil Servants' Wives)

Dateline Chittagong

Fund crisis hits re-excavation work of Chaktai Canal

Our Chittagong Office

CHITTAGONG, Apr 21: Uncertainty looms large over re-excavation of Chaktai Canal known as "Sorrow of Chittagong" as land acquisition and other formalities are yet to be completed. A concerned official said.

after proper arrangement of fund, the land acquisition and re-excavation works would begin in full swing. Presently, some silt traps only were prepared as a part of initial work. The demolition of unauthorised constructions from both the sides of canal was completed one year back.

Meanwhile, due to delay in re-excavation the Chaktai Canal silted up alarmingly postng a hindrance in the normal flow of water.

Consequently, water logging and inundation of low lying areas of the city might be the common cause of trouble to thousands people living around the canal mostly at the areas of Bakalia and Chaktai, in the next rainy season.

In the past rainy seasons, the city dwellers of those areas suffered a lot as most of them

fell trapped in flood caused by Chaktai Canal. This Chaktai Canal later

turned into a burning issue for

Chittagong and also became a cause of headache for the administration here, as leaders of local units of different political organisations and city dwellers term lease of shrimp project jointly organised movements and hartals on several occasions demanding the re-excavation of Chaktai Canal to mitigate the sufferings of the peo-

Shrimp farmers assured of assistance

BSS adds: State Minister for Environment, Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al-Noman Saturday assured a delegation of 10-acre shrimp project owners Association of Cox's Bazar to solve the genuine problems of the project owners, an association press re-

lease said. The delegation comprising association General Secretary S. M. Yunus, Joint General Secretary Astabuddin Chowdhury, Treasurer Kamaluddin and others called on Noman at his Mehdibag residence in Chittagong and apprised him of their various problems.

The problems listed by the association delegation included restoration of ownership of 26 rejected shrimp projects, ex-

emption from payment of land revenue of the projects where shrimp culture could not be done because of flood, longaccording to recommendation of World Bank, improvement of roads, electrification and proper security measures in project area, granting of loans among project owners, marketing facilities for shrimps and subsidy for the flood affected project owners.

The Minister gave them a patient hearing and assured his cooperation in solving the genuine problems of shrimp project owners.

Interview on train accident Apr 23

Another report adds: The five-member inquiry committee headed by the Divisional Commissioner constituted to probe the train accident at Chittagong Railway Station on April 16 between 29-Up Sagarika Express and 104-Down Sylhet Express will interview concerned railway employees, passengers and eye-witnesses on April 23, an official handout said in Chittagong Sunday.

Construction of Mahananda Bridge begins next year

The construction work of 1500 feet long Mahananda Bridge near Chapainawabgonj will begin by the end of 1991 with Chinese assistance, reports BSS.

The Chinese Ambassador in Bangladesh, Chen Song Lu. said this when he called on the Communications Minister Oli Ahmed at the Bangladesh Secretariat Sunday.

They discussed the condition of existing roads and the status of implementation of various road projects and noted the importance of road communication system in the socio-economic development of Bangladesh. The status of implementa-

tion of Shambhugonj Bridge of Mymensingh under Chinese

IO in Faridpur to probe Khokon murder

By Staff Correspondent The Investigating Officer of Khokon murder case of Zahurul Haque Hall of Dhaka University gone to Faridpur for further investigation.

Police said the 10 has gone there on clues and statements made by the arrested girls Baby and Setu.

who at that time had lived shackles. "The Indonesian women at present enjoy equal rights with the menfolk as a result of the struggle of Kartini," she said at a function organised by Dharma Wantta. The discussion meeting was

emancipation of women

attended by about 80 prominent ladies of Dhaka including wives of the Dutch, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Chinese envoys, representatives from the UNDP. WVA, Guishan Ladies Club and members of the ASEAN community.

lestia Soemakno said the principle of women's emancipation was clearly stated in the Indonesian Constitution of 1945.

We are proud that Kartini's tireless struggle for women's equal rights is being followed in the Subcontinent," she said and added that it is quite encouraging to note a women's resurgence in Bangladesh.

A number of women's representatives also spoke on the occasion.

At present many Indonesian women hold high level government position. There are among other two ministers, six ambassadors and 50 member's of parliament, and many more in high level positions in various fields.

All of these are evidence of the improvement of Indonesian women's base on Kartini's spirit to go toward year 2000.

April 21 was Kartini's birth anniversary.

Dr Sirajul Islam awarded

Dr Sirajul Islam, an eminent child specialist and Associate Professor of Child Health of Dhaka Shishu Hospital, have been awarded the "Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship" for one month, reports

The prestigious Commonwealth foundation fellowship is awarded to persons with capabilities of leadership for the improvement of Commonwealth understanding.

Dr Sirajul Islam will visit the United Kingdom for two weeks and three other South Pacific countries, namely, Western Samoa, Tonga and the Solomon Islands for another two weeks.

He will present a paper on his speciality of community child health. He had left for UK last night. Dr Islam is also popularly

known as poet "Munir Siraj".

Educationist dead

KHULNA, Apr 21: Professor Barun Krishna Nath of Chuknagar College under Dumuria Upazila was killed on the spot when he was hit by a minibus Saturday near Kharnia Bridge, about 15 kilometres from here, reports BSS.

The Prof Barun Krishna Nath was hit by a Paikgacha bound minibus

The minibus after hitting the victim sped away and later Paikgacha police seized the minibus. The driver of the minibus managed to escape.

A case has been registered with the Dumuria Police Station in this connection.

assistance was discussed in particular. The construction work of this bridge is expected to be completed six months ahead of schedule (by September next). After completion of Shambhugonj Bridge the construction work of Mahanda Bridge will be

The Communications Minister stressed the need for construction of another seven major bridges over different important rivers.

Theses are : Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge, Meghna-Oumti Bridge, Rupsha Bridge, Dhaleswari Bridges near Munshigonj, Arial Kha Bridge and Shangu Bridge at the Anwara- Banshkhali road. The World Bank, Astan

Development Bank and the Japanese government have shown keen interest in the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge project. Japan and Soviet Union have indicated their interest to assist in Meghna-**Oumti Bridge and Rupsha** Bridge respectively. United Kingdom has shown interest for the construction of Dhaleswari and Artal Kha Bridges.

The Minister requested the Chinese government to assist in the construction of two more bridges including one near Munshigoni over the Dhaleswart river and another

over the Shangu river on Anwara-Bashkhall river.

The Communications

Minister said the present gov-

ernment would remain ac-

countable to the people for all

Fatullah-Munshiganj road, only

16 kilometres have so for been

metalled. Of the 18-kilometer

Rampal road, brick-work on

only two kilometers was com-

he Fatuliah-Muktarpur road

has further deteriorated due

to heavy traffic by trucks, car-

rying cargoes and food items

Munshiganj road along the

bank of Dhaleshwari will be

threatened by erosion in the

coming monsoon if preventive

measures are not taken before

local people on limited scale

have already been taken. A

Taka 320 crore project was

adopted by the government in

the late 80's for the protection

of the Munshigani town and its

adjoining business centres and

industrial bases from the ero-

sion of the Dhaleshwari. But no

initiative was taken during the

Preventive measures by the

Mukhtarpur-

from Katpatti ghat.

The

Meanwhile the condition of

Of the 37 kilometre

Munshiganj roads to be developed

its actions.

pleted.

Communications Minister Col (retd) Oli Ahmed has said some projects would be taken up within one and a half months for development of different roads and by-passes in Munshiganj district, reports

The Communications Minister was addressing a cross section of people, while visiting the Fatullah Munshiganj-Lauhajang and Rampal-Dightrpar roads of Munshigoni on Saturday.

Minister of State for Post and Tele-communications M. Shamsul Islam, Abdul Hai, MP. and senior engineers of the Roads and Highways Department accompanied the minister during the visit.

Col (retd) Oli said there had been no development of roads and communication network in Munshingani district since 1980.

He assured the people of developing the roads of the district in phases. Service to people through solving the socio-economic problems is the main objective of the BNP government, he said.

JSD leaders

resent BSF

firing

By Staff Correspondent

Professor Humayun Kabir Hiru,

President and General

Secretary respectively of Jatiya

Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) have

expressed concern at the

killing of four Bangladesh na-

tionals in firing by Indian

In a statement on Sunday

the JSD leaders said the

killing by BSF was an attack on

the sovereignty of the country.

They demanded of the gov-

ernment to take steps to pre-

vent recurrence of such inci-

dents. They urged the Indian

Government to refrain from

such provocative activities.

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Border Security Force (BSF).

Noor Alam Jiku and

Documents of vehicles to be inspected from May 8

last government.

Inspection of documents of the vehicles plying on the roads will begin on May 8, an official handout said, reports

Actions would be taken against the vehicles which will ply without valid documents and with expired fitness certificates according to the Motor Vehicle Ordinance.

The Government has taken this decision as a large number of vehicles are plying on the roads without valid documents and fitness certificates.

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) has requested the transport owners to keep all valid documents in their respective vehicles for all the time.

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