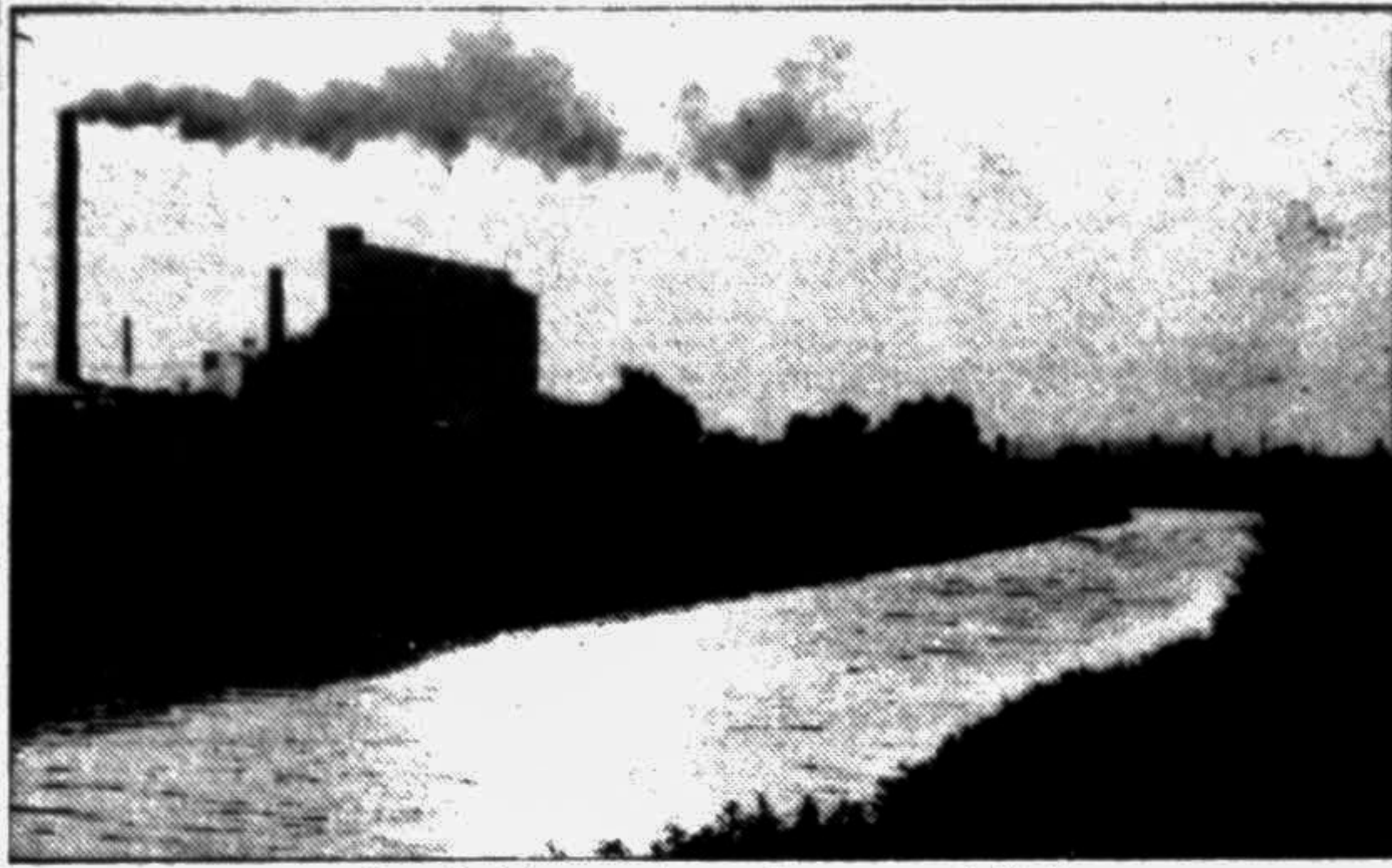


# Dhaka Day by Day

## Who Will Play Robin Hood?

by Aasha Mehreen Amin



Everybody's atmosphere: whose responsibility?

As the Earth Summit starts with mixed feelings on the part of its member countries, one of the main issues to be addressed is the relationship between development and the environment. On June 2nd, eve of the summit, the USIS (US Information Service) invited Bangladeshi journalists and representatives of environmental agencies to witness a live Worldnet symposium on UNCED (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development) and issues concerning the future of the world's environment.

But what was really exciting about this satellite programme was that it brought together international participants for an electronic exchange of ideas. During the one hour long programme from 6 pm to 7 pm Dhaka time, panelists from Karachi, Madras and Dhaka posed questions to the two Washington participants, Irwin M Seltzer and Patty Petish. Seltzer is the director of regulatory policy at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington and Petish works for the Overseas Development Council in Washington. The Dhaka panelists were Dr Salehuddin Ahmed programme director of Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) and Shehabuddin Ahmed, city editor of the Daily Telegraph.

One of the main issues that seemed to preoccupy the panelists was the question of the conflict of interest of rich and poor countries fashionably called 'North vs South'. While developing countries (South) emphasise on economic growth, the developed (North) countries are more concerned with environmental degradation. The question is, can these two goals be reconciled since both are vital concerns. Both Seltzer and Petish agreed this was possible. Said Petish, "economic and environmental advantages must be merged and we must stress the positive."

Petish further stressed that investments have to be made on population control in developing countries since the explosion of population has a direct, adverse effect on environment. "We cannot feed people and protect environment at the same time" she said. "So the rich countries have to help the poor countries to control their population growth. If we do not invest in this, all other goals will be undermined."

When asked by the Karachi panelist how population growth would affect the environment in the next few decades Petish maintained that it would be much more difficult for developing countries to carry out poverty alleviation programmes if population continued to grow indiscriminately, said Petish, was responsible for environmental degradation.

Moreover, population growth was the most in what she termed 'fragile areas' such as hillsides, and lands and forests which contributes to the hole in the ozone layer.

To the question (from the Madras panelist) whether the threat of global warming is real Seltzer said philosophically, "there is no regular data on the issue but may be we don't really have to know a lot to acknowledge that a long list of things have to be done. The US will resist fixed targets being set and focus more on procedures. This, I think is more realistic and sensible."

Another persisting question brought forward by the panelists was regarding who should take the blame for environmental degradation. Since countries of the North especially the US were the greatest pollutants of the environment shouldn't they take responsibility? To this Seltzer said that the idea that the polluter should pay was widely accepted and Petish agreed that developed countries should take more responsibility.

In addition Petish proposed expansion of aid to developing countries for economic growth that will lead to sustainable livelihoods. On this Seltzer disagreed saying, "The history of aid shows that no amount of aid can overcome disarray in a country that is centrally directed."

In spite of philosophical and economic differences that are sure to surface in the Summit, both Petish and Seltzer were optimistic of its outcome. Said Seltzer, "we must abandon addressing issues of income distribution as environmental issues and establish property rights in environmental resources. The conference according to Petish was a positive agenda where good economic measures would be taken. An important outcome would be a recognition among poor and rich nations, of a common stake. "We are after all, one world", she said.

### Khaleda hailed for introduction of child welfare project

Community Health Research Association congratulated Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for the introduction of Taka four hundred core project for the welfare of children, reports BSS.

In a statement here Wednesday the association described the project as a milestone for the protection of the rights of mothers and children.

Signed by Begum Sufta Khan, General Secretary of the association the statement also recalled the founder of the association late Dr M A Muttalib, who had pioneered the movement for children's right, welfare and nutrition in the country.

### BSD (Khaleq) collects 42,100 signatures

By Staff Correspondent

A total of 42,100 signatures were collected till yesterday in support of the demand to implement people's court verdict on Jamaat chief Golam Azam.

Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD-Khaleq) collected 6,500 signatures on the fourth consecutive day yesterday. Mass signatures were collected at the New Market area yesterday.

BSD (Khaleq) started the mass-signature collection drive in coordination with the components of the national Coordination Committee for Realisation of the Liberation War and Resistance to the Killers and Collaborators of 1971.

They will collect mass-signature from Sadarghat area in the city today.

### BTV Thursday

- 5.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran
- 5.10 Programme summary
- 5.15 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5.30 Balte Paro
- 6.00 The New Three
- 6.30 Stogees
- 6.30 Jiboner Alo
- 7.05 Debate
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Drama of the Week
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Drama series: Twin Peaks
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Friday's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing

### STAR TV Thursday

- 06.00 am Awake on the Wild Side
- 09.00 MTV's Power Pack
- 10.00 MTV's Most Wanted
- 11.00 Classic MTV
- 12.00 pm Awake on the Wide Side
- 03.00 VJ Darnny McGill
- 06.00 VJ Sophiya
- 08.00 The Day in Rock
- 08.10 VJ Sophiya
- 08.30 Kevin Seal: Sporting Fool
- 09.00 MTV's Power Pack
- 10.00 MTV's Most Wanted
- 11.00 Classic MTV
- 12.00 am Headhangers Ball
- 02.00 VJ Darnny McGill
- 03.00 VJ Sophiya
- 05.00 The Day in Rock
- 05.10 VJ Sophiya
- 05.30 Kevin Seal
- (Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)

### STAR Plus

- 06.00 am Attitudes
- 07.00 Everyday Workout
- 07.30 Kingdom Adventure
- 08.00 Animated Classics
- 08.00 Tem
- 09.30 Dr Fad Show
- 10.00 Children's Room
- 10.30 Jupiter Moon
- 11.00 Attitudes
- 12.00 pm Your Family: Matters Dying for Love
- 01.00 Santa Barbara
- 02.00 Sally Jessy: 'Im afraid of my own child'
- 03.00 Island Wildlife
- 03.30 Beyond Tomorrow
- 04.00 Slim Cooking
- 4.30 Mac and Mutley
- 05.00 Adventures on Kythera
- 05.30 Kidsongs
- 06.00 Jupiter Moon
- 06.30 Jack Thompson: Down Under
- 07.00 Earth Summit: Climate in Crisis
- 08.00 Hill Street Blues
- 08.50 Hollywood Stars
- 08.00 Shoot Loud Louder (with Raquel Welch)
- 11.00 The Bold & the Beautiful
- 11.30 Runaway with the Rich and Famous
- 12.00 am Drama
- 01.00 Movie: Prisoner
- 02.30 Videofashion The High Road
- 03.00 City comedy
- 03.30 The Bold and the Beautiful
- 04.00 Joan Rivers
- 05.00 Santa Barbara
- (Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)



The annual exhibition of Art Institute began yesterday in the Institut gallery. — Star photo

### Eunus's painting exhibition begins June 6

La Galerie at 54 Kemal Ataturk Avenue will be holding a miniature painting exhibition by Mohammad Eunus, which will be opened on Saturday June 6 by Madam Martine Groenendijk, wife of the Ambassador of Netherlands, says a press release.

### Appeal to return stolen works of Jainul Abedin

By Staff Correspondent

A fervent appeal to 'anonymously' return the 17 stolen works of Jainul Abedin was made, towards the perpetrators of the recent theft, by 16 prominent personalities of the country, including the wife of the late artist, on Wednesday.

In a statement, the signatories expressed deep concern at the theft in Mymensingh last month while terming the stolen works as a 'national treasure'.

"As we have not yet heard about any effective steps taken to recover the stolen works," the statement said, adding "under the circumstances we have been compelled to think that we have something to do about the matter within our limited capabilities."

The thefts appears to have been conducted by a group of people 'for the sake of adventure' rather than by a group of criminals. "We believe that they are citizens of Bangladesh and they also love the country like any other citizen," the statement said.

"Thus, our fervent appeal towards them — those of you who are involved in this daring theft — is that please do not damage the paintings or hand them over to foreigners," the statement read, adding: "We will arrange for the return of the paintings in such a way that your identities are not disclosed."

The statement went on to request the perpetrators of the theft to contact the Director General of Bangla Academy, Professor Muhammad Harun-ur-Rashid at telephone number 314429 after 10 pm or contact any one of the signatories.

The 16 signatories also urged the government to "cautiously" take effective steps "to recover the stolen works."

Along with Begum Jainul Abedin and Professor Md Harun-ur-Rashid the other signatories of the statement are Barrister Mairul Hossain, Anisuzzaman, Kabir Choudhury, Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, Said Ahmed, Khan Ataur Rahman, Professor Aminul Islam, Kamal Lohani, Qayyum Choudhury, Rafiqunnabi, Shafiuddin Ahmed, Hashem Khan, Kazi Abdul Baset and Ferdous Ahmed Qurashi.

### Oli Ahmed chairs ESCAP meet

Communications Minister Oli Ahmed has been elected chairperson of the plenary session of the second Asian and Pacific ministerial level meeting on transport and communications, reports BSS.

The ESCAP-meeting began in Bangkok Wednesday. Earlier, Oli Ahmed, in his inaugural address, said soon after the installation of the new government in Bangladesh, the country had to tackle many problems created during the last nine years by the autocratic regime. He said we had to face the aftermath of the worst ever cyclone that hit the coastal areas including the off-shore islands within almost one month of the taking over.

Oli Ahmed said Bangladesh considers that development of road communication had a tremendous impact on the country's economic development process. Feeder and road networks are considered to be of paramount importance for the purpose, he said, though Bangladesh has 9000 km of paved roads as against 600 km in 1947, the country has for every 100 square km area a more 7.45 km of paved roads as against 16.76 km in the developing countries of the South-East Asia.

The minister said for a number of natural impediments like periodic floods and intense rainfall during monsoon, road construction in Bangladesh was very costly and time-consuming, particularly as major investment had to incur on culverts because of the geographical condition of the country.

Bangladesh, he said, liked to be benefited from transfer of technology evolved by international bodies as well as countries carrying out necessary research activities aimed at reducing construction cost.

### Dr Sattar's qulkhwan tomorrow

The qulkhwan of Dr M A Sattar, a former secretary and founder of Bangladesh Ganashikkha Samity, will be held tomorrow (Friday) at 3-30 pm at the Samity's central office at 140 Motijheel Commercial Area, reports BSS.

Relations, friends, admirers and well-wishers of late Dr Sattar have been requested to attend the qulkhwan.

## HERE and THERE

### Gano Azadi League

Gano Azadi League President Alhaj Abdus Samad and Joint Secretary Kazi Aliul Islam Ukil in a statement yesterday demanded political solution to the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) issue.

If the CHT issue is not settled politically, they said, the country would fail to use its vast natural resources in the area.

The leaders called upon the government to initiate steps aimed at bringing an end to the terrorism prevailing there.

### UNESCO clubs

The national association of UNESCO clubs in Bangladesh held a discussion on 'Environment and Development' at the BANBEIS Bhaban in the city in observance of the World Environment Day yesterday.

Dhaka University, Vice-Chancellor and Advisor of the Association Dr Moniruzzaman Miah chaired the meeting. It was also addressed by the State Minister for Forest, Environment, Fisheries and Livestock Goyeshwar Roy, Secretary of the UNESCO National Commission Begum Toqhid Faruki, Journalist Iqbal Sobhan Choudhury, BANBEIS Director Mohammad Anwarul Haq Khan, News Editor of Bangladesh Television Rafiqul Islam Sarkar and Association Secretary General Mahbubuddin Choudhury.

### Iitish Parishad

Bangladesh Iitish Parishad organised a discussion meeting at the Institute of Food and Nutrition of the Dhaka University yesterday in observance of the 8th death anniversary of Prof Abu Mohamed Iitishullah.

Chaired by Sufta Ahmed, the meeting was also addressed by Prof Mamatazur Rahman Tarafdar, Prof Ahmed Sharif, Prof Salehuddin Ahmed, Abul Kalam Mohammad Zakaria, Prof Anisuzzaman, Prof Latifa Akhand, and Mohammad Shamsul Hoq.

### CPB

General Secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Nurul Islam Nahid in a statement yesterday alleged that the Jamaat-Shibir circle filed false cases against the pro-liberation political activists at Sirajganj.

Nahid demanded withdrawal of the cases filed against 51 persons including Ismail Hossain, Mirza Latif, Manu Khan, Md Nahid and M Tarik.

### Theatre School

The freshers of the Theatre School were accorded a reception at the school premises yesterday.

Secretary of school's managing committee Ramendu Majumdar chaired the function. It was also addressed by Dr Syed Manzurul Islam, Ferdous Majumdar, Ataur Rahman and Laila Hossain. Shariful Islam spoke on the occasion.

### EUJA members meet BUET Vice-Chancellor

The Engineering University Journalists' Association (EUJA) Wednesday called on Prof. M Shahjahan, Vice-Chancellor of BUET at the latter's office, to voice its demands, reports BSS.

The Vice-Chancellor gave a patient hearing to the different demands of the EUJA and assured his cooperations for solving the problems.

### Publication ceremony

A publication ceremony of 'Aunamica', a collection of poems of poet Md Moksed Ali, was held recently in the auditorium of the National Scouts Building in Dhaka. The octogenarian Islamic Philosopher, Dewan Mohammad Azraf presided, says a press release.

## Weather

### Day temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Mainly dry weather would prevail over the country except Sylhet and Mymensingh during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Wednesday, Meteorological office forecast.

Rain or thundershower may occur in Sylhet or in Mymensingh district during the period.

Day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degree Celsius.

Little change in weather will be noticed during the next two days after the period of forecast is over.

There was no rain over the country on Wednesday for the fourth consecutive day.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 6-44 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5-11 am.

Temperature and humidity recorded in important cities and towns on Wednesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	35.5	28.0	74	67
Chittagong	34.4	27.4	75	73
Rajshahi	38.8	27.0	72	67
Khulna	36.6	27.0	75	72
Barisal	35.0	27.0	86	74
Cox's Bazar	34.0	27.5	74	86
Sylhet	34.5	21.8	91	60
Bogra	36.2	28.3	81	67

## Today City Bank Opens its 57th Branch at Kaligonj in Keraniganj of Dhaka

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### শাখা স্থানান্তর বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আজ ২১শে জ্যৈষ্ঠ, ১৩৯৯ বাংলা (৪ঠা জুন '৯২) রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার সিলেট জেলাধীন সোনালী ব্যাংক টিলাগড় শাখাটি বর্তমান ভবন হতে ১/২ কিঃমিঃ দূরে প্লট নং-১৩২৩, মৌজা-রায়নগর প্রস্তাবিত নতুন ভবনে স্থানান্তর করা হবে এবং নিয়মিতভাবে ব্যাংকিং কার্যক্রম শুরু করবে।

ব্যাংকের সম্মানিত গ্রাহক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের নতুন স্থানে আজ ৪ঠা জুন '৯২ হতে তাঁদের প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যাংকিং লেন-দেন করতে অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

## সোনালী ব্যাংক