'Pregnancy-related deaths in

Bangladesh highest in S Asia'

mainly due to lack of care for

easily-curable pregnancy prob-

lems. In Bangladesh, both rich

and poor women are often de-

prived of balanced diet and rest

which are very important for

pregnant mothers and the new

dressed by Dr Latifa Shamsud-

din of IPGMR, General Secre-

tary of Obstetrical and Gynae-

cological Society of Bangladesh

Dr Bayes Bhuiyan. Executive

Director of Nari Progoti Sangha

Rokeya Kabir, Rounak Jahan of

Women's Health Coalition,

Nasrin Huq of Naripakkha, Dr

Mohibullah of Gonoshasthya

Kendra, Prof A K M Shahabud-

din and Commander (retd) Rouf

BCAS seminar

on constructed

wetlands held

By Staff Correspondent

wetlands was held in the city

on Thursday under the auspices

of the Bangladesh Centre for

Advanced Studies (BCAS), ac-

cording to a press release.

A seminar on 'constructed

Dr M Nuttal, environment

consultant to the Inland Water

Transport Project, in his key-

note paper highlighted the is-

sues of low cost, low mainte-

nance systems for the treat-

ment of industrial, domestic

and agricultural waste water in

Happy Birthday

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the country.

The workshop was also ad-

Speakers at a workshop in

the city yesterday said socio-

economic rights of women, in-

cluding their right to education

and health, are still being ne-

glected in the country, violating

human rights, reports UNB. Safe motherhood is very im-

portant but highly neglected.

they said adding that reproduc-

tive health of women is almost

opinion about pregnancy and

child birth are not recognised

by both family and the society. She is not the controller of her

own body." said Dr Makhduma

Nargis Ratna, in her key-note

paper, presented at the work-

of Maternal Mortality, Morbid-

ity and Women's Reproductive

Rights in Bangladesh" was or-

ganised by Bangladesh Mahila

the city.

sured

Pakistan.

Parishad at the Business and Professional Women's Club in

Dr Ratna said women's basic

rights like health and education will remain neglected un-

less their position in family

and society is improved and

their empowerment and inte-

gration in the mainstream en-

tality, she said pregnancy-re-

lated deaths in Bangladesh are

about the highest in South Asia

as per the UNDP Human Devel

According to the Bangladesh

Bureau of Statistics, some 600

mothers per 100,000 die of

pregnancy in Bangladesh as

against 460 in India and 500 in

She feared that the figure for

pregnancy-related deaths may

be more than 600 as the country

lacks birth registration and

trained birth attendants for the

care of the lower-middle class

Dr Ratna said the preg-

nancy related deaths were

opment Report '95.

pregnant women.

Referring to maternal mor-

The workshop on "Situation

"In our society, women's

absent in the society.

UNAB discussion on WFUNA held

The United Nations Associ ation of Bangladesh (UNAB) held a discussion in support of the World Federation of United Nations Association (WFUNA) World Congress at the UNAB of fice in the city on Thursday. reports BSS.

Syed Ahmad Hossain, Secretary-General of UNAB, was the main speaker while advocate Quamrul Islam, Prof Raisuddin Ahmed, advocate Mollah Mo qbul Hossain, Rafiqul Islam and Advocate Paleka Parveen took part in the discussion.

Syed Ahmad Hossain in his speech urged the United Nations to chalk out more programmes for poverty alleviation, eradication of illiteracy, disease and hunger for establishing a lasting and durable peace in the world.

Installation ceremony

By Staff Correspondent

The Rotary and the Rotaract Clubs of Dhaka Rosevale held their first installation ceremony, in which the clubs' Char ter was also presented, yester-day at the ICMA auditorium, in

In his speech, the chief guest, Mahbubuzzaman said that although Rotary movement started back in 1905, women were allowed to become members only from 1987 onwards They had to struggle hard to achieve this success, he added.

The ceremony was attended by prominent Rotarians, Rotaracts and Rtn M Ali Mahbub. PHF as special guest and Obeidul Huq as guest of honour

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31st Oct '96.

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Water-logging in city Authorities urged to solve problem

immediately Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) yesterday demanded that authorities solve the problems of water-logging and traffic jam in the city on an urgent basis, reports

In a press release, it said water-logging and traffic jam cause a lot of suffering for the people.

CAB pointed out that traffic jam is a regular feature in the city, particularly in Maligabh. Shantinagar. Motijheel. Mirpur, Gulistarf, Shahjahanpur and Sonargaon Hotel crossing.

It suggested removal of stagnant water by fire brigade until a permanent solution was found.



Members of Salman Shah Fan Club brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding proper investigation into the filmstar's death. - Star photo

'Zainul's famine sketches protest man's inhumanity to man'

Speakers at the publication ceremony of a folio, containing 16 drawings on the 1943 famine, by Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin on Thursday said that his works have proved timeless and would continue to appeal to all, transcending geographical barriers and evoking

deepest emotions, reports BSS. They said the efforts by some to devalue the works by the late artist had already proved to be in vain and that Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin's brush had made him immortal

They described the late painter as among a few Bangalees who have glorified Bangladesh by their deeds.

the wrongs

Begum Jahanara Abedin Kabir Chowdhury.

Reproductions of 16 of Lainul's sketches of the 1943 lamine in Bengal, drawn on art paper in black and white, have been brought out by the Academy to publish the tolio containing the sketches that earned Zainul Abedin instant worldwide fame when he drew them, pained by the man-made

lamine in 1943. The cover illustration of the 12.50 inches by 9.50 inches folio has been done by Qaiyum Chowdhury a former student of Zainul Abedin

Begum Jahanara Abedin Bangladesh thanked Shilpakala Academy for bring ing out the folio at a low price to make available the works of Zainul Abedin to all in Bangladesh.

She said that although Zainul drew the sketches after witnessing the distressed humanity on the streets of the city of Calcutta, it was the picture of the famine-afflicted Bengal of

Qaiyum Chowdhury said Zainul intimately knew the rural life of Bangladesh as he grew up in a village of Kishoreganj before moving to Calcutta to study painting.

He said before gaining worldwide fame for depicting the harrowing pictures of the 1943 famine, Zainul earned fame across the subcontinent by winning an all-India painting award.

He said Zainul actually drew between 20 to 22 sketches on the famine, being touched by the daily occurrence of deaths due to lack of food Qaiyum Chowdhury said

that ir those days of scarcity. Zainul drew the original sketches on packing paper in

Zainul drew famine in black and white, he said, because he knew that colour could not correctly depict the harsh reality of the colour less life of the poverty stricken people of Bengal of the time.

Qaiyum Chowdhury said Zainul drew the figures of the famine-stricken people longer. defying his academic knowl-

edge, to portray the harsh reality of the skeletons to which many people were reduced.

Prof Mustafa Nurul Islam recalled his association with the late Shilpacharya since 1945 and the inborn simplicity of the great painter.

Zainul depicted the stark reality of hunger, death and helplessness of human being he said, adding, from the famine of 1943 to the catastrophic cyclone of 1970 the works of the great painter are living protests of man's wrongs against man.

Prof Khan Sarwar Murshed said Zainul Abedin used the brush with great love for the

common people Prof Kabir Chowdhury described Zainul as among a few Bangalees who glorified Bangladesh

Prof Chowdhury said Zainul was heart and soul a Bangalee and that the opportunity to take pride in 'Bangaliness' had come back again after a long break.

A famished mother wailing before her lifeless daughter. other famished parents with their equally famished children with no hope of getting food. crows feeding on the corpse of a lifeless man and a dog trying to get food from a nearby dustbin. a famished and half-clad woman and a crow waiting with no hope of food are among the sketches included in the folio.

Subir Chowdhury, Director. Fine Arts. Shilpakala Academy, said the Academy had published a book on the works of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin in 1977, the year after his death.

which had since gone out of print, remains an invaluable publication for the students of art colleges.

He said the Shilpakala Academy would soon arrange to bring out the second edition of the book with certain additions.

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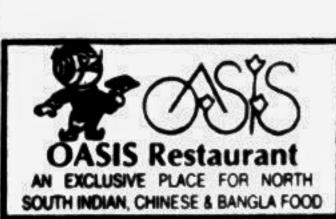
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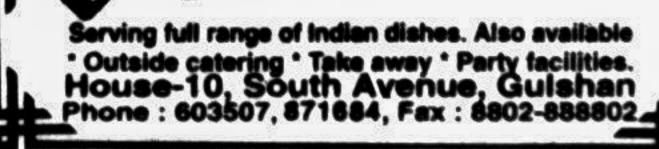
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coruary

Zainul's works, they said. have the universality of appeal ing to all, irrespective of colour and creed, as they depict the stark reality of helplessness of human beings created by fellow human beings and at the same time are bold protests against

widow of the great painter was the chief guest, while the speakers included artists Qaiyum Chowdhury, Prof Mustafa Nurul Islam and Prof Khan Sarwar Murshed, at the publication ceremony held at the Shilpakala Academy audito mim It was chaired by Prof

Shilpakala Academy, 53 years after the originals were drawn, to popularise them across Bangladesh, said the Academy

functionaries. The Shilpakala academy said that the folio had been priced at Tk 100 but at Thursday's launching they were sold at a special price of Tk 80 per lo-

They said that it was an honour for the Shilpakala

BDA installation ceremony held

The installation ceremony of the newly elected executive council of Bangladesh Dental Association (BDA) was held at a city hotel yesterday, reports

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary General of Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association (BPMPA), Dr C M Dilwar Rana stressed on dental health care for ensuring general health care of the people.

Principal Information Officer Maqbul Ahmed urged the mediamen, particularly the electronic media, to play an important role in creating mass awareness on proper dental care as in most cases, people's negligence or ignorance is responsible for bad dental health.

Presided over by BDA President Dr A Hassan, the function was also addressed by its General Secretary Dr Mustafizur Rahman.



executive council of the Bangladesh Dental Association was held yesterday at a city hotel. — Star photo

BN passing-out parade held

The passing-out parade of a batch of new entry sailors of the Bangladesh Navy was held at BNS Shaheed Moazzam in Kaptai on Thursday, says a press release. Chief of the Naval Staff Rear

Admiral Mohammad Nurul Islam reviewed the smartlyturned out parade and took salute at the impressive march past. He also distributed trophies and certificates among the outstanding sailors.

Speaking on the occasion. the Navy Chief called upon them to translate into practice the valuable training they obtained from the institute and to discharge their duties properly in future. Admiral Islam also directed them to achieve high standards of professional competence through continuous training, discipline and honesty in all spheres of life to build themselves as worthy sailors.

In the parade, MS Hossain OD/UT was adjudged the best all round new entry sailor in Seamanship Class and was awarded the Mahbub Cup, while B Khastogir ME-II/UT claimed the Cup of the Chief of Naval staff securing top position in the technical branch.

The spectacular passing-out was witnessed, among others, by senior naval officers, sailors and some guardians of the new entry sailors.

Registration of village doctors demanded

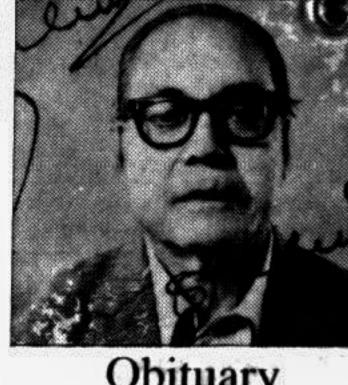
Health and family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf yesterday said that government was considering formulation of a national health and drug policy, reports BSS.

"We are taking time because such a policy was announced earlier but did not yield any positive result," he said while addressing a function com-memorating the martyrdom of the father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Institution of Engineers in the city yesterday.

Organised by Bangladesh Village Doctors Welfare Association, the function was also addressed by Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Secretary, Health and Environment Affairs of Bangladesh Awami League, Dr Zakir Hossain, director, Primary Health Care, Dr Mazharul Islam, former Vice Chancellor of Rajshahi University and Dr Abdul Haque, secretary general of the association. Dr Abdus Sattar, president of the association chaired the function.

Referring to the demands of the village doctors, the health minister said the government would examine their demands and try to redress those prob-

Dr Abdus Sattar urged the government to give registration to the village doctors and allow them to store medicine worth Tk 20 thousand in their phar-



government official and father of winjahidul Islam Khan Se lim, general secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), died in the city yesterday. He was 87, reports

Khan is survived by his widow, one son and seven daughters. His sons-in-law include eminent banker Ahsanul Huq, and labour leader Manjurul Ahsan Khan and former leftist student leader and assistant editor of the daily Bhorer Kagai Abdul Quaiyyum Mukul. His Namaz-e-Janaza held at

the Baitul Mukarram Mosque after the Jumma prayers, was attended by a large number of political figures including Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed. Knan was later buried at the

family graveyard at Savar. Qulkhwani of Khan will be held at his residence at 2/3 Naya Paltan (opposite Fakirerpool water tank) after Asr prayers on Monday.

