

Metropolitan



President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed giving away certificate to a student of the North South University (NSU) at its first convocation in the city yesterday. — Star photo

First convocation of NSU held

President calls upon students to build up character

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday called upon the students to build up character side by side obtaining degrees and academic accomplishments, reports BSS.

"Painstakingly acquired academic accomplishments, intelligence and knowledge are good and valuable. But they can never be a substitute for the nobility of character, a virtue which holds fast to the ideas even in the most adverse of circumstances, a rigorous honesty

in their dealings with others," he said while addressing the first convocation ceremony of North South University (NSU).

A total of 96 students of NSU, country's first private university, received certificates from the President, also the Chancellor of the university.

Justice Ahmed said the main objective of installation of private universities under the Private University Act, 1992, is to create skillful manpower in the country.

He said necessity for making the legislation was felt to meet the increasing demand for higher education which cannot be met by the existing government-controlled universities.

"It is also intended to discourage meritorious students from going abroad seeking such education," he said.

The President said the act prohibits any kind of profit-making by running the private universities on "commercial line".

The President noted with satisfaction that despite many challenges, the NSU has earned reputation at home and abroad through its academic attainments.

NSU president Muslehuddin Ahmed said the university has a formal academic collaboration agreements, with several internationally reputed universities in the USA, and Malaysia. NSU also has an international advisory board.

Ahmed said although the private university act envisages financial assistance to five per cent students, the NSU is providing education to its seven per cent students free of cost.

President of the university of Southern Indian Dr H Ray Hoops, proctor and chairman of the university convocation committee Dr Shawkat Hassan and chairman of the board of governors M A Awal among others also spoke on the occasion.

Khademul Islam MP laid to rest

The *namaz-e-janaza* of Khademul Islam, an Awami League MP, was held at the South Plaza of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday morning, reports BSS.

Cabinet ministers, state ministers, members of parliament and senior Awami League leaders attended the *Janaza*.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina went to the South Plaza and placed a wreath on the coffin. She offered prayers for the peace of the departed soul.

Wreaths were placed on behalf of the Speaker, the chief whip, the Leader of the Opposition and the Awami League.

The body of Mohammad Khademul Islam MP was laid to eternal rest at the Munshipara Graveyard of Thakurgaon town.

Earlier, his second *namaz-e-janaza* was held on the Baramath Ground of the town. People of all strata including local MPs, politicians, social workers and elite of the town attended the *Janaza*.

Govt urged to resist *fathwas*

Speakers at a gathering in the city urged the government to resist the *Fathwas* (religious verdict) and other oppressive social forces against the womenfolk, reports BSS.

They were addressing a huge gathering of women at the Ramna Green in the city yesterday at the inaugural session of the 9th Conference of Bangladesh Mohila Parisad, Dhaka Metropolitan Unit.

The womenfolk in Bangladesh are not politically empowered and they are being used as a 'vote bank' for major political parties, they said.

The Household work of women does not get proper attention and they are facing severe oppression at home and also in society, they said.

The social and cultural barriers to restrict their movement, is obviously unlawful and unkind, they said.

Space festival begins

By Staff Correspondent

A four-day space festival began on the campus of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in the city yesterday, said a press release of the Bangladesh Astronomical Association.

The festival that was inaugurated by the popular scientist Dr. Abdullah Al-Muti Sharfuddin, included colourful rally, seminars, poster exhibition, lectures, audio-video show, constellation observation, quiz competition etc. The press release added. The programme will remain open from 10 am to 5 pm everyday till Saturday.

What's on today . . .

Documentary film show: The 'Steps Towards Development has arranged a documentary film show and a reception to celebrities in observance of the Rokeya Day '96. Venue: Planning and Development Academy auditorium, Nilkhet. Time: 4 PM.

Rotary Club of Jahangirnagar Dhaka: The meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Officers Club, Baily Road. Time: 5:30 PM.

AGM of VHSS: The annual general meeting of the Voluntary Health Services Society (VHSS) will be held. Venue: VHSS conference room, 273, Baitul Aman Housing Society, Adabar. Time: 9 AM.

Opening of ITN-Bangladesh: The inauguration ceremony of the Intel Training Network Centre on water and waste management, Bangladesh, organised by the BUET in collaboration with DANIDA and UNDP-World Bank water and sanitation project, will be held. Venue: BUET Academic Council Building. Time: 9:30 AM.

Lecture on photojournalism: A public lecture on 'What is photojournalism' by Daniel Meadows, the head of the Centre for Journalism Studies, University of Wales at Cardiff, UK, will be held. Venue: Press Club seminar room. Time: 2:30 PM.

Kachi-Kanchar Mela: On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of Independence and the Victory Day, the Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela has arranged a cultural function. Venue: Kachi-Kancha auditorium, 37/A Segunbagicha. Time: 3 PM.

Reminiscence: A reminiscence by Simon Dring, former correspondent of The Daily Telegraph, on the War of Liberation will be held. Venue: Muktijuddha Museum, 5, Segunbagicha. Time: 4 pm.

Discussion: Bangla Academy has arranged a discussion meeting to mark the death anniversary of Mir Mosharraf Hossain. Venue: Academy seminar room. Time 11am.

Film show: A French film 'Man of Fire (L'homme en Colere)' organised by the Zahir Raihan Film Society will be screened. Venue: Alliance Francaise. Time: 5:30 pm.

Seminar: A seminar on 'Role of book-coupon and other outdated method as gift items' on the occasion of the 3rd Dhaka Book Fair will be held. Venue: Jatiya Grantha Kendra seminar room at 5/c Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 4 pm.

Drama: As part of a 9-day Theatre Art Drama Festival '96 'Trithajatra' produced by Nandipod (India) will be staged. Venue: Mahila Samity auditorium, Baily Road. Time: 6:30 pm.

Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology Dhaka

Tender No. P&D/L.P-1(414 & 417)/96-97/D-955(2) Dated: 17-12-96

Tender Notice

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Intending participants shall have to obtain permission for purchasing tender papers etc. on application to the undersigned. Application must accompany GIR certificate, trade licence and certificate of experience about concern works/supplies etc. from reputed organizations. Tender papers and other terms & conditions will be available from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk 400.00 (Four hundred) (Non-refundable) to the Sonali Bank, BUET Branch, Dhaka. Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft or Pay Order from nationalized bank amounting to 5% of the quoted amount as earnest money deposited in favour of the Comptroller of this University without which no tender will be considered. Tenders must be put into the tender box kept for this purpose in this office up to 2-30 PM of 31-12-96 and will be opened on the same day at 2-35 PM before the participants present.

The university authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders or one or more items of any tender without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

No tender papers will be sold on the opening day of the tender.

Deputy-Director
Planning & Development.

D-1423

Gulshan Ladies' Community Club (GLCC)
House 5, Road No. 66, Gulshan
Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.
Phone : 880-2-888844
Fax : 880-2-883332

MEENA BAZAR '96

Gulshan Ladies Community Club (GLCC) has arranged an attractive Meena Bazar on Friday 20th December '96 at Gulshan Youth Park (Behind Wonderland) Gulshan. Stalls of national and international products will be there. The entire collection from the bazar will be spent on different humanitarian projects run by GLCC.

Come with family and friends

D-1426

3 children rescued

By Staff Correspondent

Police rescued three children and a woman from Shibganj under Chapainawabganj district on Sunday.

An alleged child trafficker was also arrested. He was identified as Shahid Ali, 40, said police adding, Hosne Ara, 38, Shohag, 7, Swapan, 10 and Ripon, 7, were rescued from Shahid's house in Dadanchak village.

After having interrogated Hosni Begum, 30, who was arrested from the city's Rampura area on charge of lifting an eight-year-old boy on Friday last, police got the information that a gang of women and child traffickers was staying in the border areas of Chapainawabganj.

Immediately, a police team left Dhaka for Chapainawabganj and raided the Dadanchak village of Shibganj thana.

Body to observe Siraj Shikdar's death anniversary

By Staff Correspondent

A 41-member committee to observe the 21st death anniversary of Siraj Shikdar has been formed by Shahid Biplobi O Deshpremik Smrity Sangsad with Dr Ahmed Sharif as convener.

Siraj Shikdar, a leftist leader was killed in custody soon after his arrest on January 2, 1975.

Other members of the committee are Tamijuddin, Tipu Biswas, Ayub Reza Chowdhury, Mohan Shastrapani, Samudra Gupta, Faisal Hakim, Chanchal Sen, Hamidul Huq, Shamsul Huq Sayem, Hasan Fakhori.

Obituary

Shawkat Ara Begum, wife of noted litterateur and writer Prof Shawkat Ali, died of kidney ailments at Madras of India on Monday last, family sources said yesterday, reports BSS.

The *qualkhwanat* of Shawkat Ara will be held tomorrow at her 42/B, K M Das Lane (Hatkhola) residence after Asr prayers.

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