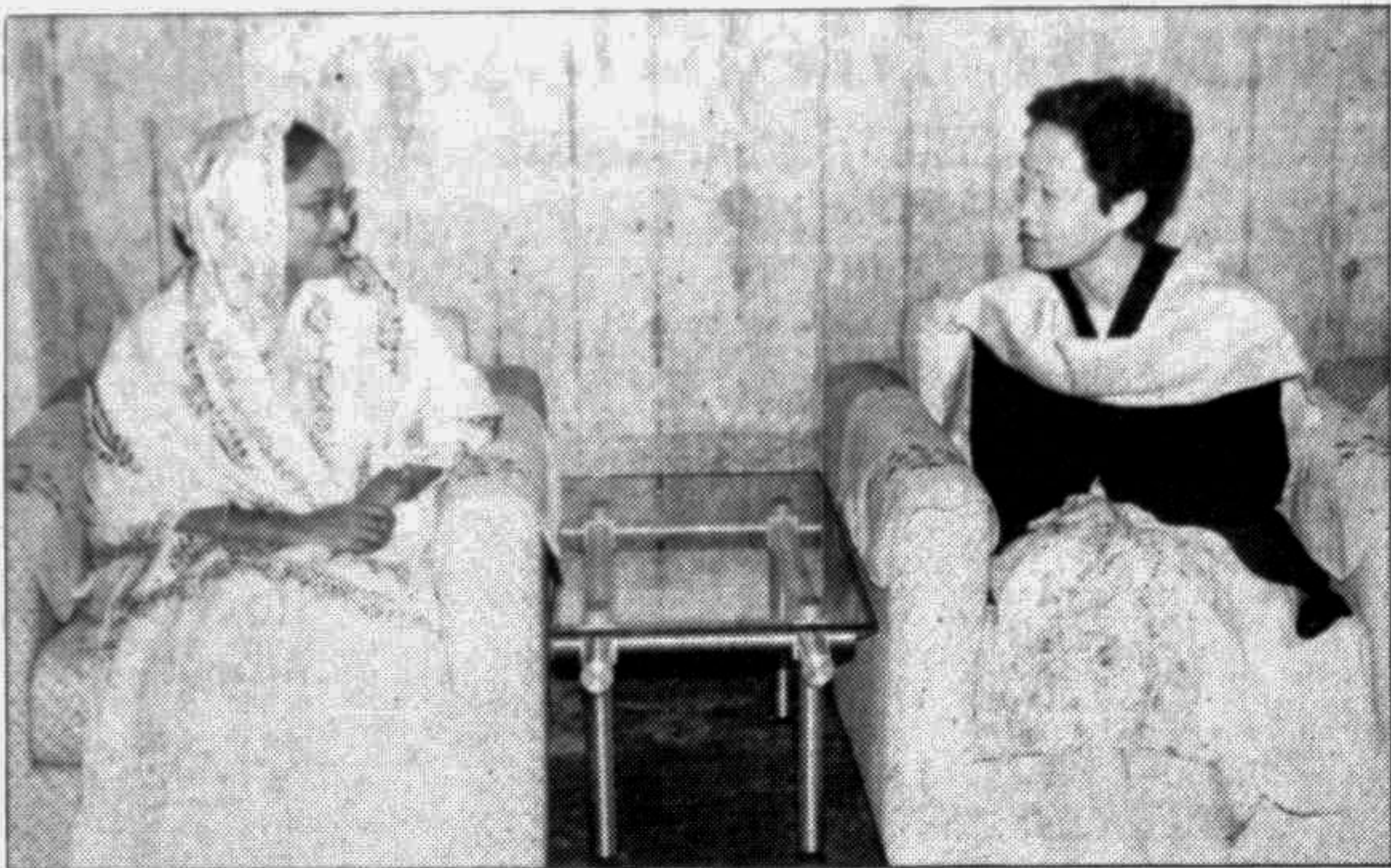


Metropolitan



World Bank vice-president Meiko Nishimizu called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Sangsad Bhaban office yesterday. —PID photo

WFP country director meets PM

The country director of World Food Programme (WFP) Alan Wilkinson, yesterday called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Sangsad office, reports BSS.

Khaleda distributes Kamalkuri awards

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia in the city yesterday distributed Kamalkuri awards among the winners of a children's art, recitation and essay competition, reports UNB.

A juvenile organisation, "Amra Zia Hobo" organised the competition on January 19, marking the 61st birth anniversary of late President Ziaur Rahman.

Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, Mizanur Rahman Sinha MP, Afzal Hossain, Hasina Warda Chowdhury, Sarwari Rahman, Shahjahan Siraj, Prof Abdur Rashid, Nazimuddin Alam MP, Rezabuddoula Chowdhury, Zubaida Gulshan Ara and Wasimul Bari Rajeb spoke at the award-giving ceremony at Jatiya Press Club auditorium. Chairman of the organisation Albert de Costa presided.

Four dacoits arrested

Police arrested four alleged dacoits for their involvement in dacoity in a business establishment in the city on Wednesday, a Dhaka Metropolitan Police press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

The press release said the arrested persons were suspected to have looted cash worth Taka 1.5 lakh and other valuables from the business establishment of one Maulana Habibullah.

While decamping with the booty, the police with the help of the local people arrested two alleged dacoits, Sirajul Islam and Saiful Islam, along with nine looted telephone sets.

The police later arrested Mahbubul Alam Tutul and Moniruzzaman alias Shamu in connection with the dacoity on confession of the two persons taken into custody earlier.

Kibria tells British trade team Loss-incurring enterprises to be privatised soon

All loss-incurring state-owned enterprises will be privatised very soon, said Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria while seeking massive foreign investment in different sectors, reports UNB.

"Bangladesh wants heavy investment, specially foreign direct investment (FDI) in power, energy, telecommunications and communications sectors," he told the visiting British business delegation.

The delegation, led by Chairman of British Overseas Trade Board, Sir Martin Laing, called on the Finance Minister at his secretariat office yesterday.

Kibria said the present government had taken a series of measures in different sectors for creating positive investment climate in the country.

He apprised the delegation that the government had taken up reform programmes in different sectors like banking, financial, legal, local government institutions and administrative sectors to ensure better services.

for expediting implementation of the reform programmes, he cited, the government set up Law Commission, Local Government Commission, Banking Reform Committee, Administrative Reform Commission.

Referring to opening of foreign banks in the country, the minister said foreign investors could avail of this banking facility.

The British delegation expressed their keenness to invest in different sectors in Bangladesh.

British High Commissioner in Dhaka David C Walker was present.

BSS adds: The visiting British trade delegation called on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury in the city yesterday.

Welcoming the delegation, the state minister outlined the policies undertaken by the government to attract foreign direct investment in Bangladesh. In this regard, he mentioned that Board of Investment had been placed under the direct control of the Prime Minister, which is a one step facility to accelerate foreign investment.

Enactment of law for setting up private EPZs, banking and capital markets were being reorganised.

All these have created a congenial atmosphere for foreign investment, he said, and mentioned that recent signing of the agreement between Petro-Bangla and Cairns Energy Plc and its associates on offshore gas was a testimony of confidence of foreign investors in Bangladesh.

The minister called upon the British investors to avail of the tremendous opportunities that exist in Bangladesh to invest, particularly in the field of energy and gas, communications, telecommunication and textiles. He also explained the role of the Foreign Ministry in pursuing economic diplomacy to attract foreign investment and in exploring market for its export items.

DPRK keen to help build Independence, Bangabandhu monuments

North Korea expressed its eagerness to extend cooperation in building the Independence Monument and Bangabandhu Monument at Suhrawardy Uddyan and Dhanmondi in the city respectively, reports UNB.

A Korean expert team will visit Bangladesh soon in this connection.

North Korean Ambassador to Bangladesh Kim Ki Duk informed this while he called on State Minister for Youth and Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader at the latter's Minto Road residence yesterday.

As per discussion, a cultural exchange agreement between the two friendly countries would be signed on the first week of coming month during the visit of North Korean Vice-Minister for Cultural Affairs Chon Yon Ok.

NEOC team leaves for Pakistan today

A two-member polls monitoring team of the National Election Observation Council (NEOC) will leave today to observe the forthcoming national elections in Pakistan, says a press release.

The team will be led by Dr Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah, Convenor of NEOC. Other member of the team is Advocate Itrat Amin, National Training Coordinator of NEOC. They will be doing pre-election monitoring, election day monitoring and post election monitoring from Jan 29 to Feb 7.

More blankets to be sent to northern districts

The government has decided to send 13,000 more blankets to the country's seven northern districts being swept by cold wave, reports UNB.

The blankets will be distributed in seven districts of greater Dinajpur, Rajshahi and Rangpur districts.

Seminar on 'solar energy system'

A seminar on 'Solar Energy System and Applications', with special reference to Indian experience, was held at the LGED seminar room in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Sponsored by the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, the seminar was addressed, among others, by Indian scientists Prof Biswajit Ghosh and S Nathaka, said a press release.

The Indian scientists, who visited Kutubdia, Narsingdi and some other places of the country, said the people of Bangladesh are more interested in solar energy and have capability to buy the power.

They observed that the basic infrastructural facilities for installing solar energy in Bangladesh are better than India.

Presided over by Additional Energy Secretary (Power Cell) S D Khan, the seminar was attended by about 100 senior officials from relevant government and non-government organisations.

What's on today

Exhibition: A 5-day exhibition on 'Women in Bangla Theatre' will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Dr Sanjida Khatun. Venue: Muktiyuddho Jadughar (Liberation war Museum), Segun Bagicha. Time: 5 pm.

USIS confce: The United States Information Service (USIS) has arranged a telepress conference on 'child and women trafficking'. Venue: USIS auditorium, Jiban Bima Bhaban (4th floor), 10 Dilkusha C/A. Time: 8:30-10:30 am.

Theatre festival: 'Eka' and 'Kokilara', produced by Theatre drama group, will be staged as part of a week-long festival organised by the Bangladesh Centre of International Theatre Institute. Venue: Mahila Samity. Time: 7 pm.

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh: The 11th monthly general meeting of the Asiatic Society will be held. Guest speaker: Ghazi Shamsur Rahman will give a talk on 'crime and punishment under Islamic law'. Venue: Seminar room of the society, 5 Old Secretariat Road (Nimitali). Time: 4 pm.

Seminar: The Centre for Research and Analysis has arranged a seminar on 'Movements for independence in north-eastern Indian states and today's Bangladesh'. Venue: VIP lounge, Jatiya Press Club. Time: 10:30 am.

Rotary Club of Dhaka Midtown: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: White Castle Restaurant, 20 Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Banani. Time: 4 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka South: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Officers Club, Baily Road. Time: 5 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North West: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: 7/2 Monipuri Para. Time: 5 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Theatre seminar: A three-day international seminar on 'Women in theatre', organised by the Bangladesh Centre of International Theatre Institute, will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Agriculture Minister Matia Choudhury. Venue: Shilpakala Academy. Time: 4 pm.

Workshop: A day-long workshop on 'Fishermen of Bangladesh: Life and Livelihood' will be held. Organisers: 'Samaj Chetona', a monthly magazine on politics and development, in collaboration with Bangladesh Jele Federation. Venue: Engineers' Institute. Time: 9 am-7 pm.

Zahir Raihan film Society: The film society will screen four films on the occasion of the 25th 'Disappearance day of Filmmaker Zahir Raihan'. The films are: 'Stop Genocide', 'A State Is Born' and 'Let There Be Light' (Rush) by Zahir Raihan and 'Zahir Raihan' (Doc) by Alamgeer Kabir. Venue: Indian High Commission Auditorium, (Dhanmondi Road No 2). Time: 6 pm.

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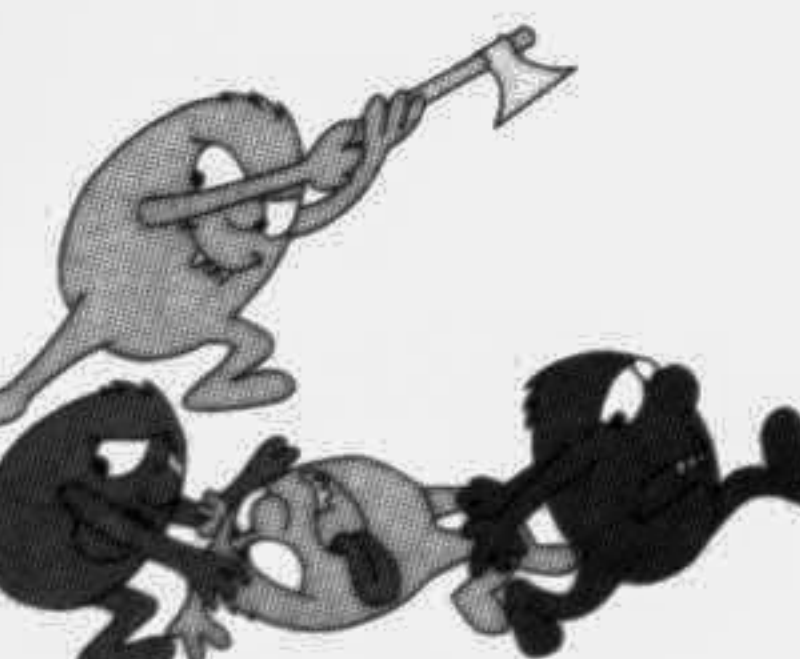


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এই আকর্ষণীয় ক্রিস্টাল-বোল এর ঠিক থাকা পর্যন্ত **ANCHOR** milk (৪০০ গ্রাম) এর ৩ প্যাকেট অথবা **ANCHOR** milk (২০০ গ্রাম) এর ৬ প্যাকেট কিনলেই পাবেন ১টি করে আকর্ষণীয় ক্রিস্টাল-বোল।

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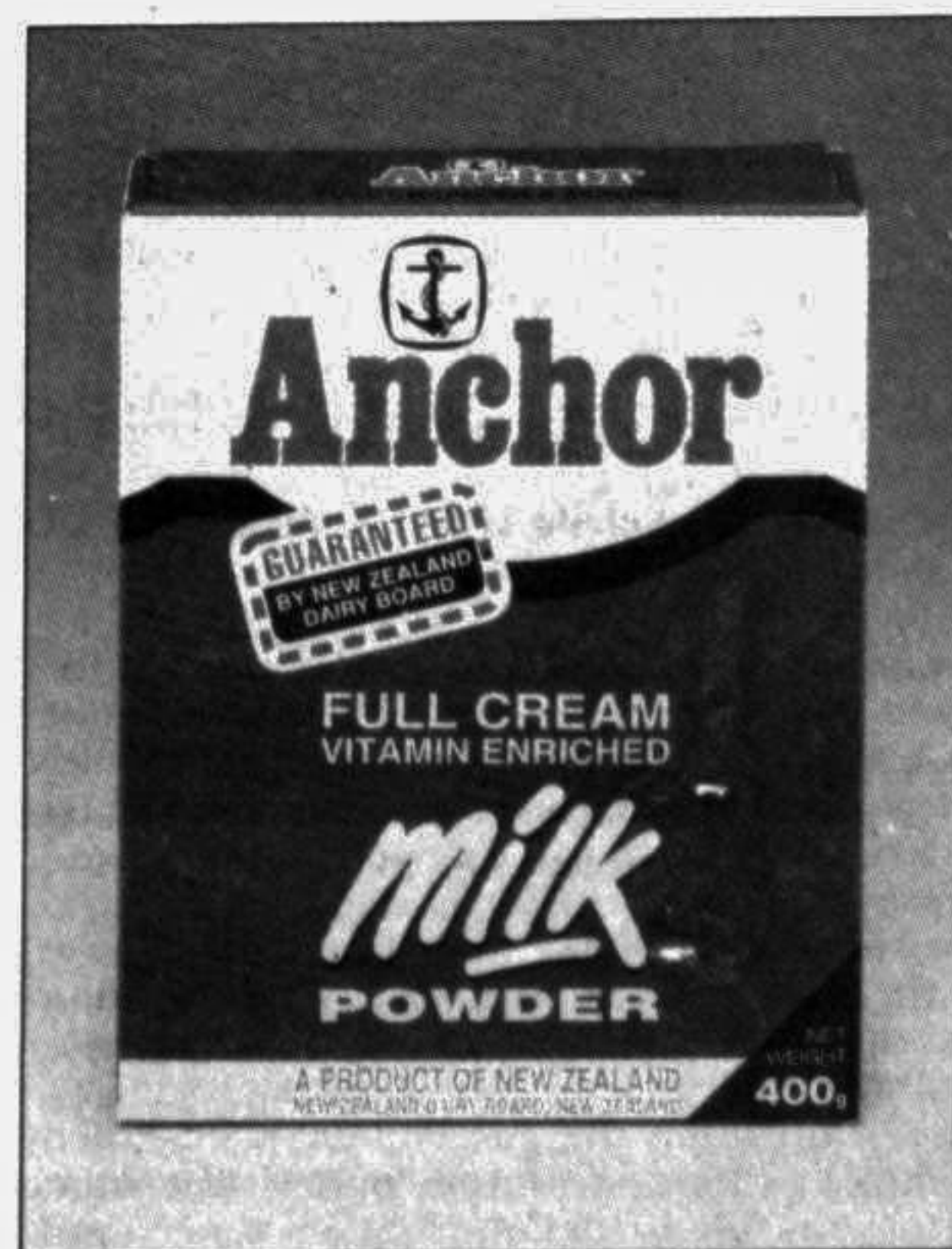
● মনে রাখবেন **ANCHOR** milk এর এই কার্যক্রম ২৯ জানুয়ারি '৯৭ থেকে ক্রিস্টাল-বোল এর ঠিক থাকা পর্যন্ত সীমিত।

● একসঙ্গে ৩ প্যাকেট **ANCHOR** milk (৪০০ গ্রাম) অথবা ৬ প্যাকেট **ANCHOR** milk (২০০ গ্রাম) কিনে একই সাথে খুচরা বিক্রেতার কাছ থেকে আপনার ক্রিস্টাল-বোল বুঝে নিন।

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