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## No foreign leaders invited Six-day mourning for Deng, funeral Tuesday

BEIJING, Feb 20: Ten thousand people will be invited to the funeral of Deng Xiaoping on Tuesday in China's Great Hall of the People, and his eyes will be donated for transplant and his organs for research, reports AP.

Deng's family, in keeping with his wishes, requested that there be no solemn bowing before his corpse. His ashes will be scattered rather than saved, and foreign leaders will not attend his funeral, the high-level Communist Party committee overseeing the arrangements said today.

Deng, one of the last leaders of the Communist revolution, died Wednesday night of a lung infection and Parkinson's disease. He was 92. Increasingly frail, he was last seen in public three years ago.

The first test of Deng's legacy will be whether his handpicked successors, party General Secre-

tary Jiang Zemin and the other, younger technocrats installed in the 1990s, will withstand the political maneuvering sure to follow his death.

The 459-member funeral committee headed by Jiang declared a six-day period of mourning. It said a memorial meeting, attended by 10,000 people, would be held Tuesday

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at Beijing's Great Hall of the People, the cavernous building where all major state functions are held.

At the start of the ceremony, at 10 am (0200 GMT) Tuesday, sirens will sound throughout the nation for three minutes.

The memorial will be broadcast live, and party offices around the country are to make arrangements so that all Chinese may watch or listen, the committee said.

## Remove difficulties

From Page 1  
trol of Delhi over the north-eastern states.

Dr Shahiduzzaman commented that the South Asian countries were very harsh in dealing with migrants who leave their countries out of sheer desperation.

During Wednesday's working session on "Overview & Perspectives of Interactions across the Border", Anirban Chattopadhyay of Ananda Bazar Patrika in his paper "On some aspects of Development Regionalism" said that Eastern India and Bangladesh are relatively backward in South Asia and "one must take into account this inequality". One geographical region that has immense scope of development by joint efforts of Bangladesh and West Bengal, he said, is the Sunderbans. "The prospect of the Sunderbans is, at one level, the prospect of the economies of large scale. The partition of 1947 undermined these economies," he stated.

Participating in the discussions, NGO activists observed that sub-regional co-operation was already existing at the level of smugglers and questioned why it could not be institutionalised to bring revenue to the national exchequer.

Dr Shahiduzzaman of Dhaka University said that China could not benefit from supporting insurgents in the north-eastern region and felt that China should not mind the development of economic relations between Bangladesh and India. He said may be China can be included in the sub-regional grouping.

Jamaat Publicity Secretary

Abdul Kader Mollah favoured the inclusion of China in sub-regional cooperation.

Subhir Bhowmik, BBC's Eastern India Correspondent, said China's sponsorship of insurgency in north eastern states was a result of India's backing of Tibetan rebels.

Economist and columnist Kabir U Ahmed strongly opposed the concept of sub-regional cooperation and said that Bangladesh should not depend on slow growing regional sub market but look for fast growing international market.

Group Capt (ret'd) Dastagir also argued against sub-regional cooperation if it diminished the sovereign status of the country.

Moderator of the session Prof Muzaffar Ahmed of Dhaka University called for change of the old mindset of the people of the region for greater sub-regional cooperation.

A paper on "cross-border Smaller Rivers" was presented by Prof Atunur Nishat of BUET, and another on "Cross-border Environmental Issues".

## Plain-clothes police at Book Fair from today

Bangla Academy has arranged to deploy plain-clothes police at the Ekushey Book Fair from today to maintain a press release of the Academy said last night, reports BSS.

The plain-clothes police will take stern measures against eve-teasing and stealing of books from the stalls.

## Padak : Prof Shahjahan

From Page 1  
of recipients.

"I was so stunned, I could not believe it at first," the former BUET VC told The Daily Star. "So I asked one of the secretaries sitting there what was going on. He looked pale and could not give me an answer. I asked him again whether I was dropped from the list of recipients and he looked away."

"So I told him (the secretary) that the authorities should have had a minimum sense of courtesy to inform me beforehand that a decision was taken to drop my name from the list," he added. "But none of them apologized so far for this incident," Dr Shahjahan said.

According to him, the Cultural Affairs Ministry had sent him a letter on October 12, 1996 informing him that he was selected as a recipient of the Ekushey Padak for his contribution in the field of education.

The letter also sought his approval for publication of his biography in the Ekushey Padak souvenir and requested him to send three passport size photos.

Dr Shahjahan said that on February 16 last, the Cultural Affairs Ministry sent another letter to him asking him, among other things, whether he would send a representative to receive the award or he would go there himself. He had replied that he would go himself, would receive the award and that he would be accompanied by his wife, he said.

"I even contacted the Cultural Affairs Ministry yesterday, but nobody said anything about dropping of my name from the list," he added.

The former BUET VC went to the Osmani Auditorium at 10:30 am and took his seat with other recipients of the award. He was at first informed of the awkward situation by Hasnat Abdul Hal, one of the six recipients. Then Dr Shahjahan inquired with the secretary and left the place.

"On my return home, I checked the printed list again," Dr Shahjahan said. "It seemed that there was a seventh name in the list which was Ershad with white ink."

Despite repeated attempts, neither the State Minister for Cultural Affairs nor the secretary of the cultural affairs ministry could not be contacted for comment.

## Women in custody

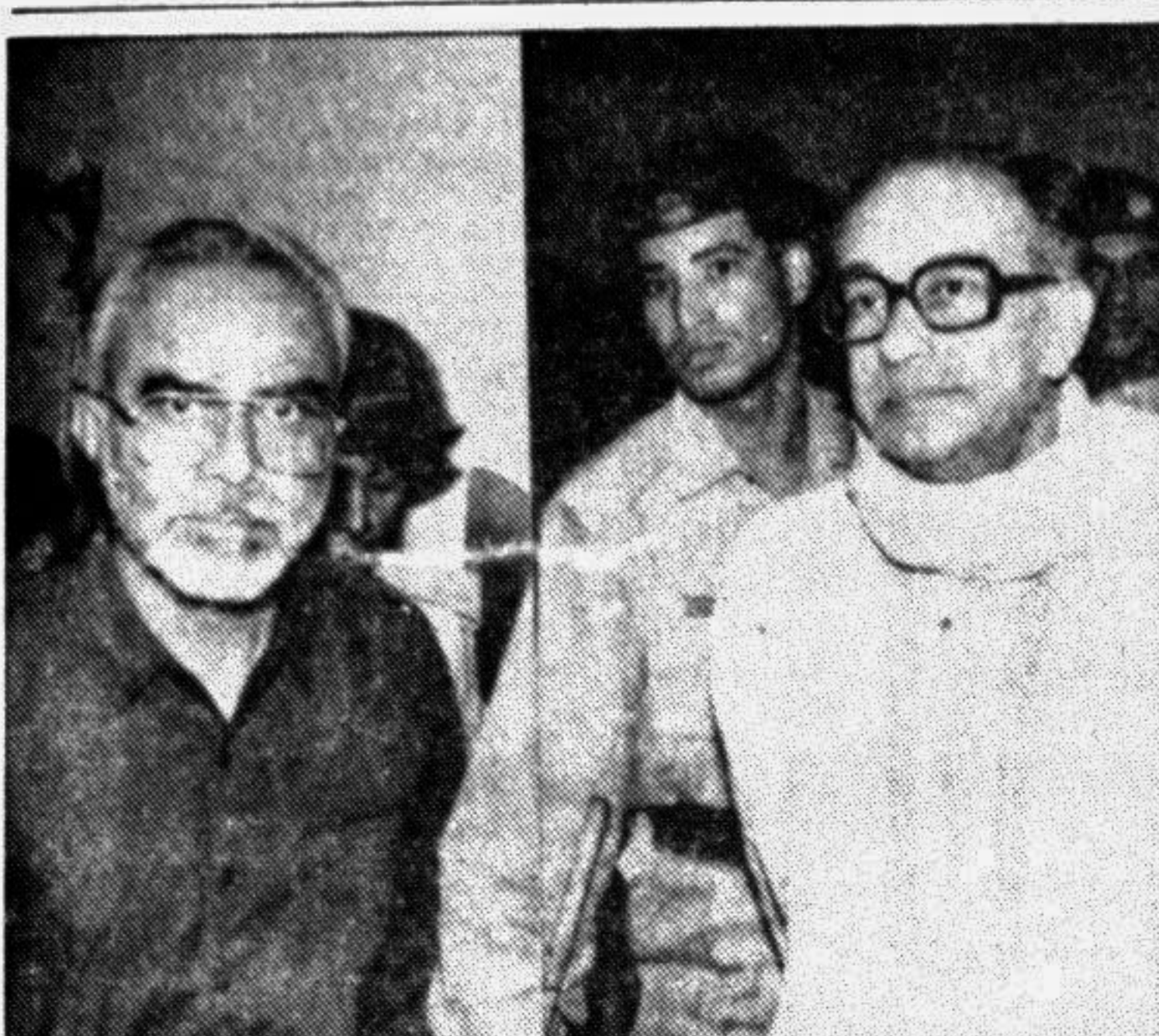
From Page 1  
court within 24 hours after the arrest," he said.

Dr Taslima Mansoor, Assistant Professor of Law at the Dhaka University, said the "national curriculum for judges should include women and law issues".

The participants included Nizamul Huq Nasim, Advocate, Supreme Court and Fawzia Karim Firoze, President of Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association.

Mahfuz Anam, Editor, The Daily Star, was the moderator.

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Col (Rtd) Farooq (L) and Taheruddin Thakur (C), accused in the Bangabandhu murder case, were produced in the court, yesterday.

## Bangabandhu murder

From Page 1  
lawyers of both the sides were seen locked in exchange of words at least on four occasions.

A short while after the accused were taken to the dock, a newsman was seen approaching them. At this the prosecution shouting at the top of their voice lawyers started demanding ouster of the newsman from the court room.

At that time, the defence lawyers also shouted to point out that there was a demonstration outside the court. The proceedings of the court was interrupted as both the sides exchanged words. Some of them were seen folding the sleeves of their shirts.

One of the defence lawyers, Mahbubur Rahman, a BNP MP and a former minister in Ershad regime, opened the argument pleading for his client Zohaida Rashid. At one stage during the argument, he uttered the word 'revolution' while referring to the incidents of August 15, 1975. At this, a section of lawyers present at the court raised a hue and cry for the third time.

Lastly, when Zohaida Rashid, one of the six accused, made an attempt to show the 'marks of injuries' on her hands, the lawyers uttered another set of words which led to another chaotic situation inside the court room.

At this stage Additional CMM of court number 2, adjourned the proceedings for 10 minutes during which the accused were escorted out of the court.

The court upon scrutiny of the retraction statement of Begum Zohaida Rashid, passed an order receiving the same in the record of the Bangabandhu murder case.

Zohaida, one of the accused in the Bangabandhu murder case and wife of Col (dismissed) Khandaker Abdul Rashid, an accused absconder charge-sheeted in the case, yesterday submitted an application before the court for retraction of her confessional statement allegedly taken through coercion and false assurance.

## JASAS honours 9 for their role in '52 movement

Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangkritik Sangstha (JASAS) accorded a reception and awarded nine eminent personalities of the country for their outstanding role in the historic Language Movement of 1948-52, reports UNB.

They are Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani (posthumous), Prof Dewan Mohammad Azraf, Prof M Shahed Ali, Prof Abdul Gafur, Dr Nurul Haque Bhuiyan, Kazi Golam Mahbub, Sanaullah Nuri, Oli Akbar and Mirza Golam Hafiz.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury distributed crests among the language heroes at a function organised at Ramna Green yesterday.

## Tofael

From Page 1  
Prof Shahjahan was earlier nominated for the award.

Khandaker Mosharraf said Prof Shahjahan was nominated for the award by a high-powered committee last year. He was not given the award though he was invited to the award giving ceremony yesterday. This is unprecedented and disgraceful Mosharraf said and demanded a probe into the incident.

Tofael, who was also a member of the nomination committee, said that the BUET authorities had lodged a corruption case against Prof Mohammad Shahjahan and so the award was not handed over to him as it might prejudice the case. The teachers of the BUET had also demanded removal of Prof Shahjahan from the post of the VC, Tofael added. The industries minister also observed that anybody receiving a national award should be 'clean' and there should not be any case against him.

Badruddoza Chowdhury argued that one could not be denied the award he deserved on the plea of a case against him. Corruption charge against Prof Shahjahan is yet to be proved, he said. He said, there might be many allegations against the 'many of us in this House'. It is a 'very undemocratic act' that after inviting Shahjahan, he was not given the award. "Disposal of a case is a matter of the court," he added.

"This is done with a political motive," the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the House said.

But, Tofael Ahmed said a person, against whom a corruption case is lodged, can't be honoured with the Ekushey Padak. He said further that the previous BNP government had made Prof Shahjahan, 18th in the serial, VC of the BUET superseding others. "We made Dr Iqbal Mahmood, who topped the serial, the VC of BUET."

## Varsity closed

From Page 1  
each other for the attack.

JCD leaders said 15 rooms of JCD supporters were either damaged or torched by the BCL activists. Protesting the incident, the BCL demanded resignation of the Provost of Shah Paran Hall.

Riot police were deployed on the campus.

**শ্রো জেকশন মিটিং**  
বিসমিল্লাহির রাহমানির রাহিম  
সম্মিলিত পরিষদ প্যানেল পরিচিতি

\* ২২শে ফেব্রুয়ারি '৯৭ মিরপুর-১০ জেনারেল সত্য হোটেলে সোনারগাঁও ব্লককে বিবেক দেয়া।

\* ২৩শে ফেব্রুয়ারি '৯৭ জেনারেল সত্য হোটেলে সোনারগাঁও ব্লককে বিবেক দেয়া।

\* ২৪শে ফেব্রুয়ারি '৯৭ কেন্দ্রীয় প্রজেকশন সভা হোটেলে সোনারগাঁও ব্লক সাইড বিবেক দেয়া।



**নূরুল হক সিকদার**  
বাবুগঞ্জ পরিষদ, পল্লব গ্রুপ  
ফোন নং-১৩২



**জিন্নাত আলী নিসা**  
বাবুগঞ্জ পরিষদ, ফিলিস্তিনি গার্লস লিগ  
ফোন নং-১৬৩



**কে. এম. জামান (রোমেল)**  
বাবুগঞ্জ পরিষদ, অশা গার্লস লিগ  
ফোন নং-১১৪



**বাদল রায়**  
বাবুগঞ্জ পরিষদ, স্যামর ক্যান্সন লিগ  
ফোন নং-১১৪



**মোঃ নূরুল ইসলাম**  
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ফোন নং-১২



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বাবুগঞ্জ পরিষদ, স্যামর ক্যান্সন লিগ  
ফোন নং-১২২



**মোঃ নাইবুল উদ্দিন**  
বাবুগঞ্জ পরিষদ, অশা গার্লস লিগ  
ফোন নং-১১৪



**মাহফুজ আলী**  
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ফোন নং-১২



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ফোন নং-১২২



**আমিরুল হোসেন**  
বাবুগঞ্জ পরিষদ, অশা গার্লস লিগ  
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**আমিরুল হোসেন**  
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ফোন নং-১১৪

সকল সম্মানিত পোশাক শিল্প মালিকবৃন্দের সোয়াগ্রাথী।

**শক্তিশালী ও গতিশীল বিজিএমইএ গঠনে সহায়তা করুন**

**Editor : Mahfuz Anam**



Shahabuddin explaining one of his works to some visitors at an exhibition of his paintings at the Shilpakala Academy yesterday.

## Shahabuddin is our pride: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday inaugurated a 12-day painting exhibition of internationally reputed artist Shahabuddin at the Shilpakala Academy gallery, reports UNB.

"Shahabuddin has glorified the image of Bangladesh and the nation in the international arena through his exceptional works of art," she told a function at the Academy auditorium before formally declaring the exhibition open.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy organised the solo exhibition on the eve of "Amar Ekushey", commemorating the great Language Movement.

The Prime Minister said: "Shahabuddin, an artist and also a freedom fighter, is our pride. At the call of Bangabandhu, he left his brush and colour during the Liberation War and took up arms to fight for the liberation of the country."

## Amar Ekushey today

From Page 1  
Bangladesh.

But, the President regretted, the unity achieved during our struggle for liberation "is now absent in every sphere."

The President paid rich tribute to the martyrs of the language movement and prayed for the salvation of the departed souls.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called upon all irrespective of party to take a fresh vow to build a hunger, poverty and illiteracy-free society imbued with Ekushey spirit.

"If we can build a poverty and exploitation-free society, that will be the best tribute to the martyrs of language movement," she said in a message on yesterday.

Paying rich tributes to the martyrs of great language movement Hasina called for soulsearching. "Let's ask ourselves how much we wanted, how much we got and how much to attain."

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia made a call for the countrymen to prepare for a movement for protecting country's independence and democracy at any cost.

In her message she also urged all nationalist forces to forge unity, being imbued with spirit of Amar Ekushey, and resist "the conspiracy to kill democracy and turn the country into a satellite state of India."

As part of the Ekushey Day programmes the national flag with fly at half mast. Radio and Television will put out special programmes while the newspapers bring out supplements highlighting the significance of the day.

The Central Shaheed Minar and its surrounding areas have been given a facelift on the occasion. Some important roads

of the city have also been decorated with festoons carrying Bengali alphabets.

Various political parties, student bodies and socio-cultural organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to observe the day in a befitting manner. These include seminars, discussion meetings, milad mahfils, blood donation, placing of wreaths at the Shaheed Minar and at the mazar of the language movement martyrs at the Azimpur graveyard.

There will be Quran khwani and milad mahfil in all mosques today seeking divine blessings for the martyrs. Special prayers will also be offered in temples, churches and monasteries.

The Prime Minister will meet the family members of those who embraced martyrdom in the historic language movement, according to the government's official programme announced earlier.

A coordination committee titled "Shaheed Dibas Observation Committee 1997" has also been formed for maintaining sanctity of the day and enabling people from all walks of life to visit the Shaheed Minar in a solemn atmosphere.

The Bangla Academy is already holding a month-long Ekushey Book fair and a month-long lecture series and musical soiree.

The Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will hold a discussion meeting on "Ekush and Our Culture" today.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has chalked out elaborate programmes to observe the day. The National flag and the party flag will be hoisted at the party office in the morning. Black flags will also be flown.

## Cigarette dealer robbed in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent  
CHITTAGONG, Feb 20:

Armed muggers snatched Tk 55,000 from a cigarette dealer in Mirshatthanagar area under Chandgaon thana this noon, police said.

The dealer was travelling in his van when the muggers attacked him.

## Afsar

From Page 1

Refuting the allegation, Zilur Rahman said that state minister resigned at the request of the Prime Minister and later the President accepted his resignation. "No irregularity was made in this regard," he said.

The minister also criticised the newspapers for 'publishing different stories' on the matter and maintained that raising point of order quoting such press reports would confuse the people.

Rising on a point of order, Mashur Rahman also demanded a ruling from the Chair on the 'controversy' on the procedure of dropping the state minister.

In reply, Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid, chairing the session, cited relevant Article of the Constitution and pointed out publication of two kinds of press reports — sacking and resignation — of the state minister. He, however, advised the BNP lawmaker to submit to him his contention in writing following which he would give his ruling.

It may be mentioned that most of the national newspapers on Monday carried a report by the government-owned news agency BSS that quoted official sources saying that the state minister was sacked for evicting slum dwellers at Bashantek without giving them enough time.

**ধ্বংস স্রষ্টি করার ১টি মাস**

**নগদে দামে**  
**কিনুন জিতুন!**

**ইস্টার্ন হাউজিং এর নতুন প্রকল্প**

ঢাকা শহরে নিজের একমুঠ জমি মানেই আপনার এক অমূল্য সম্পদ। এই জমি এককালীন নগদ টাকায় কেনাই বুদ্ধিমানের কাজ। কিন্তু কিসে কিনতে গেলে আসল দামটা পড়ে যায় অনেক বেশি।

ইস্টার্ন হাউজিং আপনাকে দিচ্ছে অপরূপ এক সুযোগ। একসঙ্গে পুরো মূল্য পরিশোধ করে কিনে নিন আকর্ষণীয় প্রকল্পে অথবা বোতামিকাল গার্ডেন সংলগ্ন পল্লবী বিত্তীয় পর্বের অভিজাত পরিবেশে অবস্থিত একটি প্লট। এতে কাঠাশ্রুতি জমির দাম পড়বে স্থানীয় চমকিত বাজারদরের চেয়ে প্রায় ২ লাখ টাকা কম। ভেবে দেখুন, কতো সাশ্রয়! এই প্লটে ইচ্ছে হলে বাড়ি করুন। যদি চান, বিক্রিও করতে পারেন। বিক্রিতে লাভ কী রকম? - আজকের কেনা প্লট আগামী ৫ বছরের মাথায় ৩ গুণ বেশি দামে বিক্রি করতে পারবেন আপনি!

তবে মনে রাখবেন, এই প্রকল্পে এভাবে এককালীন অল্প দামে জমি কেনার সুযোগ দেওয়া হচ্ছে কেবলমাত্র ১৭ ফেব্রুয়ারী ১৯৯৭ থেকে ১৭ মার্চ ১৯৯৭ পর্যন্ত। যত্ন সত্যি করার জন্য আপনার হাতে এই ১টি মাস মাস। কাজেই দ্রুত সিদ্ধান্ত নিন।

বিস্তারিত মূল্যতালিকার জন্য আজই ইস্টার্ন হাউজিং লিমিটেড-এর অফিসের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন।

**ইস্টার্ন হাউজিং লিমিটেড**

গৃহ সংস্থান গ্রাসে আপনার বিশ্বস্ত বন্ধু  
ইসলাম চৌধুরী (৪র্থ তলা)  
১২৫/এ, মতিবিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০, বাংলাদেশ।  
ফোন : ৯৬৬৬৩০৩-৪, ৯৬৬৬৩০৩-৫