

# PACKAGES DOCUMENTS & FREIGHT WORLDWIDE



**FedEx**  
Federal Express

The World on Time

For more information call-Dhaka: 9565114, 607657, 887771,  
Chittagong: (031) 712127, Khulna: (041) 725008, N. Ganj: (671) 74336

# Trade fair drawing large number of visitors

By Rafiq Hasan



Rush of visitors at the Dhaka International Trade Fair.

— Star photo

The month-long Dhaka International Trade Fair at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city is drawing an increasing number of visitors from all walks of life.

A large number of people were gathered at the fair yesterday to buy or have a glimpse of various types of products ranging from frozen fish to air-conditioned car coming from different parts of the world.

In addition to several hundred local business houses, a large number of foreign companies setting up a total of 121 stalls and pavilions are displaying attractive goods and rare products. Companies from at least 24 countries are participating in the fair to advertise and display their products.

Young sales executives, including some ladies, were trying to attract the people to their stalls and pavilions, declaring attractive and expensive prizes against lucky coupons.

"If you buy Tk 50 to 100 worth of goods you get a lucky coupon and the first prize against these is a 1300CC Toyota car," sales executive of Shezan Vally was luring the visitors.

The prizes against lucky coupons issued by most of the companies like Nabisco Biscuit, Aromatics, Unilever Industries, Rupchanda Oils range from Dhaka-Calcutta air tickets to

private cars and Colour Televisions.

Attention of the visitors was being drawn to a white four-wheel vehicle made by a Turkish company which cost Tk 2,50,000 only. A local representative of "Otosar," the manufacturing company, told this correspondent, "If we had enough stock, we could sell at least five vehicles every day." But the vehicle which can be a substitute for local tempo was only for display.

You probably will see this four-wheeler on the streets of Dhaka soon, as a number of buyers have already put up orders," said Mahbubur Rahman, a sales executive of "Esinteks Ltd.," a business house from Turkey.

Besides big size refrigerators, tape recorders and various other electronic products, the Rangs Group has offered for sale 53" television sets. The price of this large size TV set is Tk 2,60 lakh.

Fanch Bhai Engineering, a company from Dholaikhal area, has put on display and sale a number of locally made machinery like concrete mixer, roof whey, crane, diesel engine and tower crane.

Managing Director of the company Chanchal Mahmud said, "Although we produce a number of heavy machinery in our factory, we could not sell those due to lack of propa-

ganda."

He further said, "basically we have come here to let people know that these types of machinery could be produced in our country at much lower cost than that of imported ones." A concrete mixer and a tower whey machine cost only Tk 65 thousand and Tk 1.60 lakh respectively while any imported machine of this type would cost more than Tk two lakh, he claimed.

Though he was yet to get any orders, he hoped that people would buy those in the future.

A gathering was seen in a large pavilion set up by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the middle of the exhibition venue, where expensive Persian carpets, ornaments, melamine goods and food items were put on sale and display by more than two dozen Iranian companies.

The price of a beautiful Persian carpet of standard size was Tk 12 thousand while packets of Iranian sweets and peanuts cost Tk 200 to 750.

Apart from their own decoration cost, a local company had to pay Tk 50 thousand for an ordinary stall and Tk 1.25 lakh for a pavilion while the foreign companies were charged 500 dollars for a stall and 1000 dollars for a pavilion, sources in the Export Promotion Bureau which organised the fair said.

# Study reports on water sector not well preserved

By Staff Correspondent

\* Speakers at a seminar yesterday said that there should be properly funded institution to preserve study reports and information on the country's water sector.

They were addressing a seminar on 'Lessons from the History of Water Management Studies in Bangladesh' in the city.

"Students in the USA do not get any literature on water management in Bangladesh to pursue their studies," noted Dr Salim Rashid, Senior Research Fellow of the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS), while narrating his experiences in writing the keynote paper of the seminar.

Dr Rashid said that although several serious studies were carried out in this regard over the last 50 years, not many were available 'anywhere'. On government policy on further studies on the issue, he said, "I am struck by the single-minded devotion of all studies to the goal of food self-sufficiency."

He emphasised on a national debate on the issue and said, "Let us begin such a debate so that self-sufficiency in food becomes a conclusion and not a premise."

Reading out his papers, Dr

Rashid suggested that the foreign reports must be separated from their local reception since the dominant reports were either American or American dominated.

Dr Anun Nishat of BUET, commenting on the issue said that he was a member of the recently set up Agriculture Commission where the government has set a target to produce 25 million tones of foodgrain by the year 2000.

"What does self-sufficiency in food signify? Is it only rice or is it also fish, pulses and other agri outputs?" he asked, adding that plans should be made considering land and water resources of the country.

Former chairman of the Joint River Commission Amjad Hossain Khan alleged that all new planning in the country depended on how the 'donors' wanted it to be.

"In the last 36 years there have been six master plans in the country's water management but none has been implemented," he said.

The seminar was organised by the Centre for Development Research Bangladesh (CDRB). Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley, Chairman CDRB was the moderator.

# Women development

From Page 1

preserving the interest of women in all spheres, necessary decision for ensuring women participation and implementing the steps taken for their welfare.

The strategy also includes implementation of the action-plan within the scheduled time, forming inter-ministerial committee and ensuring the accountability of all these efforts to the Jatiya Mohila Unnayan Parishad.

A National Action Plan for women development has been formulated for proper implementation of the policy for the national women development. Hasina said, adding this would be incorporated in the next Fifth Five-Year Plan.

"As we are on the threshold of the 21st century, our commitment is to build a society free from exploitation through eliminating all forms of discrimination between man and woman," she told the huge gathering of women.

Referring to oppression and repression on women, Hasina

# Typhoid

From Page 1

hospital strains showed high frequency of resistance and did not reflect the true picture of resistance pattern of typhoid germ.

"The actual drug resistance is lower than what has been conceived from reports in international journals which had somehow managed to create a panic," he added. "A gradual decrease in the multi-drug resistance at both private clinics and government hospitals was observed from studies done between 1994 to 1996."

It was mentioned that billions of dollars were being spent in the world to develop new vaccines against typhoid. The countries which are manufacturing the vaccines have never used them (the vaccines) to eradicate the organism from their country. "If a fraction of that budget can be spent for the improvement of water supply system and in growing awareness, we will not only be able to eradicate this disease but also other diseases like dysentery, cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases altogether," Dr Saha said.

The seminar was based on several publications on the original works of Dr Saha and his team at the Shishu Hospital in Transactions of Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. Journal of Anti-Microbial Chemotherapy and Annals of Tropical Paediatrics of UK and Journal of Clinical Microbiology, USA.

Following the presentation of the paper, a panel of eminent doctors including Prof Nurul Islam of IPGMR, Prof Monzor Hussain and Prof Sirajul Islam of Dhaka Shishu Hospital, Prof Farida Huq of BEXIMCO Pharma and Maj Gen Motiur Rahman of AFIP took part in discussions.

The Nari Samaj procession started from in front of the National Museum. Its rally was held at the TSC road island, followed by a cultural function.

Speakers at the rally raised various demands including, trial of the persons responsible for murdering Yasmin and Shima, immediate publication of the probe report on abduction of tribal girl Kalpana Chakma, formation of a special tribunal to try war-crime and rapists, introducing 'Uniform Family Code', full ratification of CEDAW, an international charter for elimination of discriminations against women, proper recording of women's role in the history of the country's liberation, shifting of women from 'safe custody' in jails to safer places and more representation of women in parliament.

Farida Akhter, Sultana Akhter Ruby, Krishna Chanda, Maleka Banu, Kavita Chakma and Fatema Begum addressed the rally chaired by Shirin Akhter.

Environment and Forest Minister Sayeda Sajeda Chowdhury led the procession, organised by her ministry on the occasion. It started from the Central Shaheed Minar, and terminated near the Engineers Institution.

Thousands of women joined the colourful procession to create mass awareness against the bad impact of black smoke spewed out by vehicles.

Jatiya Mahila Party also held a discussion and brought out a procession in observance of the International Women's Day.

The meeting, held at its office, was attended by Jatiya Party (JP) President member Begum Zinat Hossain MP as chief guest and former MP Begum Amina Bari as special guest while it was chaired by Bulbul Nahar and conducted by Begum Farida Sikder.

# Bhorer Kagoj function told

By Staff Correspondent

# 'Opposition should form shadow cabinet'

By Staff Correspondent

Former Chief Adviser Justice Habibur Rahman has said the nation could march forward upholding the democratic order and the Constitution guaranteeing welfare of the masses.

Democratic system is yet to be perfect but there is no alternative to it for peaceful transfer of power in a modern society, he told a function to mark the sixth year of publication of the daily Bhorer Kagoj at a city hotel yesterday evening.

In his nearly 45-minute speech, the former chief adviser traced the origin and evolution of democracy from the city states during Hellenic period to the modern day, pinpointing the responsibilities of the ruling party and the opposition.

In democracy, both sides need each other, Justice Rahman said adding that their responsibility to their electorate is to discharge their due role. He stressed the need for a shadow cabinet by the opposition to make the system meaningful and keep them ready for the change of government.

The former chief adviser of the caretaker government, which supervised the June 12 general elections last year, laced his speech with humour that sent a packed audience at the ballroom of Sheraton Hotel often into laughter.

Sometimes the top leaders of different parties make statements on all issues. Agriculture minister makes statement on foreign policy because of the absence of a shadow cabinet, he said.

He raised the question how would the members of a neutral caretaker government exercise their franchise. But does not the non-partisan government bear no confidence of politicians in the system, he questioned.

But he had words of praise for the election his administration had supervised, saying that it resulted in producing a very strong opposition with 113 members from the major opposition party, something which was not there in the past. The essence of democracy is multi-party system although there had been attempt in the past for a brief period to do away with it. It did not work. Multi-party democracy means peaceful transfer of power to an elected government.

Referring to the current situation, he said "We are noticing a good trend these days. The strong opposition is making it

# Rechargeable Beard Trimmer



Transcom Electronics Limited  
Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V.  
for lighting products, radio and TV sets  
Dhaka: 815306-9, 819625-9, 889993  
Ctg-716353, 723578, Khulna: 720304, Bogra: 6215

Let's make things better  
**PHILIPS**

# 5 held with arms in city

By Staff Correspondent

The Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested five members, of an organised gang of terrorists and recovered arms and ammunition from them in city's Rampura area Friday night.

The arrested were identified as Salahuddin alias Sagar, Lal Miah, Abdul Mannan, Abu Taleb and Rashid Ali, police said.

Acting on a tip-off, the DB team intercepted a microbus in which the gang members were travelling, in front of Ekramunnessa High School and recovered two revolvers, one home-made gun and 26 bullets. A case has been filed with Gulshan thana in this connection.

# Kerb market

From Page 1

issued last week had a negative impact on the kerb market, the traders said.

They said they know that their fate will be sealed when DSE goes for automated transaction in September, but the latest DSE circular has virtually put them out of business already.

A delegation of the Bangladesh Small Investors Federation (BSIF) yesterday met Chairman of Securities and Exchange Commission Dr. Harunur Rashid at his office.

In a statement, the BSIF leaders later said they are concerned about attempts to push small investors into uncertainty with the DSE circular directing that no share certificate would be accepted without the copy of the *haavala*. This directive is a clear violation of the company laws, they said. Urging DSE authorities to withdraw the circular, they said BSIF would stage a protest in front of the DSE at 10 am today.

# Jamuna Bridge

From Page 1

should be given additional compensation because most of them are very poor.

In this context, Landell Mills referred to former finance minister M Saifur Rahman who was very much critical of providing such huge compensation.

Though the compensation programme is, to some extent, liberal, it is needed to rehabilitate the affected people, he said.

The WB chief, however, pointed to many complex elements of the project. "When I first visited the spot, there were a few houses and green fields on both sides of the JMB project, but when I went there for the second time, I found thousands of houses that emerged overnight," he said.

JBA Secretary Abdul Mueed Chowdhury, who chaired the day-long workshop, said the government was providing cash for land though the donors insisted on land-for-land system of rehabilitation.

Chowdhury said that a fund would be given to an NGO to provide loan facilities to the affected people for self-employment.

The JMBA and WB have decided that people living in the sandbars within 12 km north and 10 km south of the bridge axis and 0.5 km inland from river banklines on both sides should also be compensated if their land is eroded and crops damaged by erosion or floods.

The compensation will be made for a period of three years.

BRAC has conducted a socio-economic baseline survey in the potential erosion and flood-affected area and registered 24,500 families.

# Sadhapur

From Page 1

police arrested 32 people including 13 Ansars posted in a camp at Sadhapur set up early last month on a 100-acre land reportedly belonging to Partex Real Estate Ltd.

Meanwhile, the 10 Ansars following interrogation during the three-day raid confessed that they had fired 84 shots during the incident.

However, the CID team was yet to confirm whether other type of fire arms were used during the incident on February 28.

Besides, the CID asked the authorities concerned to take steps so that some senior officials of Partex Group can not leave the country before the investigation was completed.

# Vietnamese PM

From Page 1

also likely to be signed for setting up of a joint chamber by the apex trade bodies of the two countries.

Expansion of trade between Dhaka and Hanoi will be emphasised at the official talks. Vo Van Kiet will address the business community at a reception organised by the FBCCI during his stay.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister will pay a courtesy call on President Shahabuddin Ahmed. He will also visit the National Memorial at Savar to pay tributes to the heroes of the Liberation War. A state banquet will also be hosted for the visiting dignitary.

He will leave Dhaka Monday afternoon.

# Women's Day

From Page 1

while various other organisations also held different programmes.

Poet Begum Sufia Kamal, in a message on the occasion, recalled the contribution of Clara Jetkin for the cause of oppressed women and called for removing all sorts of discrimination between men and women.

The Nari Samaj procession started from in front of the National Museum. Its rally was held at the TSC road island, followed by a cultural function.

Speakers at the rally raised various demands including, trial of the persons responsible for murdering Yasmin and Shima, immediate publication of the probe report on abduction of tribal girl Kalpana Chakma, formation of a special tribunal to try war-crime and rapists, introducing 'Uniform Family Code', full ratification of CEDAW, an international charter for elimination of discriminations against women, proper recording of women's role in the history of the country's liberation, shifting of women from 'safe custody' in jails to safer places and more representation of women in parliament.

Farida Akhter, Sultana Akhter Ruby, Krishna Chanda, Maleka Banu, Kavita Chakma and Fatema Begum addressed the rally chaired by Shirin Akhter.

Environment and Forest Minister Sayeda Sajeda Chowdhury led the procession, organised by her ministry on the occasion. It started from the Central Shaheed Minar, and terminated near the Engineers Institution.

Thousands of women joined the colourful procession to create mass awareness against the bad impact of black smoke spewed out by vehicles.

Jatiya Mahila Party also held a discussion and brought out a procession in observance of the International Women's Day.

The meeting, held at its office, was attended by Jatiya Party (JP) President member Begum Zinat Hossain MP as chief guest and former MP Begum Amina Bari as special guest while it was chaired by Bulbul Nahar and conducted by Begum Farida Sikder.

# City hospital services

From Page 1

outside Dhaka as well as civil surgeon-led committees at the district and thana levels.

The six-member committee for the city has been empowered to co-opt members.

The meeting further decided on holding of quarterly review meetings of the health ministry and instruct its relevant sections on unresolved issues.

It also resolved that the authorities concerned take appropriate steps to implement a recent decision of the health ministry to keep the ministry and all offices, hospitals and medical centres under it free from smoking.

Earlier, the meeting with the Health Secretary Mohammad Ali in the chair, discussed and analysed the progress in the implementation of the decisions, taken at the previous review meeting.

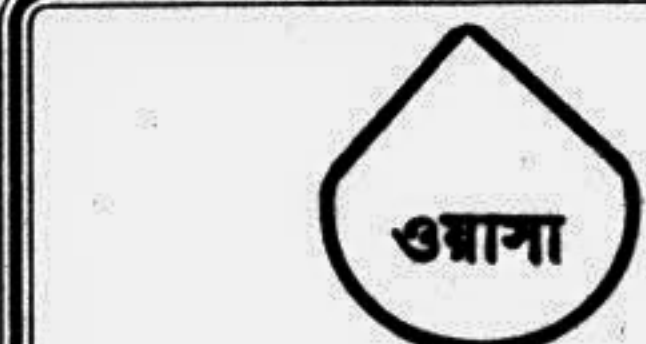
Addressing the meeting, the health secretary stressed the need for standardising services at all the government and semi-government hospitals and medical centres.

The secretary also placed a set of recommendations for the

health officials including the heads of different hospitals and urged them to take necessary steps for their implementation.

The suggestions include regular visits of the hospital directors and superintendents to monitor timely attendance of the doctors and employees; evening visits of the hospitals by the professors; keeping the hospital canteens and kitchens clean; ensuring smooth and faster services to the patients and their attendants and appropriate publicity on the issue; introduction of guiding system for the patients; simplifying the process of admission at the hospitals, wearing of aprons by the on-duty doctors, nurses and other employees; and holding weekly meetings by the hospital chiefs with all concerned to review the progress in implementing the steps for improving standard of services.

The secretary also viewed that some of the problems identified could be resolved by the hospital directors and assured that the ministry could solve other problems which could not be managed by the directors.



# ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

(পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন, ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন)

ঢাকা ওয়াসার সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, পানি ও পয়ঃ অতিক্রমের বিল পরিশোধে ব্যর্থ গ্রাহকদের সংযোগ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বিচ্ছিন্নকরণের জন্য কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক পরিচালিত বিশেষ অভিযানের কার্যক্রম জোরদার করা হয়েছে।

আগামী ৩১-৩-৯৭ইং তারিখের মধ্যে হালনাগাদ সমুদয় বকেয়া পরিশোধকারী গ্রাহকবৃন্দকে পানি ও পয়ঃ অতিক্রমের সারচার্জ মওকুফের সুবিধা দেয়া হবে।

বকেয়া অনাদায়ের কারণে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এবং পিডিআর এ্যাক্টের অধীনে ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের কোর্টে মামলা এড়ানোর নিমিত্ত অবিলম্বে বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ আপনার পানি ও পয়ঃ অতিক্রম পরিশোধ করুন। বিল না পেয়ে থাকলে রাজস্ব অঞ্চলসমূহের রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তার সহিত যোগাযোগ করুন।

বিল সংক্রান্ত কোন অভিযোগ থাকলে ঢাকা ওয়াসার সংশ্লিষ্ট আঞ্চলিক অফিস বা প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা (ফোনঃ ৩২৫২৪০) বা বাণিজ্যিক ব্যবস্থাপক (ফোনঃ ৯১২০৫৫৭) অথবা উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক (অর্থ) (ফোনঃ ৮১৬৭৯৯)-এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

আপনার সেবায় নিয়োজিত

ঢাকা ওয়াসা

ওয়াসা-জঃঃঃ ৭৭/৭৭  
ডি-২৮৩



# বাংলা একাডেমী ঢাকা।

বাংলা একাডেমী প্রাঙ্গণে  
অমর একুশে বইমেলা '৯৭  
১৭ মার্চ/৩ চৈত্র সোমবার পর্যন্ত চলবে।  
বইমেলা থেকে আপনার পছন্দের  
বইটি বেছে নিন।

বাংলা একাডেমী জাতির মননের প্রতীক

D-285

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motiheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Email: dstar@bangla.net