

The Bangladesh Pratibondhi Foundation and the South Asian Regional Centre for Disability accorded a reception to Dr Sultan S. Zaman on her receiving the prestigious 'Henry H. Kessler Award' from the 'Rehabilitation International' at the British Council Auditorium in the city yesterday.

— Star photo

## Metropolitan

Painting exhibition by Asma Kibria extended till Mar 20

The duration of painting exhibition by noted artist Asma Kibria now going on at the art gallery of the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has been extended till March 20, says a press release.

The solo painting exhibition by Asma Kibria organised by the Shilpakala Academy will remain open from 2 pm to 7 pm. On Friday it will remain open from 3 pm to 8 pm, the press release added.

### BCS confce

Allocation of 1% of GDP for research suggested

By JU Correspondent

Chemical scientists at the inaugural ceremony of the 20th national annual conference of Bangladesh Chemical Society (BCS) yesterday suggested that at least one per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country should be allocated for research purposes for promotion of science and development of industries.

Underscoring the need for training and interaction among the scientists on an international level, the speakers said that the chemical scientists will be able to add valuable contribution in the sugar, paper, fertilizer, leather, glass, cement, medicine, alcohol and some other industries of the country if adequate funds are allocated for research purposes.

Earlier, Minister for Education, Science and Technology A S H K Sadique inaugurated the conference at the central auditorium of the Jahangirnagar University (JU).

BCS president Dr Shafiqur Rahman, JU VC Prof Amirul Islam Chowdhury, JU pro-VC Prof Alauddin Ahmed and BCS general secretary Dr M Fazlul Haq, among others, spoke on the occasion.

At least five hundred chemical scientists from home and abroad including India, Germany, Japan, Great Britain and the USA are taking part in the three-day conference.

### Reception

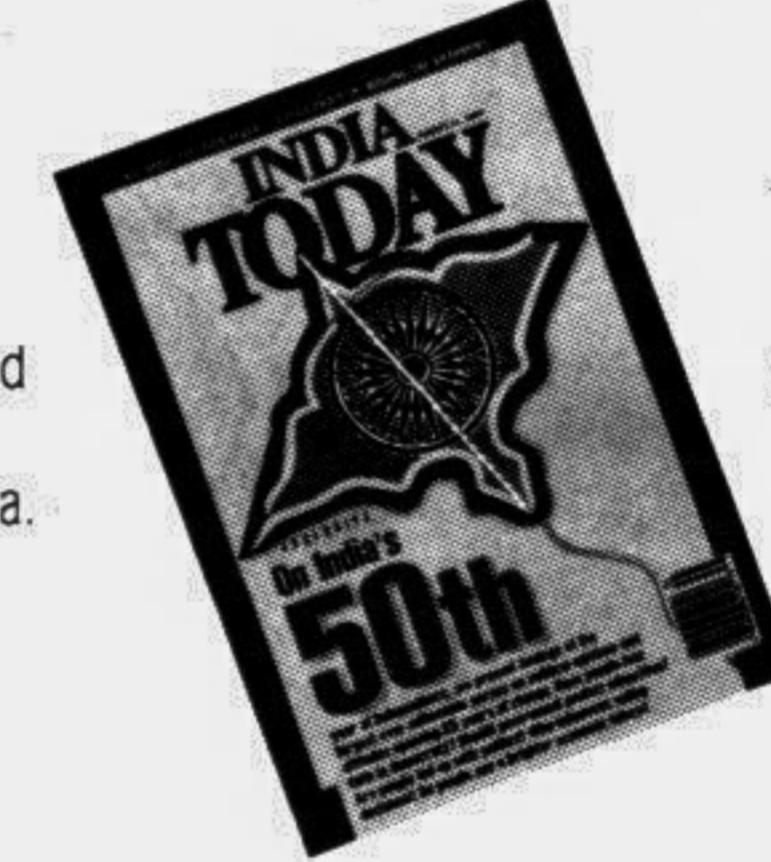
By Staff Correspondent  
US Ambassador in Bangladesh David N Merrill and Mrs Merrill hosted a reception at their residence yesterday evening to bid farewell to Donald Bishop, Director of USIS and Mrs Jemma Bishop.

The reception was attended by politicians, diplomats, journalists and elite of the city.

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### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)

### Notice inviting offers for Oil and Natural Gas Exploration.

2nd Round PSC Bidding - 1997

In view of the conclusion of the 1st Round PSC Bidding which resulted in signing of 6 PSC Contracts and followed by overwhelming interest shown by number of leading International Oil Companies and in the interest of goodwill and understanding for these interested investors and also to promote Bangladesh's interest in the field of Oil and Gas exploration, the Government of Bangladesh and Petrobangla invites International Oil Companies (IOCs) to bid for acreage for exploration for Oil and Gas. 15 blocks are currently available for exploration by the IOCs. Singly or in association with other companies the bidder can bid for one or more blocks. However, not more than two contiguous blocks will be allowed in one application.

Contracts will be signed with successful bidding companies in the line of Production Sharing Contract (PSC) which will follow the Model Production Sharing Contract, 1997 which includes among others, the following salient features:

#### CONTRACT FEATURES

- Full repatriation of profit
- No Signature Bonus or Administering Fee
- No Corporate Tax
- Special consideration for offshore blocks
- No duty for equipment and machinery imported for petroleum operations during exploration, production & development phases
- Provision for exploration in the deeper horizons of the existing gas fields
- Provision for assignment

#### HIGH LIGHTS OF BID EVALUATION ITEMS

- Technical & financial capabilities
- Profit petroleum shares expected by companies
- Percentage of annual production expected to be allocated towards cost recovery
- Minimum work obligation in each of the exploration phases
- Bank Guarantee for performance of the minimum Exploration Program
- Discovery and Production Bonuses and annual Contract Service Fee which should not be less than US \$ 100,000 per year in each case.

#### AVAILABILITY OF DATA

A basic information package including a brochure giving details of the blocks offered, their geographical location on a map of Bangladesh and the Contract terms will be made available at a cost of Tk.1000 or US \$ 40 to the interested companies.

Application will be based on the Bangladesh Model Production Sharing Contract-1997, Petroleum Policy-1993 and Energy Policy-1995 which will be included in the Information Package.

To enable companies to assess the geological prospects of the blocks on offer, Promotional and Data Packages are available on payment basis. These Packages contain seismic sections, gravity, magnetic, geological maps, wireline logs and geochemical data etc.

In order to qualify for bidding, companies must purchase the Promotional Package. The purchase price is US \$ 7,500 (Seven thousand five hundred).

Companies interested in BIDDING and purchase of Promotional Package and Data Packages and in obtaining further information may contact:

Mr. M. Fariduddin  
General Manager  
Petroleum Concession Division  
Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (PETROBANGLA)  
5th Floor, Petrocentre  
3 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.  
Telephone: 880-2-816732, Fax: 880-2-8111613. E-mail: [petrobg1@bangla.net](mailto:petrobg1@bangla.net)

Bids should be submitted in sealed envelopes superscribed "Confidential" "2nd Round of Bidding-1997" and "Proposal for Block # ..... " not later than 14:30 P.M. on 15 July, 1997 to:

Chairman  
Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (PETROBANGLA)  
3rd Floor, Petrocentre  
3 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.

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