



US Ambassador to Bangladesh John C. Holzman presenting his credentials to President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday. —PID photo

Death of Diana Samad Azad signs condolence book

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad yesterday signed the condolence book opened at the British High Commission in Dhaka following the tragic death of Princess Diana, reports UNB.

Expressing deep shock at the untimely demise of the Princess, Azad recalled various humanitarian services rendered by her for the cause of distressed people.

"Her sudden death is a great loss to the world and humanity as well," the Foreign Minister commented.

Barcoded labels for booking EMS items introduced

Bangladesh Post Office has started using barcoded labels for booking EMS items with effect from Sept 1, reports UNB.

The idea of using barcoded labels is to facilitate tracking and tracing of the movement of the EMS items with the scanning machines, used by different postal administrations around the world, said a PID handout.

The users of EMS service are requested to avail of this service. However, they will not be required to pay any additional charges.

DU Rokeya Hall students agree to unlock office room of provost

By DU Correspondent

The resident students of the Rokeya Hall of the Dhaka University agreed to unlock the office room of the provost following a meeting of the students with the provost standing committee on Monday.

The students of the Rokeya Hall, one of the three female dormitories of the university, locked the office room of the hall on Aug 26 protesting what they said the "indecent" behaviour of the provost Prof. Nurunnahar Rahman with the students and employees.

They kept her "hostage" for about two hours on that day and demanded her resignation. It was decided at the meeting that proper steps would be taken to fulfil various demands of the students.

The residents of the hall are demanding the revival of the rule of the 'late permission' which allows them to stay out till 10 pm with special permission from the hall authorities.

Talking to The Daily Star, some students of the hall, however, said that they will continue their agitation for resignation of the provost. If the provost is not removed within a month, we will gear up our agitation programmes, they said.

Electoral reforms committee formed, JS told

Prime Minister and Leader of the House Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the Election Commission has formed an electoral reforms committee aimed at strengthening the foundation of the democratic political system, reports BSS.

She was replying to a question from the Treasury Bench member K M Jahangir on behalf of Sarwar Jamal Nizam (BNP-Chittagong) during the Prime Minister's question-answer hour at the Jatiya Sangsad.

The Election Commission (EC) has taken such an initiative as the responsibility of holding a free and fair election is vested on the EC, both by the constitution and the law, the Prime Minister said.

Hasina said the electoral reforms committee has been formed to enable the EC to find out ways of more efficient and transparent election management, removing anomalies in the existing provisions and articles in order to eliminate unnecessary obstructions in casting votes.

In reply to another supplementary question, the Prime Minister said that the government would provide necessary logistics to the EC as per guidelines and suggestions of the electoral reforms committee.

JS told

PM visited 10 countries in 14 months

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday informed the House that she had visited 10 countries in 14 months since July 1996, reports UNB.

Replying to A B M Abul Kashem (Ctg-2), the Prime Minister said she visited Saudi Arabia, China, the United States, Italy and India in 1996. Hasina further said she has visited Saudi Arabia, the United States, India, Pakistan, the Maldives, Turkey, Japan and Germany so far this year.

During her visit to India, a 30-year Ganges water sharing treaty was signed by Bangladesh and India.

Four agreements were signed during her visit to China. These are investment development and protection agreement, avoidance of double taxation agreement, 100 million yuan credit agreement and 30 million yuan grants.

During her visit to Japan, two accords were signed. They were: investment development and protection agreement and yen credit agreement for technical assistance for Jamuna bridge link road project, Bakshi bridge construction project and Narayanganj-Narshingdi flood control and irrigation project.

Matia tells JS Jute market recovering

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury yesterday admitted a "depression" in jute prices, but claimed the market recovering with the availability of quality jute, reports UNB.

The minister attributed the depression in the jute market to the "unprecedented" harvest this year, which, she said, was the result of favourable climate and availability of seeds of *falgunt-tosha* to the farmers.

Replying to a supplementary question from N K Alam Chowdhury (JP) in parliament, she said the quality of jute was not good till the last few days due to lack of rain for which farmers could not process jute.

But after adequate rains in the last few days, quality jute is coming to the market and the prices are going up, she said. "With the availability of quality jute during September, the price will go up further."

Matia said an interministerial meeting involving Jute, Finance, Commerce and Agriculture ministries reviewed the whole situation and a task force was constituted to overcome the problem of low price of jute.

Besides, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina herself is monitoring the jute issue, she said, hoping that the problem would be overcome with proper management by the government.

Replying to a starred question from N K Alam Chowdhury, the Agriculture Minister said efforts have been made to formulate an Integrated Agriculture Policy for overall agricultural development.

The draft of the policy is being finalised by the concerned authorities of different ministries and divisions, including the Agriculture Ministry, she said.

Besides, she said, the draft of the crop policy is under consideration of the Agriculture Ministry.

Muggers stab policeman

By Staff Correspondent

A gang of muggers stabbed a policeman and took away cash from him from near the Razarbagi Police Lines in the city Monday.

The injured was identified as Tofazzal Hossain, 35.

He was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital and later shifted to the Chest Diseases Hospital.

Hospital sources said, a gang of about four unidentified men stabbed Tofazzal early in the morning and snatched about Tk 400 from him.

He sustained wounds in his chest and abdomen. Motijheel thana, however, could not confirm the incident.



Discussion on Abul Mansur Ahmed today

By Staff Correspondent

The 99th birth anniversary of Abul Mansur Ahmed, an eminent litterateur, journalist and politician of the sub-continent will be observed today.

Abul Mansur Ahmed Smriti Sangsad has arranged a discussion meeting at the auditorium of the National Museum at 5 pm. President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed will be the chief guest at the function.

It will be presided over by prominent litterateur Prof. Abu Rashid. Prof. Rajib Humayun will present the key-note paper on the life and works of Abul Mansur Ahmed while Prof. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury of the Dhaka University and prominent journalist Obaidul Huq will participate in the discussion. Prof. Anisuzzaman will conduct the function.

Notice to increase remunerations of MP's postponed

By Staff Correspondent

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury Monday 'postponed' disposal of a call attention notice by ruling party MP seeking an 'increase of salaries and allowances of the honourable members of parliament'.

Abdul Latif Mirza, Awami League MP from a Sirajganj constituency, drew the attention of Leader of the House and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for enhancing the salaries and allowances of the MPs.

The notice, which was included in the 'order of the day' for disposal Monday, also sought office, personal secretary, office assistant and peon to be provided by the government to all the 330 MPs.

The Speaker postponed disposal of the notice following a request from Deputy Leader of the House and LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman. He, however, assured the MPs that the issue will be included again in the 'order of the day' sometime during the present session.

What's on today . . .

Bangladesh Mohila Parishad: A discussion marking the anniversary of the declaration of the CEDAW charter will be held. Venue: Jatiya Press Club auditorium. Time: 4:30 pm. Chief guest: Agriculture and Food Minister Motia Chowdhury.

CEDAW Forum-Bangladesh: A discussion commemorating the declaration of the CEDAW charter will be held. Venue: UNDP auditorium, House: 60, Rd: 11/A, Dhanmondi. Time: 3:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 5:30 pm. Guest speaker: Dr Q K Ahmed will speak on 'Ethics in public office'.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North West: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5:30 pm.

Online students' magazine launched

"Voices", the first ever online students' magazine in Bangladesh for internet web-site users, was launched in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The interest magazine, which is assisted by Proshika Computer System, will cover wide area of interests, according to its editor, Naved Qadir, a student of MIS department, AMA International University. The pages will be updated fortnightly, he added.

The magazine can be visited at: www.bdonline.com/media/voices.

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Standard Chartered

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Standard Chartered Bank, a UK based international Bank, is looking to fill the following positions in its Operations Division in Bangladesh.

These are challenging and target oriented positions with ample prospects for growth. Candidates who welcome hard work and tough deadlines, like to lead others to achieve results, possess excellent communication skills in English and Bangla and meet the following requirements are encouraged to apply.

OFFICER, TREASURY OPERATIONS

The incumbent will be required to manage and control the processing work of treasury operations relating to foreign exchange and money market by ensuring the procedures and practices of SCB Group and local regulatory bodies. The incumbent will also be required to assume the position of Manager, Treasury Operations in his absence.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Bachelor degree (Finance/Accounting). Preference will be given to candidates having Masters degree or MBA.
- 3-5 years experience in treasury operations/settlements.
- Good knowledge of computers.
- Age below 35 years.

OFFICER, CENTRAL OPERATIONS

The incumbent will be required to manage the outward and inward remittances/ payments and/or processing of clearing transactions with a view to provide excellent service to the Bank's clients.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Bachelor degree. Preference will be given to candidates having BBA/MBA.
- 2-3 years work experience in similar jobs preferably in foreign banks.
- Good knowledge of computers.
- Age below 30 years.

OFFICER, ADMINISTRATION/SECURITY

The incumbent will be required to provide routine administrative support to the Bank in particular to security, premises maintenance/upkeep, procurement of office supplies and bank's assets, management/control stores and archives. He/she will also have to liaise with Government offices, regulatory bodies and vendors.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Minimum Bachelor degree.
- 3-4 years experience in a similar job in a large reputed multinational or commercial organisation preferably from service industries like hotel/airlines.
- Working knowledge of computers.
- Age below 35 years.
- Candidates in service industry like hotels/retired Armed forces officers having administrative experience may apply.

OPERATIONS CLERK

The incumbent will be required to handle day-to-day operational activities of the Division and assist in processing and preparing reports.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Minimum Graduation.
- 1-2 years experience in Banks or Financial Institutions.
- Good knowledge of computers.
- Ability to work independently and under pressure
- Age below 30 years.

Attractive remuneration will be offered to the right candidates for the above positions.

Applications stating full personal particulars, work experience and salary aspirations should be sent to: Manager, Human Resources, Standard Chartered Bank, ALICO Building, 18-20 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka. Please enclose a passport size photograph and contact telephone number. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for an initial interview.

Closing date: 11 September 1997.

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