

Metropolitan

Speaker leaves for Mauritius

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury left Dhaka for Mauritius Friday night to attend the 43rd conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), which will begin at Port Luis from today, reports BSS.

The Speaker is leading a seven-member Bangladesh parliamentary delegation to the 10-day conference.

He will also attend the executive committee meeting of the CPA and chair the plenary session of the conference.

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A memorial lecture and gold-medal awarding ceremony was held in observance of the 8th death anniversary of National Professor Dr Md Ibrahim at BIRDEM auditorium yesterday.

20 lakh diabetic patients in the country

Speakers at a function in the city yesterday said the number of diabetic patients in the country would hit 40 lakh in the next 15 years owing to various socio-economic problems, reports UNB.

At present, there are about 20 lakh diabetic patients, the speakers said at the Dr Mohammad Ibrahim Memorial Lecture and Gold Medal-awar-

ding ceremony.

The Bangladesh Diabetic Samity organised the function in observance of the 8th death anniversary of Dr Mohammad Ibrahim, the founder of the Samity, at the BIRDEM auditorium yesterday.

Face 50 per cent of the alarming cases of diabetes, a diabetic hospital in each district and three more institutions like the BIRDEM should be set up in the capital, the speakers observed.

Speaking as chief guest, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman said, "We have to take a fresh pledge to materialise the ideals of Dr Ibrahim dedicated to the down-trodden and suffering people".

He said the government had given a Tk 10-crore grant for the cardiac centre of BIRDEM.

Seeking cooperation from all sections of society, the minister said the government was actively considering setting up one diabetic hospital in each district.

Later, Zillur Rahman presented the Dr Mohammad Ibrahim Memorial Gold Medal to the Kumudini Welfare Trust, established by eminent social worker Ranada Proshad Saha.

'Artist camp' at Shilpakala Academy begins today

An 'artist camp', conducted by German artist Jorg Bachhofer, will begin from today at Shilpakala Academy under the Training Project of Fine & Performing Arts of the Academy.

The camp has been jointly organised by the German Cultural Centre and Shilpakala Academy under the Training Project of Fine & Performing Arts of the Academy.

Prof Mohammad Kibria will inaugurate the camp at 10 am today. Azad Rahman, Director General, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, will preside.

Fifteen artists from Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna will take part in the camp.

Highway blockade programme of khetmojurs today

The convenor of Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) comrade Khalequzzaman has urged the government to fulfil the legitimate demands of khetmojurs (farm labourers), reports UNB.

He gave the call in a statement on Friday expressing solidarity with the khetmojurs' highway blockade programme today.

Krishak khetmojor Sangram Parishad has given the programme to realise their 9-point demand, which includes fair price of jute-paddy and smooth supply of agri-inputs.

Reason behind alleged suicide of 2 sisters yet to be known

By Staff Correspondent

The reason behind the alleged suicide of two sisters together at a house of Indira Road in the city on Thursday was yet to be known, police said Thursday night.

Tejgaon police seized some 'fine crystals of an unknown substance' in a small polythene packet kept on a table in the room of the two young sisters.

The salt-like stuff was also found on the floor of the attached bathroom where the bodies of the two were seen lying. Police said they sent the seized substance to the government chemical testing laboratory.

A senior police official said they were convinced that the sisters committed suicide. They were however, waiting for the autopsy report.

The bodies of two sisters — Fatema Nizami Chowdhury alias Sunny, 22, and Sharifa Nizami Chowdhury alias Jeni, 20, were recovered by police from inside the bathroom at about 11 am.

Police said Sunny was a student of ICMA and Jeni completed her HSC this year. The two resided with their sister's family.

Police thought that the incident was linked with love affairs.

The brother-in-law of the two sisters filed an unnatural death case with Tejgaon thana.

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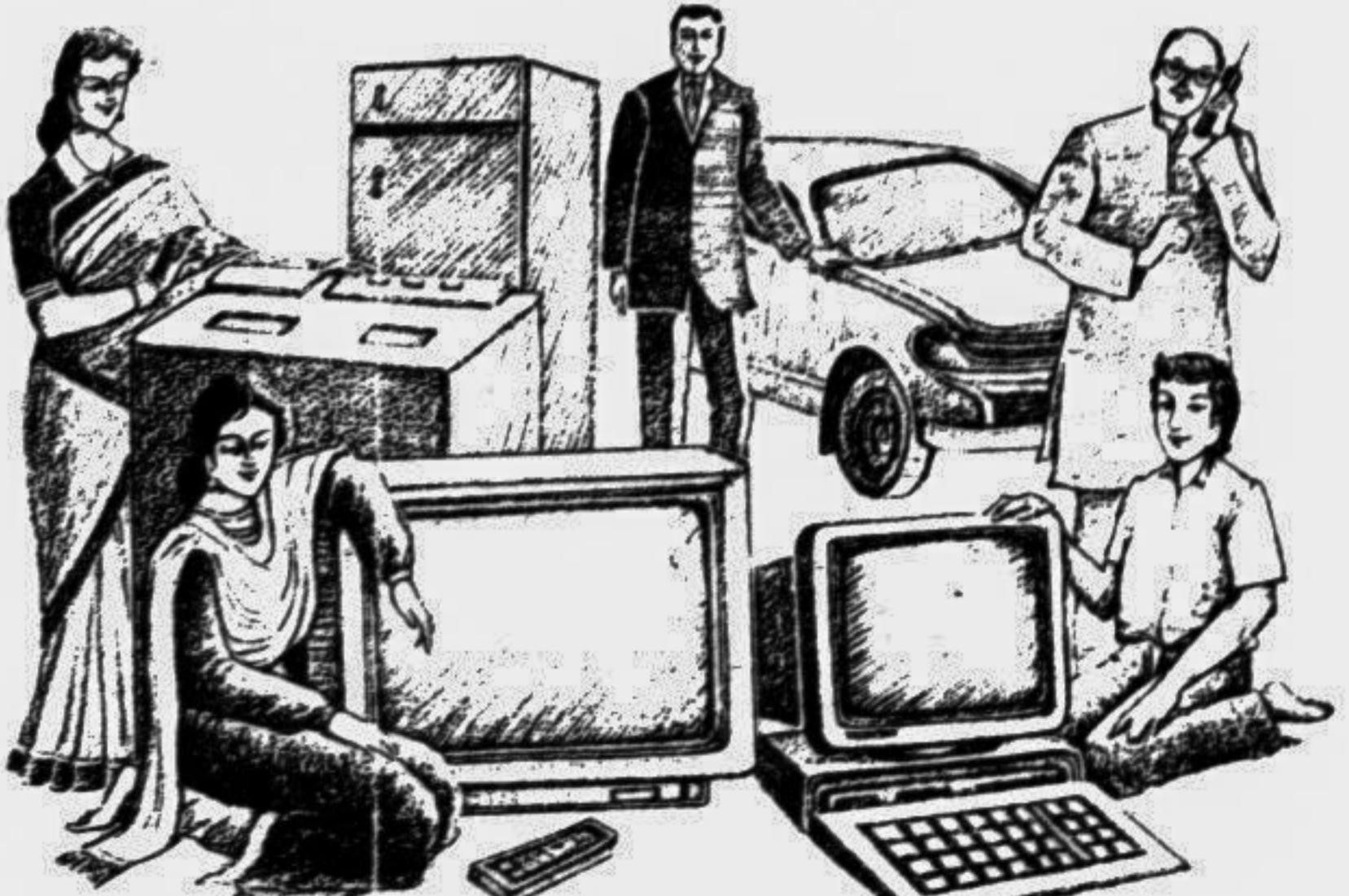
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DCC implementing Tk 263 cr programme on infrastructure development: Zillur

A Taka 263 crore physical infrastructure development programme is being implemented in the current fiscal year by the Dhaka City Corporation to improve the civic life of the capital and to render extended services to the city dwellers, reports UNB.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman said this while inaugurating a newly constructed community centre at Shyamoli in the city on Friday, said a PID handout.

The Party Palace Community Centre, a private sector enterprise, has been built to extend community services to the city dwellers.

Zillur asked the private sector to come forward to meet the growing needs of the increased population of the capital.

Presided over by Syed Ameenul Huq, chairman of the Party Palace, the function was also addressed by its Managing Director Paritosh Roy.

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