

## Faezul visits ailing ex-president

State Minister for Jute and Textiles AK Faezul Huq visited ailing former President Justice AFM Ahsan Uddin Chowdhury at the BIRDEM hospital in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

The state minister stayed there for sometimes and enquired about his health and treatment. He wished his early recovery, said an official hand-out.

## CJA,B team to attend C'wealth Summit

Commonwealth Journalists Association, Bangladesh (CJA.B), has sent a two-member delegation to attend the Commonwealth Summit in Edinburgh begins today, reports UNB.

CJA, B Secretary General Farid Hossain of the Associated Press and its EC member Zaglul Ahmad Chowdhury of BSS, left Dhaka Wednesday night to represent the organisation at the conference, says a press release.

## Telephone bills for Sept issued

Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board has already issued the digital telephone bills for the month of September to the subscribers, reports UNB.

The deadline for payment of bills is October 30. In case of non-receipt of the bills within 25th instant the subscribers are requested to collect the duplicate bills from the concerned telephone revenue office and make payment within the stipulated time, said an official hand-out.

## Public Health Lab of DCC yet to resume function

Dhaka City Corporation's Public Health Laboratory (PHL) is yet to resume its function although it has its own premises allocated more than a month ago.

The PHL is the only official centre for testing quality of all kinds of foods in the city. It has now remained inoperative for about six months due to complications arising after the laboratory was shifted to Nagar Bhawan from Luxmibazar.

Technical staff of the laboratory earlier said they were not allowed to set up the laboratory in the Nagar Bhawan and thus could not start functioning.

When asked why they did not shift to the new premises near Bangabazar, an official replied that the concerned officials were yet to officially hand over the building. Moreover the official said, "When the previous occupiers moved out from the building, they took away all the air conditioners and ceiling fans defying a DCC order to leave them behind."

He claimed that the new building lacked amenities for setting up a modern lab and as such "we cannot move and start our activities until those problems are solved," he said.

## 'BOU authority committed to complete projects by June '98'

Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh Open University (BOU) Prof M Aminul Islam yesterday said that authority was committed to completing the BOU projects by June next year.

Talking to BSS, Prof Islam said, during the first four years after BOU became functional in 1992, the project work did not progress as expected.

He dispelled the newspaper reports on the apprehension about the completion of project in time, saying after becoming the vice-chancellor one year ago he could complete sixty per cent work from earlier 20 per cent. The remaining work is expected to be finished within the stipulated time, he added.

"The equipment for modernisation of the university, which follows the concept of distance education through media and other modes of communications, are likely to reach Bangladesh by November this year, he said.

BOU Vice Chancellor said we want to reach the people who failed to afford the normal university education. In this context, he said that the university is running 19 formal and 18 non-formal courses to provide higher education to those people.

## American musical team due tomorrow

American guitarist Steve Hancock and Banjoist Buddy Wachter will arrive Dhaka on Saturday for a four-day visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The duo who play a mix of rag, blues, country and jazz will present three invitational recitals in Dhaka and at Jahangirnagar University during their stay, said a USIS press release.

## Advisor to Filipino president meets Mannan

Visiting Adviser to the Filipino President and former Labour Minister Maria Nieves Roldan-Confor called on State Minister for Labour and Manpower MA Mannan at his office here yesterday, reports UNB.

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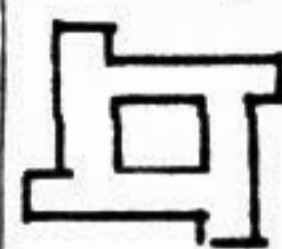
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