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Italian envoy calls on Anwar
 Italian Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr Raffaele Miniero called on Communication Minister Anwar Hossain at his office yesterday, reports UNB.

They discussed matters of mutual interest and hoped that the friendly relation between the two countries would be further strengthened in the days ahead.

Good News! Good News!! Good News!!!
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Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
Invitation for Bid

IFB No ME/NA-A/214 (Part-2)
 December, 1997
 Credit No : 2232BD

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) in various currencies towards the cost of the Third Inland Water Transport Project (IWT-III), and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit will be applied through the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) to eligible payments under the contract for procurement of one unit of Computer (with other accessories) & one unit of Plain Paper Copier (with other accessories) on a turn key basis under the project "Establishment of Five Nos Boat Centres at different parts of the country."
- The Executive Engineer (N. Arch), Mechanical & Marine Engineering Department, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, BIWTA Bhaban, 141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area (3rd Floor), Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh now invites (through local competitive bidding) sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply on a turn key basis of
 - A. Computer**
 - (i) One unit of Computer
 - (ii) One Printer
 - (iii) One UPS
 - (iv) One Voltage Stabiliser
 - (v) One Table with one Chair
 - (vi) Softwares and other necessary accessories
 - A. Plain Paper Copier**
 - (i) One unit of photo copier
 - (ii) One Voltage Stabiliser
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Executive Engineer (N. Arch.), Mechanical and Marine Engineering Department, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, BIWTA Bhaban (3rd floor), 141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
 Cable: Authority Telex: 642787 BIWTA, Fax No: 880-29551027
- A complete set of the bidding document may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment to the Accounts Department a non-refundable fee of Tk. 400/=(Taka four hundred) only. Bidding document will not be sold on the bid opening day.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of Tk. 9,000/-(Taka nine thousand) only and must be delivered to the above office on or before 1200 hours on 22.02.98.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 1215 hours on 22.02.98 at the office of the Executive Engineer (N. Arch), Mechanical & Marine Engineering Department, BIWTA Bhaban (3rd floor), 141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
- The purchaser reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the purchaser's action.

MD. ABDUL MATIN
 Executive Engineer (N. Arch)
 M & ME Department
 BIWTA &
 Project Director

PR. 9/98
 DFP-2451-4/2
 G-216



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina distributing certificates among the graduates at the graduation ceremony of 22nd Army Staff Course, 16th Naval Staff Course and 18th Air Staff Course at the Defence Services Command and Staff College at Mirpur in the city yesterday. —PID photo

JS told 22 die of cold wave in N region during current winter

A total of 22 persons died of cold wave in northern region during the current winter, Minister of State for Disaster Management and Relief Talukder Abdul Khaleque informed the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports BSS.

In a written reply to advocate Fazle Rabbi (JP-Gaibandha) the state minister said the government has distributed winter clothes among the poor for mitigating their sufferings on cold in the northern districts.

The state minister furnished a list of different relief goods distributed so far in the northern districts which included blankets, sarees, jackets, sweater and other clothes.

Of the relief goods, 5,600 pieces of blankets, 33,600 pieces of sarees, 80,000 pieces of sweaters and 1,04,400 pieces of other clothes were distributed from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, 7,750 pieces of blankets and 1,600 pieces of sarees from the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief while the Red Crescent Society distributed 79,000 pieces of garments in the northern districts, the state minister said.

Foundation stone of DU teachers' residential building laid

Education Minister ASHK Sadique yesterday laid the foundation stone of a 14-storey residential building for the teachers of Dhaka University, reports UNB.

The high-rise modern building will be built at Fuller road on the Dhaka University campus at a cost of Tk 12 crore. The 7,900-square metre building will have 52 flats with all modern facilities.

Speaking on the occasion, the Education Minister said this project is part of the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's commitment to resolve the accommodation problems of the university teachers.

DU Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury chaired the founding ceremony.

Maghi Purnima celebrated

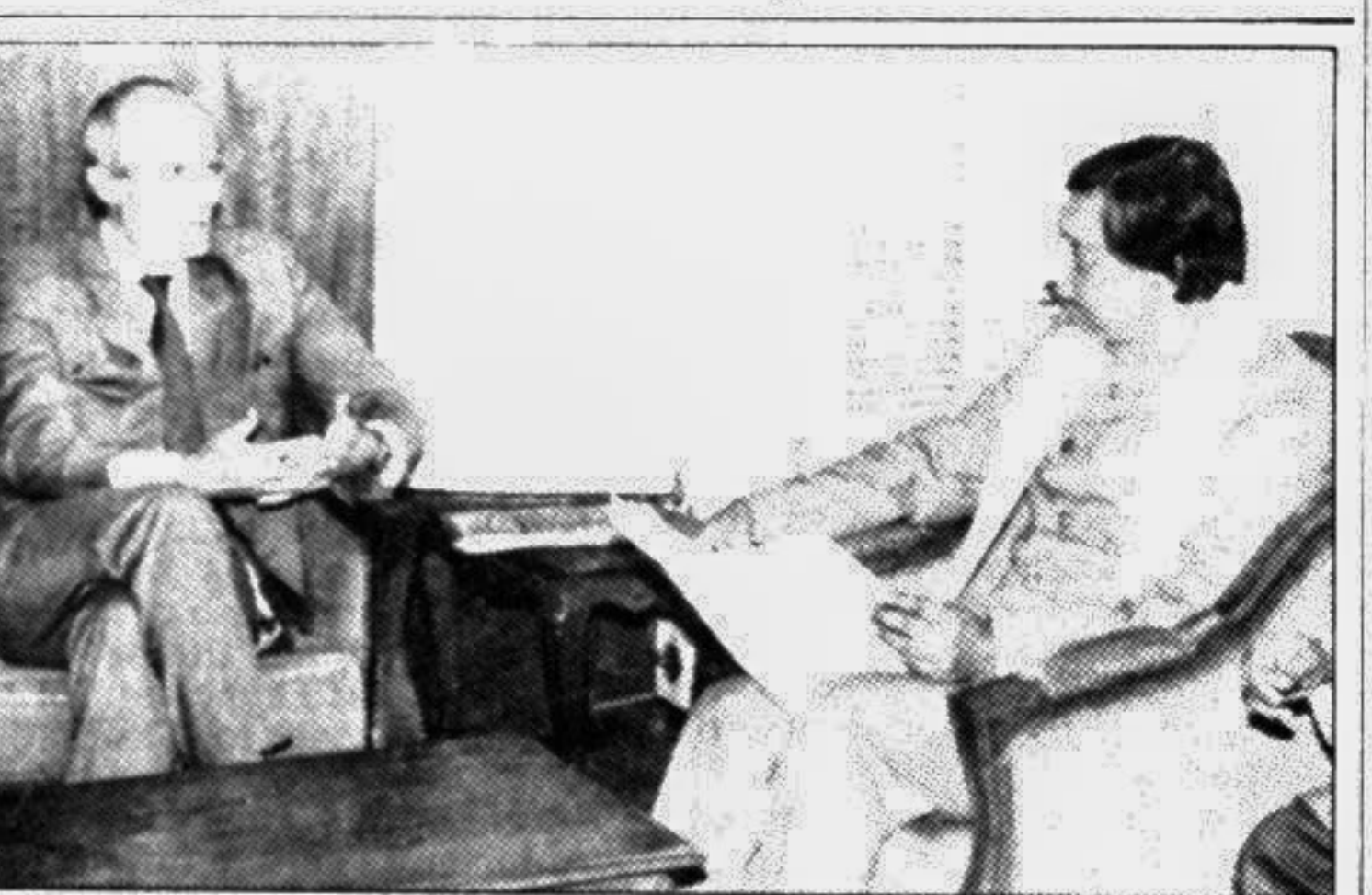
CHITTAGONG, Feb 11: Maghi Purnima, one of the major religious festivals of the Buddhists, was celebrated in the city and elsewhere in the district today with traditional enthusiasm and due religious fervour, reports BSS.

The Buddhists in the country celebrate the day in commemoration of the Lord Buddha's formal proclamation of 'passing away' (Mopaparinirvana) on the day of Baishakhi Purnima at Baishali of India.

The Purnima was celebrated in all monasteries and other religious organisations through day-long programmes.

What's on today

- Ekushey Grantha Mela:** A discussion meeting on 'Women and culture: Bangladesh Perspective' will be held. Essayist: Selina Hossain. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Bangla Academy premises.
- Publication ceremony:** The publication ceremony of book titled 'Syed Jahangir' published by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will be held. Time: 4:30 pm. Venue: Academy conference room.
- Film South Asia '97:** The opening ceremony of the Traveling Festival of Film South Asia '97 jointly organised by Chalchitram Film Society, Goethe-Institute will begin. Time: 5 pm. Venue: Goethe Institute.
- Printing exhibition:** A 15-day long painting exhibition by Syed Abdullah Khalid will begin. Time: 4:30 pm. Venue: Gallery 21.
- Rotary Club of Dhaka:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Time: 5:30 pm. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel.
- Rotary Club of Dhanmondi:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Time: 5:30 pm. Venue: Dhaka Club upstairs family lounge.
- Meeting:** Advisory board meeting of Bangladesh Engine Boat Owners' Association (BEBOA) will be held. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Head Office, 12/B, R K Mission Road.
- Int'l confce on Arsenic:** Concluding ceremony of an international conference on 'Arsenic Pollution of Groundwater in Bangladesh: Causes, Effects and Remedies' jointly organised by Dhaka Community Hospital Trust, School of Environmental Studies, Jadavpur University will be held. Time: 3 pm. Venue: LGED auditorium, Argargaon.
- Rotary Club of Jahangirnagar Dhaka:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Time: 5:30 pm. Venue: Officers' Club.
- British Council Exhibition:** The opening ceremony of 'Traditions of Respect' a British Council exhibition will be held. Exhibition will be displayed for viewers from 14 Feb to 3 March. Fee: 4:30 pm. Venue: British Council Library.
- Bigganchetona Parishad:** Ms Kresten Wester Gaard, a researcher now working in Centre for Development Research at Copenhagen, will narrate her experiences of the night of March 25, 1971 and present some documents of beginning of the War of Liberation. Time: 5 pm. Venue: 51, Aziz Market, second floor. Bigganchetona Parishad has organised.



Visiting delegation of Agence France-Press (AFP) called on Minister of State for Information Prof Abu Sayeed at his office yesterday. —PID photo

'Children's nutritional status has improved'

Minister of State for Planning, Science and Technology Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir said yesterday the children's nutritional status in the country has improved and malnutrition level has come down by 14.1 per cent over the 1985-95 decade, reports BSS.

He said the malnutrition has come down from 71.5 per cent to 57.4 per cent during the period which is not satisfactory enough.

The minister was speaking as chief guest at a publication ceremony of the report, 'Child Nutrition Survey of Bangladesh 1995-96' in the city yesterday.

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) in collaboration with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) prepared the report.

The present survey, which is the fourth in the series of its kind, conducted by BBS in 1995-96. The survey was first conducted in 1985-86. Two more surveys were done in 1989-90 and 1992.

The minister said there have been some improvement in the nutritional status of the children over the past decades. He said as per UN declaration, the Awami League government was committed to protect all children and improve their lots and status.

Waliul Islam, Secretary, Statistical Division, Riti Ibrahim Ahsan, BBS project director and a UNICEF representative, among others, spoke on the occasion.

President, BDRCS secy gen discuss relief operation in Afghanistan

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday discussed with Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) whether it will be able to take part in relief operation in earthquake-hit northern Afghanistan, reports UNB.

Secretary general of the society Major (Retd) Ali Hassan Qureshi informed the President that Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is itself an aid receiving society and as per rules of International Red Cross, it would require to obtain approval from the donor countries to rush relief materials to any other country.

He also told the financial hardship the society is facing due to reckless expenditure during the last few years.

President Shahabuddin who is also the Ex-officio president of the Society assured of looking into the matter and trying to help the society in recovery from the present situation.



Discussion on Abu Sayeed Chy today

By Staff Correspondent

A discussion meeting and scholarship giving ceremony will be held to mark the 77th birth anniversary of Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury at the VIP lounge of National Press Club at 4 pm today.

Justice Kemaluddin Hossain will preside over the programme while Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof AK Azad Chowdhury will attend as the chief guest.

Australian FM, Khasru discuss HR issue

The visiting Australian delegation led by the Foreign Minister of Australia Alexander Downer called on the Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru at his office yesterday, reports BSS.

They discussed various issues with particular reference to the measures taken by the Bangladesh government to protect and promote human rights in the country.

The Australian minister showed keen interest in the development of human rights in Bangladesh. He particularly praised the government's sincere efforts to set up an independent national human rights commission in Bangladesh.

Briefing the Australian minister the law minister outlined the strong commitments of the present government to uphold human right values in the country. He said, the present government under the able leadership of the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is pursuing a policy to promote human rights in the country and is determined to set up an independent strong permanent national human rights commission in the country.

Deputy Minister for Shipping Saber Hussain Chowdhury and the Australian High Commissioner in Bangladesh were also present in the meeting.

US Embassy, USIS office to remain closed on Feb 16

The American Embassy, the United States Information Service (USIS), the USIS Information Resource Centre and the student counseling services will be closed on February 16, in observance of President's Day, an American national holiday, says a USIS press release.

Biman BANGLADESH AIRLINES

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Tender Notice

Tenders in sealed cover are hereby invited from 1st class enlisted contractor of Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous bodies for construction of "RENOVATION AND INTERIOR DECORATION OF EXISTING SALES OFFICE AT GROUND FLOOR OF BIMAN BHABAN AT MOTIJHEEL."

Contractor/Construction firm who have successfully completed the following works by supplying own material & equipment are eligible to participate in the tender.

- a) Civil Construction work of minimum Tk 150 Lacs in a single work.
- b) Interior Decoration work of minimum Tk 50 Lacs in a single work.
- c) Electrification work of minimum Tk 50 Lacs in a single work, and
- d) Air-Conditioning work (Central A/C or split type A/C) of minimum Tk 50 Lacs in a single work.

Interested contractor/construction firm may form consortium with others for their eligibility to participate in the tender as stated against a, b, c and d above.

Tender documents will be available from the Cash & Banking Section of Bangladesh Biman, Balaka Bhaban, Kurmitola, Dhaka and the office of the Divisional Commissioner, 12-storied Govt office building, Room No. 206, Segun Bagicha, Dhaka on cash payment of Tk 3,000.00 (Taka three thousand) only (Non-refundable) on all working days from 15.02.98 to 28.02.98.

The tenders shall have to deposit the following documents with tender.

1. Firm's Enlistment.
2. Work order of similar work done along with satisfactory completion certificate.
3. Valid Trade Licence.
4. Certificate from the competent authority stating that current Income Tax return has been submitted alongwith GIR/TIN No.
5. VAT registration certificate.
6. Bank solvency certificate.

(all original certificates are to be produced on demand).

Tenderers shall have to deposit earnest money @ 2.5% (two point five per cent) of the total quoted amount in favour of Bangladesh Biman Corporation in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh along with the tenders, without which no tender will be entertained.

The tender will be received in the office of the General Manager, Project & Works, 3rd floor, Balaka Bhaban, Kurmitola, Dhaka and the office of the Additional Divisional Commissioner at 12-storied Govt office building, Room No. 303, Segun Bagicha, Dhaka up to 1200 hours on 01.03.98 and will be opened on the same day at 1400 hours in the office of the General Manager, Project & Works, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, in presence of the tenderers (if any).

Biman Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.
 General Manager Project & Works
 GD-100

Weather

Rain, gusty wind likely

Rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at the region of Khulna during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office said mainly dry weather may persist elsewhere over the country and it predicted a slight rise in night temperature.

The sun sets today at 5:52 pm and rises on Friday at 6:33 am. Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	29.1	11.6	57	58
Chittagong	30.4	14.4	66	44
Rajshahi	27.6	12.5	72	61
Khulna	28.0	12.5	76	59
Barisal	28.4	11.2	68	62

PUBALI BANK LIMITED
COMPUTER DEPARTMENT
HEAD OFFICE
 26, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka

TENDER NOTICE FOR MINI/MAIN FRAME & PC SYSTEMS

Sealed quotations are invited for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of one high end Server in Head Office and 12 (twelve) servers in 12 branches, 60 Personal Computers including other equipment and software for "On line Network Banking" within Head Office and Branches in Dhaka City.

Interested bidders having experience, may purchase tender schedule from the office of the Deputy General Manager, Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Department (12th Floor), 26, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Head Office, Dhaka during office hours on payment of Tk 1,000/- (One Thousand) (non refundable) per set payable in Cash/PO.

Quotation along with 2% earnest money of the quoted amount are to be submitted on 18/02/1998 at 11am in the tender box at our establishment Department. The quotations will be opened on the same date at 11.15am in presence of bidders if any. The bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason.

MD. OSMAN GHANI
DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER

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CONCERT DES VALENTINES

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 Gates open at 9 am Show starts at 11 am

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Old Faujians Association
 Organization of ex Cadets of Faujdharhat Cadet College

Calling all Old Faujians home & abroad

Please register and confirm participation for the Reunion '98
 18-20 February 1998 at FCC, Chittagong

Contact & visit : (Everyday from 3pm to 8pm)
OFA Secretariat
 8th Floor Suite # 15 & 16 Eastern Plaza, Hatirpool
 Dhaka Tel : 506579 E-mail : ofa@ncll.com

For details , contact
 OFn. M Harun Ur Rashid Chairman, OFA CGB Tel 832416
 OFn. M Najmul Hasan Secretary General, OFA CGB Tel 869222
 OFn. Shahriar A Chy. President, OFA Dhaka Chapter Tel : 819625
 OFn. M Kamal Hayat President, OFA Ctg. Chapter Tel : 650453
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