

**Khaleda condoles death of Justice Zakir Ahmed**

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia has expressed her deep shock at the death of Justice Zakir Ahmed, a Judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court, reports UNB.

In a condolence message Saturday, she said the nation has lost a patriot in the death of Justice Zakir. His contribution towards establishing the rule of law and dispensation of justice will be ever remembered, she said.

Begum Zia prayed for the salvation for the departed soul and conveyed her sympathy to the bereaved family members.

In another message, she expressed condolences at the death of renowned economist Dr Mahubul-Huq and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

Party's Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan also condoled the death of Justice Ahmed and economist Huq.

Meanwhile, Attorney General Mahmudul Islam yesterday expressed his deep shock at the sudden death of Justice Zakir Ahmed.

The Attorney General in his condolence message said we have lost not only a valiant and courageous freedom fighter but also a young judge of the Supreme Court.

He said his untimely death has caused a great loss to the nation and in particular the judiciary of Bangladesh.

He prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and expressed deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family, says a press release.

**NGOs carrying out development projects in CHT**

RANGAMATI, July 19: A number of non-government organisations (NGO) have been carrying out different welfare-oriented activities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts since the restoration of peace following the signing of peace accord, reports BSS.

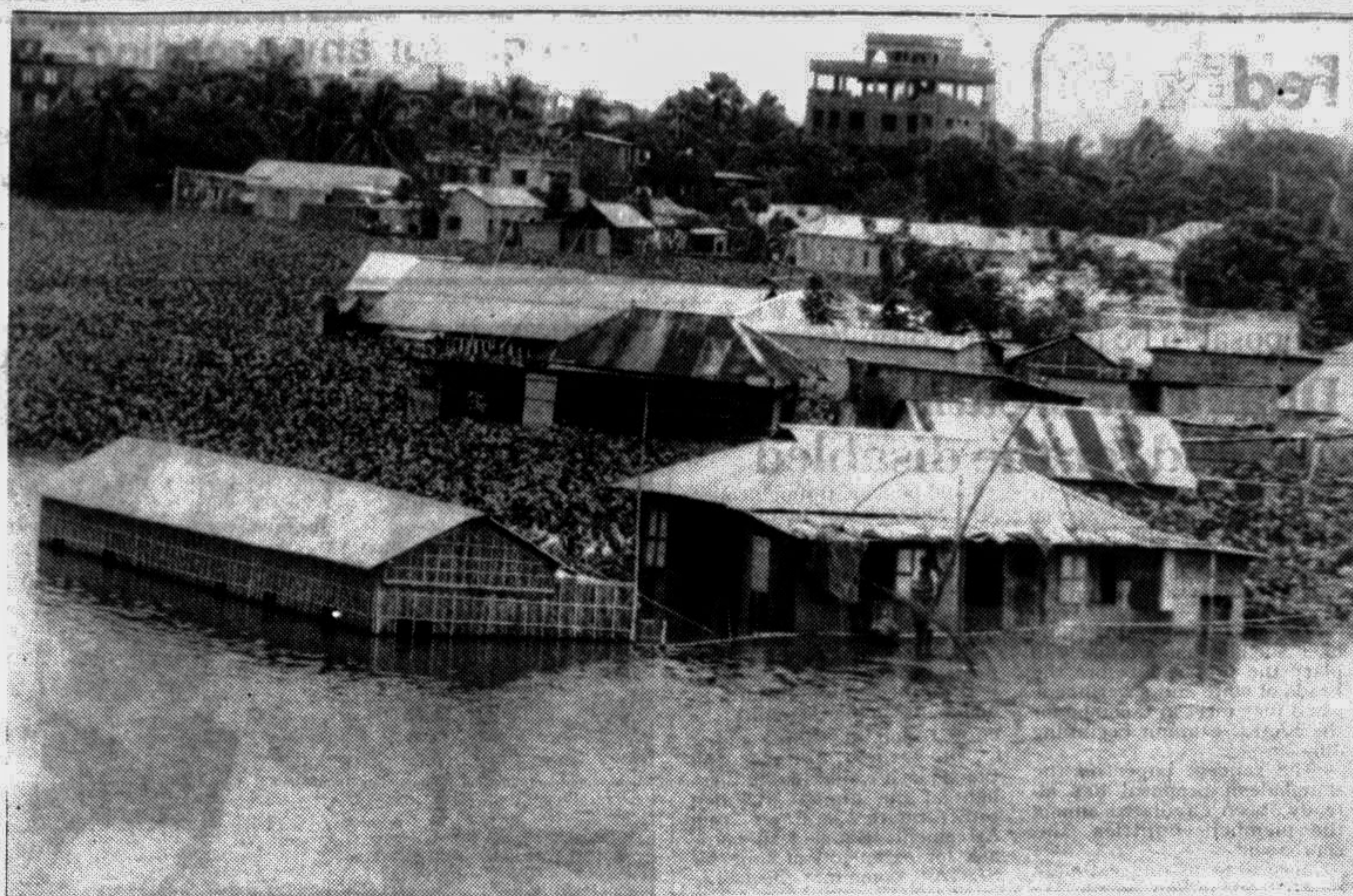
Some NGOs are also conducting feasibility studies prior to start similar activities.

A team of Gono Sahajjo Songstha (GSS) has completed a feasibility study here on Saturday to start a package of development programmes including education, advocacy and social mobilisation.

The team exchanged views with the chairmen of Rangamati Hill District Local Government Council and Rangamati Municipality, district administration, Chakma chief Raza Debasish Roy and a cross-section of people.

The seven-member team included Md Giasuddin Sarkar, co-ordinator of education sector, SA Rahman, co-ordinator, garments sector and advocacy programme, and Advocate Kurda-e-Khuda.

GSS is expected to start their operation by August next.



Low-lying areas in South Badda have been inundated as incessant rains continue for the last few days in the city. — Star photo

**First round of EU-Tehran talks end**

TEHRAN, July 19: A three-nation delegation from the European Union completed its first round of talks in Tehran on Saturday, amid what one Iranian official said were hopes for a "fruitful and constructive" dialogue, reports Reuters.

State television quoted Morteza Sarmadi, Deputy Foreign Minister for European and American Affairs, as saying the negotiations marked a departure from the earlier EU policy of "critical dialogue" — diplomatic shorthand for a get-tough approach to human rights and arms control issues.

Sarmadi said the bloc's earlier approach had failed because some European officials had exploited the policy and others had seen it simply as a means to put pressure on Iran.

The television report said topics under discussion included Iraq and the Gulf, the Balkans and Central Asia.

EU officials taking part in the talks, at the highest level since the bloc lifted a ban in January on contacts with Iran, were not available for comment.

Diplomats said there were no plans for a news conference on conclusion of a working dinner later on Saturday. A second day has been set aside for bilateral talks, although the programme was subject to change, they said.

**Germany to consider more financial aid to Dhaka**

The German government will favourably consider a request for increasing its development assistance to Bangladesh, particularly for uplift projects in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region, said a visiting member of the Bundestag (Federal German Parliament), reports BSS.

Dr Winfried Pinger MP, Chairman, Parliamentary Committee on Economic Cooperation of Germany, who called on Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad at the latter's office, said the matter (increased financial support) would be given favourable consideration.

Dr Pinger, who is also the spokesman of the ruling CDU's development policy, lauded the government for reaching agreement with the rebels to end years of hostilities in CHT, official sources said. He also appreciated the various development programmes taken by the government.

Foreign Minister informed the German parliamentarian of the tri-nation business summit held here in January and

Bangladesh's relations with its neighbours. He also spoke about the steps taken by Bangladesh, especially Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's role in diffusing tension in the sub-continent.

Samad Azad thanked Germany for its continued support in the development activities of the country.

Germany provides between 80 to 100 million Deutsche mark per annum to Bangladesh as development support.

Earlier, the visiting Bundestag member went to see a project of the Grameen Bank. He expressed satisfaction and said efforts of rural people for their own betterment as devised by the bank should be encouraged.

Uwe W Schramm, German ambassador to Bangladesh, and Nazim U Chowdhury, director general (Europe) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present during the meeting.

The German parliament member left for New Delhi last night.

**Minor boy drowns in Rangamati**

RANGAMATI, July 19: A minor boy drowned today in Jullukka Hill area near Kaptai lake here, reports UNB.

The victim, identified as Joy, 4, drowned in a pond following heavy downpour near his house in the afternoon.

The body was recovered by the Fire Brigade personnel.

**Painting competition for children**

A painting competition for the children will be held at Bangladesh Shishu Academy premises tomorrow to mark the World Breast Feeding Week, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Breast Feeding Foundation has organised the programme beginning at 3 pm, said an official handout.

**DHOBWA new committee**

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhanmondi House Owners' and Businessmen's Welfare Association (DHOBWA) at a meeting on Friday restructured its executive committee to facilitate its activities, says a press release.

The office-bearers of the new committee are: president — SM Ahsanullah; general secretary — Iman Ali Mollah; vice presidents — Keramat Ali Bhuiyan, Abul Fazal Chowdhury, Jahangir Parvez, Ariful Islam, Gaus Aziz Chishti and Khondakar Nazrul Islam; assistant general secretaries — Anwar Hossain and Mohammad Alangir; treasurer — Dr Sham-sur Rahman; organising secretary — Ariful Azam Chowdhury; publicity secretary — Iqbal Kaes Ahmad; office secretary — M H Chowdhury; educational and literary secretary — S M Elias; social welfare secretary — Yeakub Abdullah Harun; sports secretary — Aftabul Alam and members — Mohammad Rafiq, Anwar Hossain, Humayun Parvez, Mohs:n Noor-e-Alam and Golam Murtaza.

**BSP delegation calls on Kibria**

A delegation of Bangladesh Sangbadpatri Parishad (BSP) yesterday called on Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria, reports UNB.

The delegation led by BSP president Kazi Shahed Ahmed exchanged views on various matters related to the development of the country's newspaper industry.

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed and State Minister for Information Prof. Abu Sayeed were also present.

Talking to the delegation, Kibria said the government has increased the rate of advertisement by 30 per cent considering the interest of the newspapers and the journalists.

He assured all possible cooperation from the government for the development of the industry.

Among others, Editor of Daily Janakantha Atiqullah Khan Masud, Editor of Dainik Khabar Mizanur Rahman Mizan, Editor of Dainik Inqilab Bahauddin Ahmed, Editor of Bangla Bazar Patrika Zakaria Khan, Managing Editor of Dainik Bhorer Kagoj Benajir Ahmed, Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam and Executive Editor of Bangladesh Observer Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury were present.

Chairman of the National Board of Revenue Dr. Moshir Rahman was also present in the meeting.

**BB Director Muhiuddin dead**



Economist M. Muhiuddin, Director of the Board of Directors, Bangladesh Bank, and retired joint-secretary, Ministry of Finance, died of cardiac arrest on Saturday night at a city clinic. He was 69, reports BSS.

His namaz-e-janaza was held at Kalyanpur Masjid after Asr prayers yesterday. He was buried at the Mirpur Shaheed Intellectuals' graveyard.

Muhiuddin left behind four sons and two daughters to mourn his death.

His kulkhwani will be held at his 5/1 Kalyanpur residence, Road No. 13, on July 22 after Asr prayers.

Friends and relatives have been requested to attend the kulkhwani.

**Namaz-e-janaza of Justice Zakir Ahmed today**

The body of Justice Zakir Ahmed was flown in the city from New Delhi yesterday afternoon, reports UNB.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed visited the residence of late Justice Zakir Ahmed in the evening.

He stayed beside the coffin of late Ahmed for some time and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul. He also consoled the members of the bereaved family, said an official handout.

Chief Justice A T M Afzal was also present.

The namaz-e-janaza of late Zakir Ahmed will be held at the Supreme Court premises after Zohr prayers today, said the family sources.

He will be buried at Martyred Intellectuals' graveyard at Mirpur in the city.

Kulkhwani of Justice Ahmed, who died at New Delhi hospital on Friday, will be held at his 37, Minto Road official residence after Asr prayers on Tuesday.

**Miscreants kill one in Kushtia**

One person was brutally killed by the miscreants in a village of Daulatpur thana on Thursday night, reports BSS.

According to local sources, a gang of miscreants entered into the house of Nazrul Islam, 35, of Jhowadia in the night and stabbed him to death.

The miscreants also kidnapped the younger brother of the victim.

Police sent the body to Kushtia Sadar Hospital for post mortem.

A case was filed with Daulatpur thana in this connection.

**What's on today . . .**

**DCC Seminar:** On the 2nd meeting of cluster cities on 'Integration of Non-Motorized Transport in the Urban Transport System of Dhaka'. Organiser: Dhaka City Corporation. Chief guest: Mayor Mohammad Hanif. Venue: DCC conference room. Time: 9 am.

**FBCCI meeting:** Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry will hold a policy-making meeting. Venue: FBCCI conference room. Time: 11 am.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka North:** The installation ceremony of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm. Chief guest: Dr Abdullah Al-Muti Sharafuddin.

**B'baria Samity:** The first executive council meeting '98 of the Brahmanbaria Zilla Samity, Dhaka, will be held. Venue: Officers' Club, Bailey Road. Time: 6 pm.



Yasmeen Murshed, Chairperson, Scholastica School, and Nasiruddin Choudhury, Managing Director, Technocon Ltd., signing the agreement for construction of a seven-storied school building in Uttara.

**British envoy calls on CEC**

British High Commissioner in Dhaka David C Walker made a courtesy call on Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Hena at his office yesterday, reports UNB.

The CEC apprised the high commissioner of the election procedure and the measures taken for smooth and peaceful holding of by-election in Barisal-5 parliamentary constituency.

Senior officials of the Election Commission, Secretariat and the British High Commissioner were present during the meeting, said a press release of the Election Commission.

**'Aurka' awarded for promoting literacy**

Rotary Club of Bangladesh has awarded 'Aurka', a non-formal school, for its contribution in promoting literacy to the children working on various university and college campuses, reports UNB.

Various items, including a crest and teaching materials, were handed over to the representatives of Aurka as a reward in a function at a local hotel Sunday.

Aurka, which began the educational activities in 1995 with a few 'tokais' and working children, has extended its programme through six branches.

It has now over 200 students who are being taught by respective college or university students.

Rotary Club distributed the award in observance of the literacy month. Ashfaque-Nazma Foundation also distributed teaching materials to the organisation on the occasion.

**Scholastica to have modern school building at Uttara**

Scholastica School has awarded the contract for construction of a seven-storied school building in Uttara to Messrs. Technocon Ltd, says a press release.

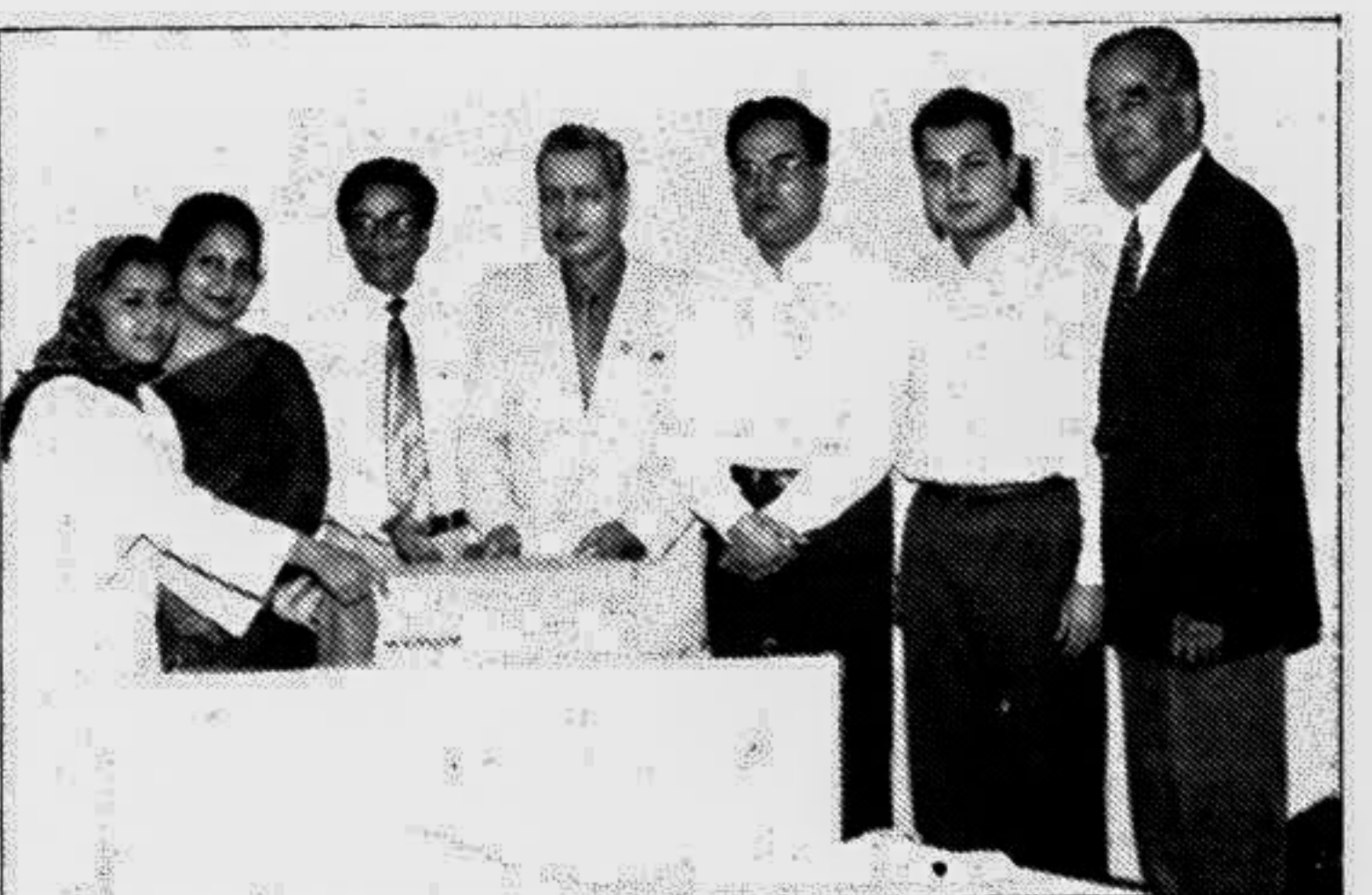
Due to be completed in the year 2000, this state-of-the-art modern facility will house the senior classes of the reputed English medium school.

Designed by Architect Jalal Ahmed of Design Workshop, the innovative new building will upgrade the facilities offered by the school at present to international standards.

The custom designed building will have spacious and airy classrooms, fully equipped science and computer laboratories, comprehensive electronic and print libraries, audio-visual language teaching center, full sports facilities and an air-conditioned drama auditorium seating 500 persons.

The project is being financed by the owning company Scholastica Private Ltd, together with the Industrial Promotion and Development Corporation (IPDC), ANZ Grindlays Bank, The Dhaka Bank and Arab Bangladesh Bank.

This is a pioneering venture in the field of private initiatives for education in Bangladesh. The promoters are confident that upon completion the building and its facilities will substantially enhance the quality of education offered by Scholastica School to make it comparable to the best institutions in the region.



Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka distributes teaching materials to Aurka, a Dhaka University-based non-formal school for poor working children in the city yesterday. Rotary Past District Governor Magfur Uddin Ahmed was chief guest and President of the club Farid Hossain presided.



The installation ceremony of newly elected office-bearers of Inner Wheel Club of Dhaka Buriganga was held at a city hotel on Saturday.

**GMG Airlines starts computerised reservation system**

The GMG Airlines has been linked to the world-wide computerised reservation system from June 27, says a press release.

Now, one can obtain tickets anywhere in the world through an IATA agent or any British Airways office.

The computerised system helps connect passengers, reserve a booking with other airlines and check availability of flights through displays.

The other advantages are that tickets in hand can be changed, tickets can be made available at the airport of departure or can also be obtained at a later date. The system also facilitates the availability of tickets from agents.

**Navy Chief returns**

Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral Mohammad Nurul Islam returned home yesterday, ending his official visit to Russia and Ukraine, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

During his stay in Russia, the navy chief called on his Russian counterpart and discussed matters of mutual interest. He also called on the Deputy Minister for Defence of the Russian Federation. Later Islam witnessed ship building and repairing facilities of Zelenodolsk Shipyard at Tartastan.

Admiral Islam also visited Ukraine and called on the Deputy Minister for Industrial Policies and senior officers of Ukraine Navy separately.

Admiral Islam was accompanied by a three-member delegation of Bangladesh Navy.



Five members of the Rupali Tarar Mela, a Dhaka-based juvenile organisation, presented one hundred paintings by children, that denounced war and appealed for peace, to Yoshikazu Kaneko, the Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh, at a ceremony held at the Embassy premises in the city yesterday.

**Violence against children must stop, youth leaders cry out**

NEW YORK, July 19: Teenagers from 36 countries, including those from South Asia, sought to focus world attention on issues like poverty, drug abuse, illiteracy and gender abuse during a rare interactive session with Carol Bellamy, UNICEF's Executive Director here, reports IANS.

In voices choked with emotion, the children, christened as 'youth leaders', highlighted the plight of minors in countries ravaged by war, poverty or illiteracy and called upon the international community to ensure that children's rights do not continue to be trampled upon.

"As in my country, girl children seem to suffer almost everywhere in the world. There are forced prostitutions, genital mutilations and tortures for dowry. These must stop," said Bina Akhtar, a 17-year-old from Bangladesh and an active campaigner against violence and discrimination against women.

Bina has herself been a victim of violence. She lost an eye and her face was completely disfigured when acid was thrown on her by someone who

wanted to abduct her for marriage. She is working in Dhaka to prevent violence against women.

The brief speeches of Bina, and others like Tania Farfan from Peru and Ratu Manasa Baledrokadroka from Fiji, touched the hearts of many among those present.

"In the United Nations we rarely get a chance to see such a moving scene that reflects the realities," one American diplomat remarked at the end of the two-hour session.

There were quite a few among the audience, which

mostly comprised representatives from various missions, who suggested that such 'youth leaders' should be invited periodically to present their point of view in the General Assembly.

Friday's session concluded two days of discussions by the youth leaders who have 'established themselves as leading humanitarians.'

The children, chosen by the UNICEF and the ministries of education in the countries from which they came, were between 13 and 17 years of age. The youngest of the lot was 12-year-

old Alejandro Castro, a child rights advocate from Venezuela. The event was sponsored by UNICEF and Time Warner. The participants met at the United Nations to discuss various issues.

"It is particularly good to meet now when UNICEF is emphasizing giving a voice to the largest generation in the world history... the young people at this forum who have found common cause around issues the world needs desperately to understand are certainly cause for confidence," Bellamy said.

**BCIC International Tender Notice**

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিয়ারনে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Managing Director, Karnaphuli Paper Mills Limited, 92, Sadarghat Road, Chittagong invites sealed quotation on C&F(C) Chittagong basis under any suitable source of financing for the following items under two envelope system:

Tender No	Materials	Opening date	Cost of tender
1. F/39/MPIC-12/27/98/POP.	Vickery Standard Composition 23-8-98	Tk 100/-	
	Blade, Doctor Blades.		
2. F/42(i)/MPIC-20/42/97/POP.	Wood Free Bleached Chemical 23-8-98	Tk 500/-	
	Pulp (Sheet)=1000ADMT.		
3. F/43(j)/MPIC-02/41/96/POP.	Maize/Casava Starch=100 23-8-98	Tk 250/-	
	M/Tons		

The quotation duly supported by 1% (min Tk 1000/-) earnest money will be received up to 11-00 AM in the mentioned date and will be opened immediately thereafter in presence of the tenderers, if any. The tender document on cash payment may be obtained from (a) Dy Chief Accountant, Karnaphuli Paper Mills Ltd, 92, Sadarghat Road, Chittagong and (b) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha Com Area, Dhaka on all working days. No tender document will be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC-598-15/7/98  
DFP-15570-16/7  
G-1645

General Manager (Commercial)