



Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mayor Mohammad Hanif speaking at a discussion meeting to mark the 23rd death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Paltan Maidan in the city yesterday. Joy Bangla Sangskritik Oikya Jote organised the discussion. — Star photo

**BOU VC tells BSS**

**Over one lakh 30 thousand students enrolled so far**

More than 1,30,000 students of different ages and social background have been enrolled so far under 14 formal programmes of Bangladesh Open University (BOU) while a larger number is the beneficiaries of the 19 non-formal programmes.

In an interview with BSS, vice-chancellor of the university Prof M Aminul Islam said with the admission of students in the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) programme this month the total enrollment will rise to 1.5 lakh.

He said BOU was established in 1992 by an act of the parliament with the objective to transform the country's vast human resources into an educated and trained work force by extending to them a wide range of academic programmes, both formal and non-formal.

He said with its main campus at Gazipur, 30 kilometres north of Dhaka, the BOU project is being implemented at a cost of Taka 182 crore to be completed in the current financial year. Eighty per cent of the cost is being borne by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the rest 20 per cent by the Bangladesh Government.

Prof Islam said BOU has opened the door of flexible and continuous learning throughout the life time of an individual where academic programmes are aimed at every one, particularly working people and women and those socially disadvantaged group who cannot enroll in traditional universities.

He said the curriculae of BOU are prepared and the courses are designed by the academic staff with the help of concerned resource persons. The books are written by reputed teachers and other support materials are prepared by the teachers and experts, he said.

Prof Islam said under the

formal programmes BOU has already introduced Bachelor courses in education (B Ed), agricultural education (B Ag Ed), English Language Teaching (BELT), Diploma Courses in Management (DIM), computer applications, women studies (DWS), and in youth development (DYD), and certificate courses in Secondary School Certificate (SSC), Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC), Certificate in English Language Proficiency (CELP), Management (CIM), Education (CEB), Arabic Language Proficiency (CALP), Livestock and Poultry, Pisciculture and Fish Processing.

He said Masters in Education (M Ed), and business administration (MBA), bachelor of arts (BA) and B Sc in nursing will be introduced by October next.

The vice-chancellor said under non-formal programmes 130 courses had already been conducted in basic sciences, mathematics, agriculture, pisciculture, afforestation, horticulture, poultry, livestock, bank loans, marketing management, preparation and preservation of food, health, nutrition, population studies, maternity and child care, environment, irrigation management, women in the work force, religion and ethics, law, drug addicts and zediatrics.

In reply to a question he said the number of students enrolled under SSC programme is over 60,000, B Ed, 37,298, CELP 17,824, DIM 7,521, B Ag Ed 1,822 CED 1,594, CALP 1,237, BELT 1,07, CIM 855 and diploma in computer application 718.

Referring to the mode of teaching of the university he said it relies heavily on print materials, electronic media like radio-television and audio-video cassettes, tutorial services and specialised communi-

cation such as computer network and internet.

Referring to the operation of academic activities of the university Prof. Islam said based on the main campus at Gazipur at present there are ten regional resource centres (RRC) in Dhaka, Mymensing, Rangpur, Sylhet, Chittagong, Comilla, Barisal, Bogra, Rajshahi and Jessore and two more centres at Khulna and Faridpur will be opened soon.

He said the RRCs are the contract points of students for information, admission, registration, tutorial services, examinations and results. It provides library and study room where audio, video, radio and TV facilities are made available to the students.

He said established on the own premises of BOU each RRC is headed by a director. There are 80 local centres (LC) located on government premises on temporary basis which assist the RRCs.

Prof Islam said under the LCS there are over 800 tutorial centres located at different educational institutions where teachers drawn from different schools, colleges and universities conduct tutorial classes of the students.

The vice-chancellor said a Taka 125 crore project proposal had been given to the government for locating the LCS on own lands of BOU, establishment of new science and language laboratories, training and research facilities, and construction of residential accommodation of the university faculty members, officers and staff at Gazipur campus.

He said as no fund was available from the government for this project as yet the university authority was exploring alternate sources of fund from donor agencies and countries.

**'Govt making allout efforts to tackle river erosion'**

SHARIATPUR, Aug 1: Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak today directed the concerned authority to take up post flood rehabilitation activities once the flood waters recede from the affected areas, reports BSS.

He was visiting the river erosion and flood affected areas of Naria, Janjira, Bhederaganj, Shureshwar, Kuncher Char, Gourangabazar, Balarhat, Tekrhat, Mollarhat and Char Bhagar under Shariatpur district.

During the day-long visit, the minister talking to the distressed people in the affected areas, enquired after their well-

**Businessmen urged to stand by flood victims**

President of Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI) Sharif M Afzal Hossain yesterday expressed grave concern over the devastating flood that has caused huge loss of lives and properties across the country, reports BSS.

In a statement, Afzal said the flood-affected people have been put in a state of helplessness. They now need adequate food, clothes, medicine and water.

The BCI president urged the industrialists and businessmen to stand by the flood victims and provide help to them.

He said the BCI had taken initiatives to help the flood-affected people. In this regard, Afzal said the BCI has formed a relief committee and urged the industrialists and businessmen to deposit money either in cash or in cheque with the relief committee.

**Flood situation in Narsingdi discussed**

NARSINGDI, Aug 1: LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman today visited the flood affected areas of Narsingdi pourashava and distributed relief materials among the flood victims, reports BSS.

Later, the minister had a meeting with the district officials and political leaders at Narsingdi pourashava where the overall flood situation in the district and supply of relief and pure drinking water health and sanitation were reviewed.

Zillur Rahman called upon the affluent section of society to come forward in aid of the suffering of the flood-affected people.

**Quader visits flood-hit people at Sonargaon**

NARAYANGANJ, Aug 1: State Minister for Youth and Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader today visited the different flood affected areas of Sonargaon thana under the district, reports BSS.

During the visit, the state minister distributed relief goods including rice, pulse, saree, lungi and cash money among the flood-hit people.

While talking to the affected people there, Quader said that the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was making sincere efforts to mitigate the miseries of the affected people.

He urged the local affluent section of people to come forward in aid of the flood-hit people.

Later, the state minister visited Folk and Craft Museum at Sonargaon.

**Discussion**

By Staff Correspondent

Paromanobik Astra Birodhi Abhijan, Bangladesh (PABAB) will hold a preparation meeting at the teachers' lounge at the TSC of Dhaka University today to make the programmes of Hiroshima Nagasaki Day a success, says a press release.

All concerned have been requested to be present at the meeting, the release said.

The day will be observed in the country as elsewhere across the world to mark the anniversary of the nuclear bombing of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan on August 6, 1945.

**140 murdered, 71 women raped in July**

Some 140 people were murdered and 71 women raped across the country during the month of July, reports UNB.

A survey conducted by a non-government organisation revealed the figures which, the survey report said, reflected the continuous deterioration of the law and order situation in the country.

The Institute of Democratic Rights conducted the survey based on monitoring of press reports and information collected by themselves, said a press release.

It said during the month, 15 women fall victim of dowry, 13 received acid burns, 50 were abducted, 55 committed suicide, two died in jail, one killed in firing by the Indian BSF, 5 killed by the police and 3 by the BDR personnel.

Brides, 225 people were killed in road and rail accidents during the period.

It said the average number of people murdered during July was about 5 per day while seven people were killed in different mishaps daily, said the report.

**being and distributed relief materials including sarees, lungis, biscuits and cash money.**

Col (Retd) Shawkat Ali MP, Master Mujibur Rahman MP, Shariatpur district Awami League president, Abedur Reza Khan, president of Padma Bridge Implementation Committee, Khokha Sikder, noted social worker Aziz Mullick and district and thana Awami League, Jubo League and Chhatra League leaders accompanied the minister during the visit.

The minister said the present government led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been making all-out efforts to tackle the situation created by floods and river erosion. He urged the affected people to face the natural calamities with patience and courage.

Razzak referred to the distribution of relief among the flood victims from the government sources and said that government would continue distribution of relief till the normalisation of the situation.

**Proshika allocates Tk 51 lakh for relief operations**

Proshika, an NGO, has sanctioned Tk 51 lakh for distributing relief materials among the flood victims of the country, reports BSS.

The money would be spent to supply food, medicine and other emergency relief materials among the flood-hit people of Proshika's working areas.

The allocation was made yesterday at a coordination meeting held at its Human Development Centre at Coitta, Manikganj, with Proshika President Dr Quazi Faruq Ahmed in the chair.

**More relief materials for flood-hit people**

The government yesterday allotted more relief materials for the flood-affected people of Munshiganj, Brahmanbaria and Sirajganj districts, reports UNB.

The Disaster Management and Relief Ministry sanctioned Tk 2 lakh for Munshiganj district and Tk one lakh for Brahmanbaria while 200 mts rice each for Sirajganj and Munshiganj districts and 100 mts for Brahmanbaria, said an official handout.

The ministry had earlier allotted Tk 1.21 crore, 27,560 mts rice, 100 mts wheat, 5,000 mts biscuit, 1,29,544 pieces of saree, 21,750 pieces of lungi and 33,500 pieces of old clothes.

**DU forms relief committee to aid flood victims**

By DU Correspondent

Dhaka University has formed a central relief committee to help the flood-affected people.

The committee was formed at a meeting yesterday at the DU conference room. Presided by Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of DU, the meeting was attended by pro-vice chancellor, treasurer, senate and syndicate members, deans, provosts and proctors of the university. Members of different university bodies, department chairpersons and leaders of different student organisations were also present.

Teachers holding different administrative posts will donate one day's salary to the relief fund. Members of different university bodies and student organisations will also contribute to the fund in their own capacities.

A central control room was opened yesterday at the TSC for collecting funds and other relief materials for the flood-affected people.

Meanwhile, another committee has been formed with the dean and chairman of Pharmacy Department for collecting medicine. The committee has requested pharmaceutical companies to donate essential medicines for the flood victims.

The address to send medicines is : Pharmacy Department, Mokarram Hossain, Science Building, University of Dhaka, Dhaka-1000.

**Armed forces personnel continue relief work among flood victims**

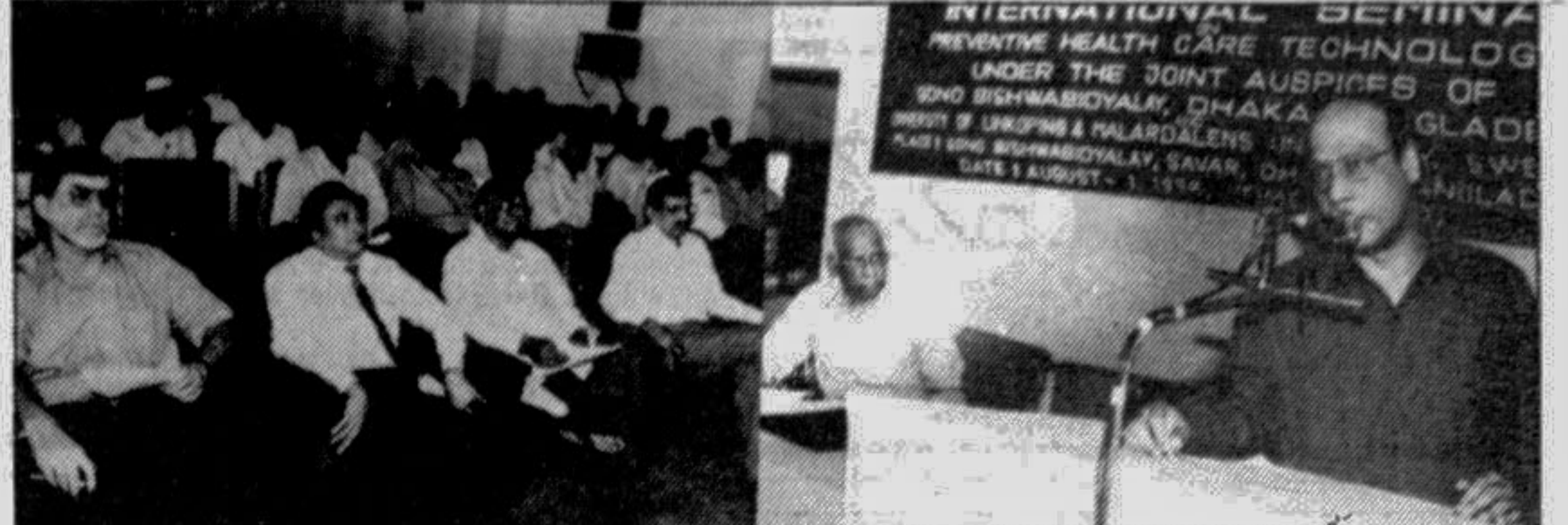
Bangladesh armed forces personnel continued their relief activities at different flood-hit areas of the city, an ISPR press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

Five army relief teams distributed 7,500 packets of prepared food among flood victims at five centres at Rajar Dewri Government Primary School, Fatema Jinnah Government Primary School, Khilgaon Talata Community Centre, Nur Model High School and Gulshan Talata Park yesterday.

They also distributed pure drinking water and water purifying tablets. Two army medical teams also provided medical assistance to the affected people.

Meanwhile, members of Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) distributed 2900 pieces of bread, 500 kilograms of sugar and 400 cans of drinking water among flood victims at East and West Badda Primary School camps.

A BAF medical team also provided medical assistance to the affected people.



Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury speaking as chief guest at an international seminar on "Preventive health care technology" held at Gono Bishwabidyalay auditorium at Savar yesterday.

**Int'l seminar on health care Safe drinking water, proper sanitation a must**

SAVAR, Aug 1: Researchers and experts in an international seminar on "preventive health care technology" today opined that supply of safe drinking water, proper sanitation along with hygiene education can prevent 67 per cent of the water-borne diseases in Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The day-long seminar was jointly organised by Gono Bishwabidyalaya (People's University) and University of Linköping (Sweden) at Gonoshastha Kendra campus in Savar here.

Eminent physician Major General (retd) Dr M R Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Dr A K Azad Chowdhury, Prof John Roberts of the department of medical physics and electronics of University of London, Prof Dr Jan Olof Drangert from University of Linköping-Sweden, Prof Feroze Ahmed of water engineering department of BUET, Dr Quasem Chowdhury of Gonoshastha Kendra and Dr

Mannan Mridha from University of Linköping-Sweden, among others, took part in the discourse on preventive health care.

Prof A K Azad Chowdhury said the downtrodden people in the densely-populated countries across the world are vulnerable to communicable diseases.

"The health care facilities in the countries with free market economy lacks proper vision and the poor people always suffer in those countries," he observed.

Prof Chowdhury stressed the need for maintaining balance between "capitalistic development" and welfare (including health care system) in the developing countries.

The vice chancellor lauded the role of Gono Bishwabidyalaya in promoting public health issues.

Prof John Roberts said the public hospitals in Bangladesh need good and efficient biomedical engineering teams. Many patients suffer in the country as medical equipment

become inoperative very often in the public hospitals in the country, he observed.

He said lack of experts, spare parts and training in the field of bio-medical engineering are responsible for these setbacks.

"Many people rely on the expensive medicare provided by the private health clinics as their medical equipment are well maintained," he said.

Prof Drangert said mere adoption of hygienic sanitation policy for the communities in the developing countries will not solve the problems. So the environmentalists in the country should have knowledge about safe human excreta disposal systems and different ways to use contamination free end-products of human faeces and urine, he noted.

Prof Feroze Ahmed of BUET said public health issues could be addressed through inexpensive methods like cultivation of hygienic sanitary habits and ensuring safe drinking waters in all villages.

**Retrial in Comrade Ratan Sen murder case demanded**

By Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Aug 1: Leaders of Khulna city and district units of Bangladesh Communist Party have demanded retrial of the accused in the Comrade Ratan Sen murder case.

Comrade Ratan Sen was stabbed to death on July 31, 1993 near the office of the Police Super.

The accused in the case were acquitted by the learned district judge as their guilts were not proved due to lack of necessary evidence, although they had made confessional statements to a first class magistrate of the CMM court.

The accused included city BNP vice president Shahruz-zaman Martuza and Chhatra Shibir leader Zakir Hossain. Rickshaw-puller Abul Kalam, an eyewitness to the murder, never showed up at the court for deposition.

**Installation ceremony held**

The installation ceremony of the board of directors of Rotary Club of Dhaka North West for the year 1998-99 was held recently at Sonargaon Hotel in the city, says a press release.

Minister for Industries and Commerce Tofael Ahmed attended the ceremony as the chief guest, while Rotary District Governor (District 3280) Mohammad A Awwal was special guest.

The newly-elected president of the Club Nurur Rahman, ceremonially introduced members of the new board to the guests.

A raffle draw was held at the end of the function. Club president Nurur Rahman announced that all proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets would be donated to the Rotary District Governor's relief fund.

**ICL begins marketing of Motorola Amio A108**

By Staff Correspondent

Integra Communication Ltd (ICL) has formally started marketing of a new brand mobile telephone set produced by Motorola — a US based cellular telephone company.

Introducing the new set to the dealers at a launching ceremony at a city hotel yesterday the officials of the ICL said that they had brought the new brand Motorola Amio A108 targeting mainly the middle class consumers of this country.

They said that the brand would be suitable for the lower income people because its price was much cheaper than many other brands available in the market.

Managing Director of ICL N S M Feroz, marketing manager, Nafiz Ahmed and Sarwar Zamil spoke on the occasion.

Nafiz Ahmed said that the ICL opened six shops in Dhaka and one in Chittagong for marketing the world famous Motorola products in the country.

The marketing network will be expanded further in near future, he said.

Giving a background of the company he said Motorola started commercial production during the 80s and earned reputation throughout the world because of its quality products.

**New executive director of BMBS**

By Staff Correspondent

Iqbal Chowdhury took over as the new executive director of Bangladesh Manobadhikar Bastobayan Sangstha (BMBS) recently, says a press release.

Earlier, Chowdhury worked as the executive director in charge of Ain Sachetanata Forum and discharged responsibilities of an education official of the Marine Academy, Chittagong.

He also worked as a management specialist of the Thana Functional Development Pilot Project of World Bank, EU, Medidivision, Holland and at the Health and Family Welfare Ministry from November 1, 1994 to January 31, 1997.

Chowdhury served as a civil education and training specialist in Cambodia under the auspices of UNDP and worked as a Deputy Director of the Protection Programme of Blindness due to malnutrition of the World View. He also worked as an assistant branch administrator of Care International Bangladesh.

**Separation of investigation from police admin demanded**

By Staff Correspondent

Naripakkho, a women's rights organisation, yesterday demanded immediate separation of investigation from police administration to contain the increasing deaths in police custody and other corruptions by police forces, says a press release.

Urging the government to introduce reforms in the police and to establish police accountability, Naripakkho protested 'grievous offences' by police and expressed concern that necessary reform measures have not been taken to streamline police atrocities and corruptions.

"The extortion of confessional statements, testimonies and money through the torture of arrested persons as well as others is a well known practice of the police," Naripakkho said in a statement.

The statement also said that 35 persons were killed in police custody during the last seven months.



Recipients of scholarships distributed by Lions Club of Dhaka Glydia with DG Ln Salahuddin Abdullah, VDG Ln Ferozur Rahman, other Lions leaders and parents at a ceremony held at a city hotel recently.

**RU Old Students' Association election Sept 25**

By Staff Correspondent

Election of the executive committee of Rajshahi University Old Students' Association will be held at the Engineers' Institution in the city on September 25, says a press release.

All concerned have been asked to complete their membership enrolment and payment of dues by August 25. Primary voter list will be published September 2, revision of voter list on September 3, publication of final voter list on September 4, submission of nomination papers on September 5 and 6, withdrawal of nomination on September 8 and 9, publication of final list of candidates on September 10, the release said.

**Human resources fair held**

By Staff Correspondent

A Human Resources fair was held in the city yesterday to make people aware of the need for an effective, people-centred and world class Human Resource Management (HRM) in the corporate sector of Bangladesh.

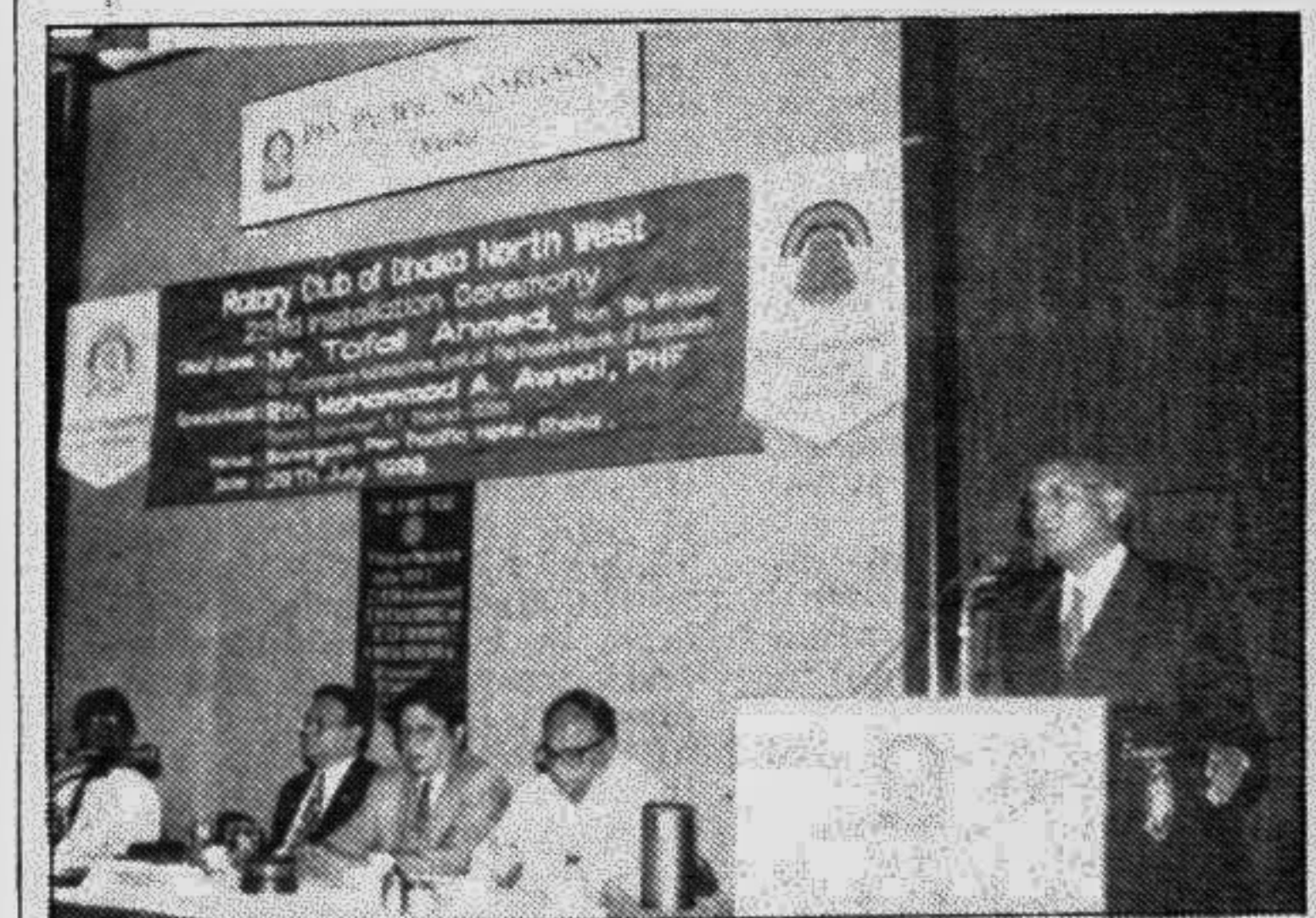
Organised by the Centre for Human Excellence (CENCE) — an independent, non profit think-tank committed to human resources development, the fair included 10 booth-based presentations on the topics of HRM as a Discipline, Recruitment, Selection, Training, Development, Orientation, Career Development, Performance Appraisal, Benefits and Compensation, Safety and Health, Communications Programmes and Labour Relations.

Chief Guest of the programme Barrister Mainul Husein said human resource development is one of the main keys for development of the country.

Special Guest, President of Bangladesh Computer Society, Aftabul Islam emphasised the importance of technology in today's communications era.

In his address as special guest, AmCham Executive Director A Gaffur said Bangladesh enjoys very positive image in the minds of foreign investors and the young people now have tremendous opportunities to make a difference in the country.

CENCE founder president Quazi Mahmud Ahmed said a typical employer or entrepreneur treats an employee as a burden or just another cog in the wheel but the employees should be viewed as partners in progress to reach higher productivity as well as job satisfaction.



Minister for Industries and Commerce Tofael Ahmed addressing the installation ceremony of Rotary Club of Dhaka North West at a city hotel recently.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Police Headquarters

**Tender Notice**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from bonafide supplier/manufacturer or their approved agent for purchasing (as per quality fixed by government) the following vehicles for use by the project director working on deputation under development scheme of Police Department.

- Type of vehicles : Jeep (with 5-door).
- Cost of tender schedule : 750/- (seven hundred and fifty) taka only in cash (for each set of items).
- Place of availability of tender forms : Police Headquarters, E&T Section, Room No 107, Police Bhaban, Dhaka.
- Last date of selling tender schedule : Till 17-8-98 (on all working days during office hours).
- Place, date and time of submitting/opening tender : Tenders will have to be dropped in the tender box kept at Room No 107, E&T Section, Police Headquarters, Dhaka till 19-8-98 at 12 Noon and will be opened the same day at 12-30 PM in presence of participants in tender (if anyone remains pres ent).
- Earnest money : At the rate of 3% (three per cent) of the total quoted price in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

**Md Anwar Hossain**  
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