

WB approves \$ 32.4m credit for arsenic mitigation project

The World Bank on Thursday announced the approval of a \$32.4 million US dollars credit for arsenic mitigation project to help Bangladesh alleviate arsenic contamination, said a Bank press release yesterday, reports BSS.

The World Bank (WB) said the project will provide alternative water supplies and emergency relief to people living in areas where arsenic-contaminated ground water is causing a major public health crisis with devastating effect on the lives of millions.

The total cost of the project has been estimated at 44.4 million US dollars with 32.4 million US dollars coming from the International Development Association (IDA), the Bank's concessionary lending affiliate, and 3 million US dollars from Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

The WB said the government of Bangladesh and the local communities are also contributing to the project while additional sources of funding

will be included in the projects framework.

It said contacts will be maintained between the project and external support agencies involved in arsenic mitigation efforts including UNDP, WHO and development assistance agencies of Britain, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark, USA, Japan and others.

The WB said specifically, the project will establish the extent and causes of arsenic poisoning to allow better and planned use of ground water to prevent the

Khaleda visits ailing journalist

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia visited ailing senior journalist of Daily Ittefaq, Nazimuddin Mostan at BIRDEM hospital yesterday evening, reports UNB.

She spent some time with him and inquired about his treatment.

Nazimuddin Mostan is suffering from neurological complications.

problem from spreading and put in motion concrete actions for long-term solutions, including water treatment, public awareness raising and increasing Bangladesh's capacity to address the water supply and sanitation problems.

The project will also provide on-site mitigation both in rural and urban and suburban areas. Under its rural programme, the project will initially survey 4,000 arsenic-affected villages.

The WB said physical works of the project include installation of shallow and deep tubewells, ponds with filters, hand pumps, treatment and rainwater harvesting systems to ensure that the new alternative water supply and sanitation infrastructure will be maintained and will contribute 20 to 40 per cent of the capital costs. The project will monitor water quality in affected towns and support local authorities with remedial strategies including alternative water supply sources and water treatment in urban areas.

What's on today

Roundtable: Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs has arranged a roundtable discussion on 'Nuclear Detonation by India and Pakistan in May 1998: Economic and legal consequences and its security impact in South Asia and beyond.' Chief guest: Finance Minister SAMS Kibria. Venue: CIDRAP auditorium, Chamell House, 17, Topkhana Road. Time: 3 pm.

Seminar: Development of Biotechnology and Environmental Conservation (DEBTEC) in collaboration with Humdard Laboratories (Waqf) Bangladesh will hold a seminar on medical plants titled 'Medical Plants for Life.' Chief guest: Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Zillur Rahman. Venue: VIP Lounge, National Press Club. Time: 9:30 am.

Cultural programme: Anando Sangskritik Dal, a cultural group, will present a cultural programme on folk dance, folk song and tribal dance. Venue: German Cultural Centre, Rd. 9, Dhanmondi. Time: 7 pm.

Science fair: The annual 'Science Fair' of Dhanmondi International School will be held. Venue: School premises, Rd No 25 (Old), Dhanmondi (next to Bangladesh Medical College Hospital). Time: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Khulna, Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions with moderately heavy falls at places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Slight rise in the day temperature is expected over the country during the period, Met Office predicts.

Country's highest temperature 34.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and Chuadanga and the lowest 24.0 degree Celsius at Chittagong.

The sun sets today at 6:20 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:39 am.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	morn	even
Dhaka	32.8	27.0	86	81
Chittagong	31.0	25.4	76	96
Khulna	33.6	26.4	84	99
Rajshahi	33.5	26.7	84	79
Barisal	32.4	26.0	82	84
Sylhet	31.0	25.3	92	82

Ministers visit flood-hit areas

Members of the Cabinet yesterday (Friday) visited different flood affected areas in the capital and distributed relief materials among the victims, reports UNB.

Education Minister A S H K Sadique distributed relief among the flood victims at Uttara and adjacent areas.

Awami League leaders Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, Adv Sahara Khatun and Laisuz-zaman were present.

Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasur visited the relief camps under Mohammadpur thana.

The minister also inaugurated a month-long relief operation launched by a medicine

company 'Hamdard Oushadh-alaya'.

Alhaj Moqbul Hossain, MP, and Awami League presidium member Barrister Shawkat Ali were present.

Meanwhile, Agriculture and Food Minister Begum Motia Chowdhury distributed relief goods among the distressed people in Nakla thana of Sherpur district.

She exchanged views with the farmers about transplant aman cultivation and directed the authorities concerned to ensure proper distribution of money allocated for agri-rehabilitation programme.

People urged to stand beside flood victims

Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf yesterday urged all to stand by the side of the flood-affected people across the country, being imbued with the ideals of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, reports BSS.

"Bangabandhu dedicated his whole life to the welfare of the country's down-trodden," he said, urging the followers of Bangabandhu to help the flood victims.

The minister was addressing a discussion at the Engineers' Institution as the chief guest.

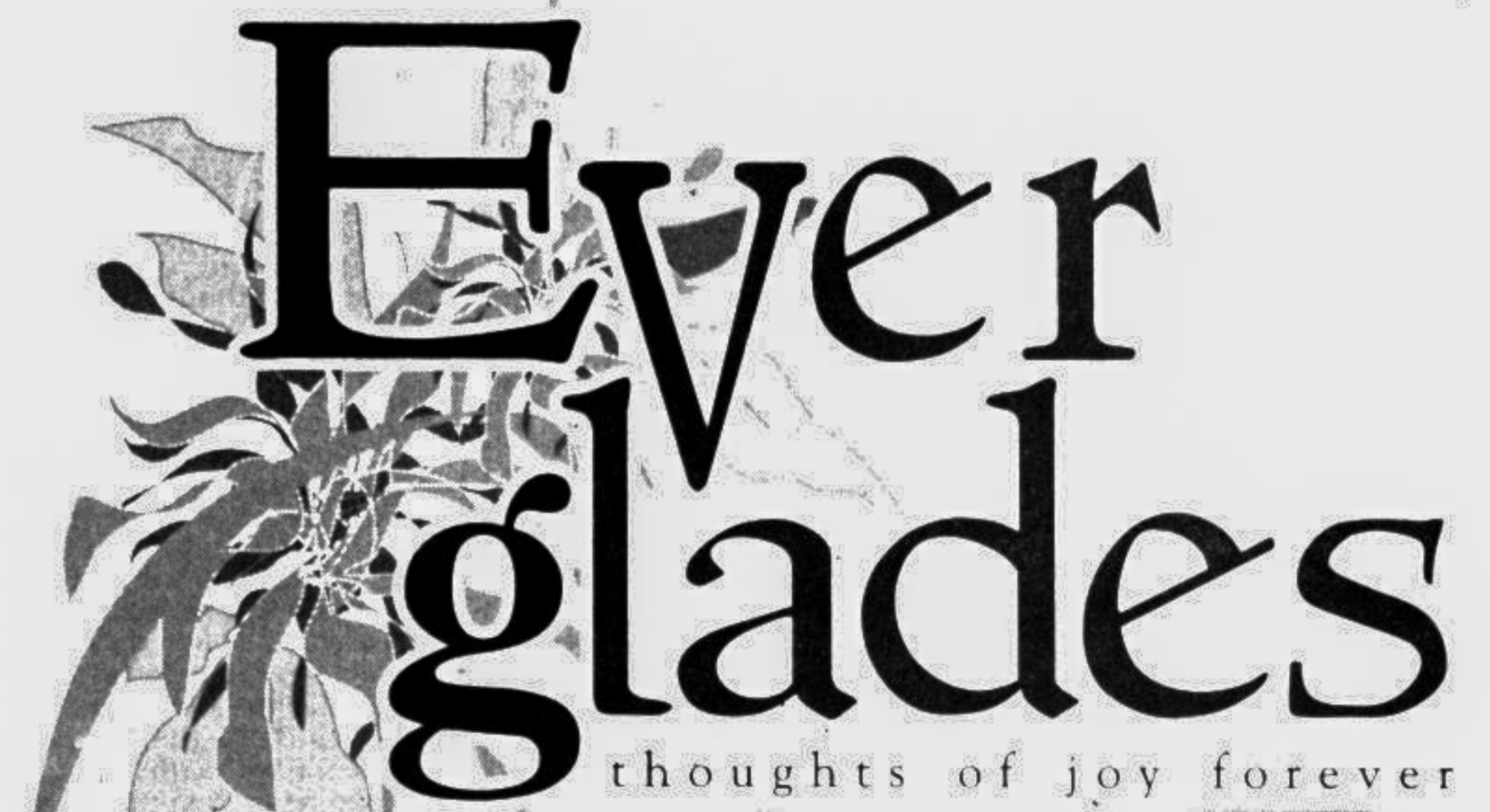
Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad organised the discussion in observance of the 23rd death anniversary of Bangabandhu.

Dr Durgadas Bhattacharya, journalists Shafiqur Rahman, Altaf Mahmud, parishad president Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan and general secretary Rezaul Karim Reza addressed the discussion with city unit president of the organisation Selim Reza in the chair.

The minister said the present government is working relentlessly for the welfare of commoners from the very day of taking office. "Signing of the

water sharing treaty and peace accord on the Chittagong Hill Tracts and holding different international seminars which earned reputation for the country, are the major success-stories of the present Awami League government," he said.

Giving a brief account of the life and achievements of Bangabandhu, he said the great leader loved his country and the countrymen more than his life. "He did not bow down to the Pakistani rulers as he had endless affection for the Bangalee nation and Bangladesh."



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Tender Invitation Notice

Tender Notice No: 1/M-1/1998-99

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are hereby invited from Directorate of Public Works approved special class I and class I building contractor, Chittagong Public Works Zone approved class II building contractors for the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received in the specific tender box kept at the office of the undersigned, Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Sylhet/Sunamganj/Habiganj and Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet till 12:00 Noon on 8-9-98/24-5-1405 Bangla and will be opened the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of interested participants in tender (if anyone remains present). Each tender will have to be deposited in a sealed envelope mentioning name of work on it

Sl No	Name of work	Estimated cost (in Taka)	Security money (in Taka)	Stipulated time for completion of work
1.	Construction of one jail in Moulvibazar district under the project of construction of jails in 19 districts (Sub-head: Construction of bathroom, latrine in a cell of accused of capacity of 10 (ten). Financial year 1998-99.	Taka 23,36,486/00	Tk 46,730/00	150 (one hundred and fifty days) from the date of issue of work order.

Tender document including Bangladesh Form No 2911, design (if applicable), schedule of work, additional terms and conditions and rules and regulations can be purchased on payment of Taka 775/- (seven hundred and seventy-five) only, which is non-refundable for each set from all the offices of Executive Engineers under Sylhet Public Works Circle and office of the Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet during office hours. Interested contractors themselves or their representatives (in case of representative letter of authorisation with the signature duly attested by contractor) can by tender by producing registration book anyday during office hours till 7-9-98/23-5-1405 Bangla. But the signature excepting contractor will not be acceptable.

Md Abdur Rob
Executive Engineer
Public Works Directorate Division,
Moulvibazar.

DFP-18270-24/8/98
G-1934

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Message

It gives me an immense pleasure to know that Khansons Automobiles Ltd., is going to Launch formally the Daewoo Brand Cars in Bangladesh. From today, I am confident that Daewoo's Technological Advancement, its product credibility and its most

competitive and affordable pricing will soon be a household name in Bangladesh as it happened in other parts of the world, where DAEWOO has stepped in.

This year till 31st May'98 Daewoo Motor exported 175,000 Vehicles. The new MATIZ, the popular LEGANZA, NUBIRA, LANOS & CIELO including new family 4-WHEEL DRIVE JEEP helped Daewoo bypass its rival, in the domestic market share for this year. In addition, another record in its corporate history was broken as more than 50,000 vehicles were exported in May alone.

With the launching of the MATIZ in major European and Asian Markets later this year, export figures are expected to increase significantly.

We believe that Khansons Automobiles with their energetic and efficient management system will render their best, in relation to after sales service and availability of spares.

Despite the current economic turbulence in some Asian Countries we hope it will not have any major impact on Bangladesh economy rather it will have a muchstable growth and the communication and transportation sector will have much faster and efficient system.

I on behalf of myself and my organization wish Khansons Group all the best and success on their new venture.

Chan Kun Han
Managing Director
Daewoo (Bangladesh) Company Limited



Message

On this august occasion, it is a great pleasure for me to come to you with a message from Daewoo Motor Family.

Khansons Automobiles Ltd, the Automobile Wing of Khansons Group is Representing Exclusively the Passenger Automotive of DAEWOO MOTOR in their marketing arena of Bangladesh Territory. It is Stressly determined that Khansons Automobiles Ltd is on way to bring about a glaring change by adding Daewoo Motor Cars in the selling race to the valued customers.

A variety of car members of Daewoo Motor Family, having the latest and most reliable excellence in automotive technology, offer themselves within a comfortable budget for buying their possession. Now, we are ready to reach your door with the message of Daewoo Motor for your immediate choice of a car you want to enjoy driving.

I trust, your right choice for a right car you are longing, car well be served by our offer of any car member of Daewoo Motor family. Precisely, we are at your disposal with Daewoo Motor car and seeking your all-out co-operation in promoting the Daewoo Motor Family in Bangladesh.

A.K.M. Azizur Rahman
Chairman Managing Director
Khansons Group



বাণী

"দেইয়ু মটর কার" বাংলাদেশে বাজারজাতকরণে 'খানসন অটোমোবাইলস' দায়িত্ব পেয়েছে যেনে আমি আনন্দিত।

দেশের অন্যতম প্রতিষ্ঠিত ব্যবসায়ী প্রতিষ্ঠান 'খানসন গ্রুপ' তাদের বাণিজ্য ও বিনিয়োগ বৃদ্ধির মাধ্যমে দেশের অর্থনীতিকে শক্তিশালী করার লক্ষ্যে দায়িত্ব পালন করে যাচ্ছে। বাণিজ্য-বিনিয়োগের মাধ্যমে ব্যবসায়ীগণ নিজের ও রাষ্ট্রের অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়নের পাশাপাশি কর্মসংস্থান সৃষ্টির মাধ্যমে বেকারত্ব দূরীকরণেও অবদান রাখবেন। আমি আশা করি, খানসন গ্রুপ ও নতুন নতুন কর্মসংস্থান সৃষ্টির লক্ষ্য নিয়ে তাদের বাণিজ্য-বিনিয়োগ পরিধিকে বিস্তৃত করবেন।

আমি 'খানসন গ্রুপের' অঙ্গ প্রতিষ্ঠান 'খানসন অটোমোবাইলস লিমিটেড'র উত্তরোত্তর সাফল্য কামনা করি।

জয় বাংলা, জয় স্বপ্নবৃত্ত বাংলাদেশ চিরঞ্জীবী হোক।

কেন্দ্রীয় মন্ত্রী
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