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DESA undertakes new project

Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) has undertaken a project for installation of 33 KV underground cable for uninterrupted supply of power in the city, reports APB.

The Greater Dhaka Power Supply Project Phase-4 will involve an expenditure of about Tk 26.61 crore, of which the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide with US\$ 42.62 lakh.

A contract to this effect was signed between DESA and China United Electric Import and Export Corporation (CUEC) at Biddut Bhaban here today (Thursday).

It will take about 18 months to complete the project.

Secretary of DESA Mojibur Rahman and CUEC president Pei Zipeng signed the contract on behalf of their respective sides, said a press release.

Alhaj Syed Abul Hossain, MP, Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh, Wang Chungui, Commercial and Economic Counsellor of Chinese embassy and high officials of DESA, including its chairman K K Altaf Hossain, were present on the occasion.

Dhaka city AL meeting today

An emergency meeting of Dhaka city Awami League will be held today at 3 pm at the party office, reports BSS.

General Secretary of Dhaka city Awami League and State Minister for Shipping Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Bir Bikram, has requested all the presidents and general secretaries of the thana units under the city and leaders of the city Awami League to attend the meeting on time.

Metropolitan Migratory birds start arriving

The first group of winter guests from the chilly northern countries have landed in the lakes of the national zoological gardens at Mirpur in the city.

The birds that arrived in the Dhaka Zoo lakes on the last day of 1998 (December 31, 1998) includes pintail (lenja hash), common teal (balli hash), pochard, lesser whistling teal (sarail hash), ruddy shelduck (chokha), white winged duck (bounohas) and Indian purple moorhen (kalem), curator Dr Mahbubur Rahman told BSS yesterday.

The curator of the National Zoo said many migratory birds would visit the zoo lakes soon when the winter in the far north would be more biting.

The south lake of the zoo goes noisy as unauthorised shelduck hunters at heights of often disturb the chirping guests and the boundary wall is not high enough (near the south lake) to protect them from noise and other irritants," he said.

Zoo officer (bird section) Dr S M Mosaddiqur Rahman said the National Zoo will arrange foods for the guest birds this year soon after the arrival of more flocks. He said that armies of birds are likely to arrive at the zoo at the fog end of the winter.

Dr Rahman said the winter in the country may not get severe this year which could be one of the reasons for the guest birds taking time for their age-old winter journey to comparatively warmer and snow-free

countries like Bangladesh.

Zoo officer Dr Begum Noorjahan, who looks after nutrition of the animals and birds, said the National Zoo authorities have adequate foods for the guest birds which would be served on floating rafts as long as they stay on the Dhaka Zoo campus.

Anisuzzaman Khan, an ornithologist working for the nature conservation management (NACOM), said the zoo authorities play innovative roles in welcoming the winter birds which at times go hungry after travelling thousands of miles for taking refuge away from the severe northern winter.

But Khan observed that "the Dhaka Zoo has made a blunder by keeping the ferocious carnivorous and roaring animals like lions and tigers near the north lake."

He said the terrible roars along with naughty visitors at the zoo frequently tease the winter birds. Amid chaos and noise in the capital the winter birds find Bangabhaban, Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) headquarters at Pukhania, defence services command and staff college (DSCSC) campus at Mirpur National Zoo at Mirpur and its adjoining areas as safe havens, he observed.

The bird specialist said the 13th Asian wetland bird counting of migratory birds at the Mirpur National Zoo on Saturday morning.

Progress of 80 WDB projects reviewed

The water crisis in greater Mymensingh region could be solved by opening up the mouth of the Brahmaputra river, reports UNB.

The observation came from a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources Ministry, held at Sangsad Bhaban with committee chairman Abdul Momin in the chair yesterday.

It reviewed the progress of 80 projects of Water Development Board, being implemented under Annual Development Programme (ADP).

Committee members Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, M Anwarul Islam, Kazi Sekander Ali, M A Bari, Sharfuddin Ahmed, Harun-al-Rashid, Dr Habibur Rahman and Golam Mohammad Siraj attended the meeting.

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 26th Annual General Meeting of BOC Bangladesh Limited will be held at Gulshan Shishu Park (behind Wonder Land), Gulshan-2, Dhaka, on Tuesday 2 February 1999 at 10:30 AM to transact the following business:

1. To receive and adopt the accounts for the year ended 30 September 1998 and the reports of the Auditors and Directors thereon.
2. To declare a Dividend for the year ended 30 September 1998.
3. To elect Directors.
4. To appoint Auditors and to fix their remuneration.

By order of the Board

Azizur Rashid
Company Secretary
23 December 1998

Registered Office
4 Mohakhali C/A
Dhaka 1212

NOTES

1. The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 4 January 1999 to 2 February 1999 (both days inclusive) and transfers received in order at the Registered Office up to 4:30 PM on Sunday 3 January 1999 will qualify for dividend to the transferees.
2. A member eligible to attend the Annual General Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his/her behalf. No person shall act as proxy unless he/she is entitled to be present and vote in his/her own right.
3. Forms of proxy, duly completed, must be deposited at the Company's Registered Office by 10:30 AM on Saturday 30 January 1999 and in default will not be treated as valid.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Light rain or drizzle is likely to occur at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and in Comilla region during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports APB.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country during the period, Met Office said and forecast slight fall in night temperature.

The country's highest temperature 28.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Teknaf and the lowest 11.4 degrees at Dinajpur.

The sun sets today at 5:27 pm and rises on Saturday at 6:43 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	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	26.3	16.9	77	77
Chittagong	25.9	16.2	88	96
Rajshahi	25.3	13.2	84	-
Khulna	26.7	17.0	83	-
Barisal	26.8	15.3	94	78

Dipa Huq's qulhwani today

The qulhwani of artist Dipa Huq will be held today after Asr prayers at her 32 no. Lake Circus (Bakhtiar Villa), Kalabagan residence, reports BSS.

Relatives, friends, poets, artists and litterateurs have been requested to attend the qulhwani.

Dipa Huq died of cancer on January 4.

Nooruddin visits BANSDOC

Science and Technology Minister Lt General (retd) Mohammad Nooruddin Khan yesterday visited the Bangladesh National Science and Technol. Information Documentation Centre (BANSDOC) in the city, reports BSS.

He said the people should be informed of the informative institutions like BANSDOC for ensuring their massive use.

The minister laid special emphasis on wide ranging publicity regarding the services and facilities rendered by the BANSDOC to the research institutions and researchers of the country.

He ordered the BANSDOC officials and employees take full-fledged training on computer technology, especially to those who are attached with computer and library.

The minister went round the science library of BANSDOC and different branches of its computer department and discussed with the officials.

Directive to gear up activities of Women Directorate

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Women and Children Affairs Ministry has directed the authorities concerned to gear up the activities of Women Directorate at thana and district levels, reports UNB.

The directive came from a meeting of the committee held at the Sangsad Bhaban yesterday with Committee Chairman Prof Dr M S Akbar in the chair.

The meeting discussed the issue to involve the officers of the directorate in VGD and VGF programmes.

Structural procedure of the directorate, organogram, manpower and its development programmes also came up for discussion.

The meeting also reviewed the activities of various directorates under the ministry.

Committee members Whip Prof Khaleda Khanam, Begum Meher Afroz, Prof Sabita Begum, Kurshid Jahan Haq, A K M Hafizur Rahman and Mozahar Hussain were present at the meeting.

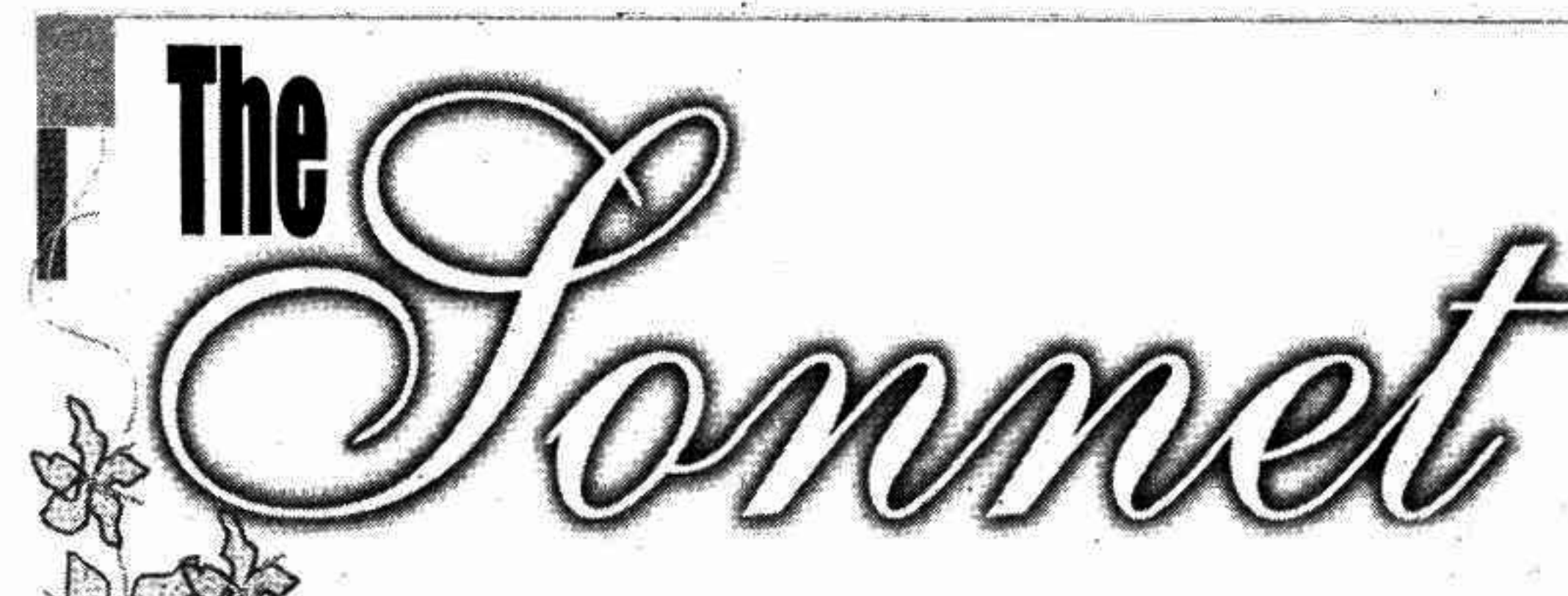
State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Prof Zinatunnesa Talukder attended the meeting on special invitation.

Acting Secretary of Women and Children Affairs Ministry Prof Dr Tahmina Hossain and other senior officials were also present.

Hasina sends iftar to orphans

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday sent iftar packets to the inmates of orphanage attached to Sobhanbagh Mosque, reports BSS.

About 250 boys are staying in the orphanage.



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