

SAARC confce on Y2K begins

Speakers on the first day of the 2-day SAARC Y2K conference yesterday stressed on awareness among users of computer and refraining from creating tension about Y2K, a widely apprehended problem in computer programming in the year 2000, reports UNB.

The conference at a local hotel under the auspices of Science and Technology Ministry and jointly funded by SAARC and Japan was opened by former Advisor to the caretaker government Prof Zamilur Reza Chowdhury.

The keynote paper was presented by National Coordinator of Bangladesh Y2K committee and Executive Director, Bangladesh Computer Council

(BCC), Prof Abdus Sobhan. Among others, SAARC Director Abdul Gafoor spoke on the occasion.

The conference was attended by representatives from five SAARC countries — Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives and host Bangladesh.

Prof Reza said Bangladesh has taken adequate measures to ward off the problem of Y2K and has formed a committee under the auspices of BCC which has already started a survey throughout the country.

He called for alert in different fields, particularly in electricity, gas, telecommunications, civil aviation, financial institutions and the share market.

Fareea Lara remembered

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a discussion marking the first death anniversary of Fareea Lara yesterday demanded proper investigation into the Cessna-150 crash incident and actions against those responsible for the tragedy.

Lara and Rafiqul Islam were killed when Cessna-150, a training aircraft of Parabat Flying Academy, crashed near Postagola in the city on September 27 last year. Both of them were in training to be instructors.

State Minister for Forest and Environment Sajeda Chowdhury was present at the meeting as chief guest while Anwar Hossain Khan, father of Lara and GM for corporate affairs of Biman, presided over the meeting organised by Fareea Lara Foundation.

Among others, Prof Nileema Ibrahim, Barrister Amirul Islam, and Director General of Bangla Academy Prof Syed Anwar Hossain Khan took part in the discussion held at the National Museum auditorium.

In her speech, Sajeda Chowdhury said that Lara was a bright young pilot and those responsible for the crash should be punished. She also expressed deep concern over the safety of aircraft passengers, recalling some recent incidents of Bangladesh Biman and a private airliner.

Barrister Amirul said, "We cannot accept Lara's death as a mere fate. Those responsible for the poor maintenance of the aircraft should face a trial."

Lara's father Anwar Hossain, who is the vice president of Fareea Lara Foundation, hoped that the prime minister would take steps against those responsible on the basis of the report of the investigation committee that was submitted last month.

Metropolitan Dhaka committed to NAM objectives

Bangladesh's commitment to the objectives of Non-alignment was reiterated at the NAM foreign ministers' meeting during the 54th UN General Assembly session in New York, a message received in the city yesterday said, reports BSS.

Additional Foreign Secretary Dr Toufiq Ali leading a delegation at the meeting said Bangladesh was always ready to work closely with other NAM countries on issues before the current UN General Assembly session and to develop common positions and implement the NAM decisions for common welfare.

He also informed the meeting of Bangladesh's deep commitment to the principles and objectives of the Durban declaration adopted by the heads of states and governments of the NAM at its 20th summit. "We also endorse the NAM plan of action that has been finalised at the initiative of South Africa in accordance with the directive emanating from the Durban Summit," he said.

Dr Toufiq Ali said some of the priorities would have to be adjusted with the change of the times but the focus of the NAM remained the same to work unitedly for a peaceful and secure world, free from hunger and deprivation to bring about social progress and economic development for the benefit of the people.

Referring to the fundamental transformation between North and South, he complemented South Africa for providing intellectual leadership to NAM and giving a new meaning and focus to the relation between the two poles.

He also referred to the first ever dialogue between the NAM foreign ministers troika and the G-8 countries and said such dialogue should be maintained between North and South to help emerge new ideas for cooperation on issues of common concern.

Dr Toufiq Ali said since poverty remained the major challenge NAM must make concerted moves in advancing economic and social development goals for its eradication in the next century. "In this regard we call for a greater South-South cooperation and a meaningful collaboration with the North", he said.

He also mentioned Foreign Direct Investment, greater access of developing countries' goods to be global market, increase in official development assistance and debt relief as key issues for the NAM which should be resolved in their greater interest.

Padma rises further

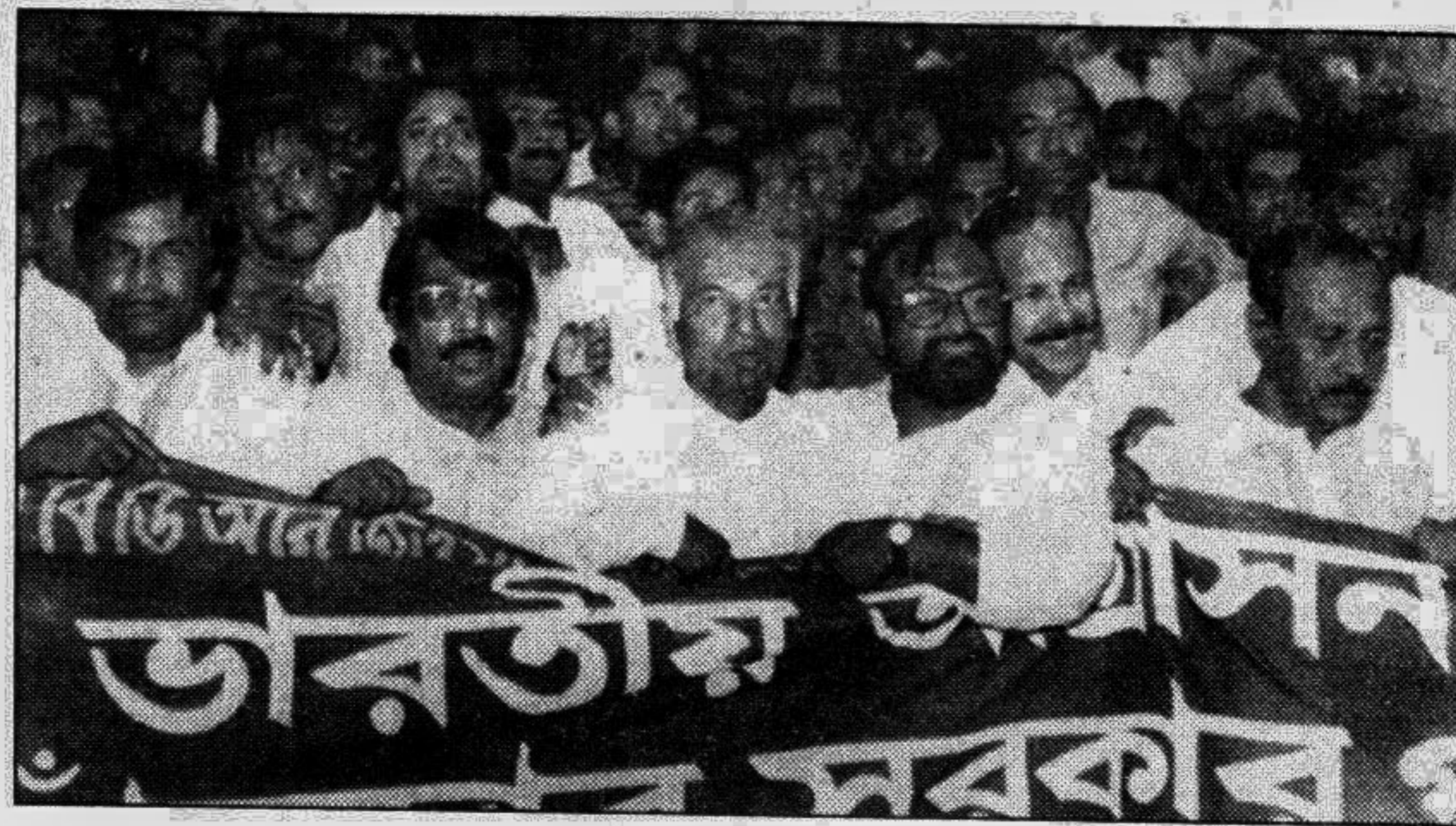
The river Padma continued to rise further at its all points except at Goalundo and was flowing above the red marks at two points till 9 am yesterday, reports UNB.

Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre said the Padma rose further by 23 cm at Pankha, 2 cm at Rajshahi, 6 cm at Haridginge Bridge, 3 cm at Bhagyakul while it receded slightly at Goalundo.

The river was flowing above danger level by 79 cm at Pankha and by 2 cm at Goalundo. Mahananda was also flowing 19 cm above the red mark at Chapainawabganj.

Out of 46 water level measurement stations monitored by the Centre, seven points recorded rise, 27 recorded fall and two points remained steady.

The Centre said monsoon was fairly active over the northwestern part of the country and significant rainfall recorded 97.5 mm at Rajshahi, 69.4 mm Panchagarh and 30.0 mm at Dala.



BNP activists led by Sadek Hossain Khoka brought out a procession in the city yesterday to protest the killing of two BDR jawans by Indian BSF recently. — Star photo

Legal Notice

In the Supreme Court of Bangladesh
High Court Division
(Original Civil Jurisdiction)

Matter No. 68 of 1999.

An application under Section 171 of the Companies Act, 1994

And

In the matter of
M/S. Continental Garments Ltd (Pvt) Ltd represented by its Managing Director Delwar Hossain of 13, Dilkusha C/A, P.S-Motijheel, Dhaka---
Petitioner

-Versus-

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Govt of Bangladesh, 7th Floor, Sadharan Bima Sadan, 24/25, Dilkusha Commercial Area, PS Motijheel, Dhaka--- Respondent.

Notice is hereby given that aforesaid application before the High Court Division praying for condonation of delay in filing Memorandum of satisfaction of Mortgage with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Bangladesh was moved before the High Court Division. Upon hearing the application, this Hon'ble Court had been pleased to admit the same on 11.08.1999 and fixed for hearing on 27.10.1999.

If any one is interested to oppose the said application he may appear before the Court by himself or through an authorised advocate on the date fixed.

Copy of the application will be available from the undersigned on payment of necessary costs.

Parimal Chandra Guha
Advocate
Bangladesh Supreme Court
43/1, Chamelibag, Dhaka-1217

C-784

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ATTENTION : U. S. AMBASSADOR

For enjoying our holidays in a great country like USA, my father, mother, sister and myself applied for visa in US Embassy, Dhaka on 28.7.99. Visas for my father, mother and sister were granted but to our utter disappointment, my visa was refused. The British High Commission also refused to grant my visa on the ground of refusal my visa by US Embassy. I passed H.S.C. and my education in BBA in Bangladesh will commence in the next January and after that I shall not be able to go to enjoy the holidays abroad. Hence my father being a commercially important person of the country, sent a fax and a letter to the US Embassy for consideration of granting visa to me proposing that he will furnish any sort of Guarantee in respect of my coming back to Bangladesh. He also assured that on our return from USA, he will present me in person before any official of the Embassy. Consequently, on telephonic request from US Embassy my father and myself appeared the Embassy on 22.9.99 for my visa which was not granted on the plea that I am too young and that my passport does not bear the evidence of my visit to good countries.

Here I like to mention that I wish to visit the good country like USA as it is a country of democracy, justice and leads the whole world as a Super Power. I also strongly say that my stay in USA is absolutely temporary and only for a month or so. My father will in no case allow me to stay in USA for any purpose whatsoever. I also resent that my father and mother may not visit USA since I can not accompany them as they may think that their visit to USA without me may hurt my feeling. To my consideration justice has not been done to me by US Embassy when USA has been fighting to establish the unity and to eliminate the injustice. Such action of the Embassy has caused frustration of the hopes and aspiration of a student like me.

This is for attention of the US Ambassador and all concerned.

Riazuddin Ahmed, Passport No. M-0874782
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