

Metropolitan

Homogeneity in language Bangladesh, West Bengal help reduce fertility rates

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a discussion yesterday observed that the homogeneity in language and other socio-cultural aspects between Bangladesh and West Bengal has helped reduce the fertility rates.

Held at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), the dialogue on 'Fertility Behaviour in Bangladesh and West Bengal' was addressed, among others, by Sajeda Amin, Alaka Malwade Basu, Rob Stephenson, Professor Aminur Rahman, Swapna Adnan with CPD Chairman Professor Rehman Sobhan in the chair.

Referring to her draft study report, Sajeda Amin said that there was strong evidence of higher contraceptive prevalence

in the bordering districts of Bangladesh and the Bengal speaking districts in India.

She mentioned that there is a wide range of overall method use from less than 25 per cent to about 75 per cent in the border districts of both Bangladesh and West Bengal.

Other discussants said that though the family planning programmes in Bangladesh and West Bengal are quite different, the level of contraceptive prevalence in border districts was almost same.

The cross border communication of the people in different ways create some sort of similarity in socio-cultural arena, that help reduce fertility rates, they observed.



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in the Parliament Khaleda Zia held a meeting with party MPs at her Minto road residence yesterday.

—Star photo

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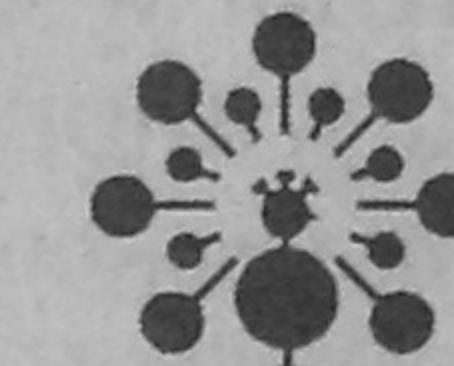
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NOTICE

In the Court of Artha Rin Adalat No. 3, Dhaka.
Title Suit No. 44/99

ANZ Grindlays Bank Limited
2, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.

.....Plaintiff

- Versus -

1. **Oscar International Ltd.**
House No. 500/A, Road No. 7 (Old) 18 New, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka.
2. **Mr. Samiur Rahman Khan**
Managing Director
Oscar International Ltd.
House No. 500/A, Road No. 7 (Old) 18 New, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka.
3. **Mr. Nurul Majid Mahmud**,
Director,
Oscar International Ltd.
House No. 500/A, Road No. 7 (Old) 18 New, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka.
4. **Oscar Fashion wear Ltd.**
BSCIC Industrial Estate, Sagorica Road, Chittagong and its Head Office, House No. 500/A, Road No. 7 (Old) 18 New, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka.
5. **Mrs. Dil Afroze Khan**
Director of M/S. Oscar International Ltd.
Wife of Mr. Samiur Rahman Khan,
House No. 500/A, Road No. 7 (Old) 18 New, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka.
6. **Mr. Obaidur Rahman**,
Director, Oscar International Limited,
House No. 500/A, Road No. 7 (Old) 18 New, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka.

.....Defendants

The above suit was filed against you on 10.08.99 by the plaintiff Bank for realisation of Tk. 18,59,670.50 upto 12.06.99. You are notified to appear in the above suit pending before the Court on 24.02.2000 at 10:00 A.M. either in person or through an authorised Advocate failing which the suit would be exposed of ex parte.

By order
Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan

Sharestadar

Sub-Judge, Artha Rin Adalat-3, Dhaka.

Call to refrain from political programmes on Swaraswati Puja day

Mohangan Sharbojanin Puja Committee yesterday appealed to all political parties to refrain from launching any political programme on February 10 which coincides with Swaraswati Puja, one of the greatest religious festivals of the Hindu community, reports BSS.

Hundreds of devotees on the day will offer their prayers to Swaraswati, the goddess of education, in different places across the country including over two hundred puja mandaps in the capital, a press release said.

DAAD seminar on German academic exchange Feb 11

Bonn-based German academic exchange service — Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst — has organised a seminar at a local hotel marking its 75th jubilee celebration, reports BSS.

The seminar titled 'Academic and Scientific Exchanges and their Impact on Development' will start at 5 pm at Rajmoni Isha Kha Hotel at Kakrakhali in the city on February 11, a DAAD release said.

German Ambassador to Bangladesh U Schramm, Chairman of Bangladesh University Grants Commission Prof ATM Zahirul Huq, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University and Regional (Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka) Director of DAAD Ms Hannelore Bossmann, among others, will attend the inaugural session.

SAARC congress of cardiology concludes

By Staff Correspondent
The first two day SAARC Congress of Cardiology ended with a renewed call for greater coordination, knowledge sharing and raising awareness about cardiac diseases and its risk factors and making its treatment more economical in the region.

Speakers said that some developing countries like the SAARC members are deprived of the outcome of modern science despite numerous success in the field. What we need right now is greater cooperation among ourselves with specific focus on prevention and control of cardiac diseases that may become number one killer disease in the region.

They reiterated the need for public education, promotion of physical activities, advocacy of health diets, legislation on tobacco which is considered the major risk factors for heart ailments.

Experts from SAARC countries agreed that incidents of heart diseases are increasing every year. With the development of modern technology the treatment cost of cardiac patients is also decreasing but it's still out of reach of mass people.

Some of the participants urged the policy makers to consider cutting tax on life-saving devices and accessories. Tax evasion would not only bring down the cost of treatment in the region but also encourage research," said a cardiologist from India.

The congress, organised by SAARC Cardiac Society and Bangladesh Cardiac Society, focused on scientific sessions, special lectures, plenary sessions, symposiums, and slide and overhead projector shows.

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