



Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.
License Of Federal Express Corporation
Tel # 9565114; Fax # 9565112

NEW DOHS

184/A, Eastern Road, Lane # 2
Mohakhali, Dhaka
Tel # 9884851, 603798

GULSHAN

OPEN 24 HOURS
Bilquis Tower
Gulshan Circle-2, Dhaka
Tel # 9883927, 887771

UTTARA

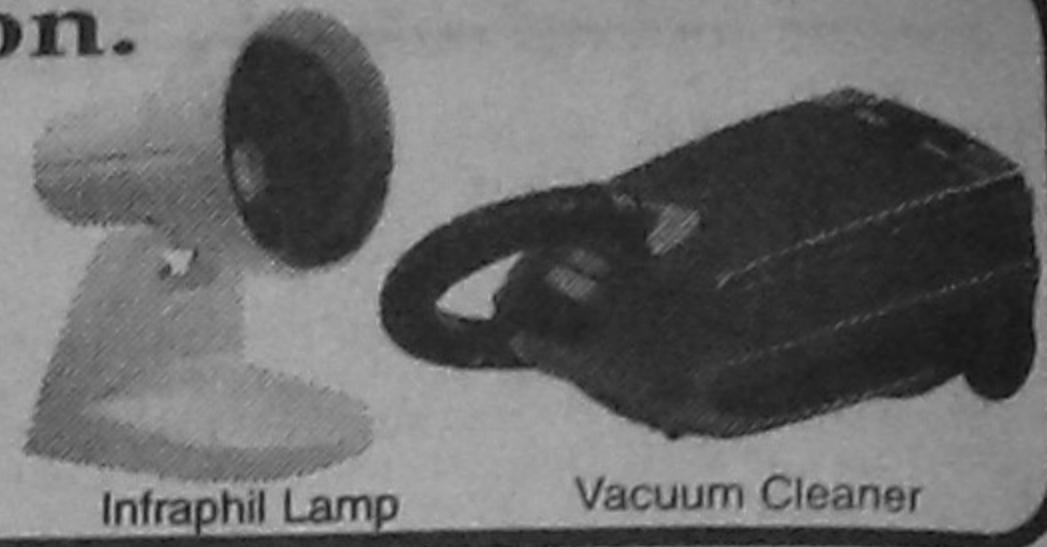
Baly Complex, Sector-3
Airport Road, Uttara, Dhaka
Tel # 894213



Let's make things better

PHILIPS

Instalment facility available
only for purchases above Tk. 7,500
Transcom Electronics Limited
Official license of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets.
Dhaka: 815307-10 Ctg.: 716353, 723578 Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 6215
Visit your nearest Philips Display Centre today



PM at BCL reunion

Days of ousting govt thru' movement over

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said yesterday that the days of ousting government through movement are over, reported BSS.

Apparently referring to the on-going opposition agitation, she said: "The movement that does not enjoy the backing of people can not attain success. People would resist such movements which do not bring any benefit to them."

The prime minister was speaking as chief guest at the reunion of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), organised to mark the 52nd founding anniversary of the student front of ruling Awami League.

Held at Paltan Maidan, the function was presided over by BCL president Bahadur Bepari and conducted by general secretary Ajay Kar Khokan.

Rounding on the negative attitude of the opposition, Hasina said, "We want to run the country through understanding and consensus while they want chaos and confrontation to capture power."

Without peace and stability, the nation would not reach the desired level on the economic front.

But the anti-social elements through their heinous activities including terrorism, extortion, hijacking, killing and other crimes have made social life miserable, and are trying to hinder development," she said.

The prime minister said the Public Safety Act has been enacted to root out the vested quarters from society and ensure peace, safety and security of the people.

IT education: No central examination system yet

By Asad-uz Zaman

Resource manpower and infrastructure shortages have delayed plans to introduce a standardised testing programme for information technology students.

"There are no facilities available at present to conduct examinations centrally at the public level," said an official from the Bangladesh Computer Council, the Ministry of Science and Technology's information technology watchdog.

"We are preparing a standard curriculum for information technology education in the country. Examinations will be conducted under the curriculum as per standardisation."

Meanwhile the country's private sector should follow India's example and become more involved in testing and standards.

The Bangladesh Computer Society could undertake such an initiative in our country," he said.

Professionals working in the country's information technology sector called for standardised testing to ensure the graduates entering the workforce have the same skills.

One professional working in the field said 99 per cent of Indian

Loadshedding

From Page 1

which looks after Mirpur Zone, is operating without a management team from last month as the DESA chairman fired the three-member team for inefficiency. No replacement has been made so far due to lack of qualified persons.

"Yet, under pressure from donor agencies, the government has agreed to give Gulshan area to DESCO management from this June-July," said another source. He however observed that Gulshan area would also face the same situation once it goes under DESCO because its services in Mirpur are "very disappointing".

BSF abducts 10 Bangladeshi fishermen

BENAPOL, Feb 26: Indian Border Security Force (BSF) forcibly took away 10 Bangladeshi fishermen this morning while they were fishing on the Isamati river near the border, reports UNB.

The DESA management can neither take stern action against the unscrupulous section of its meter readers not maintain its equipment with its own expertise," said a PDB official.

"Attempt to punish a DESA meter reader by transferring him is futile because that keeps him within its area in Dhaka. Whereas, punitive transfer works fine in PDB as it has network in the whole country," he said.

Meanwhile, performance of DESA-owned company Dhaka Electric Supply Company (DESCO) has also come under fire from the Energy Ministry. PDB and DESA itself. DESCO,

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Telephone Numbers: 8124945, 8124955, 8124966. Fax: 8125155. GPO Box No: 3257. Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: <http://www.dailystarnews.com> and Email address: dstar@bangla.net

Clinton's visit
US advance team due in
second week
of next month

An advance team of White House officials will arrive in Dhaka on March 8 or 9 to put the finishing touches on US President Bill Clinton's visit to Bangladesh.

UNB diplomatic sources told UNB the advance team would stay until Clinton's arrival on March 20.

The team comprised of officials from different departments of the US administration, including security and secret services, is expected to finalise Clinton's itinerary in consultation with the Bangladeshi government.

They will examine sites Clinton will visit and discuss security matters, prepare schedules and an agenda of the official talks between Dhaka and Washington.

However, the sources would not discuss the members of Clinton's entourage or the contents of the official talks between Clinton and Hasina.

"We're discussing the agenda with the Bangladeshi government," said a US diplomat on condition of anonymity. "I don't want to get into a discussion on the agenda."

However, he said, "We've effective military cooperation with Bangladesh," when asked whether Washington would be interested in signing a defence pact with Dhaka during the visit.

The diplomat described Clinton's visit to Dhaka as "an important and historic bilateral visit." He said it reflects "the good and friendly relation" between the two countries.

The US advance team will follow a 30-member pre-advance team that arrives on March 1 for a two-day visit.

Prof Bayes made UCB chairman

By JU Correspondent Prof Abdul Bayes, Vice Chancellor of the Jahangirnagar University (JU), has been appointed chairman of the University Council of Bangladesh (UCB).

He was appointed chairman of the VCs organisation for two years on February 22.

Adulterated milk: Culprits yet to be rounded up

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Feb 26: The businessmen who allegedly sold adulterated, date-expired powdered milk haven't been caught, despite a police manhunt.

Police sources said they are trying to locate and arrest the unscrupulous businessmen involved in the racket, but they have gone into hiding. Four shops in Khutunganj were closed after the drive began.

Police have seized over 10,000 sacks of date-expired skimmed milk in the last 15 days from different places of the city.

In the latest raid three days ago, police sealed a godown on Sadarghat Road containing 2600 sacks of expired powdered milk worth Tk one crore.

Police said samples of the seized milk have been sent to Dhaka for chemical tests. The expired milk was probably smuggled into the country from India by the businessmen, police said quoting the diaries.

Ferdous could not be reached. But a freshly painted signboard says he has purchased it on the basis of a power of attorney from one Firoze Alam.

Police sources said they are trying to locate and arrest the unscrupulous businessmen involved in the racket, but they have gone into hiding. Four shops in Khutunganj were closed after the drive began.

Police have seized over 10,000 sacks of date-expired skimmed milk in the last 15 days from different places of the city.

In the latest raid three days ago, police sealed a godown on Sadarghat Road containing 2600 sacks of expired powdered milk worth Tk one crore.

Hafiz was also the member of the Bangla Academy, BIRDEN and Anjuman-e-Maifid Islam.

His namaj-e-Janaza will be held at the Dhanmondi mosque after Zohr prayers today.

US human rights

From Page 1

extremely poor for majority of the prison population and female detainees in prison or other official custody is also a problem, it said.

The government continued to arrest and detain persons arbitrarily and use the Special Powers Act (SPA) and Section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which allow arbitrary arrest and preventive detention to harass political opponents and other citizens by detaining them without formal charges.

The government filed numerous criminal cases against opposition leaders and activists. At least sometimes, these charges were false. Much of the judiciary is subjected to executive influence and suffers from corruption. A large case backlog slowed the judicial process and lengthy pre-trial detention was a problem."

The report said that virtually all journalists practised some self-censorship. Attacks on journalists and efforts by government officials, political party activists and others to intimidate them occasionally occurred.

The government limited freedom of assembly, particularly for political opponents, and on occasion limited freedom of movement, it added.

The Task Force seized three trucks including shoe, sandals, battery, gas lighter and clothes were handed over to the local customs office.

The arrested are Abu Tayeb, Korban Ali and Belayet. A case was filed with the police against them.

Tension was prevailing along the border.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam



Unauthorised parking of rickshaw van and stacks of rubbish in front of The Daily Star office has made the place a mess.

— Star photo

Armed gang

From Page 1

force the Section 144.

Asked why did he send his men at the site on Thursday, the OC said, "We received phone calls from different people that two groups were about to clash on that spot."

The rival groups dispersed soon after police arrived there," he added.

A nine-storey building is under construction at the piece of land located at 1 Central Road under the Dhanmondi police station, said Majid.

The gang led by one Ferdous and accompanied by policemen came to the site at about 11 pm and drove the staff and workers out of the building.

He also said Dhanmondi police refused to register an FIR. Instead, they accepted a general diary. The matter was later brought to the notice of Makbul Hossain, MP from Dhanmondi-Mohammadpur area.

"Musa's family case to me and informed me of the incident," said Makbul. He said he did not have much to do other than informing the police.

He also said he would have taken action if any of his party members were involved.

Meanwhile, the Dhanmondi police said two persons registered two separate general diaries with the thana claiming that the land belonged to them.

Both accused each other of trying to grab the land, police said quoting the diaries.

Ferdous could not be reached. But a freshly painted signboard says he has purchased it on the basis of a power of attorney from one Firoze Alam.

Police sources said they are trying to locate and arrest the unscrupulous businessmen involved in the racket, but they have gone into hiding. Four shops in Khutunganj were closed after the drive began.

Police have seized over 10,000 sacks of date-expired skimmed milk in the last 15 days from different places of the city.

In the latest raid three days ago, police sealed a godown on Sadarghat Road containing 2600 sacks of expired powdered milk worth Tk one crore.

Hafiz was also the member of the Bangla Academy, BIRDEN and Anjuman-e-Maifid Islam.

His namaj-e-Janaza will be held at the Dhanmondi mosque after Zohr prayers today.

US human rights

From Page 1

extremely poor for majority of the prison population and female detainees in prison or other official custody is also a problem, it said.

The government continued to arrest and detain persons arbitrarily and use the Special Powers Act (SPA) and Section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which allow arbitrary arrest and preventive detention to harass political opponents and other citizens by detaining them without formal charges.

The government filed numerous criminal cases against opposition leaders and activists. At least sometimes, these charges were false. Much of the judiciary is subjected to executive influence and suffers from corruption. A large case backlog slowed the judicial process and lengthy pre-trial detention was a problem."

The report said that virtually all journalists practised some self-censorship. Attacks on journalists and efforts by government officials, political party activists and others to intimidate them occasionally occurred.

The government limited freedom of assembly, particularly for political opponents, and on occasion limited freedom of movement, it added.

The Task Force seized three trucks including shoe, sandals, battery, gas lighter and clothes were handed over to the local customs office.

The arrested are Abu Tayeb, Korban Ali and Belayet. A case was filed with the police against them.

Tension was prevailing along the border.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Ideal gift for any occasion.

Instalment facility available

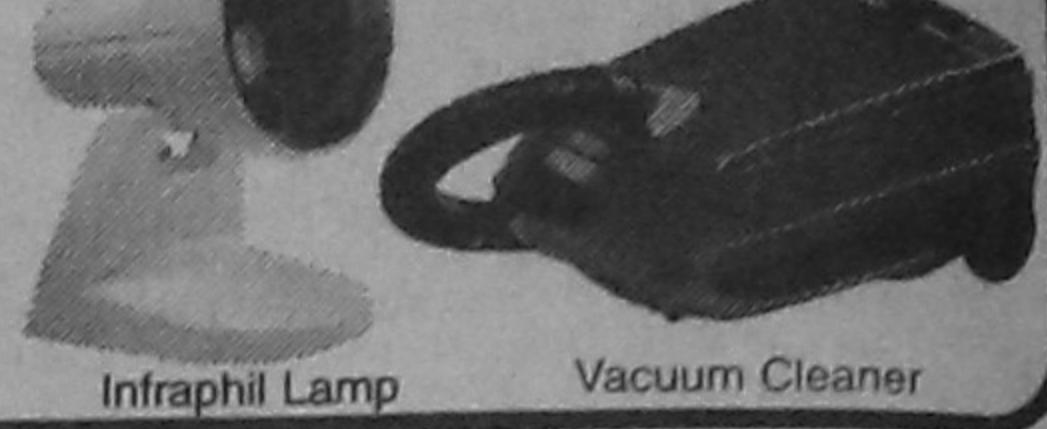
only for purchases above Tk. 7,500

Transcom Electronics Limited

Official license of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets.

Dhaka: 815307-10 Ctg.: 716353, 723578 Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 6215

Visit your nearest Philips Display Centre today



'Enact consumer protection act immediately'

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar in the city yesterday urged the government to enact a consumer protection act immediately to protect the rights of consumers.

The seminar was jointly organised by the Consumers Association of Bangladesh and the British Council. CAB President Dr Zafarullah Chowdhury was in the chair.

Addressing the seminar, former minister M Shamsul Huq MP alleged that the government has made various unnecessary laws like Public Safety Act (PSA) but it is not making a badly needed law like consumer protection act which, he said, would benefit the people.

Chief Editor of the Financial Express Reazuddin Ahmed stressed the need for a consumer protection act to protect the rights of citizens.

Executive Editor of the Daily Janakantha Borhan Ahmed said people want to buy goods and services at fair prices but they cannot do so because unscrupulous businessmen manipulate prices.

Executive Director of Bangladesh Environment Lawyers' Association (BELA) Syeda Rizwana Hassan described different aspects of the proposed act for protection of consumers' interests and the need for it.

Member of the Law Commission Justice Naimuddin Khan, who was the chief guest at the function, said such a law would be enacted shortly after necessary scrutiny, as it needs updating in line with similar laws in different countries.

He, however, said it would take some time to examine the act.

Zafarullah Chowdhury urged the government not to take much time to enact the law for the sake of the people.

M A Rashid presented the key-note paper on the proposed act and DCC Director Monzur Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.