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Hasina for peaceful solution to problems facing Muslim world
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed the need for peaceful solution to all problems facing the Muslim world, reports BSS.

Sheikh Hasina was talking to visiting Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sulaiman Majid al-Shaheen who called on her at Ganabhaban, official residence of the Prime Minister.

Hasina also reiterated Bangladesh's firm commitment to global peace.

Sulaiman handed over a letter to Sheikh Hasina from Acting Prime Minister of Kuwait Sabah al-Ahmed al-Jaber al-Sabah.

In his letter, the Kuwaiti acting prime minister congratulated Sheikh Hasina on Bangladesh's election as a member of the UN Security Council. Sabah expressed the hope that Bangladesh would play positive and effective role in international forums.

The visiting Kuwaiti Minister lauded Dhaka's role in the UN peace-keeping missions.

The Kuwaiti minister described the existing bilateral relations as excellent and expressed the hope that it would be further strengthened in the days ahead.

Arrival of ships at Ctg port down by 30 pc

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, May 6: Arrival of ships at Chittagong port decreased by about 30 per cent in the last one month due to fall in import of goods, port sources said.

As a result, on an average 10 berths out of 31 at the port remain empty, sources added.

There was a severe congestion of ships both at the jetties and outer anchorage a few months ago.

Presently, 20 to 22 vessels remain anchored at the port's berths and 3 to 5 ships at the outer anchorage.

During the period of congestion, the ships waiting at the outer anchorage were found in a race to get berthing, port sources said.

They said in recent months import of foodgrains including wheat, rapeseed, fertiliser and other general cargo marked a decline.

Chittagong port annually handles over 1200 vessels as most of the import and export cargo of the country are routed through this port.

Our new numbers

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May	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
7		6:30 pm
8	5:20 am	

Prayer Timings

May 7	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:15	4:45
Zohr	1:00	1:30
Asr	5:00	5:15
Maghrib	6:30	6:33
Esha	8:00	8:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Teachers must be competent & committed

The Daily Star- CAMPE roundtable on education in city told

By Staff Correspondent

Educationists, politicians and NGO activists yesterday observed that lack of competent and committed teachers was one of the major impediments to complete removal of illiteracy and providing students with quality education.

Incentives like 'food for education' and stipend for girl students significantly contributed to the considerable success so far achieved in this sector, they said and suggested continuation of such incentives.

The participants however came up with conflicting figures about the rate of literacy in the country.

It is eventually the political will of governments and increased budgetary allocations for the education sector, coupled with continuing efforts of NGOs, that can free the country

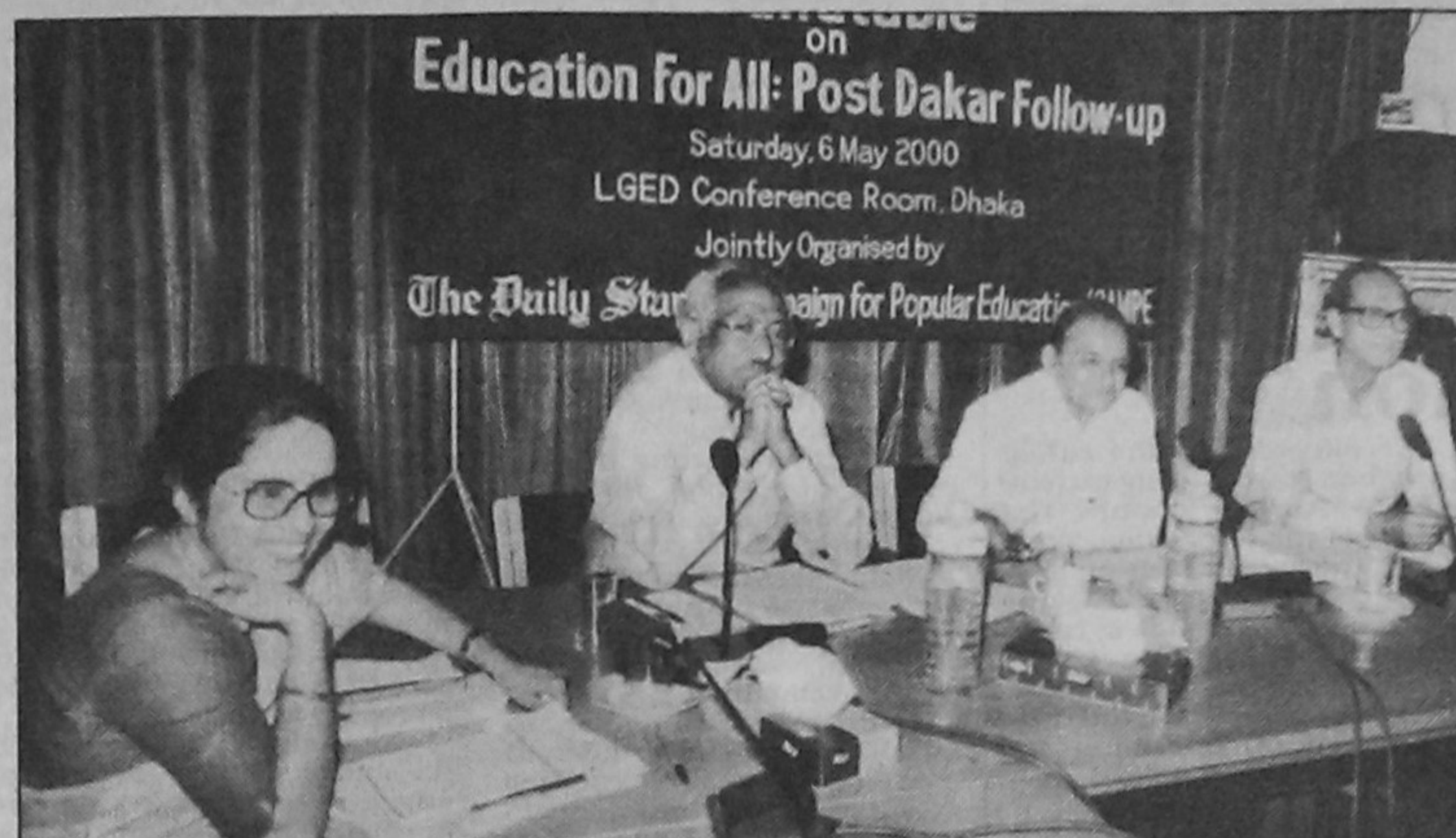
from illiteracy, they noted.

These observations were made at a Roundtable on Education for All: Post Dakar Follow-up, jointly organised by The Daily Star and the Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), held at the LGED conference centre in the city.

The discussion was moderated by Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam. Rasheda K Chowdhury of CAMPE made opening remarks.

A world conference on 'education for all' was held in Dakar, Senegal, in the last week of last month. A Draft Framework of Action was adopted there by delegates of more than 150 countries including Bangladesh that set 2015 the target year for reduction of

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The Daily Star-CAMPE Roundtable on 'Education for All' in progress at LGED conference centre in the city yesterday. From left are Rasheda K Chowdhury, former Finance Minister Saifur Rahman, former DU VC Prof Shamsul Haq and Nurul Islam Nahid, MP.

SUST to reopen within 2 weeks

Syndicate authorises VC to fix date

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, May 6: The Syndicate of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) has decided to reopen the varsity within two weeks.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the syndicate held this afternoon with Vice-Chancellor Prof Md Habibur Rahman in the chair.

The Syndicate also authorised the vice-chancellor to fix the date for reopening of the university.

After the meeting, the VC through an official letter has sought cooperation of all, including students, guardians and political leaders to help restore normalcy on the campus.

At the beginning, the vice-chancellor briefed the syndicate about the situation after its 87th meeting in August last year which decided to name the halls and buildings of the university after Bangabandhu and some other personalities including Jahanara Imam.

He also told the meeting about suspension of naming the halls and buildings as per a directive of the Chancellor, who had asked the authorities to place the matter before the Senate.

The All-Party Action Committee (Opposition) agitating for 4-point demand including withdrawal of names of halls

and buildings of SUST was holding a meeting to discuss the outcome of the syndicate meeting. The meeting was going on till filing of this report at 10 pm.

The meeting through a resolution regretted attacks on the officials, teachers and students and others.

It also condoled the death of madrasah student Abdul Munim Belal who was killed in BDR firing during a clash between the people of law-enforcing agencies and the activists of All-Party Action Committee (Opposition) in Sylhet town on December 25 last year.

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Bangladesh assured of continued ADB help

CHIANG MAI, Thailand, May 6: Asian Development Bank President Tadao Chino assured Bangladesh of continued ADB assistance for its economic development, particularly for poverty alleviation, reports UNB.

He reiterated his assurances at a meeting with Finance Minister Shafi A M S Kibria who is now here to attend the 33rd annual meeting of the ADB Board of Governors, leading a six-member delegation.

Kibria thanked the ADB chief for signing the Partnership Agreement for Poverty Reduction during Chino's Dhaka visit last month.

He also praised Chino's efforts for a reasonable level of replenishment of Asian Development Fund (ADF).

The ADB president commended Bangladesh's significant

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EU stand on the situation unchanged

Political impasse seriously affecting dev prospects

By Staff Correspondent



Uwe Schramm

German Ambassador in Dhaka Uwe Schramm has reiterated the European Union's call to the government and the Opposition to resolve the prolonged political impasse since it is seriously affecting the country's development prospects.

He said the EU and its member states issued a statement on the political situation in Bangladesh over a year ago, calling upon the government and the opposition parties to resolve the political dispute for making best use of investment prospects, but the situation still remains unchanged.

Uwe Schramm was giving a talk on German-Bangladesh Relations at the 'Meet the Reporters' programme organised

by Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU) yesterday morning. DRU President M Anwarul Haq chaired the function.

The EU on March 3 last year expressed serious concern over the deteriorating political situation, making effective cooperation increasingly difficult.

Schramm said since then there had been no tangible development on the issue, the contents and imperatives of the EU statement are "still valid".

Replying to a question, the German Ambassador said the ambassadors and high commissioners of the EU and its member states are still continuing their efforts to persuade the government and the opposition leaders to break the political

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Thousands of protesters clash with police as ADB confce opens



Anti-globalisation protesters chant slogans while trying to go through a police barricade manned by Thai riot police yesterday to reach the venue of the 33rd Asian Development Bank (ADB) meeting.

— AFP photo

CHIANG MAI, Thailand, May 6: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) pledged to rededicate itself to a crusade against poverty at its annual meeting today but failed to impress thousands of anti-capitalism protesters who battled police outside, reports AFP.

A crowd of up to 5,000 anti-globalisation activists marched on the conference venue at Chiang Mai university, chanting slogans critical of the ADB and global finance as economic ministers and bankers attended opening ceremonies inside.

Protesters in the vanguard of the march ripped down security barriers erected by police, 50 metres from the venue and smashed them on the ground, witnesses said.

Police then hurriedly regrouped at another cordon directly outside the gates of the venue as protesters rushed through their broken line.

Behind the building, another group of protesters battled riot police and drove a small truck through another cordon before withdrawing, witnesses said.

Some 54 rivers flow from India into the Bay of Bengal through Bangladesh. A treaty

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Facilitating flood forecast Dhaka seeks data from Delhi on state of rivers

By M Anwarul Haq

Dhaka has asked Delhi to provide available data on water level of rivers in the upper catchment in India to facilitate early flood warning, sources concerned said.

"We have already requested the Indian Water Resources Ministry to supply us available figures on the state of rivers which flow from the upper reaches to Bangladesh's deltaic region," Khalilur Rahman, Chairman of the Joint Rivers Commission told this correspondent yesterday.

"It is important for us to receive inputs on river levels so that we can prepare ourselves for any eventuality, particularly flood in monsoon," he said.

Some 54 rivers flow from India into the Bay of Bengal through Bangladesh. A treaty

on sharing Ganges water was signed between the two countries on December 12, 1996.

"If we get prior information about water level in the upper catchment, we will be able to calculate movement and expected level of water in the downstream more accurately," said another expert.

"Information on flow of water will enhance our flood forecasting ability by increasing the lead time from present 48 hours to at least 72 hours," the expert said.

In 1998, the country suffered its worst flooding in 100 years.

Experts feel that the pattern of water flow in rivers can be predicted to a great extent if data and information is exchanged between the two countries regularly. Reasonable

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Murder of two brothers: DB takes up case

By Staff Correspondent

The case concerning murder of two brothers at Mohammadpur in the city on Friday has been handed over to Detective Branch, police sources said yesterday.

Police could not make any headway in the case despite arrest of the driver of the car used in the killing.

Police suspect that the two brothers — Ashfaq Hossain Jewel, 28 and Mohammad Ali Rebel, 24, were gunned down by a hired assassin, Kamal Pasha, because of rivalry over toll collection from those involved in construction of a road on the Buriganga embankment.

Syed Anjad Hossain, father of the victims, in the FIR filed with Mohammadpur police, accused Kamal Pasha.

Pasha is also an accused in several other cases including those of murders, police said.

The sources suspect that Pasha might have been given shelter at the residence of an influential person in the locality. The DB has deployed its men around that house, they said.

Driver of the car, Mahbub, was produced before court yesterday.

Australian student activated 'Love Bug' in Philippines?

STOCKHOLM, May 6: A German exchange student in Australia was behind the LOVE virus which wreaked havoc in computers worldwide, a Swedish computer expert said today, reports AFP.

"I have reason to believe that Michel created 'LOVEYOU'. I spotted his name three hours after the virus was released," Fredrik Björck told Sweden's TT news agency.

Michel, an exchange student in Australia, activated the virus in the Philippines but there is no certainty that he was physically present, said the university researcher.

Last year, Björck identified the person behind the Melissa virus which infected e-mail systems in companies such as Microsoft, Intel and Lucent, as well as the US Department of Defence.

The Philippine press re-

Bangladesh spared

It's a sigh of relief for Bangladesh that the new computer virus 'LOVE' that wrought a havoc on computer systems in the USA and some 20 other countries didn't hit Bangladesh, reports UNB.

"Now we can say that the worm didn't hit any of the computer systems in the country,"

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pany, was quoted by the Philippine Star as saying.

The computer virus, called "Love Bug," first spread through two e-mail addresses in the Philippines. The virus quickly infiltrated government and corporate computer systems around the world. Some estimates have put the cost of the damage at more than one billion US dollars.

Access Net came up with the profile of the attacker after comparing notes with other local service providers and police are now working with the companies, the paper said.

Philippine Daily Inquirer said Philippine Internet service providers admitted that they were the source of the virus and that they would eventually identify the hacker based on his or her record, which could be traced.

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Accused in murder case shot dead

By Staff Correspondent

An absconding accused in a murder case was shot dead by his rivals at Sutrapur in the city Friday night, police said yesterday.

The dead was identified as Ziauddin Mollah Kajol, 25, police said. Kajol was an accused in Tajul murder case.

Kajol was killed as a sequel to Tajul's murder. Tajul was killed two years back over establishing supremacy in the underworld business of the area, police added.

Victim's mother Khodeja Begum lodged an FIR with Sutrapur police accusing 14 people in this connection, police said. Two of the FIR named accused were arrested, police added.

Hira and Rana called Kajol out of his house at about 11:30 pm on Friday and took him near the Hafiza Madrasah field and shot, police said quoting the FIR.

He was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

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Alook Refrigeration Co. Ltd proudly announces and welcomes the visit of **Mr. Phuar Boon Hock, Vice President Dunham-Bush International**, to Bangladesh For your inquiries on Dunham-Bush Air-conditioning products, please contact the exclusive distributor.

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