The newly-appointed US ambassador to Bangladesh, Mary Ann Peters, presented her credentials to President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday. – PID photo

Shahabuddin seeks more US investment in IT sector

New US envoy presents credentials

Terming the United States as a most important trading partner, President Shahabuddin Ahmed expected more US investments in Bangladesh for the development of its infrastructure and IT sector, reports UNB.

"The bilateral trade between Bangladesh and USA is rapidly growing and the USA has increased its investment in Bangladesh, mostly in the energy and power sector," he told the newly-appointed US Ambassador to Bangladesh, Mary Ann Peters.

The new US envoy presented her credentials to President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Welcoming the Ambassador, President Shahabuddin said the relation between Bangladesh and USA is excellent and mentioned the visit of the US President to Bangladesh and the forthcoming visit of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to the USA. "The visits reflect the existing friendly ties."

The President said both the countries share common values and principles and are committed to democracy, good governance and the rule of law.

Although the path of democracy, he said, is arduous, today there is no alternative to this form of government.

Human security and welfare are the top priorities of the government, Shahabuddin said adding that the successes in the fields of health, population control, education and empowerment of woman have been acclaimed worldwide. "But much remains to be done."

The President noted with satisfaction that Bangladesh-US relations have entered a new phase and hoped that it would grow further to the mutual benefits of the two peoples.

Mary Ann Peters said a vital tie binds the two nations in the strong commitment to maintaining and strengthening democracy.

President Clinton, she said, had stressed this tie during his historic visit in Bangladesh last March.

She particularly mentioned the success of the family planning programme in Bangladesh and the micro-credit revolution.

Peters said President Clinton is among those who borrowed this concept from Bangladesh when he was the governor of Arkansas.

She told the President that American investors are prepared to do much more to increase the investment in Bangladesh if healthy environment is created.

Peters lauded Bangladesh's growing garment exports to the United States and noted with satisfaction the positive role that Bangladesh plays internationally as an active and constructive member of the UN Security Council.

Earlier, on her arrival at Bangabhaban, the ambassador was given a guard of honour by the President's Guard Regiment. She took salute and inspected the guard.

Foreign Secretary C M Shafi Sami, Secretary to the President Muhammad Ismail Hossain and MSP Major General Jalaluddin Ahmed were present on the occasion.

Six crore trees to be planted

About six crore trees will be planted this year in 18,180 acres of land under different government projects as part of its massive aforestation programme to attain environmental and ecological balance, reports BSS.

At least 20 per cent of the total land of the country will be brought under the programme by the year 2015 protecting the present forest area for ensuring bio-diversity.

These were disclosed yesterday at a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Environment and Forest Ministry held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

Chairman of the committee Tabibur Rahman Sardar chaired the meeting that was also attended by Environment and Forest Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Muhammad Shahab Uddin, Habibur Rahman Mollah, Begum Anjuman Ara Zamil, Golam Sarwar Hiru and Muhammad Waheduzzaman Sarker.

State Minister for Environment and Forest H N Ashikur Rahman was also present at the special invitation.

The meeting also reviewed other projects of the ministry.

Hasina pays tribute to Moyez Uddin

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday paid rich tribute to the memory of Awami League leader Moyez Uddin on the eve of his 16th anniversary of death today, reports UNB.

A close associate of the father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Moyez Uddin was a man of firm determination and strong morale who enjoyed respect, she said in message.

Hasina said a veteran freedom fighter and organiser, talented political and former MP Moyez Uddin was killed by terrorists of the autocrat government on September 27, 1984 at Kaliganj while he was leading a peaceful procession.

His killing had unveiled the mask of the autocrat, anti-liberation forces and conspirators that intensified the movement against them, she said.

The Prime Minister prayed for peace of the departed soul.

PM hands over cheque for Tk 30,000 to freedom fighter

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over a cheque for Tk 30,000 to valiant freedom fighter Shahidul Islam (Lalu), Bir Protik, at a simple ceremony at the Armed Forces Division at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday, reports BSS.

Shahidul Islam of village Shutipalashpara under Gopalpur Upazila in Tangail district took an active part in the Liberation War at the age of 12 in 1971 and was decorated with the gallantry award, 'Bir Protik'. He is the youngest recipient of the award.

Presently, Islam has been running a small shop at Muktijoddha Market near Mirpur Zoo. Earlier, he was not aware that he has been given Bir Protik award by the government for his valiant performance in the War of Liberation.

The Prime Minister gave a patient hearing to his problems and asked the authorities concerned to redress his sufferings, if any.

The Prime Minister also handed over a photograph of Shahidul Islam, then a boy of 12 years on the arm of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, to the Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman, Bir Bikram, who is also the chief patron of Bijoy Keton, a Liberation War Museum now under construction at the Dhaka Cantonment.

Among others, Quarter Master General of Bangladesh Army Major General Jiban Kanai Das, high military officials and consultant of Bijoy Keton Major (Retd) Qamrul Hassan Bhuiyan were also present on the occasion.

CCC to build fly-over

CHITTAGONG, Sept 26: Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) will construct a most modern fly-over at Dewanhat crossing at a cost of Taka ten crore in order to ease continued traffic congestion in the city, reports BSS.

According to project concept paper, the 1200 feet length and 24 feet width fly-over said to be the first ever in the country will be built east-west faced on Kadamtali-Doublemooring police station.

A meeting was held here at the Mayor's office with Mayor A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury in the chair.

The meeting reviewed various aspects for execution of the fly-over and apprised the mayor that it will be 22 feet high from the Dewanhat junction, a city corporation press release said today.

Khaleda condoles death of Liku

By staff Correspondent

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia has expressed deep shock at the death of party's Mecca unit president Liaquat Hossain Liku, who was killed in a road accident recently.

In a message of condolence yesterday, she said late Liku was a devoted leader of BNP and the party lost a dedicated nationalist leader at his untimely death.

Khaleda Zia prayed for he salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

CHT Council team meets Kalpa Ranjan Chakma

A six-member delegation of Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council met Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs Minister Kalpa Ranjan Chakma at his office yesterday, reports UNB.

They discussed different issues and problems of the council, which are related with the CHT Affairs Ministry.

Council members Goutam Kumar Chakma led the delegation. Secretary of the Ministry Mahfuzul Islam and Joint Secretary A Z M Shafiqul Islam were present on the occasion.

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote brought out a colourful rally in the city yesterday to mark its founding anniversary. – Star photo

World Tourism day today

The first world Tourism Day in the new millennium will be observed in the country today as elsewhere across the globe, reports UNB.

This year, the theme of the day is "Technology and Nature: Two Prospects for the Tourism at the Advent of 21st Century."

The day is being observed since 1980 at the call of World Tourism Organisation (WTO).

President Shahabuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Engineer Mosharraf Hossain, and State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Syed Ahraful Islam issued separate messages on the occasion.

The President, in his message, highlighted the role of tourism industry for establishing friendship and alliance in the social, state, regional and international levels.

He called for flourishing the tourism industry through projecting the natural beauty of Bangladesh and utilising its nature and technology properly.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said the scope of involving people of all walks of life in the process of flourishing tourism industry will be created by observing the day.

She hoped that Bangladesh would be turned into an attractive place for the tourists through coordination of flora and fauna and modern information technology.

Various organisations, including Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, have drawn up elaborate programmes. The programmes include rally, *pitha* festival and food festival.

In the capital, the day's event will begin with a rally jointly organised by BPC and Dhaka University Tourist Society at 7.30 am at BCP central office.

A three-day *pitha* festival will be opened at the Parjatan Head Office at 10 am. A cultural function with the participation of tribal people and a food festival will be held at Hotel Abakash at 6.30 am.

Free treatment for 30 poor heart patients

By Staff Correspondent

The Calcutta-based Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences will treat 30 poor heart patients from Bangladesh free of cost.

According to a press release, the free treatment is being organised in association with the Rotary International. The treatment includes heart surgeries for 10 children from extremely poor families.

The offer also covers cardiac cathlab procedures on 20 patients, who are the breadwinners of poor families or mothers of small children.

Intending persons have been requested to contact nearby Rotary Clubs for recommendations to the office of the District Governor of Rotary International District-3280, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

WHO seeks govt intervention to check slum malnutrition

The level of malnutrition in Dhaka slums is double the WHO threshold level as 31 per cent children aged below five are severely suffering from malnutrition, reports BSS.

This was stated in a research finding presented by Dr Ataur Rahman yesterday here at a workshop on Nutritional Vulnerability in Dhaka Slums.

These figures far exceed the WHO threshold criteria of 15 per cent. Ataur said calling for immediate government intervention to check the upward trend of the level of malnutrition in Dhaka's slums.

Jointly organised by the Institute for Development Policy Analysis and Advocacy (IDPAA), Proshika and Voluntary Health Services Society (VHSS), the function was chaired by president of Proshika Dr Qazi Faruque Ahmed.

Chairman of Centre for Urban Studies Professor Nazrul Islam, Clinical Sciences Division scientist of ICDDR,B Dr S K Roy, Project Director Monitoring and Evaluation Component of Bangladesh Urban Primary Health Care Project Dr Amanatullah Khan and Delwar Hossain of World Bank also spoke.

Dr Ataur said severe malnutrition is common among girl children and older children and elderly people are more nutritionally vulnerable than others in slums.

Families and households headed or managed by women have better understanding for overcoming malnutrition, he said according to his research findings.

Prof Nazrul Islam said all garment factories should provide shelter and nutrition as most of their workers lived in Dhaka's slums.

He called upon all Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to work for housing for the slum dwellers.

Tender Notice

দেশপ্রেমে উদ্বুদ্ধ হউন
বিদ্যুতের অবৈধ সংযোগ বন্ধ করুন

Sealed tender in PDB Form No. T-2 are hereby invited by the undersigned from the bonafide traders and enlisted contractors of PDB having TIN certificate for supplying 1) ELECTRICAL GOODS, 2) SODIUM LAMP & ITS AUXILIARIES at the estimated cost of 1) Taka: 58,880/- (fifty-eight thousand eight hundred eighty taka) and 2) Taka: 74,860/- (seventy-four thousand eight hundred sixty taka) respectively. Tender documents may be obtained from the office of 1) Additional Chief Engineer, Chittagong Power Station, PDB, Raojan, Chittagong, 2) Electrical Maintenance Division-2, KHS, PDB, Kaptai on payment of Taka:-100/- (one hundred taka) only in the shape of Bank Draft or Pay Order in favour of the Deputy Director (Accounts), RAO, Kaptai up to 11.10.2000 during office hours with the prior permission of the 1) Additional Chief Engineer, Chittagong Power Station, PDB, Raojan, Chittagong and the undersigned. No permission will be given without TIN certificate. The tender will be received to the office of the 1) Additional Chief Engineer, Chittagong Power Station, PDB, Raojan, Chittagong and 2) the undersigned on 12.10.2000 up to12.00 Noon and shall be opened at 12.30 PM on the same date in presence of the intending tenderers (if any) present.

Biddut/Jana-522(3)/2000-2001
DFP-22981-21/9
G-1683

Executive Engineer
Electrical Maintenance Division-2
Karnafuli Hydro Station
BPDB, Kaptai-4532

বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিশিগপ)
BANGLADESH COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (BCSIR)

International Tender Notice

Two envelope system sealed tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide foreign supplier(s)/ manufacturer(s) For their local representative(s) for supply of the following goods to the respective project of the BCSIR:

Tender No	Short description	Source of fund	Cost of tender document
Sectt/Pur/54-01/01-02/P	Scientific equipment etc	Cash	Tk 750/-

Intending bidders may buy tender documents with details terms & conditions from the Cashier, BCSIR Secretariat, Dr Qudrat-e-Khuda Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205 on payment of the price mentioned above or tender document may be sent if request letter is received with Pay Order being the cost of tender document plus courier service charge (Taka 20/-) favouring the Project Director, Modernisation of BCSIR Laboratories, Institutes, Centres & Division, BCSIR, Dhaka. No tender documents will be sold on the closing date of the tender.

Tenders may be dropped into the tender box kept in the office of the Project Director, Modernisation of BCSIR Laboratories, Institutes, Centres & Division, BCSIR, Dr Qudrat-e-Khuda Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka or may be sent to the Project Director by post or courier service so as to reach him by 11-00 am on or before October 31, 2000 which is the closing date. The tender box will be opened on the same date at 11-15 am in presence of the bidders/representatives, if any.

BCSIR reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the items of the tender.

Project Director
Modernisation of BCSIR Laboratories,
Institutes, Centres & Division,
BCSIR, Dhaka

DFP-23035-21/9
G-1682

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Director General
Youth Development Directorate
Ministry of Youth & Sports
108, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

Memo No: YDD/YTC/IE-88/98-1211 Date: 19-9-2000/4-6-1407Bang

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No-2911 are invited for the work of completion of internal electrification of Faridpur Youth Training Centre under a project titled "Development of Existing Centres and Completion of Unfinished Work Including Setting up of Eleven New Youth Training Centres" under Youth Development Directorate from the prequalified contractors of this project renewed during 1999-2000 fiscal year (ABC licence holder/related ABC licence). Tenders will be received on 1-10-2000 that is 16-6-1407 Bang till 12:00 Noon in the office of the undersigned, office chamber of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, 12-storied government building, Segunbagicha, Dhaka and Consultant Establishment Engineers' Consortium Ltd, 64/B, Green Road, Dhaka and tenders received will be opened the same day at 12:15 PM before the tenderers present (if anyone remains present). Earnest money at the rate of 2 per cent of the quoted cost in the forms of Bank Draft/Pay-Order from any scheduled bank in favour of the Project Director, setting up of Youth Training Centre, Youth Development Directorate, Dhaka will have to be given with tender. Otherwise tender will be regarded as outright rejected. The time limit for the work is 90 (ninety days) respectively. Terms and conditions of tenders and schedule can be purchased on payment of Taka 700/- (seven hundred) (non-refundable) by depositing through Bangladesh Bank/Treasury Chalan in "1/3640/5130/2681 No Code" and by depositing the original copy of chalan in the office of the undersigned, Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, 12-storied Government Building, Segunbagicha, Dhaka and Consultant Establishment, 64/B, Green Road, Dhaka and tender forms can be purchased by producing the registration book for pre-qualification during office hours. No tender form will be sold on the day of opening tender. Attested copy of trade licence of prequalification (the establishments which are ABC licence holder/related ABC licence) renewed during 1999-2000 fiscal year will have to be submitted with tender. Otherwise tender will be regarded as rejected outright. The authority reserves the power to accept or reject any tender or accept or reject any tender fully or partially without assigning any reason and the authority is not obliged to accept the lowest rate.

On behalf of the Director
General
Md Mosharraf Hossain
Project Director.

DFP-22933-21/9
G-1679

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Programme Officer for Micro and Small Enterprise Promotion

We are an International Development Agency with an office in Dhaka and we work in partnership with NGOs, Governmental Agencies, International Agencies, as well as with the private sector.

Our programme in micro and small enterprises consists of a set of activities, including both financial and non-financial services, for the purpose of economic growth with equity. We support micro finance institutions to provide appropriate and flexible financial services to poor people. We support extreme and moderate poor to access all types of skills enabling them to tap income opportunities, be it through self-employment or wage employment. We promote entrepreneurship and facilitate overcoming of market imperfection in the delivery of and access to services for small enterprises.

We believe that market orientation should be a leading value for micro and small enterprise promotion. For this reason, we reinforce presently our collaboration with the private sector.

We want to strengthen our team in micro and small enterprise promotion to face the forthcoming challenges. Therefore we need a dynamic programme officer. If you:

- have a minimum of eight years experience in micro finance
- have a good knowledge of new approaches for non-financial services
- have close contacts with key practitioners and organisations in the micro finance sector, both in Bangladesh and abroad
- are familiar with NGOs as well as with the private sector
- are familiar with planning, monitoring, evaluation and transfer processes
- have field work experiences

as well as

- have a great capacity to analyse and to conceptualise
- are a team worker
- have interpersonal skills
- are able to work with flexibility
- are excellent in English and in Bangla

and if you feel motivated to work in this sector, we would appreciate if you could send us your application, stating your motivation, a detailed CV as well as the references to GPO Box 928, Dhaka by October 12, 2000.

We encourage women to apply for this position.

D-662

Bangladesh Railway

Tender Notice

No EE-DA-T-448/58/2000 Date: 20-9-2000

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for Operation, Repairing, Servicing and Maintenance of 2 (two) Nos passenger lift 1000kg capacity each of IGV, Italy make at Rail Bhaban, 16, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka from the reputed and bonafide Bangladeshi or Bangladesh-Foreign Joint Venture firm who are experienced in Operation, Repairing, Servicing and Maintenance work of Electronically Controlled Geared AC-VVVF Drive Duplex Type and IGV, Italy make lifts. The earnest money is 2% of the quoted offer which shall have to be enclosed with the tender in favour of FA&CAO/East, Bangladesh Railway, Chittagong in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh. Tender without exact 2% earnest money will be summarily rejected.

Tender documents may be purchased at the rate of Tk 400.00 (Taka four hundred) only per set (non-refundable) during office hours on or before 15-10-2000 up to 1600 hrs from the Chief Electrical Engineer/East, Bangladesh Railway, Chittagong or Divisional Electrical Engineer, Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka office after obtaining written permission on submission of experience certificate as stated above.

The tender will be received up to 1100 hrs on 16-10-2000 and will be opened at 1130 hrs on the same day in presence of the bidders (if any). All other terms & conditions are available in the tender documents.

The Railway Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

M Bazlur Rahman
Divisional Electrical Engineer
Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka.

GD-890

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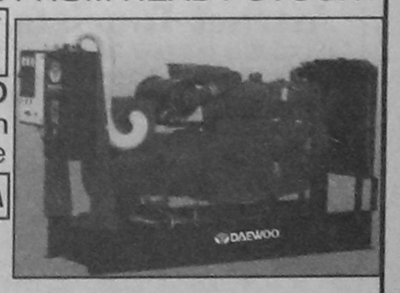

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