

Metropolitan

Call for mass awareness
against drug abuseProf Emdad-Ul Haq's bestseller
book launched in Chittagong

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 8: Speakers at the publication ceremony of a book on drug abuse called for creating mass awareness against drugs.

The publication ceremony of the book 'Drugs in South Asia: From Opium to the Present Day' written by Prof M. Emdad-Ul Haq of Political Science department of Chittagong University, was organised by 'Prohibid', an anti-drug organisation at Ichhamoti Hall of Hotel Agrabad yesterday.

The speakers said that South Asian people have to often suffer at foreign air ports because of the fact that some South Asian regions including ours are the centre of the exit route of drugs.

But, though the finger is pointed to 'coloured people' specially from South Asia, the evil drug trade is controlled by 'the whites' of developed countries," the speakers observed.

The ceremony was addressed by CU VC Prof Abdul Mannan as chief guest and by AT Ahmedul Haq Chowdhury, CMP Commissioner and Dr Mark Bartholomew, Director of The British Council, Chittagong, as special guests.

At the ceremony chaired by Prohibid chairperson, Monowara Hakim Ali, Prof Emdad-Ul Haq was congratulated and awarded a crest for his book which has already become a best-seller in the UK and is also on the best-seller list in USA. The book has been jointly published by Macmillan Press in UK and St Martin's Press in USA.

The speakers further said that laws in this regard existed but were not being enforced. They also criticised the old laws from the British Colonial period still in existence and Indian resurgence in international drug trafficking.



Many city dwellers don't seem to think that it is their duty to think about fellow citizens. Fish traders at the wholesale fish market at Mugdipara find it more convenient to carry on their business on the sidewalks of Bishwa Road rather than inside the market. Picture shows traders blocking up part of the sidewalk. As peak selling hours, this crowd spill onto the road. That this hampers road usage by pedestrians and vehicle alike don't seem to be on the minds of these traders. — Star photo



Shata Nagarik Committee organised a memorial meeting on Professor Shajahan, former Vice-Chancellor of BUET at the National Press Club auditorium yesterday. — Star photo

'More areas to be
brought under
digital phone
network'

Constituencies of all the members of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Post and Telecommunications Ministry will be brought under digital telephone network by December, reports UNB.

An official release said this quoting a decision of yesterday's meeting of the committee held with its chairman Kamal Ahmed Majumder in the chair.

The parliamentary body also discussed progress in installing 2.15 lakh digital phone lines under an integrated project on installation and expansion of digital telephone exchanges in different district towns.

Financed by China, the project is being implemented to upgrade telecommunication services and fulfill subscribers demand.

The meeting was apprised that Faridpur and Pabna districts had been brought under digital telephone network first and most of the district towns is would get the facility in phases under the project.

Milad mahfil

A milad mahfil will be held today after Asr prayers at 94, F. Azimpur Colony in observance of the 13th death anniversary of former General Secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) and one of the organisers of the war of liberation and former parliament member comrade Farhad, reports BSS.

Dhaka condemns
killing of
Palestinians
by Israel

Bangladesh yesterday strongly condemned the on-going Israeli atrocities against the Palestinians in Jerusalem and other occupied territories which so far claimed lives of 80 people, reports BSS.

"We have noted with deep concern the provocative acts of violence and atrocities committed by the Israeli forces against Palestinians in Al-Haram Al-Sharif in Jerusalem as well as in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and other occupied territories," a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

He said, Israeli atrocities have resulted "in the death of 80 innocent people and many other casualties during the past one week."

Pointing finger to the use of excessive force by the Israeli forces and their provocative acts, the spokesman noted that it is unfortunate that these activities have been undertaken at a time when the peace process in the Middle East had reached a crucial stage. Bangladesh wants the peace process to proceed, he added. In this context, he said, "we welcome the efforts of the United States to put the peace process back on track."

Bangladesh once again reiterated its unreserved and unwavering support to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including their right to establish an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

German essay
competition
opens Oct 18

The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Goethe-Institut Dhaka in order to promote German as a foreign language in Bangladesh and to foster mutual understanding between the two nations, has organised a Grand German Essay Competition, says a press release.

The essay competition will be held on the following topic: "Relationship Bangladesh-Germany" or "Comparison of Bangladesh and German Culture" or a subject of the contestant's choice related to Germany and should not be more than 3 pages long.

The contest will begin on October 18. Deadline for submission of the essay is November 16. Submissions will subsequently be forwarded to the Goethe-Institut and evaluated by representatives of the Goethe-Institut and the German Embassy.

Any person who is learning German or has learned German is entitled to participate. The entry should be attached with a confirmation of the German language teacher that the entrant has been learning German or has learned German.

The first prize is a German language evening course at the Goethe-Institut Dhaka, other prize include cassettes, books and many more items.

The prize awarding ceremony will take place on January 14, 2001 at 5:30 pm at the Goethe-Institut Dhaka.

The Goethe Institut or Cultural Department of German Embassy can be contacted for more information.

Appeal for relief for
flood victims

Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) yesterday appealed to various donors, bilateral and multilateral agencies and relevant UN bodies in Dhaka for emergency relief and long-term rehabilitation for the flood victims of southwestern parts of the country, reports UNB.

The appeal signed by Khushi Kabir, Chairperson of (ADAB), stated that the recent deluge severely affected 2.5 million people in 114 unions of five western and south-western districts.

It said the region flooded this time, especially the districts of Meherpur, Chuadanga, Jhenidha, Jessore and Satkhira have never experienced such severe flooding over the last half a century. So the life, livelihood pattern and materials for rural

Three muggers
caught in
Narsingdi

NARSINGDI, Oct 8: Three muggers were caught red-handed while snatching away a gold chain from a housewife at West Kandapara area in the town on Saturday night, reports UNB.

They were identified as Jahangir of Chhutaban village, Mohammad Ali and Khorsheed of Noulkadaha village in Shibpur upazila. Local people handed over them to police.

Witnesses said the gang of five waylaid the housewife Swapna Rani and snatched her gold chain while she was returning from a Durga Puja mandap with her husband.

The two other snatchers fled the scene with the chain. A case was filed.

house construction in the area are obviously different than those of the areas used to be flooded frequently.

More than 5 lakh rural houses, mostly mud-huts, in 22 upazilas of bordering districts - Satkhira, Jessore, Jhenidha, Meherpur, Kushtia and Chuadanga - have been totally damaged.

Crops, particularly Aman, vegetables, sugarcane, banana and other standing crops have been damaged totally in the current flood. Apart from this, fish in ponds and more than 350,000 commercially used water bodies and poultry were lost.

The ADAB also appealed for emergency relief like baby food, food for adults, medicine, safe drinking water, temporary shelter as well as assistance for construction of houses, agricultural rehabilitation through employment creation and providing soft credit.

Princess Anne's
aide in city

Colonel Timothy Earl, Princess Anne's Principal Private Secretary arrived in the city last afternoon in preparation of the Princess' visit to Bangladesh next month, reports BSS.

Princess Anne is scheduled to arrive here on a three-day visit on November 21. It will be her third visit to Bangladesh. British High Commission sources said.

During his stay here, Col Earl together with a member of the Royal Close Protection Team will discuss arrangements for the Royal visit. Accompanied by Bangladesh officials they will also visit each of the venues on her tour map, sources added.

World Postal
Day today

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed the hope that traditional postal system would gain more popularity as one of communications media in the modern world, reports UNB.

The Prime Minister said the government is keen about development of the Postal Department.

"Traditional postal communications system still exists alongside various modern method of communications. Our life, literature, culture, history and heritage all are inter-linked with Postal Department," she said.

Prime Minister Hasina made the observations in a message yesterday on the occasion of World Postal Day to be observed today across the world.

She noted that World Postal Organisation (WPO) was established in Bern of Switzerland on October 9, 1874 aiming to bind in a global community the countries of the world which were separated from one another for various reasons, like geographical, economic and political.

Twenty-two countries of Europe were members of the organisation during its launch. Bangladesh obtained membership of this organisation in 1973.

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President hosts
reception for
Hindu community

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday hosted a reception for the members of Hindu Community at Bangabhaban on the occasion of Durga Puja, reports UNB.

State Minister for Religious Affairs Moulana Nurul Islam, Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh ML Tripathi and representative of Nepal Embassy in Dhaka attended the reception.

Besides, Chitra Bhattacharya, MP, Principal of Ramkrishna Mission Swami Akharanda, leaders of Hindu community, businessmen, bankers, educationists, artists, advocates, journalists, high government officials and social workers attended the reception. President Shahabuddin welcomed the guests and enquired about their welfare, said a Bangabhaban press release.

President visits
Salahuddin
Yusuf's residence

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed visited the residence of late Minister Salahuddin Yusuf yesterday, reports UNB.

The President stayed there for some time and consoled the members of the bereaved family. He also recalled the valuable services rendered to the society by the late minister during his long political career.

Mondal's chehlum
today

The chehlum of BNP leader Habibur Rahman Mondal will be held at Nawabpur Government High School after Zohr prayers today, reports UNB. Advocate Mondal was shot dead by unknown assailants in the old Dhaka.

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia will attend the chehlum.

COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE

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MARUBENI CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Marubeni Corporation (MC) is in final discussion with the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) concerning BPDB's intention to award to MC the rights to develop the

450 MW Meghnaghat Phase-II Power Project (Project)

on a Build-Own-Operate basis. Marubeni Corporation, as lead sponsor, will imminently establish a special purpose company (Project Company) in Bangladesh to undertake the development, and to act as Owner of the Project.

The Project is to be financed on a limited-recourse basis through a combination of sponsor equity and long-term debt facilities to be raised largely offshore Bangladesh. Amongst possible lenders to the Project are the international donor agencies such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Japanese financial institutions etc., and commercial banks and others.

Marubeni Corporation, on behalf of the Project Company, now invites sealed proposals for design, engineer, procure, construct, start-up, test, deliver and warrant a

Gas Fired Combined Cycle Power Plant with
max. net Power Output of 450 MW (Facilities),

on a turnkey, lump sum, fixed price and date certain basis.

The Facilities will be located in Meghnaghat, Bangladesh approximately 22 km south east of Dhaka on the northern bank of the Meghna River.

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the Request for Proposal Documents at the offices of:

Marubeni Corporation

4-2, Ohtemachi 1-Chome
Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo,
Japan
Mr. Yoshiaki Yokota
Assistant Manager
Tel: (03) 3282-7282
Fax: (03) 3282-7083
E-mail: Yokota-Yoshiaki@marubeni.co.jp

Lahmeyer International GmbH

Friedberger Landstrasse 173
D-61118 Bad Vilbel
Germany
Mr. Ingolf Hoffmann
Dept. GE3
Tel.: (49) 6101 55-1480
Fax: (49) 6101 55-1449
E-mail: gehof@lif.de

A complete set of the Request for Proposal Documents may be purchased by any interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of J.Yen 100,000. (In words: Japanese Yen one hundred thousand only) in the form of a Pay Order to Marubeni Corporation for each set in all working days from Tuesday 10th of October 2000.

Bids must be received at 11:00 hrs. on Monday 20th of November, 2000 local time in the offices of Marubeni Corporation, Japan or Lahmeyer International, Germany.



NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY

The first private University in Bangladesh

(Established by the North South University Foundation)

Appointment of Consultant

Sealed offers are invited from the reputable consulting firms of home and abroad for planning, designing, estimating and supervising the construction works to build a state of art non-residential campus buildings for the North South University with all infrastructures required for a modern university on a total area of about 5.50 acres of land. Firms having adequate experience and required facilities in similar works will get preference. Interested overseas firms may offer directly or through the local associates fulfilling the above pre-requisite.

The bidder firms must collect necessary information about the project from the office of the Foundation/University and visit the site and get any other questions clarified before submission of proposal along with conceptual planning, which must include, but not limited to, conceptual design, plan, model, layout, elevation, estimate etc.

The interested firms are requested to submit their "Technical Offer" and "Financial Offer" in two sealed envelopes in their own letterhead along with Company Profile, certificates of work experiences, bank solvency certificate, trade license, memorandum and articles of association, expected fees/remuneration accompanied by the followings:

- a) Break-up of fees for different services to be rendered
- b) Proposed preliminary design concept
- c) Model
- d) Estimated cost of construction
- e) Structural methods considering all factors of design

The technical offer shall be evaluated and the firm scoring the highest marks shall be considered first. In case the negotiation with this party fails, the firm scoring the second highest in the technical offer, shall be considered.

Complete offers must reach the office of the undersigned on or before 20 -11- 2000

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason whatsoever. Cost involved for preparing the bid will be borne by the bidders themselves.

The Chairman

Board of Governors

North South University Foundation

12 Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh
Tel.: 9885611-20, Fax: (880-2) 8821495

Email: bog@nsu.agni.com, Website: http://www.northsouth.edu