

(Left): Moklesur Rahman, 30, and Mofizur Rahman swim across flood waters covering five miles from Kushkala village to Chhoyghoria to know the welfare of their sister, (Centre) different non-governmental organisations (NGOs) bringing boats from Khulna by horse driven carriages as there is no boat in the flood stricken Satkhira area (Right) Hundreds of villages in four upazilas in Satkhira district have been submerged due to onrush of waters following collapse of the Kali Ani-Chhoyghoria frontier dam. An Indian village is visible at a distant place.

—Star photo by A K M Mohsin

Where females can't cast vote

From Mozammel Huq

RANGPUR, Oct 11: Female members of Berubari union under Nageshwari upazila in Kurigram district could not go to polling centres to cast votes in the last 32 years, according to local people. 'Fatwa' imposed by a section of orthodox Muslims has been preventing the females from exercising their franchise, they added.

Berubari union with the population of 15,000 is situated some 30 km off Kurigram district headquarters. Some 45 per cent of total 9,740 voters of the union are females.

The orthodox fanatic groups of the union have imposed restrictions on female voters. They have also issued threat that any woman found in polling centres will be declared as 'sinner'. They further argue that the female voters usually cast votes as per advice of the male members of the family and thus they need not go to polling centres violating 'religious order'.

This restriction was imposed about 32 years ago during the Pakistan period. The 'fatwa' is still in force and none dares to violate it, requesting anonymity some elderly people said.

During the last union parishad elections, when females of the union tried to contest for the reserved

seats of members the fundamentalists went door to door, held meetings and preached against female votes. Serajul Munshi, 50, and Abdul Majid, 45, of the union organised a procession and submitted a memorandum to Upazila Nirbahi Officer, demanding expulsion of women in polling centres.

However, braving all threat, nine female candidates submitted nomination papers to contest for three-reserved member seats. But, it was most frustrating that only 9 votes were found cast in favour of the female candidates. Due to strong vigilance by the fundamentalists the female voters did not come out of their houses to go to the polling centres.

Amjad Hossain, chairman of Berubari union, said female voters are very much eager to exercise their franchise, but so-called 'fatwa' is barring them from casting votes.

Meanwhile, a large section of general people of the union said although both the prime minister and the leader of the opposition of the country are females, many women in a remote area are deprived of voting rights.

According to locals, female education is also facing setback in the union because of 'fatwa'.

ATAB, Sylhet members demonstrate

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Oct 11: Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (ATAB), Sylhet zone brought out a procession and held a rally here on Monday protesting the introduction of new system for handling the non-balloted hajjis.

The organisation alleged the new system will cause huge financial loss to Bangladesh Biman, the national carrier, and to the pilgrims as well.

Under the new system, some selected travel agents will supervise the non-balloted pilgrimage goers. The Ministry of Religious Affairs has selected a panel of 37 travel agents for the task of arranging visas and tickets for pilgrimage goers.

Until last year Bangladesh Biman and Saudi Arabian Airlines handled the matter. Under the new system, the agents will enjoy full liberty to choose airlines.

The office bearers of ATAB, Sylhet zone also said pilgrims from different areas, especially Sylhet region, will have to depend on selected agents, who are all Dhaka-based.

Kalam murder: Investigation on

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Oct 11: Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP) Mijanur Rahman was assigned to investigate into killing of Kalam and alleged involvement of police in the murder.

Rahman talked to Shamu Shaikh, father of Kalam on Sunday and visited Char Khidirpur on Monday. Kalam was beaten to death in presence of police last week in the village.

RMP sources said after preliminary investigation it was assumed that Mathar thana police had gone to Char Khidirpur on the day of incident. However, details could not be known, as Rahman could not be contacted even after repeated attempt till 8:30 PM on Monday.

Jessore flood situation improving

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Oct 11: Over all flood situation in five upazilas of the district has been improving.

Floodwater started to recede in various places in Sharsha, Jhikargachha, Chougachha, Monirampur and Keshabpur upazilas from last week.

Many houses, educational and business establishments, roads and crops on hectares of land have been damaged by the flood.

The flood left the trails of devastation in Gongonadapur, Simuling Navaran, Godkhali Bakra, Panishara Nirbashi khola and Samkurpur areas in the district.

According to district administration, flood played havoc in 29 unions in five upazilas, affecting some 5,52,813 people of 130,524 families, destroying standing crops on 43,333 hectares of land

and damaging 1000 kilometres roads.

Local people said rehabilitation work should be taken up soon as the floodwater has started receding.

Local people said flood in the region is quite unusual. Many elderly people in Benapole and Jhikargachha said the present flood is worst in recent years. The flood claimed at least 100 lives, according to newspaper reports.

During a recent visit to the flood affected areas a group of local journalists found that road communications remained snapped, hampering relief operations and rehabilitation activities. However, no medical team was found during the visit. Scarcity of drinking water and medicine was prevailing.

Effects of marriages without registration

KUSHTIA, Oct 11: Non-registration of marriages is one of the many causes of women persecution including divorce and demand for dowry in the district, reports UNB.

In a random spot survey in some rural areas of the district it was found that the marriages of many poor families were not registered. As such the victims cannot take any legal action against the unscrupulous husbands.

Moreover, defying the government restriction many people, particularly in the rural areas, marry second time without the written permission of the first wife.

There are certain legal safeguards for a woman in the marriage deeds but in the absence of the registration of marriage divorce has become a common feature in the rural areas.

The high registration fee is learnt to be a cause of indifferent attitude of many illiterate poor guardians in registering the marriages.

It is also alleged that the marriage registrars in the rural areas charge higher fees than the government fixed ones. As a result, the poor parents do not bother to get the marriages of their wards registered.

The local leaders called upon the government to fix a token fee for registration up to 'Moharana' of Tk 25,000 to encourage marriage registration among the poor and also make wide publicity through news media of the evils of non-registration of marriages.

News snaps

Price-hike of LP gas protested

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Oct 11: Dealers of Basundhara LP gas in the district have stopped delivery of gas cylinders from the distributor and selling to the subscribers from Sunday protesting the price-hike of gas by the company.

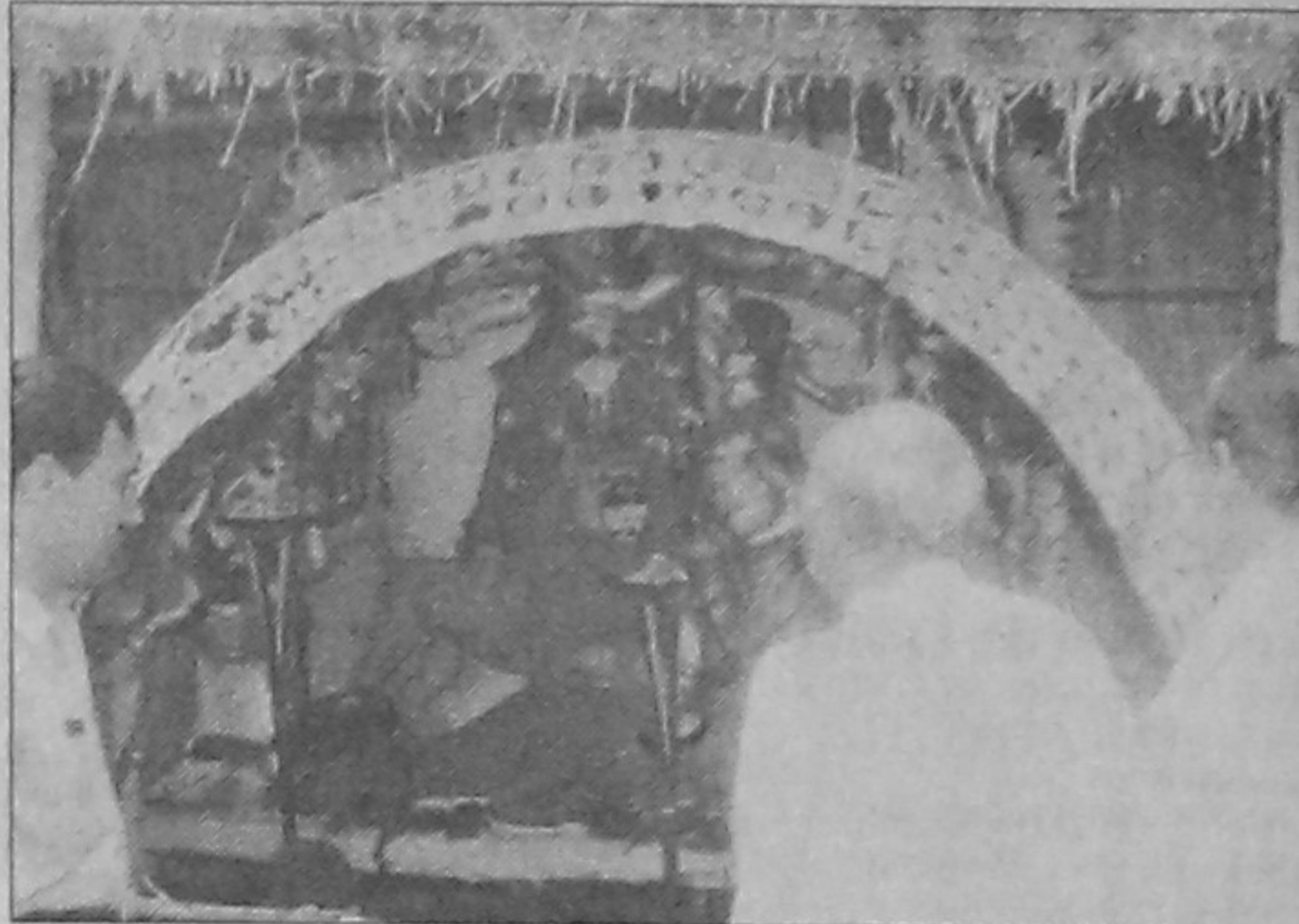
The dealers said the company increased the price of cylinder LP gas abnormally high on the pretext of Taka devaluation. The dealers said the company had increased the price of gas by 16 per cent, while the local currency was devalued by six per cent. The dealers also alleged that the distributor had made it mandatory that a dealer must buy at least 10 per cent new cylinders against his total order each time. They said that they had already bought about 6000 cylinders against the total demand of about 5000. So it is impossible for them to buy new cylinders, they added. Meanwhile, crisis of LP gas has become acute in the district.

Jehad's anniversary of death

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 11: The 11th anniversary of death of Naziruddin Jehad, former vice-president of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Ullapara unit was observed at his village home Nabogram under Ullapara upazila and in sirajganj town simultaneously on Tuesday befittingly.

A big mourning procession was brought out from the local BNP office at Ullapara where the processionists paraded the roads wearing black badges on the day. They also visited the grave of Jehad where they offered fatiha. A milad mahfil was also arranged and destitutes were fed on the occasion. Ullapara unit of BNP arranged another milad mahfil and a discussion meeting where participants discussed on the life and works of the late JCD leader. It is worth mentioning, Naziruddin Jehad, a former student of Akbar al Government College, Ullapara was shot dead by police firing on October 10 in 1990 in front of Allah-wala building in Dhaka.



Principal Mohammad Qamruzzaman, senior Presidium member of Bangladesh Awami League visited a puja mandap in Jhenidah during the recently held Durga Puja. —Star photo

Eight robbers held in N'ganj

From A Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, October 11: District river police arrested eight robbers from Dhaleshwari River on Sunday night and recovered looted goods.

The robbers were identified as Kamal, 28, Dulu Mia, 40, Kamal Mia, 25, Delwar, 26, Iqbal, 17, Joydal Abedin, 54, and his son Abdul Quddus, 26. Identity of one could not be known. Acting on a tip-off, a team of river police intercepted the robbers in Radhanagar area in the river. The robbers had earlier stopped a motorboat carrying goods to Badamtoli Ghat from Kamalaghat of Narayanganj at 1:30 p.m. They beat up the passengers of the boat and looted goods worth Tk six lakh. Police also seized the motorboat. A case was lodged with Narayanganj police in this connection.

Man killed in father-in-law's house

KISHOREGANJ, Oct 11: A man was killed in his father-in-law's house at Harua area in the town recently, police sources said here today, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Sarajul Islam, 35, of Moksdepur village in Sadar upazila. Police said Sarajul Islam's wife Rahima Khatun has been residing in her parents' house since long following a quarrel with him. On the fateful day (Sept 29) he went to the house and was strangled to death on the same night. Police recovered the body on the following day and arrested his wife and mother-in-law in connection with the murder.

Convictions

THAKURGAON, Oct 11: A court here has sentenced four people to different jail terms in an acid throwing case, reports UNB.

The judge of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Court, Tapan Kumar Rudra, in his verdict on Wednesday sentenced two brothers to 14 years of rigorous imprisonment each and two others to seven years RI each. The court also fined the two brothers Habibur Rahman and Islamuddin Tk 5,000 each, in default, to suffer three months RI, and other convicts Shahidul and Yasin Tk 3,000 each, in default, to suffer two months more RI. According to prosecution, Nazma Begum, daughter of Shakhawat Hossain of Jounia Konpara village in Baliadangi upazila, got married with Habibur Rahman of the neighbouring village in 1997. After the marriage Nazma came to learn that Habibur earlier got married and he is the father of three children. She left his house and returned to her parents. On February 8, 1997 Habibur made an attempt to abduct Nazma. But failing to abduct her, Habibur along with his accomplices threw acid on her. Later, Nazma filed a case with the police.

Ferry ghat inoperative

RAJBARI, Oct 11: Ferrying of vehicles on Aricha-Doulatdia route is being seriously hampered as two, out of three, ghats here became inoperative due to unusual fall in the water level of the River Padma, reports UNB.

The lone ghat cannot cope with transportation of the increasing number of vehicles. Vehicles are stranded for hours in the queue for loading through the only ferry ghat on both sides causing immense sufferings to the passengers, especially children and elderly people. The problem is turning acute as flood situation in the country's southwestern parts is improving and number of vehicles on the route is on rise.

Victim of quack

BARGUNA, Oct 11: A housewife died on profuse bleeding while undergoing abortion by a quack in the town Thursday, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Bilkis Begum, 30, wife of Mahtab of Angarpura area. A case was filed. In another incident, the body of Abdur Rahman of Patakata village was recovered from a canal in Talitoli area in Sadar upazila. Family sources said he was killed following a property related rivalry. A case was filed.



A colourful rally was brought out on Saturday in Sylhet town on the occasion of the celebration of the 250th literacy assembly organised by the Kendriyo Muslim Sahityo Sangsad, a local literary council. —Star photo

Govt assistance sought to create new tea gardens

From Rajat Kanti Goswami

MOULVIBAZAR, Oct 11: Tea industry has been facing a crisis due to huge gap between demand and supply of tea.

Besides, this high cost of production, unused land under tea gardens, back dated machineries in tea factories are also behind the crisis. As a result, the country's tea gardens are unable to increase their productivity. On the other hand, demand for tea in our internal market is increasing day by day. So a major portion of produced tea is being consumed the domestic consumers while the quantity of export is decreasing. If this situation continues for a long time, Bangladesh will lose foreign market, experts opine.

However, there are 158 tea

gardens in the country. Of these, 91 tea gardens are situated in Moulvibazar district alone. Country's only tea research institute Bangladesh Tea Research Institute (BTRI) and other tea industry related government offices are situated in Moulvibazar district. Some experts of BTRI and other tea related offices have apprehended the crisis in tea industry in the coming days. They expressed their apprehension to the journalists recently.

According to them, demand for tea in our internal markets is being increased by 3.02 per cent every year, but tea production are increasing by only 1.70 per cent each year. To face this situation, a major portion of production are

being supplied in the internal markets and only a few portion are being kept for export. Export of tea started reducing from year 1995 to mitigate domestic demand. BTRI sources at Srimongal under Moulvibazar district said a total of four crore 70 lakh kg of tea was produced in 1995. Of the production two crore 20 lakh kg were supplied in the domestic market and the rest two crore 50 lakh kg were exported abroad that year.

Besides this, a total of 50.60 million kg of tea was produced in the year of 1999-2000. Of the production, 35.28 million kg were sold in the domestic market and 12.61 million kg was exported abroad.

It is strange enough that the country's tea industry had achieved a bumper production in 1998 by breaking the record in last 50 years. A total of five crore 50 lakh kg of tea was produced in 1998 though major portion of this production was consumed by the domestic consumers.

BTRI sources pointed out that tea demand increased in the international market in 1997 while our tea garden owners had exported a major portion of their production in that year.

However, following sufficient rainfall, the situation improved in the current year. According to experts, 167 mm rainfall was recorded during the early period of current season. Due to favourable weather this year, there is a possibility of bumper production of tea like 1997. But it does not mean that export of tea will increase, experts added.

According to a statistics of Bangladesh Tea Board (BTB), there are 11 lakh 3 thousand 864

hectares of land under 158 tea gardens. Of the total land, one lakh 13 thousand 863 hectares are suitable for tea plantation. But only 48 thousand 670 hectares are brought under plantation. Out of these only 42.66 per cent are cultivable land while the rest 58 per cent are left unused.

Another information says, in our tea gardens it is possible to produce 1,150 kg tea per hectare, but our tea productivity rate is only 971 kg per hectare. It is also mentionable here that tea productivity rate per hectare in Sri Lanka, India and Kenya are 1430 kg, 1994 kg and 2479 kg respectively. For poor productivity rate the cost of production of tea in Bangladesh is comparatively high. Exporting rate per kg of tea in Indonesia and Vietnam are one dollar and 80 cents respectively, whereas our cost of production per kg is one dollar.

However, Bangladesh Tea Board has recommended some proposals to the government for

development of our tea industry. It is learnt. The recommendations included creation of a fund of Taka 100 crore, specific proposals to help 37 sick tea gardens and creating new tea gardens in Chimbuk valley under Chittagong Hill Tracts, Dinajpur and Panchagarh districts.

It is also learnt that Bangladesh Tea Council (BTC) an organisation of tea garden owners has applied to the government to allocate Taka 20 crore as soft term loan.

However, to mitigate the crisis of tea industry, installation of modern machineries and plantation of new saplings on 12,800 hectares of the existing tea gardens is necessary. Tea plants in some tea gardens have become too old.

It costs Taka one lakh 50 thousand per hectares to create new tea garden and it is a long term investment which is not possible without the financial assistance of the government, a BTC leader said.



ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা

স্বাস্থ্য বিভাগ

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখুন
আপনার শিশুর টিকা দিন

জরুরি ভিত্তিতে কীটনাশক এ্যাডালটিসাইড সংগ্রহের পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের ২০০০-২০০১ অর্থ বৎসরের মশক নিয়ন্ত্রণের জরুরি ভিত্তিক কার্যক্রমে কীটনাশক এ্যাডালটিসাইড সংগ্রহের জন্য বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১ তে প্রকৃত প্রস্ততকারক/আমদানীকারক/পরিবেশক/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে দুই ইনভোইস পদ্ধতিতে (কারিগরি ও আর্থিক) দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্রসমূহ আগামী ০৮-০৭-১৪০৭ বাংলা/২০-১০-২০০০ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত নগর ভবনস্থ প্রধান স্বাস্থ্য কর্মকর্তা ও ১০টি অঞ্চলের আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাদের দপ্তরের সম্মুখে রক্ষিত বাস্তব গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং একই দিন বেলা ১.০০ ঘটিকায় দরদাতা/প্রতিনিধির (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে প্রধান স্বাস্থ্য কর্মকর্তার দপ্তরে টেন্ডার বাস্তব খুলিয়া শুধুমাত্র কারিগরি দরপত্রসমূহ খোলা হইবে। প্রত্যেক আর্থিক সিডিউলে বর্ণিত পরিমাণের মোট মূল্যের ২.৫% হারে আনুমানিক ও ২৯১১ নং ফরমসহ যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক হইতে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে মেয়র, ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের অনুকূলে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। কীটনাশক এ্যাডালটিসাইড এর টেন্ডার সিডিউলের মূল্য বাবদ নগদ ২,০০০/= (দুই হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) চালান মারফত করপোরেশন তহবিলে জমা দিয়া উহা নগর ভবনস্থ হিসাব বিভাগের হিসাবরক্ষক ও সকল আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তার দপ্তর হইতে পাওয়া যাইবে দরপত্র খোলার দিন টেন্ডার সিডিউলের কোন কাগজপত্র বিক্রয় করা হইবে না। দরপত্রের আর্থিক সিডিউলে কীটনাশকের মূল্য অংকে ও কথায় স্পষ্টভাবে লিখিত হইবে। এই ক্ষেত্রে টেন্ডার সিডিউলে ঘষামাজা তথ্য গ্রহণযোগ্য হইবে না।

সকল দরদাতাকে টেন্ডার সিডিউলে বর্ণিত শর্তাদি যথাযথভাবে অনুসরণ করিতে হইবে। অন্যথায় দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।

যে কোন অথবা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিলের সর্বক্ষমতা সিটি করপোরেশন কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।

ডিসিসি/পিআরডি/১৩৯/০০-০১
জিডি-৯৪৭

প্রধান স্বাস্থ্য কর্মকর্তা
ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা।



Bangladesh Rifles Headquarters

Directorate of Administration,

Cue & Ord Section

Peelkhana, Dhaka

Re-Tender Notice

Number 401/17/XX/Cue

Date: 03 October, 2000, 18 Ashwin 1407 Bangla

1. Sealed tenders are invited by the organisation for purchasing the goods of the quantity as mentioned against each of the undermentioned goods from the enlisted/non-enlisted contractors of this section for goods in Serial No 'Ka' and only enlisted contractors for serial numbers 'Kha' and 'Ga'.

Serial Number	Name of goods	Number	Cost of schedule
Ka	Fire extinguisher (carbondioxide)	146 pieces	400/-
Kha	Shoes canvas brown	10,350 pairs	750/-
Ga	Spade big size (with handle)	1,000 pieces	400/-

2. Schedule of tender will be available from the RP on duty at Gates No 3&4 at BDR headquarters in Peelkhana on payment of specific cost till Thursday, 26-10-2000, 1400 hours from the date of publication of this advertisement. The undersigned can be contacted to see the preserved sample or any other information on days during office hours from 0830 hours to 1400 hours excepting government holiday. Tenderers participating in the tender can submit tenders in the tender box kept at the Gate No 4 of BDR Peelkhana on 29.10.2000. Sunday till 1100 hours and tender box will be opened the same date at 1130 hours in presence of the tenderers (if anyone remains present).

4. The authority reserves the power to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason.
DFP-24114-4/10
G-1771

DAQMG
on behalf of the Director General