

Entrepreneurs urged to explore beneficial MT services

Leading IT experts yesterday urged entrepreneurs here to explore potentials of medical transcription (MT) services of north America through Internet making use of the time difference between Bangladesh and the USA.

IT firm 'reboundit.com' organised a seminar at Dhaka Sheraton hotel. Scores of IT entrepreneurs showed enthusiasm about Internet-based medical transcription service.

Indian MT expert George J. Woolapali, MT entrepreneur from Bangalore, KP Setty and managing director of reboundit.com Major (retd) M. Nizamuddin among others, addressed the gathering.

Every year the health care industry of the United States outsources 1.5 billion US dollars for medical transcription services via Internet to different destinations across the world including India and Singapore, the experts said. The MT experts observed that entrepreneurs don't need to be IT experts to run business in this field. This is a knowledge-based industry and good command on English language, physical fitness and orientation with basics of Internet and medical jargon are need for meeting demands in this sector, they said.

George J. Woolapali said medical transcriptionist should be able to do average 500 lines per day with an accuracy standard of 98 per cent. According to standard calculation 65 characters would make a line.

He said expected standard rate is five cents (US) per 65 characters or one line. But it might be as low as three cents and as high as eight cents per line depending on the work and accuracy standards.

Quoting Asian experience, he said best MT's in India could produce 1000 lines in eight hours and the situation is al-

Exhibition on Bangladesh in Berlin

An exhibition on Bangladesh projecting the country and its people began at Free University in Berlin on Friday, reports UNB.

Institute of Geographic Science of Free University in association with the Embassy of Bangladesh in Berlin organised the exhibition, according to a message received in the city yesterday.

The exhibition will remain open till March next year.

Bangladesh Ambassador to Germany Kazi Anwarul Masud inaugurated the exhibition, chaired by head of the institute Prof Fred Scholz.

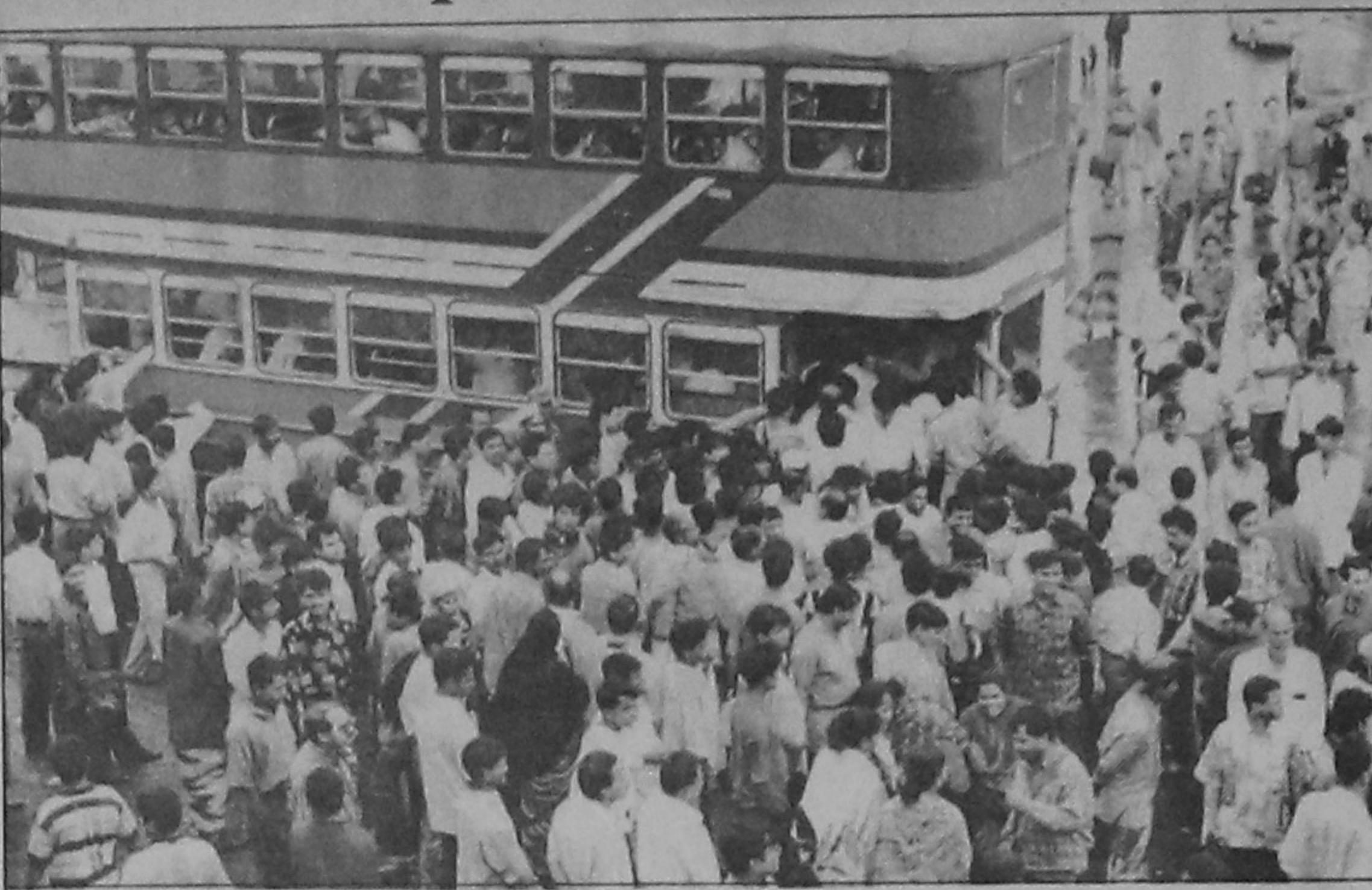
Pictorial impression showing different aspects of socio-economic and cultural life of the people of Bangladesh and various products including handicrafts, saree, lungi and stitch-work were put on display in the exhibition.

most similar in Pakistan. Elaborating on MT, he said medical transcription is a type of transcription service where the client (hospitals of USA or Canada) will give a dictation via Internet and the transcriptionists (of Bangladesh or India or Singapore) will listen and type the contents using appropriate software. The MT data will be transmitted (uploaded/downloaded) through Internet using dedicated connection of PSTN (Public Service Telephone Networks).

Major (retd) M. Nizamuddin of reboundit.com said the number of professional transcriptionists are declining in the USA that is why many hospitals in America are outsourcing MT related tasks via the Internet. Transcription refers to conversion of voice (of the Doctors or Patients) to text, he said adding over 6,700 hospitals are scrambling to convert their medical records to electronic format.

He said that every year in the USA, the annual demand for medical transcription services are growing by 20 per cent (approximately) but available American transcriptionists are declining by eight per cent.

The IT executive said according to experts medical transcription is a 18 billion dollar industry and in 1997 there were 35,000 qualified transcriptionists in the USA but in 1999 there were only 27,000 transcriptionists.



People poured into the streets yesterday after the heavy downpour and winds began to calm down. The double decker buses were the most sought after vehicles on the streets of the city that saw water-logging hampering movement on the roads more than the storms itself. Picture shows the onrush of people at a bus-stand at noon.

-Star photo

CHT situation is becoming unstable: Shantu Larma

RANGAMATI, Oct 28: Chairman of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council (CHTRC) Jyoti Prima Bodhipriya Larma alias Shantu Larma said on Friday that the situation in the hill region is becoming un-

stable as the government is not implementing the CHT accord in its real terms, reports BSS.

Expressing concern over the situation, he said the government is reluctant to implement the accord which could ensure permanent peace for both the settlers and tribals residents in CHT.

Chairman of the CHTRC was speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session of a two-day workshop on 'Management of Land in CHT and its Problem' held at the conference room of Rangamati Hill District Council.

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