

News

Bangladesh moving ahead

Former British envoy tells workshop in UK

Former British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Peter Fowler has said despite many problems facing the people of Bangladesh, the country was moving ahead and achieving new success, reports UNB.

"Bangladesh would need to improve the law and order situation further, make bureaucracy more efficient and reform the institutions to attract greater amount of foreign direct investment," he said while addressing a workshop on 'Democratisation and Development: Bangladesh in the 21st Century' at Hull University in the United Kingdom.

The Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Rahman Centre of the University of Hull organised the workshop on Thursday, according to a message received in the city yesterday.

The former British envoy said Bangladesh would be able to achieve seven to eight per cent growth if the problems are resolved.

Fowler expressed his confi-

dence that Bangladesh would be able to make the necessary hard choices for further modernisation and liberalisation of the economy after the next general elections.

He praised the role of free press in Bangladesh and the emergence of a growing civil society, who are increasingly getting involved in the development process.

The Chair of the Bangabandhu Centre, Professor Moazzem Hossain, said the Centre of the University of Hull and Dhaka University will jointly organise a two-day seminar in Dhaka in March next year to mark the birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation.

High Commissioner of Bangladesh in the UK A H Mahmood Ali, Economic Minister AFM Yeahyea Chowdhury and Minister (Press) Abu Musa Mohammed Hasan of the Bangladesh High Commission, and a number of teachers and students of the university participated in the day-long workshop.

The topics which were dis-

cussed in the workshop included "Democratisation and Bangladesh's 2020 Agenda", "Bangladesh's Development in the 21st Century", "Managing Natural Resources: The Challenge", and "Challenges in the 21st Century".

Among others, T P McNeill, Head of the Department of Politics and Asian Studies, Professor Gurharpal Singh, Director of the South Asian Studies Centre, Dr Paul Sutton of Politics and Asian Studies Department, Dr O Igawara of Sociology Department and Tariq Ahmed, a Bangladeshi Post Graduate student, took part in the discussion.

Bangladesh High Commissioner A H Mahmood Ali expressed the hope that the Bangabandhu Centre would be able to play an important role to enable the succeeding generations of the British-Bengalis to learn about the dream of the Father of the Nation and the ongoing endeavours of the people of Bangladesh to build a better future.



The members of 'Alor Michhil' and the child artistes of the audio cassette titled 'Maa, Mati-O-Manush' called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia on Friday at her official residence at 29 Minto Road in the city.

-- Star photo

Five Bangladeshi children win art awards in Turkey

From page 1
under the Electoral College system, which disregards the nationwide popularity and allows electoral votes to each state, roughly according to population.

Gore holds a 2000, 155-vote lead out of the 103 million ballots cast nationwide and, after winning New Mexico's five electoral votes Friday, has a slender lead in the Electoral College. But both he and Bush need Florida's 25 electoral votes to meet the required 270 to win the presidency.

On a day pitted with emotional highs and lows for both sides, the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta rejected Bush's request to halt the recounts. The Bush camp says select hand recounts are unfair and prone to error.

Gore applauded the decision, saying: "The citizens of Florida surely want the candidate who received the most votes in Florida to be determined the winner of that state."

The Bush campaign had been working behind the scenes to set up a possible Bush "victory" statement Saturday, followed by

Gang kills girl after raping her mother

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Nov 18: A housewife and her teenage daughter were gangraped by a group of miscreants at a village in Harinakundu thana here in the early hours today.

Later, the gang strangled the daughter and made an attempt to kill her mother Nasima, but she survived.

The dead girl was identified as Ajuda Sundari. Her mother Nasima, 32, was admitted to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital in a critical condition.

The gang of about eight including one Ershadul abducted Ajuda and her mother Nasima from their house at village Berbinni.

The culprits dragged them to a nearby betel leaf field and raped them there.

Police arrested two persons, including Ershadul in this connection.

Home Minister

From page 1
killing of the Father of the Nation because the past governments halted the trial following enactment of a black law. A few days ago, more than one Bench of the High Court felt embarrassed to hear the Bangabandhu Murder Case," the Home Minister said.

He reiterated that he had full respect for and confidence in the High Court Bench, formed by the Chief Justice for trial of the Bangabandhu Murder Case.

The Home Minister hoped that his clarification would remove all misunderstandings.

Rajuk demolishes

From page 1
left around its structures as required by the rules. Rajuk Authorised Officer said that they would soon serve a notice to the owner.

Rajuk team also demolished a tin-shed structure belonging to Beximco Securities Ltd.

Rajuk officials said the encroachers had long been blocking the entire passage of the thoroughfare. Rajuk had served several notices prior to launching the demolition drive.

Degree exams

From page 1
question paper, sources said.

According to National University (NU) officials, a total of 58 examinees were expelled in Sherpur, 209 in Thakurgaon, 328 in Tangail, 195 in Narasingdi, 75 in Kushtia, 21 in Satkhira, 53 in Netrakona, four in Manikganj, 10 in Narayanganj, 21 in Lalmonirhat, 38 in Jhenidah, 38 in Cox's Bazar, 34 in Laxmipur, 34 in Jessore, 31 in Natore, 144 in Kurigram, 53 in Chittagong, 25 in Sirajganj, 79 in Chandpur, 49 in Panchagarh, 97 in Joypurhat, 143 in Jamalpur, 88 in Nilphamari, 14 in Sharalpur, 19 in Chuadanga and 87 in Barisal.

Meanwhile, Prof. Durgadas Bhattacharya, Vice-Chancellor of the National University yesterday visited different examination centres in the city.

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