

UNOPS Asia chief arrives today

The implementation of various projects in Bangladesh funded by the United Nations and its different organs will be discussed when a senior UN official engaged in overseeing the pace of progress of UN projects arrives in the city today, reports BSS.

Sunil Bhargava, Chief of the Asia Office of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), during his three-day official visit here will meet senior officials of the Bangladesh government, UNDP and other UN agencies.

UNOPS was set up in 1995 as the implementing arm of the UN system following a mandate of UN General Assembly, which said that it (UNOPS) will manage project resources to help developing nations and countries in transition in the quest for peace, social stability, economic growth and sustainable development.

Volkswagen rally now on Jan 27

The second Volkswagen rally which was scheduled for yesterday will now be held on January 27 at the Manik Mia Avenue, reports UNB.

The interested participants are requested to register by January 15 with Zuber Moin (017 520 019) or Raju (019 340 120).

Registration fee is Tk 500 for each VW family of three (Tk 200 for each additional participant).

City AL meet today

A special extended meeting of City Awami League will be held at 3 pm today at its Bangabandhu Avenue central office, reports BSS.

General Secretary of City Awami League Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya has requested leaders of the City AL, different ward units and parliament members elected from the capital city to attend the meeting on time.



Women from different walks of life gathered at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday demanding increase in and direct election to reserved seats for women in parliament. - Star photo

Direct election to reserved seats in JS demanded

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a rally at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday demanded that the number of reserved seats for women in parliament be increased. They also demanded direct election to those seats and extension of the tenure of the reserved seats up to 15 years. The action committee for increasing the reserve seats in parliament organised the rally.

Presided over by Hena Das, the rally was addressed by Shirin Akhtar, Khushi Kabir, Rokeya Kabir, Sitara Musa, Barrister Amirul Islam, Ayesha Khanom, Maleka Begum and Tania Ameer.

The speakers said that the existing parliament was not represented by the women

properly and the current nomination system creates obstacles on the way to political empowerment of the women.

They said the scope to empower the women politically has become narrower.

The speakers also demanded withdrawal of the proposed bill. They said the women of the country participated in all movements actively and achieved the recognition of equality in the administration.

But still the role of women in politics is symbolic and marginalised as black money and religious fanaticism are the main obstacles that prevent women from joining politics, they observed.

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