

## BFUJ calls for nat'l policy on newspaper industry

### Biennial confce held

**BSS, Dhaka**  
The biennial conference of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) was held at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday with a call for immediate adoption of a national policy on newspaper industry. The conference also demanded implementation of the Fifth Wage Board Awards in all newspapers and news agencies as well as formation of a committee to announce the Sixth Wage Board. Eminent journalist and Editor of the Daily Muktakantha, KG Mustafa, was the chief guest at the conference chaired by Acting President of BFUJ GM Yaquub. The conference was also addressed, among others, by Secretary General of BFUJ Akhter Ahmed Khan, Treasurer Manjilur Ahsan Bulbul, President of the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ)

Altaf Mahmud, President of Chittagong Union of Journalists (CUJ) M Nasirul Huq, General Secretary of Khulna Union of Journalists (KUJ) Shah Moazzem Hossain, Prodig Bhattacharya of Bogra Union of Journalists, Mostafizur Rahman and Jahangir Alam Akash of Rajshahi Union of Journalists, Arafat Karim of Mymensingh Union of Journalists and Ohidul Alam of Dinajpur Union of Journalists. The speakers called on the journalists to forge a greater unity to foil conspiracies and evil designs of fundamentalists and anti-liberation elements in the country. They also underscored the need for better understanding and fellow-feeling among the journalists to realise all the demands that were placed before owners of the newspapers and news agencies as well as the government.

## Four DSE councilors elected

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Country's prime bourse yesterday got four councilors elected with Sharif Ataur Rahman obtaining the highest 118 votes. Abdullah Bokhari placed second bagging 113 votes followed by Habib Abul Mushtaq and Anwar Hossain securing 112 and 104 votes respectively. Another candidate, Faisal Kabir Chowdhury, polled 65. A total of 144 members cast their votes in the Council Election 2001 held from 10 am till 5 pm yesterday.

## T&T bills for Jan, Feb delayed

**BSS, Dhaka**  
The telephone bills for the month of January and February of Bangladesh Telephone and Telegraph Board (BTB) will be issued in the first half of April. BTB officials told BSS yesterday that the bills for the months would be issued one after another as BTB with technical assistance from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) has started preparing the bills at its own computer centre at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Officials said the unwanted delay in issuing bill is caused due to the expiry of BTB's contract on printing phone bills with a private firm - Lithi Enterprise on January 31 this year. The selection of another printing firm was stalled following a court injunction as Lithi Enterprise filed a case against BTB. Later the court vacated the injunction and BTB decided to print the bill at its own computer centre, officials said.

## Rotary News

**Weekly meeting**  
The regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhanmondi Dhaka will be held today at 5:30 pm at Dhaka Club Upstairs Family Lounge, says a press release. The Guest Speaker Engineer M A Rahim, Director General, Bangladesh Railway will speak on "The Role of Bangladesh Railway as Public Utility Service". All members have been requested to attend in time.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Dry weather likely

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur over one or two places over Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions and the regions of Sylhet, Jessore and Kushtia in next 12 hours till 6 pm today. Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country, Met officials said. The country's highest temperature 36.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Mongla and the lowest 13.8 degree Celsius at Srirangal. The sunsets in the capital today at 6:10 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:01 am. Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	35.6	21.0	41	27
Chittagong	-	15.5	-	-
Rajshahi	36.7	16.2	30	42
Khulna	35.4	20.4	30	44
Barisal	35.6	21.2	72	40
Sylhet	33.9	19.9	40	30
Cox's Bazar	36.2	20.5	46	77

## Int'l Day for Eradication of Racial Discrimination today

**UNB, Dhaka**  
International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination will be observed in the country as elsewhere across the world today. The day commemorates police firing at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa in 1960 that left 69 people killed. Bangladesh became a state party to the convention on June 11, 1979. The day is being observed this year with a fresh vow to combat racism and racial discrimination. On the occasion, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave separate messages emphasising the need for giving top priority to the programmes aimed at com-

bating racism and racial discrimination and intensifying efforts to provide assistance to the victims. President Shahabuddin in his message expressed concern at the continuation of racial discrimination even after the end of institutionalised racism. He said the day bears a special significance, as the international community will be meeting in Durban in September at a world conference against racism, racial discrimination, Xenophobia and related intolerance to renew its pledge to ensure dignity, fundamental equality and the right to diversity for every human person in the 21st century. The Prime Minister in her message reaffirmed Bangladesh's commitment to opposing and rejecting all forms of racism in the

name of religion, race, caste, sex and place of birth. "We have stood by people struggling against racism, colonialism and foreign occupation," she said pointing to the War of Liberation, a struggle for creating a society free from all forms of discrimination, social injustice and exploitation. In a message, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan said: "It's a day to celebrate many steps the world has taken to free itself from racial hatred, but also a day to reflect the challenges that remain and to renew our commitment to overcoming them." The government and UN organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes to mark the day.

## HERE & THERE

### EWU

**BSS, Dhaka**  
A language laboratory at East West University (EWU) was launched recently to develop spoken English communication skill of the students. State Minister for Environment and Forest H N Ashequr Rahman inaugurated the laboratory at a function, a press release said yesterday. The function was addressed, among others, by Vice Chancellor of EWU M Monwarul Islam, registrar of EWU Firdaus Ali, programme leader of ELTP, British Council, Tom Hunter and chairman of the Department of English of EWU Dr Mohammad Shahidullah.

### BUET

The second Prof M Ibrahim Memorial Lecture was held at the Seminar Room of BUET recently in observance of the 50th anniversary of the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering, BUET, says a press release. The speakers highlighted the role of the late Prof M Ibrahim in establishing the discipline of metallurgy and materials in the country fifty years ago. The main speech was delivered

### BGS

by the eminent scientist and mathematician Prof Dr Ali Afzal, the former Dean, Faculty of Engineering, BUET.

### DU CORRESPONDENT

The 2-1 member executive committee of Bangladesh Geological Society (BGS) was formed yesterday with Abdullah Monwar and Dr Md Hossain Mansur as president and general secretary respectively. The committee was formed through a general election after its four-day long biennial conference, held at Bangladesh Petroleum Institute in the city. The other office bearers are Dr Md Ismail Hossain, Md Alamgir Hossain and Md Mijanur Rahman (vice president), Mohammad Kazi Matin Uddin Ahmed (publicity and international secretary), ABM Wahiduzzaman Khan (cultural secretary) Reshad Md Ekram Ali (office secretary) and Sirajul Islam Khan (treasurer). The executive members are Kazi Shaiful Hossain, Nahid Nasrin, Farid Uddin Ahmed, Abdul Bakki Khan Majlish, Bidhan Chandra Mandal, Md Nurunnabi, Nadimuzzaman Khan, Md Sham-ul-Alam, Saleh Md Tutul, Md Kamal Hossain and Md Masruzzaman.



Democracy Watch held a press conference in the city yesterday on its Millennium Democracy Festival 2001 that will begin in the city tomorrow.



Grameen Software Ltd (GSL) has nominated "Titas Computech Ltd." for Grameen Star Education (GSE), Cantonment Franchise. Shirin Khurshid Jahan, Managing Director, Titas Computech Ltd and Major (ret) Manzurul Haque, G, Chief Operating Officer-Franchise of GSL recently signed a contract in this regard.

## DHAKA TODAY

### FEJB seminar

Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh will inaugurate a two-day long international seminar on "Water for People, Water for Health". Chief guest: Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak. Venue: VIP conference room of Jatiya Press Club. Time: 9:30 am.

### BNCU training

Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO will inaugurate its 10-day long training session for teachers of Islamic Education & Arabic Language. Venue: Nat'l Academy for Educational Management (NAEM), Dhanmondi. Time: 9:30 am.

### Seminar

Bangladesh-Bharat Mitrice Samity will hold a seminar on Bangladesh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani. Chief guest: Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak. Venue: Jatiya Press Club premises. Time: 3:30 pm.

### Film Show on Berlin

Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen Berlin's theatre: Schaubühne, Berlin's Theatre: Fringe theatre 3 and Berlin-cultural city of Europe. Venue: Goethe Institut. House No 10, Rd No 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

### UNAB symposium

United Nations Association of Bangladesh will hold a symposium on "Int'l Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination". Venue: Hotel Purani International. Time: 5:30 pm.

### IEDB confce

The three day national conference and 25th council conference of the Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Time: 9:00 am.

### Premier show

Humayun Ahmed's *Dul Duwan* will be screened. Venue: VIP Projection Hall of FDC, Karwan Bazar. Time: 3:00 pm.

### Democracy festival

Democracy watch will inaugurate a two-day long Millennium Democracy Festival. Venue: Engineers Institute premises, Ramna.

### Orthopaedic conference

Bangladesh Orthopaedic Society will hold its Xlth National Orthopaedic Conference and Scientific Seminar. Chief guest: Health Minister Sheikh Fazul Karim Selim. Venue: Ballroom of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 9:00 am.

## STOCK

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES MARCH 20, 2001												
Company	FV/ML (Tk. No.)	DSE			CSE			Financial Performance				
		Price	Change (%)	Turnover (Pr. Day)	Price	Change (%)	Turnover (Pr. Day)	Last AGM	EPS (Tk.)	DPS (%)		
<b>BANK</b>												
AB Bank Ltd.	1005	177.50	0.85	176.00	2040	176.00	0.00	176.00	140	26/10/00	21.6	12.5
City Bank Ltd.	1005	155.00	8.39	143.00	30	120.00	Not Traded	---	---	20/11/99	20.1	---
IFC Bank Ltd.	1005	191.25	0.79	189.75	1960	168.00	Not Traded	---	---	27/07/97	40.2	---
<b>ISLAMI BANK BANGLADESH</b>												
National Bank Ltd.	10020	212.00	0.14	211.80	8853	231.25	23.1	211.80	2640	24/08/00	18.1	21.0
Pobali Bank Ltd.	1005	163.00	1.88	160.00	46	115.00	Not Traded	---	---	23/12/99	40.6	---
Rupali Bank Ltd.	10010	102.00	4.30	97.25	1140	75.00	Not Traded	---	---	20/03/99	0.81	---
UCBL	1005	109.00	0.40	108.50	250	110.00	Not Traded	---	---	15/09/99	15.6	---
UDLCL Ltd.	10020	487.00	0.21	486.00	20	452.00	Not Traded	---	---	21/05/00	37.3	27.0
United Leasing Co. Ltd.	10020	606.00	1.00	600.00	40	---	Not Listed	---	---	18/05/00	17.1	27.0
Utara Finance and Inv.	10050	232.00	0.43	231.00	2300	236.00	Not Traded	---	---	21/11/00	23.4	15.0
Al Arifa Islamic Bank	10005	111.00	0.54	110.50	140	102.00	Not Traded	---	---	14/03/00	79.9	12.0
Prime Bank Ltd.	10050	336.75	2.82	327.50	4450	400.00	Not Traded	---	---	14/03/00	79.9	30.0
Southeast Bank Ltd.	10050	233.00	1.08	231.00	11100	233.25	1.08	230.75	900	17/09/00	28.4	15.0
Dhaka Bank Ltd.	10050	250.25	1.42	246.75	4750	240.00	Not Traded	---	---	21/06/00	34.3	25.0
N.C.B. Bank Ltd.	10050	171.25	0.74	170.00	13450	171.25	0.74	170.00	2750	---	---	---
<b>INVESTMENT</b>												
3rd ICB Mutual Fund	10010	410.00	0.00	410.00	5	335.00	Not Traded	---	---	02/11/00	144.0	40.0
5th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	245.00	4.26	235.00	40	196.50	Not Traded	---	---	02/11/00	26.6	21.0
6th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	148.75	1.19	147.00	330	146.00	Not Traded	---	---	02/11/00	2.24	15.0
7th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	147.00	0.00	147.00	92	144.00	Not Traded	---	---	02/11/00	16.3	13.5
8th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	143.75	-0.17	144.00	500	132.00	Not Traded	---	---	02/11/00	15.9	12.5
1st BSRIS Mutual Fund	10050	73.50	0.68	73.00	750	71.00	Not Traded	---	---	---	---	---
AIMS Fund	12500	0.99	1.02	0.98	150000	0.99	0.00	0.99	42500	---	---	---
<b>ENGINEERING</b>												
Aztec Paper Ltd.	1005	209.00	0.37	208.00	100	274.00	Not Traded	---	---	14/09/00	-3.1	---
Olympic Industries Ltd.	1005	140.25	4.47	134.25	67920	140.00	3.70	135.00	1455	19/10/00	25.5	---
Bangladesh Lamp Ltd.	1005	519.00	1.52	511.25	55	520.00	Not Traded	---	---	25/09/00	9.11	15.0
Excelsior Cables Ltd.	1005	132.50	0.38	132.00	1005	131.50	0.96	130.25	220	12/06/00	8.15	10.0
Singer Bangladesh Ltd.	1005	280.00	2.36	275.00	125	275.00	0.28	272.00	15	27/05/00	64.6	50.0
Gascom Drycell Ltd.	10050	183.00	2.75	178.00	20000	183.00	2.81	178.00	29850	23/12/99	47.0	10.0
National Tubes Ltd.	10010	565.00	1.80	555.00	50	---	Not Listed	---	---	27/04/00	14.7	35.0
BD Thermal Alumina Ltd.	10010	202.50	2.79	197.00	200	200.00	Not Traded	---	---	28/09/00	10.2	20.0
Amor Galvanizing Ltd.	10050	10.50	1.67	10.00	200	10.00	Not Traded	---	---	08/03/01	14.4	10.0
Key & Que (BD) Ltd.	10050	104.00	0.73	103.25	200	106.00	Not Traded	---	---	28/09/00	1.69	---
Rangladesh Foundry Ltd.	10500	21.00	0.93	21.00	68000	21.90	1.39	21.60	13500	06/07/00	3.39	15.0
<b>FOOD &amp; ALLIED</b>												
Alpha Tobacco Ltd.	10050	58.20	0.17	58.10	1200	62.00	Not Traded	---	---	29/03/00	5.00	42.5
Amman Sea Food Ltd.	10050	220.00	0.00	220.00	10	---	Not Listed	---	---	10/12/00	4.2	---
Apar Foods Ltd.	10050	388.25	1.97	380.75	500	360.00	Not Traded	---	---	09/12/00	16.0	10.0
Tripti Industries Ltd.	1005	55.25	3.27	53.50	2955	55.25	Not Traded	---	---	09/10/00	2.5	---
BATTEL	10050	103.80	0.36	103.50	10150	105.00	Not Traded	---	---	29/06/00	5.92	40.0
Dhaka Vegetable Ltd.	1005	17.00	13.33	15.00	50	---	Not Listed	---	---	10/09/97	-5.3	---
Tulip Dairy & Food Ltd.	10010	87.00	-3.33	90.00	50	---	Not Listed	---	---	05/03/00	-8.8	---
Bengal Fisheries Ltd.	10020	78.00	0.65	77.50	60	75.00	Not Traded	---	---	25/06/00	8.00	5.00
Bangladesh Seafood Ltd.	10020	57.00	1.33	56.25	2920	56.75	-0.87	57.25	1360	25/06/00	-2.8	5.00
Meghna Shrimp	10020	117.75	1.07	116.50	100	119.00	1.28	117.50	100	20/12/00	13.9	15.0
Rajee Ind. (BD) Ltd.	10050	13.60	0.74	13.50	25200	13.60	Not Traded	---	---	23/12/00	4.2	20.0
AMCL (Fraz)	10010	398.25	1.34	393.00	1300	404.00	Not Traded	---	---	14/12/00	4.2	20.0
Meghna Vegetable	10010	51.00	3.03	49.50	550	54.00	Not Traded	---	---	30/12/00	-1.4	---
Rahma Food Corp.	10050	40.00	-1.22	41.00	300	42.00	Not Traded	---	---	10/10/00	3.11	---
Gold Foods Ltd.	10050	80.25	0.94	79.50	650	76.00	Not Traded	---	---	30/12/99	0.87	---
Mona Food Ind. Ltd.	10050	56.50	1.35	55.75	1450	56.00	Not Traded	---	---	30/12/99	0.87	---
Cachibata Aqua.	10050	145.00	-0.68	144.00	100	133.00	Not Traded	---	---	27/06/97	40.5	15.0
Bionic Seafood Exports	10050	11.70	2.63	11.40	250000	---	Not Listed	---	---	17/08/00	1.73	10.0
Fu-Wang Food Ltd.	10500	11.40	1.79	11.20	19000	11.40	0.88	11.30	144000	10/12/00	3.9	10.0
<b>FUEL &amp; POWER</b>												
BOC (BD) Ltd.	1050	105.70	0.19	105.50	240	105.00	Not Traded	---	---	17/02/01	13.3	40.0
Bangladesh Welding	10500	9.00	1.12	8.90	175500	9.00	1.12	8.90	18500	12/09/00	0.55	---