

Asiatic Society team calls on President

UNB, Dhaka

A five-member delegation of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh called on President Professor AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Led by president of the society Professor Abdul Momen Chowdhury, the delegation members requested the President to inaugurate the 50th founding anniversary programme of the society to be held on January 3 next year.

They presented him with some journals and three volumes of a book 'History of Bangladesh' published by the society and said that the projected bilingual 'Banglapaedia' (20 volumes) would be a major breakthrough in the history of the society.

President Prof B Chowdhury appreciated their initiative for publishing scholarly works relating to the history and culture of the land and the people.

He, however, emphasised that the society should work for projecting the lively image of the country throughout the world.

The members of the delegation were vice-presidents of the Society Prof Syed Humayun Kabir and Prof M Mufakharul Islam, treasurer Prof Syed Rashidul Hasan and general secretary Prof Sajahan Miah.

President hosts iftar party for freedom fighters

UNB, Dhaka

President Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury hosted an iftar party in honour of freedom fighters at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Hasna Warda Chowdhury and State Minister for the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs Redwan Ahmed were present on the occasion.

The President welcomed the guests, exchanged pleasantries with them and wished them a happy and prosperous life.

Before iftar, a special munajat was offered seeking divine blessings for the welfare of the people and continuous prosperity of the country.



A delegation of the Samyabadi Dal called on Leader of the Opposition and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at the Sudha Sadan yesterday.

Donors urged to help implement urban development project

BSS, Dhaka

Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas yesterday laid emphasis on development of a strategy for urban management to find out ways of dealing with urban problems with minimum resources.

"A planned strategy for urban management is necessary to find out the problems and to solve them with minimum resources in shortest possible time," he said while addressing a seminar at Hotel Sonargaon on "Local Partnership, Approaches for Urban Development in Bangladesh: SINPA Bangladesh and other Experiences."

Lauding initiatives by the Netherlands government to launch "Support for the Implementation of National Plans of Action (SINPA), an action research project, the minister hoped that with the technical support of Institute of Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) and Rehabilitation and Development Organisation for Landless (RADOL), the SINPA will develop an innovative strategy to address the

urban problems. The minister sought cooperation of foreign donors and international financial institution to extend their support in implementing the urban development projects.

Chaired by Housing and Public Works Secretary Syed Tanveer Hussain the seminar was addressed by Ambassador of the Netherlands JI IJzermans, team leader of SINPA Hans Teerlink, SINPA Project Director Forbes Davidson and National Coordinator, SINPA and Secretary General of RADOL Syed H Loton.

The minister said Bangladesh is a densely populated country and the city life is getting miserable and unfit for human habitation.

One of the main reasons identified is that all the government and local government efforts are like a provider, he said. People's affordability and initiatives are ignored, the minister said, adding there is no coordination and co-operation among the development partners.

Abbas said an urban platform and various task forces es-

tablished with the representatives of all stakeholders and elected representatives at the city level to ensure coordination and partnership.

JI IJzermans said the Netherlands was among the first countries to recognise Bangladesh after its turbulent emergence as an independent state.

Ever since it has been involved as a development partner, and currently Bangladesh figures prominently on the list of some 20 countries that have structural bilateral development relations with the Netherlands, he said.

IJzermans pointed out that over the years, the support from the Netherlands has exceeded three billion Netherlands guilders or six thousand crore taka.

He said the Netherlands has keen interest in issues of urbanisation and has developed internationally recognised knowledge centres on urbanisation based on the issues and problems generated by this high urbanisation especially in the western countries and realising the challenges facing developing countries as Bangladesh.

Samyabadi Dal supports AL's planned convention against terrorism

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesher Samyabadi Dal on principle, supported the humanitarian convention to be organised by Awami League in the wake of massive post-election "repression and terrorism."

The left-leaning party extended their support to the Awami League's plan when a four-member delegation led by its chief Dilip Barua met Awami League president Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence yesterday.

During an hour-long meeting, they discussed socio-economic and political situation of the country. The issue of national convention against repression, torture and terrorism was the main focus of the talks, Awami League sources said.

The Samyabadi Dal leaders expressed deep concern over the deterioration in law and order situation in the country. They also suggested finding out ways to combat the growing incidents of killing, terrorism, mugging, rape, and torture, particularly on the religious minorities.

They thanked the Awami League president for supporting their recent protest programme against gas export and expressed determination to build up "national unity to protect the national resources in greater interest of the people."

The leaders explained their stand on the issue of countrywide terrorism and, on principle, supported the convention against "violation of human rights and crimes against humanity."

Urs at Mia Saheber Maidan

The annual Urs of Sharif of Kareem Moulana Shah Abdul Rahim Shahid (R) will be held at 'Mia Saheber Maidan' at Laxmi Bazar in the city today, says a press release.

The daylong programmes include Khatme Koran, Zikir Askar, Khatme Sura Muzammil and Khatme Sura Ekhlash.

A milad mahfil will also be held after Asr prayers.

Pir Alhaj Shah Sufi Sayeed Hamidullah will preside.

Listed terrorist Babar held in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested BCL city unit leader Helal Akbar Chowdhury alias Babar, a listed terrorist, from the city's Nandankanan area in the early hours of yesterday.

Babar, 28, was wanted in as many as seven criminal cases including two murders, police said.

Acting on a tip-off, the detectives led by Assistant Commissioner Monirul Islam raided the residence of Babar at Nandankanan at about 2:30 am and arrested him, police said.

Police started interrogating Babar after taking him on a three-day remand.

The injured was identified as Jewel Ahmed, 35, publicity secretary of Belkuchi upazila Awami League.

Police and witnesses said a gang of terrorists reportedly belonging to BNP went to Jewel's residence at about 1:15 pm and shot him. They also stabbed him indiscriminately.

Jewel was rushed to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital. His condition is stated to be critical.

The cause behind the attack could not be known immediately. Local Awami League blamed BNP activists for the attack.

When they reached near Kallbari at Gosalidanga, the muggers numbering about seven stopped the microbus and snatched the leather bag containing the money at gunpoint, police said.

A case was filed with Bandar thana in this connection. Police, later, raided different places in the city, but could not arrest any of the gang members.

Death anniversary

BSS, Barisal

The second death anniversary of Sheikh Md. Lokman will be observed today, says a press release.

Lokman was managing director of the Absolute Leather Products and a Rotarian.

A milad mahfil will be held at the City Heart market after Asr prayers at 67 Naya Palan.

DHAKA TODAY

Roundtable: Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS) organises a roundtable on 'Economic Globalisation, Industry and Labour Interest: Bangladesh Perspective'.

Discussion: Sandhani National Eye Donation Association and Sandhani International Eye Bank hold a discussion on 'Posthumous Eye Donation in Islamic Perspective'.

Alpha Tobacco officials mugged in Chittagong: Muggers took away Tk. 2 lakh from two officials of a tobacco company in the city's Agrabad area yesterday morning.

According to police, Asaduzzaman Babu and Ali Murtaza, Manager and Zone-In-Charge respectively of Alpha Tobacco Company Limited, were going to Agrabad branch of IFIC bank in a microbus to deposit Tk. 1.99 lakh.

When they reached near Kallbari at Gosalidanga, the muggers numbering about seven stopped the microbus and snatched the leather bag containing the money at gunpoint, police said.

A case was filed with Bandar thana in this connection. Police, later, raided different places in the city, but could not arrest any of the gang members.

Obituary: M Nuruzzaman Khan, a renowned freedom fighter, died of old-age complications at his village home in Babuganj Upazila of the district on Thursday. He was 70.

He was buried at his family graveyard in Raiguru village under Babuganj Upazila with state honour the next day.

High officials and elite of the areas took part in his namaj-e-janaza.

WEATHER TODAY Temperature may fall

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today. Met office predicted night temperature is likely to fall by 1-2 degree Celsius.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 31.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 15.5 degree Celsius at Dinajpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:11 pm today and rises at 6:21 am tomorrow.

Temperature and humidity recorded in major cities and towns yesterday were: Temperature Humidity in Celsius percentage

Table with columns: City, Max, Min, Morning, Evening. Rows: Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES NOVEMBER 24, 2001

Main stock market table with columns: Company, FV/ML, Price, Turnover, DSE, CSE, Financial Performance, etc. Includes sections for Non Traded Issues, Turnover Leaders, Capital Gainers, Chittagong Stock Exchange, Capital Losers, and Book Closing/AGM/Dividend/IPO.

SHARE PRICE INDEX has been calculated according to the SEC DIRECTIVE given on 17th November, 2001 excluding 'Z' category shares and taking into consideration the day's traded number of shares of A & B category by applying weighted average method with Base index 817.62 with effect from 24th November, 2001.