



Birthday Anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej and National Day of Thailand



The Daily Star

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

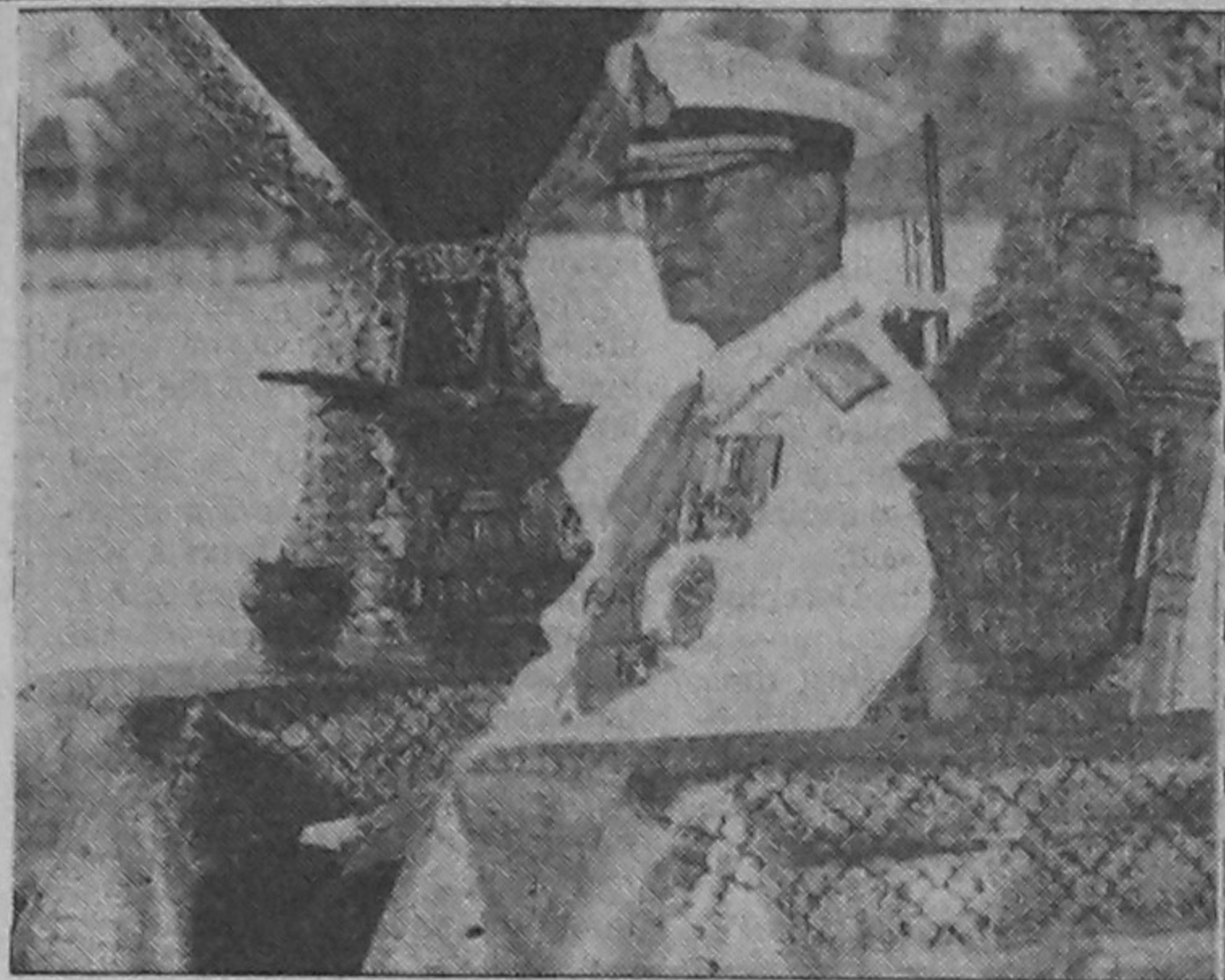
December 6, 2001

MESSAGE

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's 74th Birthday Anniversary which falls on December 5th is a source of joy and happiness for all Thai people living in Thailand as well as abroad. The intensity of love and respect for His Majesty the King stems from the distinctive form of modern monarchy as personified by His Majesty that involves a remarkable degree of personal contacts with the people throughout the Kingdom. This unique institution of monarchy in Thailand goes back more than seven hundred years and it has continued to function with extraordinary relevance and even with greater vitality in the contemporary world.

Today, the Thai monarchy can be said to be more important than ever as it provides a unifying element for the country, a focal point that brings

together people from all backgrounds and shades of political thoughts and gives them an intense awareness of being Thai. Furthermore, the direct contact His Majesty the King has with the provincial population has made him the most traveled monarch in Thai history as well as the best informed about a wide range of rural problems and difficulties. Such close interactions with his people have sprung over 2,000 "royally-suggested" projects to upgrade the living conditions of the Thai people. His Majesty has also initiated many development projects such as rain-making project, agricultural self-sufficiency, environmental conservation, flood prevention measures, proper land utilization, and "New Theory" of water conservation. It is not surprising, therefore, that His



His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej

Majesty's Birthday Anniversary is always greeted with such unprecedented outpouring of pride and personal affection of the Thai people, many of whom owe their improved livelihood and well-being to the Thai monarch.

This auspicious occasion marking His Majesty's Birthday Anniversary also affords me the opportunity to highlight the expansion and deepening of Thai-Bangladesh relations which, only in the last few years, have taken a quantum leap in many areas on the strength of the commonality of interest and complementary nature of our two economies. The phenomenal surge in bilateral trade during this period, coupled with the strong business presence of Thai entrepreneurs in Bangladesh in agro-industries, petro-chemical, energy, construction, designing and manufacturing, bear a testimony to the increasingly active interactions between our two business communities. Furthermore, Thailand's participation in Dhaka International Trade Fair 2001 and the holding of "Thailand Exhibition" early this year represent ongoing efforts by the Thai Government and Thai private sector to push the threshold of our economic ties even further.

As we enter the new millennium, we find that global economies expose a wide range of opportunities as well as threats. Devastating impact of 1997 economic crisis on Thailand and the lingering regional recession that we are now experiencing have called into question the merits of free market and liberalization. Amidst the ever-changing economic environment, we must be more self-reliant whilst ensuring

that continued effort for trade liberalization should provide substantial and concrete gains for developing countries like Thailand and Bangladesh. Our two countries should share a common vision and common strategy to handle a range of key political, economic and social issues. At the same time, Thai-Bangladesh cooperation, both bilaterally and within the framework of WTO and sub-regional level like BIMST-EC, should be strengthened to handle the demand of globalization.

Lastly, our two countries can also draw upon a large reservoir of goodwill and strong bonds of friendship in our endeavour toward common goals and to bring our mutually beneficial partnership to new heights. On this auspicious occasion, I would like, on behalf of the Royal Thai Embassy and the Thai Community in Bangladesh, extend my best wishes to the brotherly people of Bangladesh. Long live Thai-Bangladesh friendship.



Pithaya Pookaman
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Bangladesh.

MESSAGE

On the auspicious occasion of the National Day of the Royal Kingdom of Thailand and the 74th Birthday of His Majesty the King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the members of the Bangladesh Thailand Friendship Association take great pleasure in congratulating the friendly people of the Kingdom of Thailand and pray for the long life and happiness of the King.

Bangladesh and Thailand are two friendly countries in the BIMST-EC and the climate of both the countries are identical. The Kingdom of Thailand has strong agriculture base and they have developed the agricultural products not only to meet their own requirements but also to produce processed food suitable to meet the demands in the export market. Their knowledge and technology in the field of agriculture induced Bangladesh entrepreneurs to make joint venture with them in this field. We also felicitate the Thai Companies whose presence in Bangladesh have strengthened ties of friendship between the two countries.

The economic cooperation between our two countries have been growing steadily through the import of substantial quantity of fabrics, yarns and other intermediaries to support our textile and RMG Industries. Side by side with the introduction of their consumer products in the newly opened super markets in Bangladesh, a new vista of market outlook have come up to match with the taste and quality of the consumers.

But for a sustainable growth of both the countries we look forward to much deeper cooperation by way of mutual support for the development of infra-structure, technology sharing and market access.

On this great day of National celebration of the Kingdom of Thailand, let us renew our pledge to create a better world through regional and sub-regional cooperation.

May God bless us all!

Engr. R Maksud Khan
President
Bangladesh Thailand Friendship Association

"The date, December 5th, is considered the most auspicious day on the calendar of events in Thailand, being the birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of the Chakri Dynasty, the revered and beloved monarch of the Thai nation. All Thais are joined together as one. Together, we can show our gratitude for all that His Majesty has done for the country and the people. Together, let us do good for our Great King."

On the auspicious occasion of the Thai National Day we felicitate the people of Thailand and wish them all happiness and prosperity



BENGAL FINE CERAMICS LTD.

Office : H. H. Bhaban (2nd & 3rd Floor), 52/1, New Eskaton Road, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Phone : 9345174, 404177, Fax : 880-2-8314933, E-mail : bfc@bdmail.net, Web Site : bfc1.net
Factory : Bhagalpur, Savar, Dhaka, Tel : 7710840

Felicitations on the Anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Birthday and the National Day of the Kingdom of Thailand



International Trade Connection (Pte) Limited
Consumer Products Limited
Tiffany's Wear Limited
Bangladesh

METROPOLITAN

President's surprise visit to AIUB, NSU

UNB, Dhaka

President A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday paid a sudden visit to the American International University, Bangladesh (AIUB) and North South University (NSU) at Banani to see for himself the academic atmosphere and the overall condition of those private universities.

The President, also Chancellor of the universities, visited the computer and engineering digital laboratory and theoretical classes of the AIUB and later on the Institute of English and computer section of the NSU.

President Chowdhury talked to

the Vice Chancellor of the AIUB Carmen Z Lamagna and Vice Chancellor of the NSU Dr Hafiz G A Siddique and the students.

The teachers and students welcomed the President.

The President expressed satisfaction with the syllabus of the courses of different disciplines and the way of theoretical and practical teaching in the universities.

He, however, said the academic atmosphere of those universities should be improved and they should build their institutions in their own land. "This will help the institutions grow further," he said.

Video on Concert for Bangladesh screened in memory of Harrison

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Liberation War Museum screened the video on Concert for Bangladesh to commemorate the death of Beatles guitarist George Harrison at its auditorium yesterday.

Harrison, who played a key role in raising funds for Bangladesh during the Liberation War, passed away on November 30 in Los Angeles.

George Harrison and Ravi Shanker jointly organised the concert titled "Concert for Bangladesh" at the Madison Square Garden in New York on August 1, 1971 to help the war-affected people in Bangladesh.

Among other noted artists, Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton, Ringo Starr and Billy Preston also took part in the concert.

About 40 thousand people were present at the concert and the proceeds from the concert were donated for the welfare of war victims.

The Liberation War Museum expressed deep shock at the death of Harrison and expressed sympathy for the grieving family.

Obituary

MA Mamun, a renowned chartered accountant and proprietor of Mamun and Co., died of a cardiac arrest at a city clinic yesterday morning at the age of 52, says a press release.

Mamun was also the managing director of Pax Overseas Limited. He is survived by his wife, two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and admirers.

His kulkhwani will be held at his Uttara residence tomorrow.



Akku Chowdhury, director of Liberation War Museum, pays tribute to the memory of late George Harrison on the museum premises in the city yesterday.

WB help for communications infrastructure sought

UNB, Dhaka

The government yesterday sought continued support of the World Bank for developing country's communications infrastructure that needs huge investment.

Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda made the request in a meeting with a World Bank team that took stock of the state of communications sector and plans for development.

"Development cooperation agencies, including World Bank, are partners of our development successes," he told visiting mid-term review committee of World Bank as they met at the Communications Ministry.

He apprised the committee, led by Stein Lundebye, of reform measures undertaken by the present government to reinforce the priority areas of the economy for meeting the aspirations of the people.

The meeting reviewed imple-

mentation progress of different World Bank-financed development projects in the communications sector and fund-utilization status for maintenance of national and regional highways, bridges and other of communications infrastructures.

It also discussed issues related to construction of flyover to mitigate traffic congestion in the city, improvement of traffic-signaling system, traffic-management skill development for traffic authorities, private sector's participation in road infrastructure development and World Bank assistance for development of equipment fleet in the private sector.

The World Bank team stressed the need for ensuring "transparency and accountability" in implementation of the development projects.

State Minister for Communications Salah Uddin Ahmed and senior officials were present in the meeting.

Dr Farouk new VC of Sher-e-Bangla Agri Varsity

BSS, Dhaka

Dr. A M Farouk has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University for a four-year term, an official notification said here yesterday.

The appointment was made in line with the approval of Prime Minister and Chancellor of the university Khaleda Zia under section 10 (1) of Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University Act, 2001. Dr. Farouk was a Professor of Horticulture Department of Bangladesh Agriculture University.

Born in 1947 in a respectable Muslim family in Jessore, Dr. Farouk did his Ph D from Nottingham University in UK in 1980. He joined as lecturer in Bangladesh Agriculture University in 1972 after completion his M Sc degree from the same university.

Sadarghat-Ashulia river route launched

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) has launched a "Sadarghat-Ashulia River Route Project" for ensuring navigability and smooth transportation of goods and passengers in different parts of the city.

Shipping Minister Lt Col (Retd) Akbar Hossain yesterday launched the first phase of the project making a cruise through the command area by a motor launch.

He directed the BIWTA and authorities concerned to take legal actions against illegal occupants and establishments on the riverbanks. He also urged them to finish the project work for ensuring welfare of marginal businessmen and small agro-based markets in the capital.

DHAKA TODAY

Film show

Jahangirnagar Film Society organises a three-day session of Indian films with the screening of 'Charachar' by Buddhadeb Dasgupta on the first day. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road-2, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.00pm.

Prize giving Ceremony

Bangladesh International School will hold its Annual Prize Giving Ceremony. Venue: School premises. Time: 9.00am.

Eid fair

Democracywatch organises a two-day Eid fair styled as 'Bring & Buy'. Venue: Democracywatch ground. Time: 10.00am.

Reunion

Bangladesh Chhatra Maitri will hold a reunion on the occasion of its 21st founding anniversary. Venue: central office of the Maitri, Nilkhet. Time: 6.00pm.

Discussion

Jatya Pratibandhi Unnayan Samity and Afroza-Motalib Welfare Foundation

organises a discussion and an iftar party to mark the International Day for the Disabled. Venue: Sohag Community Centre. Time: 4.00pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Film show

Jahangirnagar Film Society will screen 'Sati' directed by Aparna Sen on the second day of its three-day session of Indian films. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road-2, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.00pm.

Movies

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will show two movies - 'Swann in Love' and 'Chittagong, the Last Stopover' at its weekly film session. Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium. Time: 10.30am and 6.00pm respectively.

Discussion

Bangladesh Garments Sramajibi Natya Sampradaya will hold a discussion and an iftar party to mark its 6th founding anniversary. Venue: Mirza Abbas Mohila Degree College, South Shahjahanpur, Railway Colony. Time: 3.00pm.



Bangladesh Centre for Communication Programmes (BCCP) signed a MOU with Red Barnet, Bangladesh recently.

WEATHER TODAY

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain or drizzle is likely in the regions of Satkhira, Jessore, Kushtia, Faridpur, Madaripur, Dhaka, Comilla and Sylhet during next 12 hours till 6 pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country, Met Office said predicting slight rise in night temperature.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 29.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Chittagong, Khulna and Jessore and the lowest of 11.4 degree Celsius at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital at 5.11 pm today and rises at 6:29 am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	26.7	16.1	90	75
Chittagong	29.0	15.4	88	64
Rajshahi	26.0	13.6	100	90
Khulna	29.0	14.1	86	77
Barisal	28.4	14.8	98	90
Sylhet	25.9	15.4	98	87
Cox's Bazar	28.4	16.4	94	78