

METROPOLITAN

ADB grant to promote women's leadership

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide a six lakh US dollar technical assistance grant to build up the capability of women leaders in local government in Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan.

The grant will be from ADB's Japan Special Fund, financed by the Japanese Government, says a press release.

The Canadian International Development Agency will contribute 1.35 lakh US dollar towards a project that will enable women to play a more active and effective role in poverty reduction.

While more women are being elected at local government level, their participation in the operations and decision making remains insignificant. These women are unfamiliar with their roles and responsibilities and the procedures of both local government and project planning and implementation.

Men also lack understanding of the role of the women in local government.

The project, which will be pilot tested in selected districts of the

three countries will familiarise women with local government rules and procedures; provide gender sensitization workshops for men and women; develop community projects targeting poor women; and train women to resolve disputes in issues involving land, family law, divorce/separation, and social violence.

The project will also identify regional gender and governance issue for policy makers.

"Enabling women at grassroots level to improve their technical skills will contribute to a more efficient public service delivery," says ADB social development specialist, Monawar Sultana.

Iraqi envoy meets health minister

UNB, Dhaka

Mustafa M Taufik, Charge d'Affaires of Iraq in Dhaka called on Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain at his office here yesterday.



PHOTO STAR

The National Flower Exhibition, organised by the Export Promotion Bureau, began at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city yesterday.

Death anniversary



The third death anniversary of Begum Shahida Diwan, wife of late Prof Md Rustam Ali Diwan, will be observed today, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held after Asr prayers at the official residence of her second son Diwan Hamidul Hassan, Senior Instructor, Bangladesh German Technical Training Center (BGTTTC), Mirpur.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the doa mahfil.

Mohiuddin Ahmed

The second death anniversary of Mohiuddin Ahmed, a noted politician and advisor of now-defunct Dainik Desh, will be observed today, says a press release.

He was president of the then East Pakistan Chhatra Union in early sixties and served the Bangladesh Mission during the War of Liberation.

A doa session and *mildah mahfil* will be held at a residence at 69-71 Siddeshwari Road after Asr prayers today.

Nat'l Primary Edn Week begins tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

National Primary Education Week-2001 will be observed in the country from January 5 to 10 with a view to creating social mobilisation and communication in primary education.

Elaborate programmes have been taken by the Primary and Mass-Education Department in observance of the week which include rallies, procession, cultural function and visit the homes of millions of Bangladeshi children.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is likely to distribute the prizes at a function to be held at Osmani Memorial Hall on the concluding day of the week on January 10.

Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruk will open the week planting at a primary school at Sepnara of Mirpur.

On the second day of the week a colourful procession will be brought out in the capital from Osmani Memorial Hall which will be led by Deputy Minister for Education Abdus Salam Pintu.

A national workshop title Social mobilisation and communication in primary education will be held in Dhaka on January 7.

Similar programmes will be arranged in district and upazila headquarters.

of the children who are not yet enlisted in the primary education in district and upazila levels.

To mark the National Primary Education Week best schools, teachers, managing committees, child artists and the students who got highest marks in primary school scholarships will be awarded.

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Similar programmes will be arranged in district and upazila headquarters.

Mentioning number of agreements and protocols in the fields of trade, shipping, economic, culture and technical cooperation between the two countries, the president said both the countries can assist each other for mutual benefit.

Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country today.

Light fog may occur over the river basins and coastal belts of the country during the early morning and slight rise in day temperature is expected over the country, Met Office said.

Country's highest temperature 29.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and the lowest 8.5 degree at Srimangal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5.25 pm and rises on Saturday at 6:43 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage	
Max	Min	Morning Evening	
Dhaka	26.7	12.3	70 63
Chittagong	29.5	13.5	71 64
Rajshahi	25.2	11.1	85 67
Khulna	26.5	11.0	89 74
Barisal	26.8	10.6	87 79
Sylhet	27.0	12.6	65 57
Cox's Bazar	29.4	16.0	77 71



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Int'l confce on arsenic in city from Jan 11

BSS, Dhaka

A two-day "International Conference on Arsenic Contamination in Groundwater: Media Strategy" will begin in the city on January 11 to chart the future communication plan of action for the arsenic-affected countries.

The World Water Forum of Journalists (WWFI) in collaboration with Forum of Environmental Journalist of Bangladesh (FEJ) is organising the conference, which will be participated by over 100 experts and journalists from home and abroad, WWFI Secretary General and FEJ Chairman Quamrul Islam Chowdhury said yesterday.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain will be the chief guest at the inaugural session of the two-day conference on January 11 and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will be the chief guest at he concluding session on January 12.

Secretaries, editors and senior journalists, officials, civil society representatives and development partners will be resource persons, he said adding, the conference will highlight the problem of arsenic contamination and devise an effective communication strategy to help mitigate the woes of millions of people across the world.

The conference will also help address the problem of massive arsenic poisoning across the rural Bangladesh devastating the lives of millions of Bangladeshi children.

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Prize giving ceremony

The prize giving ceremony of a set of competitions organised by the Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela on the occasion of

Musical evening

Swami Zubayer will present Ghazal, Geet, Thumri and others at a musical evening titled 'Safar'. Venue: National Museum Auditorium. Time: 6.00pm.

birth anniversaries of Zainul Abedin, Jasimuddin and Abdulah Al-Muti will be held. Venue: Mela auditorium. Time: 4.00pm.

Memorial meeting

Bangladesh Lekhak Shibir will hold a memorial meeting to observe the 4th death anniversary of novelist Akhtarruzzaman Illays. Venue: 68/2 Purana Paltan. Time: 4.00pm.

Annual conference

The 13th annual conference of the Bangladesh Cancer Society will be held. Venue: Sasakiwa auditorium of ICDDR,B. Time: 3.00pm.

Foundation-laying ceremony

The foundation stone-laying ceremony of the historic Eidgah Jame mosque at Dhammendi will be laid. President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury will be present as chief guest. Venue: Mosque premises, Dhammendi. Time: 1.30pm.

Milad Mahfil

Skyline School organises its annual milad mahfil with Rafiqul Islam Ratan, president of the school management committee, as chief guest. Venue: School premises, 24 Omar Ali Lane, West Rampura. Time: 9.00am.

DUJ BSS unit election held

BSS, Dhaka

Ajit Kumar Sarkar and Ajam Sarwar Chowdhury were yesterday elected unopposed Unit Chief and Deputy Unit Chief respectively of the Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) unit of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

They were elected following the annual general meeting of the unit held in the BSS newsroom.

M Shahjahan Mia conducted the election as the Election Commissioner.

Observer Unit

Muksudul Haider Chowdhury and Mollash Mizanur Rahman were yesterday re-elected unopposed Unit Chief and Deputy Unit Chief respectively of the Bangladesh Observer unit of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

Chehulum



Chehulum of Begum Mahamuda Khatun, wife of late Abdur Rashid Chaklader, will be held at her residence at 13 Shabek Sharafath Ganj, Ganderia, after Juma prayers today, says a press release.

Mahamuda Khatun died on December 3.

Khatme Quran, milad mahfil and a doa session will be held on the occasion.

Friends, relatives, and admirers have been requested to attend the chehulum.

STOCK

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES JANUARY 03, 2002

Company	FV/ML (Tk/No.)	DSE		CSE		Financial Performance		
		Price Closing	Chg.(%) Pre-Day Share	Price Closing	Chg.(%) Pre-Day Share	Last EPS	DPS	AGM (Tk.) (%)
BANK								
AB Bank Ltd.	100/5	284.00	-0.05	296.00	30685	294.25	Not Traded	—
City Bank Ltd.	100/5	285.00	-1.72	292.50	30700	290.50	Not Traded	—
IFC Bank Ltd.	100/5	285.00	-0.05	284.50	30800	290.00	299.50	300
Islam Bank Ltd.	100/5	296.50	0.06	297.50	4800	290.00	299.50	300
National Bank Ltd.	100/20	289.75</						