

## Netherlands keen to assist in dredging system

BSS, Dhaka

The Netherlands is keen to assist Bangladesh in dredging system and reclamation of land.

This was stated by Dutch Ambassador to Bangladesh Sjef Lijzemans when he called on Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan at his office here yesterday.

The ambassador said export from Bangladesh to the Netherlands has substantially increased and there is scope for further expansion. He also gave a brief resume of Dutch assistance to Bangladesh.

They discussed bilateral and other issues of common interest.

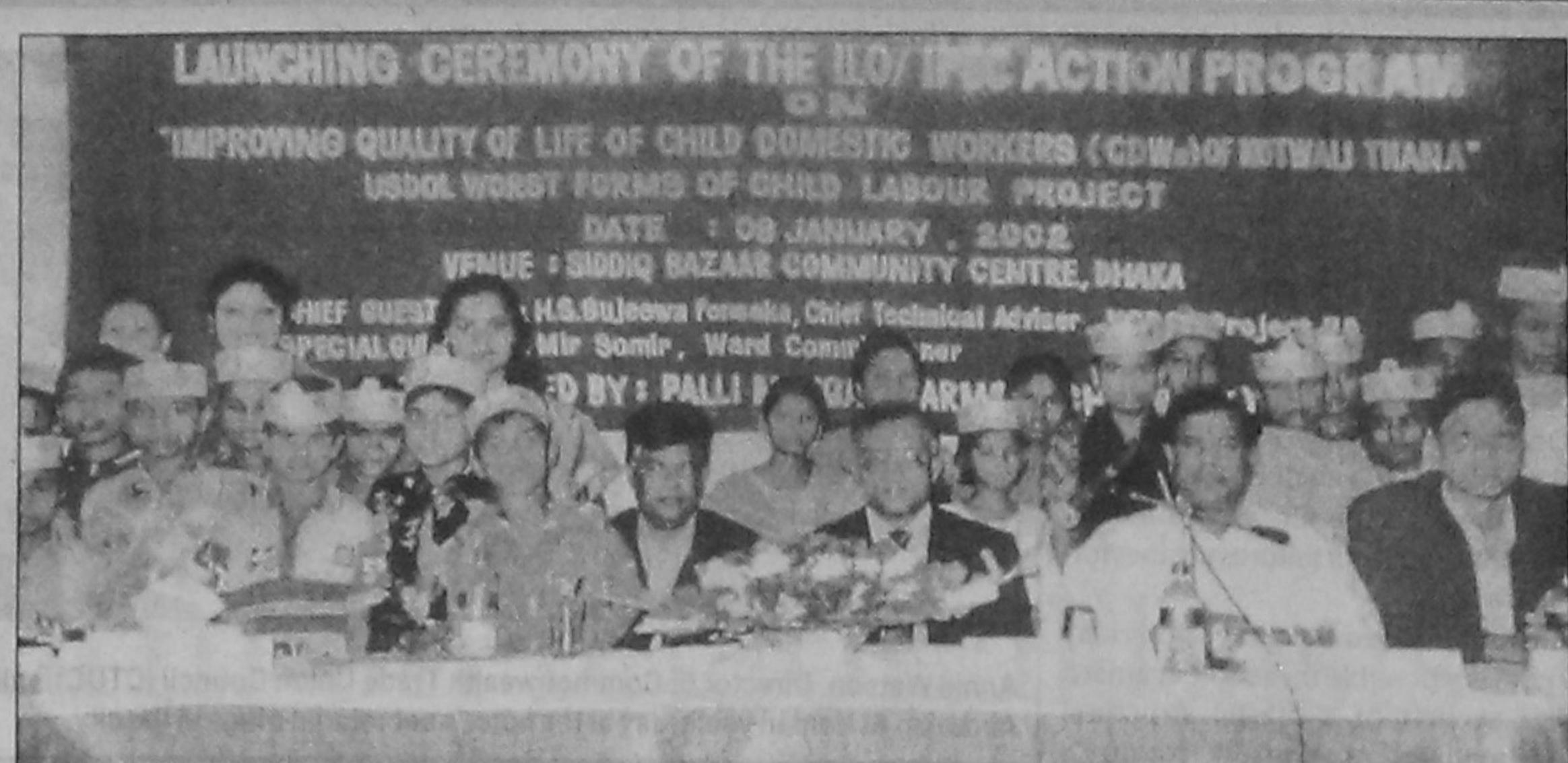
The traditional areas of Dutch development assistance are agriculture, water resources, health and family welfare, basic education, local government projects etc.



Participants at a public lecture on 'Investment Climate, Governance and Inclusion of Bangladesh' held at Sonargaon Hotel yesterday. The Bangladesh Economic Association organised the lecture.



A refresher training workshop for ESTEEM School Management 'Lead' key trainers began at the BIAM auditorium in the city on Monday.



Palli Mongal Karmosuchi (PMK) launched the ILO/IPEC Action Programme on 'Improving Quality of Life of Child Domestic Workers at Kotwali thana of Dhaka Metropolitan City' at a ceremony in the city yesterday.

## CLC a ray of hope for leprosy patients

BSS, Ctg

Hundreds of leprosy patients abandoned by their families and society have got back their normal life at a leprosy hospital at Chandraghona, a hamlet in the hill district.

They have been treated and operated upon at the Chandraghona Leprosy Centre (CLC) since April 1985.

Babul Ghosh, 42, of Goalpara in Chittagong, has recovered after seven years of treatment at the leprosy hospital. "I was not accepted by my family as I became untouchable for the disease," says Babul, a shoemaker for leprosy patients in CLC.

He has returned to the hospital, got a job and married another patient Parul Ghosh. She has also recovered. "We are now happy with our three normal kids," Parul said.

Leprosy which has been

### Botanical confce at RU Jan 12

BSS, Rajshahi

The Annual Bangladesh Botanical Conference-2001 jointly organised by the Department of Botany of Rajshahi University (RU) and Bangladesh Botanical Society (BBS) will be held here on January 12.

"I was got married with my husband Azizul Haque in 1986. We had a very happy and nice conjugal life with our sweet baby. But leprosy brought misfortune to my life in 1987. My husband abandoned me once the leprosy was detected with me."

claiming human lives since 600 BC in the globe, is a chronic infectious disease caused by a bacteria called Mycobacterium leprae mainly affecting the skin and the peripheral nerves.

In Bangladesh, according to available official statistics, the estimated leprosy cases were 15,000 in 2000. But nine northern districts including Gaibandha, Joypurhat, Sirajganj, Panchagarh, Nilphamari, Thakurgaon, Bogra and Pabna and two city corporations together constitute 73 per cent of the total cases.

According to WHO, in 1995, there were estimated 1.8 million leprosy cases in the world. Asia has the largest share with about 62 per cent followed by Africa with 34 per cent.

CLC was set up in 1918 as a unit of Christian Mission Hospital established in 1908 by Baptists Missionary Society at Chandraghona, 50 kilometre from the port city of Chittagong. It was modernised and turned into a full-fledged leprosy hospital in 1985.

During a recent visit to the hospital, Kamruzzaman, 35, told a different story to this correspondent.

"I was got married with my husband Azizul Haque in 1986. We had a very happy and nice conjugal life with our sweet baby. But leprosy brought misfortune to my life in 1987. My husband abandoned me once the leprosy was detected with me."

On the occasion, a Qurankhwani, milad mahfil and feeding of the destitute' programme will be held at his village home at Sutukati under Swarupkuthi thana in Pirojpur district.

Similar programmes will also be held at his Sonamanga residence in Khulna.

## Notre Dame Science Week opens Jan 14

Notre Dame Science Week-2002 opens on January 14, says a press release.

The Notre Dame Science Club in collaboration with the Bangladesh Online Limited has organised the week which begins along with the 25th National Science and Technology Week.

Students from renowned schools and colleges will take part in the week with their science projects based on physics, chemistry, biology and computer science.

The programme of the week also includes competition on general knowledge, science-related extempore speech, essay writing, poster and wallpaper display.

### Death anniversary

Today is the third death anniversary of Dr. Ashraf Uddin Ahmed, former deputy director of Family Planning, says a

press release.

On the occasion, a Qurankhwani, milad mahfil and feeding of the destitute' programme will be held at his village home at Sutukati under Swarupkuthi thana in Pirojpur district.

Similar programmes will also be held at his Sonamanga residence in Khulna.

## Diploma engrs' team calls on President

BSS, Dhaka

A five-member delegation of the Diploma Engineers Association, Bangladesh called on President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Member Secretary of the association Mohammad Hamid led the delegation.

The delegation members suggested that technical education should be incorporated in the general education curriculum in secondary and higher secondary levels. They said this will help the drop-out students to take up technical profession in various technical trades.

The President appreciated their suggestion.

Other members of the delegation were Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Ibne Fazal Sifuzzaman, Sirajul Islam and Shah Alam Akanda.

## Obituary

Aziz Ahmed, father of Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) treasurer Rashed Ahmed, died of meningitis at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday. He was 75.

Aziz Ahmed left behind three sons, four daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death. He was buried at his village home at Lowhaganj in Munshiganj.

DRU president Shahjahan Sarder and general secretary Motaher Hossain Masum have expressed deep shock at the death and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

### Hossain Ahmed

Hossain Ahmed, a Mechanical Supervisor of the Chittagong Bureau of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), died here on Monday night due to respiratory failure, family sources said. He was 58.

Ahmed, who had long been suffering from throat cancer, breathed his last on the way to hospital from his residence at around 10.45 pm.

He is survived by his wife, one son and three daughters to mourn his death.

He was buried yesterday in the city's Miskin Shah Majar Graveyard after namaz-e-janaza on Shatoddol Club premises after Jhor prayers.

## DHAKA TODAY

### Photography show

A 10-day long photography exhibition titled 'Look Through the Lens' will begin. The Dhaka University Photographic Society organised the show. Venue: Drik Gallery, House-58, Road-15A, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm.

### Cultural evening

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy organises a cultural evening in honour of the visiting delegates to the 10th Asian Art Biennale. Venue: National Museum auditorium. Time: 6.00pm.

### Seminar

National Book Centre organises a seminar on the occasion of 8th Dhaka Book Fair. Venue: National Parade Ground, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 4.30pm.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Light rain or drizzle likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain or drizzle may occur at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins and coastal belt and light fog in elsewhere of the country during early morning. Met Office said.

Met office also predicted slight fall in the night temperature.

Country's highest temperature 28.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and the lowest 10.8 degree at Srimangal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5.28 pm and rises on Thursday 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	25.8	15.2	86	60
Chittagong	23.7	16.8	77	70
Rajshahi	26.4	11.8	94	--
Khulna	27.0	15.4	79	81
Barisal	26.0	14.4	96	87
Sylhet	24.7	13.1	77	83
Cox's Bazar	13.5	18.0	82	90

## STOCK

### TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES JANUARY 08, 2002

Company	DSE			CSE			Financial Performance					
	FV/ML (Tk./Nos.)	Price Closing	Chg. (%)	Turnover Pre-Day	Share	Price Closing	Chg. (%)	Pre-Day	Share	Last EPS	DPS	AGM (Tk.)

Company	FV/ML (Tk./Nos.)	Price Closing	Chg. (%)	Turnover Pre-Day	Share	Price Closing	Chg. (%)	Pre-Day	Share	Last EPS	DPS	AGM (Tk.)	(%)
<b>BANK</b>													
AB Bank Ltd.	100/5	286.25	-1.55	290.75	18825	290.00	Not Traded	—	22/07/01	38.7	18.0		
City Bank Ltd.	100/5	330.00	6.02	311.25	280	120.00	Not Traded	—	20/12/01	41.6	—		
Islamia Bank BD Ltd.	100/5	255.15	-1.80	264.50	923	272.00	Not Traded	—	05/12/01	47.0	20.0		
National Bank Ltd.	100/5	200.00	-0.60	203.50	20924	301.00	-0.40	293.00	44	0.00	0.00		
Pubali Bank Ltd.	100/5	428.00	7.47	398.25	8550	220.00	Not Traded	—	10/11/01	161	—		
Rupali Bank Ltd.	100/10	102.75	-0.96	103.75	9380	80.00	Not Traded	—	12/05/01	24	—		
UCBL	100/5	250.25	-1.28	253.50	6795	105.00	-1.38	254.00	2180	15.00	9.00		
Uttara Bank Ltd.	100/5	585.00	-4.22	610.75	1254	—	Not Listed	—	01/11/01	225	—		
Al Baraka Bank Ltd.	100/10	204.25	-0.16	203.00	18	—	Not Listed	—	24/06/01	221	—		
IDL/C	100/20	462.50	-1.39	469.00	50	60	Not Traded	—	22/05/01	46.7	30.0</		