

President urged to enact e-commerce act

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A five-member delegation of the Bangladesh Association of e-Commerce called on President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury at Bangabhaban yesterday.

The delegation members urged the President to enact e-commerce act, introduce online payment facilities, and to give permission to set up an institute of electronics and technology.

The members also requested him to take steps to introduce e-

medicine and e-governance in the country and e-commerce degree in secondary, higher secondary and university level.

President Badruddoza Chowdhury stressed the need for creating awareness about e-Commerce.

Association president Shams Uddin Babul led the delegation. The other members are Munshi Mohammad Giasuddin, vice-president of the association, Mahbulul Majib, Mahfujul Karim and Shahed Latif.



President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury inaugurated the golden jubilee celebrations of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College by cutting a cake on the school premises in the city yesterday.

China to consider proposal for interest-free loan

BSS, Dhaka

China and Bangladesh yesterday held fruitful bilateral talks for increasing economic cooperation and trade between the two countries, official sources said.

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman led the Bangladesh side at the talks while visiting Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Shi Guangsheng led his country's delegation.

Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda, Shipping Minister Li Col (Retd) Akbar Hosain and Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury were

present at the meeting at Sonargaon Hotel.

The finance minister referred to the excellent relations between the two countries particularly in the late 70s and early 90s and said there is wide scope for increasing cooperation between the two countries in various fields including trade and commerce.

He expressed firm conviction that existing excellent bilateral relations would be further reinforced in the years ahead.

Saifur mentioned that in the last few years the amount of Chinese grants, state credit and soft loans had been declining. He requested the Chinese government to increase the ratio of grants and loans on ODA terms considering the difficult financial environment existing in Bangladesh at present, the sources said.

He also requested the Chinese government to reintroduce interest-free loans as was done previously.

The Chinese side assured Bangladesh that it would consider its proposals including Dhaka Integrated Flood Control Embankment-cum-Eastern Bypass Road Multipurpose Project, Akhaura Bypass from Titas railway bridge to Azampur Railway bridge, 18-metre gauge AC carriages and 8-metre gauge power cars for Bangladesh Railway, Pagla Surface Water Treatment Plant, North Dhaka (East) Sewer Construction Project, construction of a modern sport complex in Dhaka, establishment of a modern re-

search laboratory for the leather sector, leather and leather industries, frozen food and footwear.

The Chinese side also told that it would take positive steps for maintaining balance of trade.

The Chinese minister mentioned the existing congenial investment atmosphere in Bangladesh and expressed the willingness to invest in Bangladesh.

He also assured increase overall development assistance to Bangladesh including technical cooperation. Communications Secretary, Commerce Secretary, Foreign Secretary and senior Chinese officials were present at the talks.

RU admission test today

RU CORRESPONDENT

The admission test of first year honours course under the academic session 2001-2002 of Rajshahi University will begin today.

About 163004 students will appear at the admission test to be held from January 13 to January 27.

Fifty-three candidates will vie for each seat as the number of seats is 3,118 under 43 departments of 8 faculties.

The university authorities have taken necessary preparations to hold the admission test. RU proctor Prof Nurul Absar told the newsmen at his office.

IELTS Announcement

- IELTS Test Dates**
 - **1st February 2002**
Deadline for registration 19th January 2002
 - **1st March 2002**
Deadline for registration 14th February 2002
- "First Come First Served Basis"
- Registration can be completed from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm on weekdays
- New batch of IELTS preparation course (45-hours) starts 28th January 2002**
 - Morning, evening and weekend preparation classes (9:30 am - 12:00 pm & 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm)
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 - Fee: Tk. 10,700/-
 - Placement Test
 - Sunday, 19th January 2002 at 4:00 pm

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The Chittagong University English Alumni Association

INAUGURAL REUNION

A day-long grand gala reunion of the former students of the English Department of Chittagong University will be held on **24 January, 2002**, at Chittagong Club, Chittagong. Those who have earned a degree from the English Department of CU are requested to immediately register themselves by paying Tk. 500/- (each person). Registration formalities can be completed at the **Chittagong University Club (City), Al-Falah Lane, Sholoshahar Rail Gate No-2**, every day from **January 12, 2002**, between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Registration can also be done at the venue on 24 January.

For further details please call:
(031) 651958, (031) 654096 Mobile: 017-829300

Tele service week begins today

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board will observe Telecommunication Service Week from today to provide better services to the subscribers.

Post and Telecommunications Minister Barrister Aminul Haque will inaugurate the week at Ramna Telephone Bhaban at 12 noon.

The main objective of the service week is to resolve the problems relating to telephone bills and repair of disordered telephone lines within the shortest possible time.

T&T Board has urged the subscribers to extend their cooperation to make the service week a success.

Hannan Shah acquitted of corruption case

UNB, Dhaka

A district court yesterday acquitted former BNP Jute Minister Brig (rtd) A S M Hannan Shah of a corruption case.

Divisional Special Judge M A Shahidur Rahman in his verdict said the charge against the accused has not been proved.

Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAC) filed the case with Ramna Police on October 23, 1996 accusing Hannan Shah of accruing financial benefit by selling a state-owned jute bailing press at low price.

The charge said when he was Jute Minister, Hannan Shah violating the rules ordered for sale of Tesaras Jute Bailing Press, Narayanganj, at Tk 1.50 crore, the cost of which at current price was estimated at Tk 7.69 crore.

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১/৩/৪৭২-১০০১ ৳ ৩০০/৩৫০/৪০	৪৮৯-৯০০৭ ৳ ১৭০	৩/৪২১-১০৩৪ ৳ ১৪০
৩/৪৫১-৬১৪৫ ৳ ২০০/২৪০	৪৮৯-১০০৬ ৳ ১৫০	৩/৪২১-১০৪৮ ৳ ২৬০/২৯৫

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