



Left Democratic Front staged a demonstration in the city yesterday to protest price hike of fuel, gas, water and electricity.

## CIRDAP-GC meet begins Jan 17

UNB, Dhaka

Rural development planners and policymakers from the Asia-Pacific region will meet in Kathmandu this week to devise strategies and programmes for alleviation of poverty that continues to affect lives of rural population in the region.

Rural Development and Agriculture Ministers from 13 countries of this region, who are members of the Governing Council (GC), the policy body of CIRDAP, are going to meet from January 17 to 18.

According to a message received in the city yesterday, the 13<sup>th</sup> regular consultation of the CIRDAP-GC will be preceded by a two-day meeting of the Center's Executive Committee (EC) which consists of the respective Secretaries of the relevant Rural Development Department of the Ministry in the member countries.

Representatives from all the thirteen CIRDAP Member Countries namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam are expected to attend the meetings.

In addition to the members, representatives of various UN, donor and other agencies will attend the meetings as observers. The GC of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), which meets every two years, formulates policies, provides directions to the Centre, biennial programme of work, budget and future plans.

The main functions of the EC are to review the activities of the Centre, lay down general standards and guidelines for the management, give guidance to the Director General of CIRDAP and

make recommendations to the GC. Usually it meets once a year. The GC-13 Meeting will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Nepal, Sher Bahadur Deuba.

## JBIC Economic Mission team in city

UNB, Dhaka

A three-member Country Economic Analysis Mission of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) is now in the city on a five-day visit to Bangladesh.

The mission will hold discussions with various government agencies in order to gather information about the overall economic scenario of Bangladesh.

They will have talks with the officials of Planning Commission, Finance Division, ERD, NBR and Bangladesh Bank.

The mission is expected to meet with the representatives of other development partners working in Bangladesh in a bid to obtain a thorough understanding of their perspectives.

## Obituary

Alhaj Khairunnesa, mother of Principal M Wazhiullah Bhuiyan, Director, NCC Bank Ltd, died at her residence at Nurpur village under Fulgazi upazila of Feni district on January 12 at the age of 80, says a press release.

She left behind three sons, one daughter and a number of grandchildren to mourn her death. One of the founders of Haji Monir Ahmed College and Khairia Islamia Madrassa in Feni, Khairunnesa was a renowned social worker.

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C-116 Family & Friends

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