

Bangladeshi awarded MBE

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A reception was accorded to Shamsuddin Ahmed at the National Press Club in Dhaka yesterday for being awarded Member of British Empire (MBE) by the British government.

Shamsuddin Ahmed, a restaurant businessman and a community leader in UK, was conferred the title by Queen Elizabeth II on February 20, 2001 for his service to the Bangladeshi community in the North West.

Very few Bangladeshis have so far received the MBE honour.

While speaking at the press conference, Shamsuddin Ahmed said he just tried to serve the Bangladeshis and uphold the image of the country alongside his business, adding, "sometimes we contact the British government to provide aid to Bangladesh."

He called upon the government to work together with the community leaders in UK to help the second and third generations know about Bangladesh.

"It would help maintain the flow of remittances to this country from the UK where 70 to 80 thousand Bangladeshis are earning about three million pounds each year", he noted.

Md. Iftakharuddin Nowshad, freedom fighter Mahub Sadi, Nooruddin Ahmed and Gazi Mohammad Shahnewaz also addressed the press conference.

Shamsuddin Ahmed went to



Shamsuddin Ahmed

England in 1958 at the age of only 16 years and since then he kept himself engaged in various social works for serving the Bangladeshi communities.

He is married to Syeda Ayesha Siddique Ahmed, who is also a community worker and writer. They have been residing in Chester with their three sons.

On arrival in England, he started working in restaurant and he was probably the youngest restaurateur in the North West.

He also started another restaurant called 'The Shalimar' in Manchester City Centre.

The Shalimar was used as a headquarters for Manchester based liberation movement committee.

His life is more centred on

community work than business and he makes time to raise funds for relief projects and charities. He was involved with East Pakistan Relief Fund in 1970.

He first arranged Arabic lesson for the children with a part-time Imam at his house in Chester.

He has been working hard for the young people and helping the older community members to improve their English, learn more about the wider society and gain knowledge of good health care.

Ahmed has been raising funds for Save the Children Fund and responded during all natural disasters in Bangladesh by collecting funds.

With a view to uphold the image of Bangladeshis he has also been organising very popular Christmas Lunches and Day Trips for pensioners.

As part of his recognition, he received a 'Barclays Community Award

This is not all about Shamsuddin Ahmed, who always kept himself engaged in various social works for which he received a number of prestigious awards in UK.

The latest award he received was Muslim Community Award on May 12, 2001. Overseas Development Minister Clare Short conferred him the award in the House of Lords.

WB to fund road rehabilitation project

UNB, Dhaka

The World Bank will finance the Road Rehabilitation and Maintenance Project (RRMP) phase-4 and undertake more extensive schemes on the basis of success of ongoing projects in transportation sector.

Steps were taken recently to improve city traffic and check emission of motor exhausts which prompted the international donor agency to extend more assistance to the sector, Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda said.

He made the observations after meeting with a World Bank delegation led by Vincent Gouarne, the Bank's sector director, here yesterday.

The minister explained to the delegation about a number of programmes undertaken by the government to develop road infrastructures and to ease traffic congestion.

The World Bank delegation expressed their keenness on projects under Dhaka Urban Transport Project, training of highway patrol police, establishing traffic engineering department and programmes for enhancing the efficiency of traffic police.

Aguandi incident 23 accused sent to jail

BSS, Dhaka

Police so far arrested 23 people and sent them to jail in connection with the terrorist incident at Aguandi village under Arahazar upazila of Narayanganj district on December 21, an official handout said yesterday.

Thirteen out of the 17 accused in the first information report (FIR) and 10 of the unidentified accused were arrested. All of them were sent to jail.

The accused are Haque Sab, Manir, Habibullah, Hanifa, Kamal, Dulal, Hossain, Shawkat, Abu, Manik, Bashor, Sattar, Faruque, Muhammad Habibur Rahman, Idris Ali, Nurul Islam, Manjurul Hossain, Nurul Islam, Firuz Mian, Mohammad Shamsul Haque,

Mohammad Ayub Khan, Sadar Ali and Mohammad Kashem.

Warrants for arrest and attachment of property were issued against the accused named in the FIR. Thirteen of them surrendered before the court and prayed for bail. But the court rejected their prayers and sent them to jail.

As bail petitions were rejected, the accused again submitted prayers for bail before the District and Sessions Judge's Court of Narayanganj. The court will hear their bail prayers on January 24, the handout added.

A case was filed with Arahazar police accusing 17 identified people and 450 unidentified others following the terrorist incident on December 21.

South Asian Youth Caucus begins today

The First South Asian Youth Caucus begins at BRAC Centre in Gazipur today, says a press release.

The conference is organised jointly by STEP (Striving Towards Environmental Protection) and UNEP (United Nations Environment Program).

Participants from all the South Asian countries will be attending this meeting.

Schoolboy run over by truck in Ctg

BSS, Chittagong

A school boy was killed by a speeding truck at Patharghata under Kotwali Thana here yesterday, police said.

Junaid, 12, a student of class six, was knocked down by the truck while he was riding a bicycle.

Kotwali police seized the truck and arrested its driver, Jinal.

Netrokona Juba Unnayan Forum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new non-political organisation styled as 'Netrokona Juba Unnayan Forum' has been launched.

It was formed at a meeting of youths hailing from Netrokona district at Ramna Restaurant on Sunday, said a press release.

The meeting also formed a 67-member executive committee with Korded Alam Advocate and Shaiful Islam as its president and general secretary respectively.



Obituary

Jamila Khatun, wife of late Muhammad Muhibbul Haque, ex-chairman, Income-tax Appellate Tribunal, died of old-age complications on January 6, says a press release.

She is survived by two sons and 3 daughters. Two of her sons are in teaching profession at home (IBA, Dhaka University) and abroad (Physics Department, IUP, Pennsylvania, USA).



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Alhaj Abdul Gafur, former managing director of the Bangladesh Chemical Industries of Corporation, died of old-age complications on Sunday at the age of 76.

He is survived by his wife, four sons, two daughters, and a number of grandchildren.

His Namaj-e-Janaza will be held at Kalabagan Lake Circus Jame Mosque after Jhr prayers today.

TOEFL-IELTS Gateway advertisement

AMADEUS advertisement

O/A Level Tuition advertisement

To-Let advertisement

TO-LET House at Gulshan-2 advertisement

HOUSE FOR SALE advertisement

Withdraw textbooks full of 'distortion of history': Sayeed

UNB, Dhaka

Former state minister for information Prof Abu Sayeed has asked the government to withdraw the new textbooks full of "distortion of facts" and let new generation know real history of the nation's independence.

"If anybody can prove that Zia announced independence on March 26 from Kalurghat radio station, then I will embrace self imprisonment surrendering before the higher court," he said throwing a challenge at a press briefing at his Dhanmondi residence on Sunday.

Asking the government to stop, what he said, the evil move to distort the history, Prof Sayeed, also information and research secretary of Awami League, said those who are trying to teach the innocent students distorted history would have to stand trial.

He said in the recent printed textbooks of different classes, it was narrated that Zia proclaimed independence on March 26 from Kalurghat radio station, which is a "blatant lie and a move to betray the nation".

Citing various evidences, Prof Sayeed said Major Zia had only

read out on March 27, 1971 the proclamation made by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The Awami League leader said the new generation has the right to know the facts and they should not be taught the "lies and fake history".

"The nation will never forget those who are involved in the heinous crime of distorting history," he said, urging the teachers, guardians and conscious sections of society to raise their voice against this move for the interest of the generations to come.

Prof Sayeed said those who are distorting the history 30 years after the independence are betraying the nation.

He quoted a press interview of Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed on March 26, 1995. "Denying Bangabandhu as the declarer of independence is a violation of the Constitution."

But, Prof Sayeed said, the present government is trying to establish some lies through their evil design.

"This must be protested," he said and urged all to resist this move for the interest of the nation.

Time Extension Notice of BPDB's International Tender advertisement

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Tender Notice for sale of motorcar declared as condemned advertisement

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Tender Invitation Notice advertisement

বাংলাদেশ ক্রীড়া শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান (Bangladesh Sports Education Institute) advertisement

বুধবার বাজারে (Wednesday Market) advertisement

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Re-Tender Notice advertisement