

Thai ambassador presents credentials

UNB, Dhaka

The newly appointed Thai Ambassador Phibhak Phrombubpha presented his credentials to President AQM Badrudduza Chowdhury at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Welcoming the envoy President Chowdhury hoped that the existing bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Thailand would be further developed in future.

He emphasised the need for diversified economic cooperation between the two countries for mutual benefit.

Expressing similar sentiment Phrombubpha hoped that the existing economic cooperation between the two countries would be further expanded and diversified in future.



(Left) Candidates for the Dhaka City Corporation elections along with their supporters gathered at the Commissioner's office at Segun Bagicha to submit their nominations yesterday. (Right) Women candidates waiting in a queue to submit their nominations.

INVITATION FOR ENLISTMENT OF ADVERTISING AGENCY

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SOCIAL MARKETING COMPANY

Govt plan to recruit 2500 doctors

UNB, Dhaka

The government is making special arrangement for recruiting 2500 doctors to fill up vacancies in different medical colleges and health centres across the country.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain disclosed the plan while addressing the installation ceremony of Sir Salimullah Medical College Student Union as chief guest yesterday.

He said: "Medical facilities could not yet be ensured for all due to resource constraint and shortage of doctors and hospital beds."

Dhaka elected UNFDC vice President

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh was elected Vice President of UN Financing for Development Conference (UNFDC) during its first session began at Monterrey, Mexico on Monday.

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman, who is leading a Bangladesh delegation to the conference, was elected vice president in the opening session, according to a message received here yesterday.

Over 56 heads of state and government, including US President George W Bush, are attending the conference.

The conference will adopt a significant document, "The Monterrey Consensus" submitted for its approval by the Preparatory Committee.

Other members of the Bangladesh delegation are ERD Secretary Anisul Haq Chowdhury and Bangladesh's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Iftikhar Ahmed Chowdhury.

The past BNP government (1991-96) had established five medical colleges in the country and the present government introduced MD course in different medical colleges to increase the number of specialist doctors, the minister told the function.

The health minister advised the physicians to be more sincere to their profession and earn confidence of the patients. "If the doctors become more sincere to their profession and achieve confidence of the patients, they would not go abroad for treatment and thus huge amounts of foreign exchange would be saved."

Presided over by president of the student union Professor ASM Habibur Rahman, the function was also addressed by Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu MP, newly elected vice-president Md Moinul Islam Moin and general secretary Md Ershad Ahsan Sohel.

RAOWA founding anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

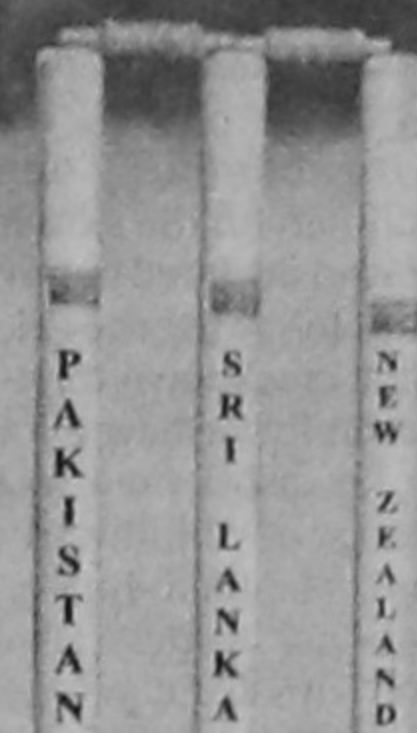
The Retired Armed Forces Officer's Welfare Association (RAOWA) has drawn up an eight-day programme to celebrate its 20th founding anniversary.

The celebrations will begin at RAOWA premises in the city this morning and the concluding ceremony will be held at Sonargaon Hotel on March 28.

The programmes include 'anniversary night' and cultural programme on the first day, RAOWA khana on March 22, cultural programme for RAOWA ladies and children on March 23, grand *tambola* on March 24, blood donation programme on March 25, and golf cup for RAOWA members and service officers on March 26.

On the concluding day, a fashion show and laser show will be held at the Sonargaon Hotel.

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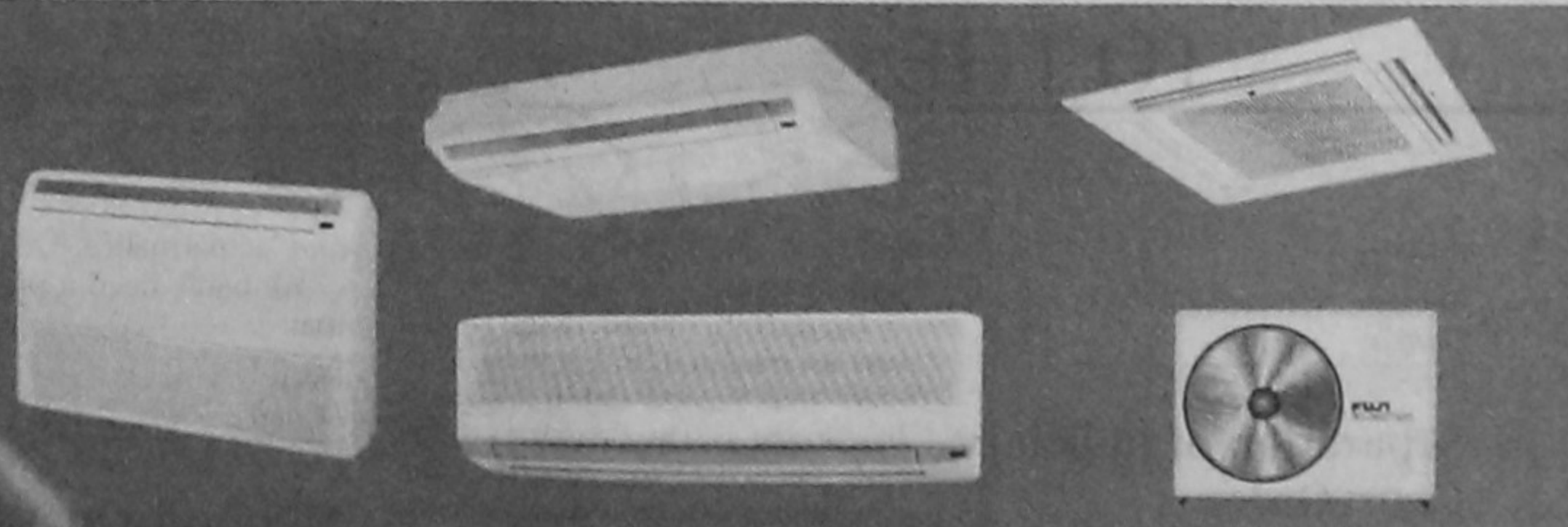
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