

'Remain vigilant against spread of AIDS'

BSS, Dhaka
President Prof A Q M Badrudduja Chowdhury yesterday called upon the physicians and other people working in the health sector to remain vigilant against the spread of HIV/AIDS in the country. As both the risk factor and risk behaviour are prevalent in Bangladesh, the number of HIV/AIDS patients may go up alarmingly. President Chowdhury said while inaugurating the 20th national convention and international scientific session of Bangladesh

Society of Pathologists (BSP) at a city hotel. The incidence of HIV/AIDS, however, is still low in Bangladesh compared to many countries in the region he mentioned. Chaired by Prof. M Suhrab Ali, president of BSP, the inaugural function was also addressed by Prof M A Hadi, Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University and Dr Benazir Ahmed, secretary of BSP. Dr Chris Duncombe, Clinical Trial Coordinator, HIV-NAT, The Thai Red Cross AIDS Research

Centre, Bangkok, delivered keynote address at the opening session. The President also underlined the need for carrying out continuous campaign against three major health hazards facing Bangladesh today. These are arsenic contamination, the severity of HIV/AIDS and incidence of B and C hepatitis. He said proper pathological tests could be of great assistance in the treating and containing the incidence of all these diseases. Prof Chowdhury said pathologists and the physicians must en-

sure that the tests are properly carried out for proper diagnosis. The pathologists must also see that people do not become victim of wrong tests, he reminded. Dr. Duncombe in his presentation said that no society is immune from the AIDS attack, so all out preventive measures should be taken to save the humanity from the scourge of this disease. He said although incidence of HIV/AIDS is 02 per cent in Bangladesh compared to .75 in India, the prevention of this disease could be made possible if appropriate actions were taken in right earnest.

The Australian experts on AIDS said of the 40 million AIDS patients in the world in 2001, Sub-Saharan Africa with 28.1 million tops the list of area. It is followed by South and South East Asia with 6.1 million and Bangladesh is a part of it. He underlined the need to take all precautionary measures to arrest the incidence of this dreadful disease. The inaugural session was followed by three scientific sessions, one of which is devoted to HIV/AIDS.

MBA course introduced in Khulna University

UNB, Khulna

Masters of Business Administration (MBA) course has been introduced in the Khulna University. Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruk formally inaugurated the course at a function in the 2nd Academic Building Auditorium of the university yesterday. Speaking on the occasion, the education minister said higher education would have to be expanded in view of present globalisation. Business administration course has been playing important role in boosting economic activities of the country, he added. Mentioning that the government has attached top priority to education sector, he said, massive programmes have been undertaken for spreading higher education.

Chaired by VC Dr M Abdul Quadir Bhuiyan, the function was attended, among others, by Treasurer Principal Mazharul Hannan, Prof A B M Rashiduzzaman, senate and syndicate members, deans of various faculties and heads of different departments. Earlier, the education minister formally inaugurated a newly constructed dormitory.

Over 1300 held, 11 firearms seized

BSS, Dhaka

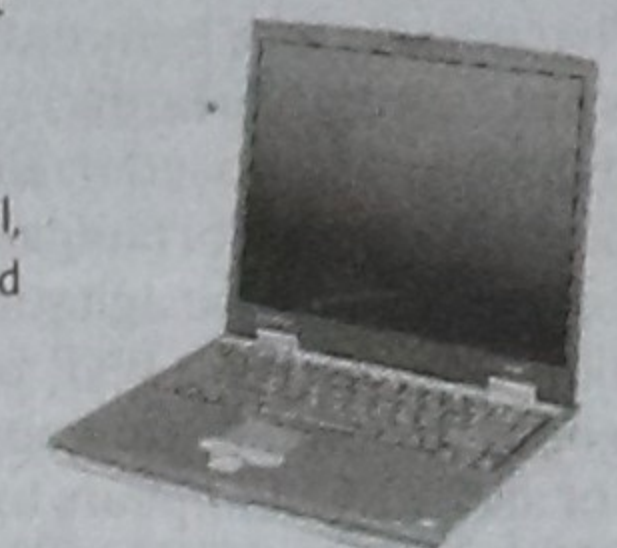
Eleven firearms, 26 bullets and two explosives were seized during the countrywide police operation over the last 24 hours ending at 6 am yesterday. A Police Headquarters press release said 1,331 people, including four alleged 'identified terrorists', were also arrested during the operation. Police also filed nine cases under the arms act against 15 people arrested in connection with the arms seizure. Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) recovered the explosives, arrested three people and filed a case against them. Of the arrested, 641 people were wanted by police. The four identified terrorists are Zillal Hossain of Khulna, Bakhtiar Hossain of Chittagong metropolis, M Iqbal Hossain of Narsingdi and Moktar Hossain of Dhaka metropolis.

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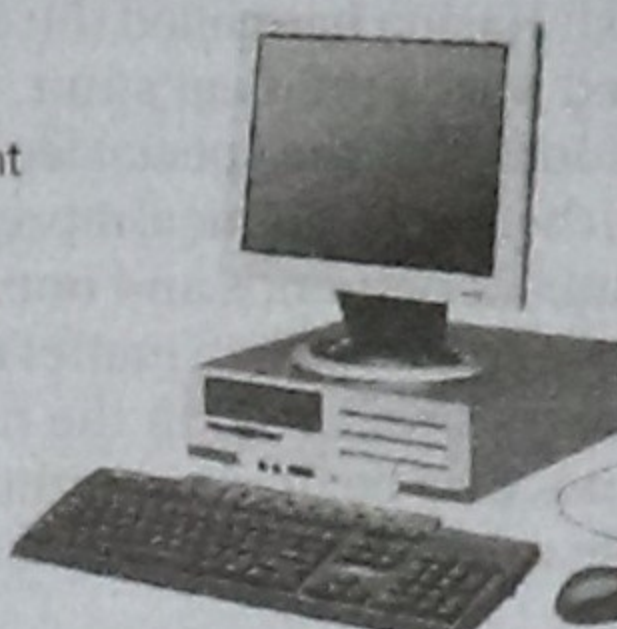
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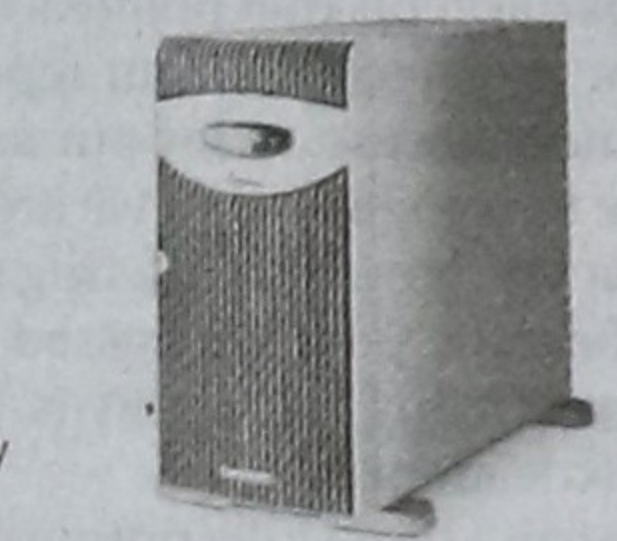
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