



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina speaking at a discussion meeting at the Engineers' Institute auditorium in the city yesterday. The Banglar Mukh organised the discussion and a cultural function to mark its 12th founding anniversary.

DHAKA TODAY

Annual convention

The 9th annual Convention and International CME, organised by the Bangladesh Renal Association, will be held with President AQM Badruddua Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10.00am.

BIDS seminar

The Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) organises a seminar titled 'Performance of the Bangladesh Economy: Selected Issues'. Venue: BIDS Conference Room, Agargaon. Time: 1.45pm.

Rotary Ramna

The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Ramna and an Eid reunion will be held. Members are requested to attend the programme with their family members. Venue: House-14, Road-25, Sector-7, Uttara Model Town. Time: 7.00pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Seminar

'The role of NGOs in Good Governance', a seminar organised by the Mass-Line Media Centre, will be held with Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, Executive Director of BRAC, as chief guest. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium. Time: 2.00pm.

Rally and discussion

The National Foundation for the Development of the Disabled People and the National Forum of Organisations Working with the Disabled have jointly organised a rally and a discussion meeting to mark the 4th National Day of the Persons with Disabilities. The rally will start from the Engineers Institute premises at 4.30pm and the discussion will be held at the National Museum after the rally.



Canadian Secretary of State for Asia & Pacific David Kilgour MP called on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office in the city yesterday.

Donors may provide only 10 pc fund for dev programmes

Saifur tells Jatiya Sangsad

BSS, Dhaka

The government will have to provide 90 per cent fund from its own resources for the development programmes since global funds will no longer be available as in the past.

Minister for Finance, and Planning Saifur Rahman told this while replying to a supplementary question raised by GM Quader of Jatiya Party (Ershad) in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

"Only 10 per cent of our required fund can be obtained from the global institutions," the minister said.

He said the global institutions would now provide funds on the basis of the performance of the recipient countries. "Rule of law, democracy, proper fund utilisation and other related conditions will be taken into account while considering sanction of funds for particular country," he said with reference to his experience in the recently concluded Paris consortium meeting.

He, however, said Bangladesh's performance in the development of social sectors was highly appreciated in the Paris consortium meeting, indicating their favourable consideration for this country.

Replying to another supplementary question from Sayed Moazzem

Hossain Alal of BNP, Saifur said the government had already taken up several measures to procure domestic resources from various sources.

"Our revenue income has so far surpassed the target enshrined in the budget after we have brought dynamism in the tax and revenue collection, he said.

The finance minister said the revenue collection had increased after the government implemented various steps to raise tax collection, stop tax evasion and to curb system loss. "This will greatly help us increase our domestic resources to become self-reliant," he said.

Replying to the main question raised by Md. Nazimuddin Alam of BNP from Bhola, he said the government earned Tk 680.44 crore as revenue income during the fiscal 2000-2001.

Replying to another question, the finance minister said the government took up a series of measures to raise the foreign exchange reserve.

The measures included increasing export earnings and reducing import in the non-productive sector, accelerating the use of project assistance given by donors, and curbing illegal hundi trading.

Also, more remittance houses and representative offices have

been set up abroad for expanding the facility for sending inward remittances, he said.

Saifur said the reserve dropped to a record low of 1159.34 million US dollars on April 3, 2001, during the tenure of the past government.

From March 1991 to March 1996, the Bangladesh currency was devalued 20 times against the US dollar, lowering its value by 13 per cent, he said.

On the other hand, Taka was devalued 18 times from June 23, 1996 to July 15, 2001, lowering its value by 27 per cent.

Zahir takes over as DGEP

BSS, Dhaka

Journalist Zahirul Huq yesterday took over as the Director General of the External Publicity Wing under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

An experienced journalist Zahir, was appointed the Director General of External Publicity by the government, according to an official notification.

He worked in a number of newspapers covering economic, political, diplomatic and social beats.

Widely travelled Zahir also covered national and international events, seminars and conferences both at home and abroad.

He was also president of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) and Secretary General of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ).

Shipu Murder case First PW cross-examined

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Mohammad Istiaque Ahmed, first prosecution witness as well as complainant of Iftekhar Ahmed Shipu Murder Case, was cross-examined in the Third Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday.

After an hour-long cross-examination by the lawyers for the accused Joy Hasib, Kazi Arif Ahmed Saikat, Judge Mollah Mostafa Kamal adjourned the hearing till 10.30 am today.

During the cross-examination, Istiaque told the court that he was on good terms with his elder brother Shipu before his (Shipu) death.

The witness also said, he mentioned in the FIR that Shafiqul Alam, Naimuzzaman Zober and Ziauddin Ahmed Jewel wanted to leave the shop of Shipu without paying the price of Nokia mobile set.

"I mentioned the names of Joy Hasib and Saikat to the investigation officer (IO) of the case," he added.

Accused Kazi Sharif Ahmed Saikat and Joy Hasib were produced before the court during the hearing, Kazi Arif Ahmed Saikat, now on bail, was also present in the court.

Three other accused - Ziauddin Ahmed Jewel, son of former Awami League MP Kamal Ahmed Majumder, Naimuzzaman Zober, and Shafiqul Alam have been absconding since the incident.

Iftekhar Ahmed Shipu, 38, a mobile phone trader at UAE Moutre Market in the city's Banani area, was shot dead on May 24, 2000.

Victim's brother Istiaque filed a murder case with Gulshan thana accusing six people, including Jewel, the following day.

Advocate Mahubb Ahmed and Syed Shamim Ahsan Habib appeared for the accused.

Quack chopped to death in Pabna

UNB, Pabna

A quack was chopped to death by the unidentified terrorists at Vinnyogram of Ataikola thana Sunday night. The victims was identified as Abdus Sattar, 52.

Family sources of the victim said he went to Ataikola but did not return at night.

Police recovered his beheaded body from a paddy field yesterday morning and sent it to Sadar hospital for autopsy.

DESA snaps 3580 lines so far

BSS, Dhaka

Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) snapped a total of 3580 power lines and realised Tk 23,72,313 as outstanding and Tk 27,500 as fine during the last 29 days.

N Korean envoy meets LGRD minister

BSS, Dhaka

North Korean Ambassador to Bangladesh Kang Chang Ryol yesterday called on LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan at the latter's secretariat office here.

BCL council tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

About 1100 councillors out of 2026 arrived in the city till last night to attend the 27th national council of the opposition Awami League backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) that scheduled to be held tomorrow.

The rest will come today, BCL sources said.

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the council session as chief guest at Paltan Maidan.

Meanwhile, BCL general secretary Ajay Kar Khokon in a statement called upon the councillors to make the council a success.

The statement said councillors of Dhaka and Barisal divisions will stay at Mahanagar Natya Mancha and Paltan Community Centre, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions at Suchana Community Centre and Chittagong and Sylhet divisions at Rajshahi Community centre in the city during the council.

BNP protests attack on Arafat's HQs

UNB, Dhaka

Ruling BNP yesterday strongly protested and condemned the Israeli attack on the headquarters of Palestine President Yasser Arafat and confining him in his office disconnecting all communications, including power and water.

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, who is also the LGRD and Cooperatives Minister, in a statement said the military operations by Israel defying legitimate demand of Palestinians denotes its (Israel) aggressive and autocratic attitude.

"World conscience is with the Palestinians and will remain with them," Bhuiyan said adding people of Bangladesh like the world community are angered by the Israeli occupation and burst into protest against the Israeli aggression in Ramallah.

"People of Bangladesh are strongly protesting and condemning the aggressive and fascist attitude of Israel, and calling upon it to withdraw its siege and troops from the headquarters of Arafat in Ramallah," said the BNP Secretary General.

Israel will be responsible if anything harmful happens to Arafat, he said calling upon Israel to stop conflict, war and aggression, and return the Palestinians their lands showing respect to the world opinion.

Bhuiyan also made a call to the United Nations and world leaders to ensure security and safety of Yasser Arafat and all other Palestinian leaders.

Death anniversary of Hasan Hafizur Rahman observed

BSS, Dhaka

The 19th death anniversary of noted author, diplomat and poet Hasan Hafizur Rahman was observed here yesterday.

Hasan Hafizur Rahman was the editor of "Muktijuddher Ethas" (History of the Liberation War) published in 16 episodes having 14,600 pages.

He also served as a chairman of the editorial board of now defunct Dainik Bangla, Bangladesh envoy in Moscow and teacher in Jagannath College.

He was decorated with the Independence Award-2002 this year. Earlier, he was honoured with the Ekushey Padak.

Different organisations observed the death anniversary of Hasan Hafizur Rahman with due respect.

He died at Central Clinic Hospital in Moscow in 1983.



Justice Muhammad Hussain's death anniversary today

Today is the 16th death anniversary of Justice Syed Muhammad Hussain, says a press release.

An eminent judge of the Supreme Court, Justice Hussain was also the chairman of the Bangladesh Chapter of International Law Association, Amnesty International and International Commission of Jurists. His publication includes a book titled 'Banglar Katha'.

Justice Hussain was one of the pioneers of cultural movement in the country. He was the general secretary of the Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts (BAFA) and Pakistan Arts Council.

In recognition of his contribution, Justice Hussain was awarded 'Swadhinata Padak' (Posthumous) in 1998.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Narayanganj Road Division Shimrail, Narayanganj

RHD Notice Inviting Quotation (2nd Call)

It is circulate for general information of all concerned that sealed quotation are hereby invited from reputed firms/agencies/contractor etc for leasing out the collection of tolls at Daudkandi Toll Plaza for crossing the Meghna-Gomti & Meghna Bridge at Daudkandi on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway under Narayanganj Road Division for a period of 1 (one) year from the date of agreement.

1. Quotation Notice : 03/Narayanganj Road Division of 2001-2002.
2. Description of lease : The collection of tolls at Daudkandi Toll Plaza for crossing the Meghna-Gomti & Meghna Bridge from different kinds of vehicles/transport etc under Narayanganj Road Division for a period of 1 (one) year from the date of agreement including providing manpower, securities and other ancillaries for operation of Toll Plaza by the lessee.
3. Name of offices for availability of quotation documents : Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, Sagunbagicha, Dhaka/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Dhaka/Manikgonj/Munshiganj/Narshingdi/Narayanganj/Gazipur/Bridge Design Division-1 (Eastern), Bridge Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Planning & Design Division under Addl. Chief Engineer (RHD), Dhaka Zone/Chittagong Zone/Comilla Zone/Rajshahi Zone/Rangpur Zone/Khulna Zone/Barisal Zone & Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Bhitkandi/Narayanganj Road Sub-Division-1/2.
4. Name of offices to receive of quotation bids : Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, Sagunbagicha, Dhaka/Addl. Chief Engineer (RHD), Dhaka Zone/Chittagong Zone/Comilla Zone/ Rajshahi Zone/Rangpur Zone/ Khulna Zone/Barisal Zone/ Speriintending Engineer (RHD), Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka & Procurement & Monitoring Circle/ Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Dhaka/Manikgonj/Munshiganj/Narshingdi/Gazipur.
5. Last date of selling of quotation papers : 3-04-2002 up to office hours.
6. Last date & time of receipt of quotation bids : Up to 12-30 PM on 4-04-2002.
7. Last date & time for opening of quotation bids : At 12-45 PM of 08-04-2002.
8. Earnest money : 10% (ten per cent) of quoted amount in favour of Executive Engineer (RHD), Narayanganj Road Division in Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank/Protrakhya Sanchaypatra to 5-years Bangladesh Sanchaypatra etc is to be submitted along with the quotation bids.
9. Value of the quotation papers : Tk 2,000/- (Taka two thousand) only per set (non-refundable)

N.B.- As per instruction of the S.E (RHD), Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka vide his Memo No. 3567 (6) dated 8.8.94 all tenders will have to be opened in the Divisional Office. As such the receiving officer's are requested to send the tenders received by them in sealed conditions before the date of opening.

Executive Engineer, RHD
Narayanganj Road Divn
Shimrail, Narayanganj

DFP-7467-28/3/02
G-855



A bilateral meeting between Bangladesh and Canada was held in the city yesterday. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Reaz Rahman and Canadian Secretary of State for Asia & Pacific David Kilgour MP led the respective sides at the meeting.

Obituary

BSS, Dhaka

Alhaj Mosammat Jahanara Begum, mother of Peer of Azimpur Daira Sharif Alhaj Maulana Shah Sufi Syed Ahmadullah and wife of Alhaj Maulana Hazarat Shah Sufi Syed Waliullah, died of cardiac arrest yesterday at the age of 72.

She was buried at the family graveyard of Daira Sharif. The qukhwani of the deceased will be held on April 4 after Magrib prayers at Daira Sharif, said a press release.

Hajee Syed Ali

UNB, Comilla

Hajee Syed Ali, who was believed to be the country's oldest man, died of old age ailment at his Naora village in Laksam upazila here on Sunday at the age of 120.

Syed Ali, a close aide and disciple of Congress leader of 1930's Jamiruddin Pandit of Naora village, left behind his wife, two sons, five daughters, and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

Ali was buried at his family graveyard yesterday.

WEATHER TODAY

No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Comilla and Noakhali with hails today.

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country, said the Met office predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country during the period.

Country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and the lowest 19.3 degree at Rajshahi.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.14 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:49 am

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.0	21.5	75	58
Chittagong	31.5	23.4	72	65
Rajshahi	33.6	19.0	87	69
Khulna	34.0	21.0	87	69
Barisal	33.0	21.0	83	76
Sylhet	31.5	20.2	54	84
Cox's Bazar	32.3	22.4	77	76

Construction of Canadian HC chancery complex begins

BSS, Dhaka

The visiting Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific David Kilgour yesterday inaugurated the construction of a chancery complex for the Canadian High Commission expected to be completed by 2005.

Canadian High Commission now housed in a rented accommodation, plans to move out to its own complex at Madani Avenue, Baridhara in the city in three years.

Breaking the ground for the complex Kilgour explained the growing bilateral economic and trade ties between Canada and Bangladesh as well as various programmes his country took to assist Bangladesh.

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan, Minister for Housing and Public Works Mirza Abbas and Canadian High Commissioner David Preston graced the ground breaking ceremony.

Morshed Khan recalled that Canada was among first few western countries to recognise Bangladesh on February 14 in 1972.

BCIC International Tender Notice

বিস্বায়সির ব' প' শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Managing Director, Urea Fertilizer Factory Ltd., Ghorasal, Narsingdi, Bangladesh invites sealed quotation on two envelopes system for supply of one set Tube Bundle Assembly with Shell (including end covers) Complete Unit for Ammonia Condenser under Tender No.UFFL/FP-PM/10/2001-2002/1008 on C&F(C) Chittagong Sea Port basis. Tender will be received up to 11-00 AM on 5-5-2002. Tender documents will be available at Taka 500/- (non-refundable) from (1) Accounts Division, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A., Dhaka, (2) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A., Chittagong & (3) UFFL. The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC-686-20/3/2002
DFP-7046-23/3/02

G-813

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District-Sylhet

Memo No.-LGED/XEN/SYL/5-268/2001-2002/1232 Dated: 20-03-2002

Tender Notice
No: 60/2001-2002

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for the execution of 2 (two) number of schemes under Sylhet Feeder Road Project (Phase-IV) in LGED, Sylhet from the valid pre-qualified enlisted contractors/construction firms of Sylhet Feeder Road Project (Phase-IV) in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 along with additional terms and conditions attached with the tender notice and schedule for the work. Tender schedule could be purchased from the office of the Project Director, Sylhet Feeder Road Project (Phase-IV), LGED, H/Q Dhaka, Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet Division, Executive Engineer, LGED, Moulvibazar, Habigonj, Sunamgonj, concerned Upzaila Engineer office of Sylhet District & office of the undersigned up to 10-04-2002 during office hours. Tender will be received up to 1-30 PM on 11-04-2002 in the specified tender boxes of the abovementioned offices and will be opened at 2-00 PM on the same day in presence of the tenderers or their authorized representatives (if any). Detail terms & conditions and schedule can be seen in the office of the undersigned if necessary. Tender will be summarily rejected if 2.5% earnest money of quoted rate is not given with tender documents. The authority has the right to accept/reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP-7160-24/3/02
G-832

Executive Engineer
LGED, Sylhet