

## SCF calls strike July 20

UNB, Dhaka

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) has called upon the government to put an end to the existing problems at the National University (NU).

SCF at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday afternoon put up eight-point demands to resolve problems hindering academic activities at the NU.

SCF called a strike on July 20 in all the colleges across the country.

The left-leaning student or-

ganisation said their demands would have been met for the sake of over six lakh students studying in some 1200 NU-affiliated colleges across the country.

Addressing the press conference SCF organiser Abu Nayeem narrated various problems of the NU students.

SCF president Nurul Islam, Khalequzzaman Lipon, Khokan Das, Mosharrar Hossain, Mahmudur Rahman Mamun and Ruseh Khan Khumra were present.

## RSF, BCDJC condemn fresh attacks on newsmen

UNB, Dhaka

The Reporters Sans Frontiers (RSF) and the Bangladesh Centre for Development Journalism and Communication (BCDJC) have denounced what they said new organised attacks on the media by the supporters of the ruling party.

"The government's press freedom policy has proved to be totally ineffective to judge by these renewed attacks on journalists directly involving militant supporters of the ruling party," said RSF Secretary General Robert Menard in a joint letter to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia.

"The government must end the impunity enjoyed by those, including its own camp, who physically attack journalists," said the president of the BCDJC.

The letter mentioned that since Khaleda came to power, more than 80 journalists and photographers have been attacked or threatened with death by supporters of the ruling coalition.

Between April 20 and May 2, two journalists were brutally attacked, six received death threats and several newsstands were vandalised, it said.

It added that the RSF would shortly publish a report on its March 3-10 fact-finding mission to Bangladesh.



The covers of most manholes at the Maghbazar Masjid Lane have been stolen but the authorities are indifferent to the suffering of the road users. Photo shows local people trying to lift an autorickshaw after one of its wheels got stuck in a manhole.

## Three crore exposed to arsenic contamination

AGENCIES, Dhaka

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khondker Mosharrar Hossain yesterday said the habitual dependence on tubewells for drinking water has intensified the arsenic problem in the country.

"According to a survey, at least 3 crore people are exposed to arsenic contamination and 7.5 crore are at risk of developing the disease," he said at a ministerial roundtable in the 55th World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva.

## Second service of volvo bus from Saturday

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) will launch its second service by Volvo double-decker buses on Motijheel-Rampura-Kuril-Joydebpur route in the city on Saturday.

Communication Minister Barister Nazmul Huda will inaugurate the service at the Dhaka-Kolkata International Bus Terminal at Motijheel bus depot at 4 pm, a BRTC press release said.

Ambassador of Sweden Borje Mattsson and senior officials of the Communications Ministry will attend the function.

The roundtable, which addressed the theme "Risks to Health" was participated by the health ministers from the United States, China, Spain, Russia, South Africa, Benin, Italy, Iran, Brazil, Cuba, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Bosnia-Herzegovina, according to a message received in the city.

The health minister said a total of 10,560 cases of "arsenicosis" have been identified so far, but more researches are needed to find out alternative sources of safe drinking water.

The minister identified universal access to basic health services at affordable prices as the number one priority of health policies for the developing countries.

Dr Hossain apprised the participating ministers of the recent initiatives taken to ban the use of polythene bags and the phasing out of old vehicles from the roads in the major cities of Bangladesh to reduce environmental pollution contributing to grave health risks.

He laid emphasis on the need for establishing reliable surveillance on non-communicable diseases, aimed at monitoring the pattern and measuring the effectiveness of preventive interventions.

The health minister is leading a six-member delegation to the World Health Assembly.



## Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Nafisa Taher Choudhury (Nanni), wife of Dr Abu Taher Choudhury and daughter of late Tara Mia of Moez Manzil, Faridpur, will be held at House No 53, Road No 7B, Block H, Banani, after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

She died on May 8.

Relatives, friends and admirers are requested to attend the qulkhwani.

## EWU job fair May 18

The East West University (EWU) will organise a job fair in the city on May 18, says a press release.

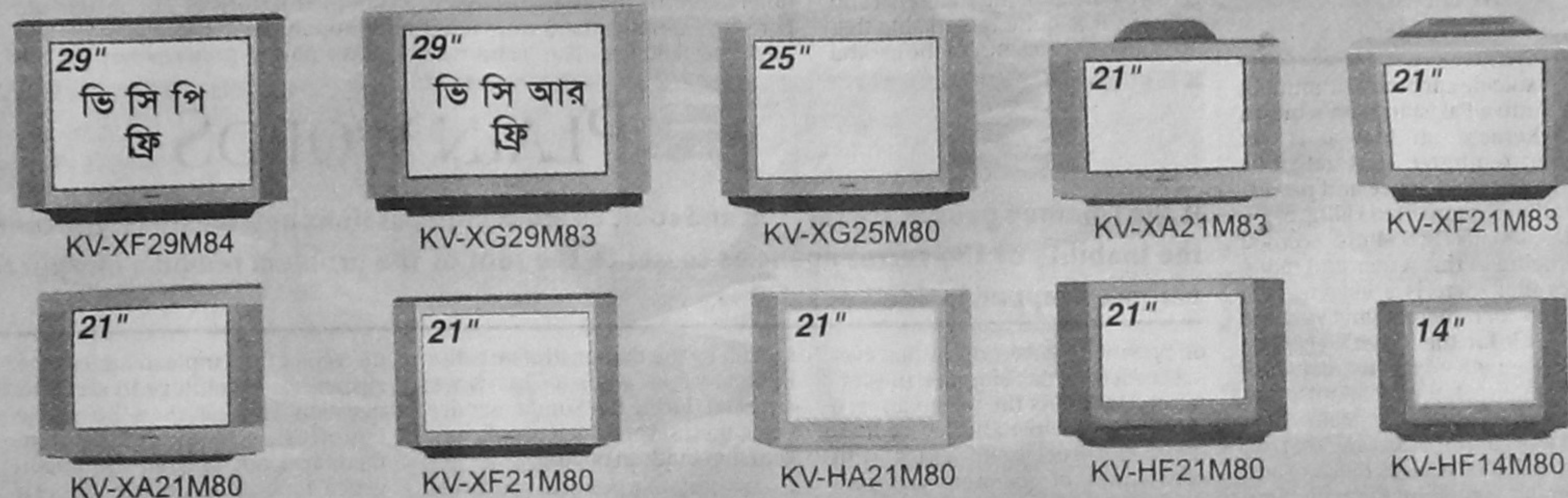
The fair will be held at the LGED Bhaban Auditorium, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar.

Commerce minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury will inaugurate the fair at 10.00 am.

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## গাড়ী বিক্রয়ের দরপত্র আহবান

নিম্নলিখিত চালু গাড়ীগুলো বিক্রয়ের জন্য অগ্রহী ক্রেতাদের নিকট  
হতে সিলমোহরযুক্ত নামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

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টয়োটা উইজম (৩০০০ সি.সি.)	১১৯৩	১৯৯৩	প্রধান কার্যালয়
টয়োটা উইজম (২৯৫০ সি.সি.)	১১৯২	১৯৯২	৬৯, সফাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম
টয়োটা উইজম (২৯৫০ সি.সি.)	১১৯৪	১৯৯৪	প্রধান কার্যালয়
মার্সিডিজ বেঞ্জ (১৯৯৭ সি.সি.)	১৯৮৪	১৯৮৪	প্রধান কার্যালয়
টয়োটা ভিট (১৯৮০ সি.সি.)	১১৯৮	১৯৯৮	প্রধান কার্যালয়

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