METROPOLITAN

Significant progress towards democracy: Draft ERD report

BSS, Dhaka

significant progress towards a professional groups. viable democratic transition while model of "moderate Muslim through the government and nondemocracy".

performance has been better than possibilities. the initial anticipations after the The report pointed out that human development were faster country's political independence, ensuring free and fair elections said a draft report of the Economic through non-partisan caretaker the draft report observed. Relations Division (ERD) released government has been a in Dhaka yesterday.

notwithstanding the early negative institutions in the country. predictions, Bangladesh has achieved considerable success in important gains in terms of several spheres such as population increased political and electoral disasters. control, reduction in child participation of women, enhanced mortality and malnutrition, press freedom and increasingly mainstreaming women in the active civic movements, the draft development process, catalysing report added. grassroots activism through NGOs and CBOs and in making progress also stands out in cross- child nutrition, and in the spread democratic transition.

These successes, the draft income observers terming report said, show the importance government sectors at low-income On many counts, Bangladesh's level to realise higher social reduction,

noteworthy political innovation in said, the backdrop of weak democratic overcoming the phenomena of came back and found his luggage

country comparison and supports of primary education.

The draft report will be the proposition that higher social finalised after a series of and human development The country has achieved consultations with different outcomes can be achieved even at a lower level of per capita national

Notwithstanding the relatively Bangladesh's experience as a role of undertaking public action slow per capita income growth of about two per cent per annum and modest pace of income poverty Bangladesh's achievements in the broad area of and, in some respects, remarkable,

> Bangladesh, the report said, mass starvation and the threat of missing. There have also been famine syndrome in the backdrop of endemic vulnerability to natural | lice Station in this connection.

played an important role in the about Tk 1.73 lakh were lost desuccess of micro-credit, ready- spite tight security measures in the made garment exports, reducing airport area. The report said Bangladesh's population growth, increasing

Luggage lost at ZIA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gold ornaments and other valuables of a home coming passenger were lost amid police-BDR surveillance at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) yesterday.

Sources said one Harunur Rashid, son of Abdus Sattar Bepari of Mehendiganj, Barisal went to Saudi Arabia three years ago. He returned home in the morning flight of Bangladesh Biman at about 8:30am.

On completion of airport formalities, he kept his luggage in the canopy area and went outside to witnessed significant success in hire a taxicab. But minutes after he

He filed a case with Airport Po In the FIR, he alleged that his Bangladeshi women, have hard-earned valuables worth

IFCL resumes production

BSS, Dhaka

Jamuna Fertiliser Factory Ltd (JFCL) of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) resumed its production on Friday.

The production of granular urea fertiliser resumed after completion of necessary repair work of Secondary Reformer of Ammonia Plant, a BCIC press release said yesterday.

The factory had to shut down its production a few months back due to sudden breakdown of th Secondary Reformer of Ammonia Plant of the factory.

Fazle Imam sick

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fazle Imam, senior vice-president of the Bangladesh Newspapers Press Workers' Federation, will leave for Bangkok today for treatment, says a press release.

President of the federation Mosharraf Hossain and secretary general Mozammel Haq, in statement yesterday, urged all to pray for his early recovery.

Gulf country.

At present, a large number of Bangladeshis are working in Oman which so far recruited 2.24 lakh Bangladeshis since 1976.

The state minister informed the delegation that 1,500 Bangladeshi graduate doctors and 100 dental surgeons enter into the job market every year after completing standard education.

He said some 2,000 doctors and 47,000 paramedics are now eligible for taking job abroad. Besides, 38 training institutes in the country are creating skilled nurses through four-year diploma course.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling BNP has announced fresh programme in protest of 'filthy' remarks on the founder of the party late president Ziaur Rahman by Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina.

Remarks about Zia

programme

BNP announces fresh

According to the programme, Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, a front organisation of the BNP, would organise rallies and processions today while the BNP would ob; serve similar programme at thana Geographical Society

AGM June 27 Annual general meeting and day-

long conference of Bangladesh Geographical Society will be held at 9:30 am on June 27 at the conference room of Bangladesh Institute of Administration and Management (BIAM) at 63, New Eskaton road in the city, says a press release. President of Society and Pro-

fessor, Department of Geography and Environment, Dhaka University Dr Amanat Ullah Khan will chair the inaugural session. Prof. Jamilur Reja Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, BRAC University, will attend the function as chief guest. and Prof Yusuf Haider, dean, Faculty of Science, University of Dhaka as special guest.

Professor Nazrul Islam, Department of Geography and Environment, University of Dhaka will present the key-note paper.

level in Dhaka tomorrow. Other front organisations ...

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Jubodal, Jatiyatabadi Krishak Dal, Jatiyatabadi Mahila Dal, Jatiyatabadi Muktijoddha Dal, JASAS, and Swechhasebak Dal would organise similar programmes on June 25. 26, 27, 28 and 29 respectively.

Call to withdraw ban on Matir Moina

More cultural activists, teachers, poets and others have urged the Film Censor Board to withdraw its ban on the feature film 'Matir Moina', says a press release.

In a statement yesterday, they said the ban on screening the film deprives the people of their democratic right.

The signatories to the statement include Mostafa Monowar. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Selim Al Deen, Mamunur Rashid, Dr Akhter Ahmed, Farida Parveen, and Selina Hossain.

The film has been submitted to the Appeal Board for reconsideration of the ban.

Matir Moina, directed by Tareque Masud, was screened at Cannes Film Festival and selected as best film by the juries.

It was also invited to film festivals at Venice, Toronto, Delhi, Argentina and Morocco.

The 80th birth



eminent artist Safiuddin Ahmed will be observed today, says a press re-

On the occa-

A musical soiree will also be



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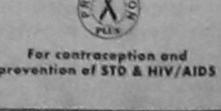
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The Premier Bank Limited, Head Office, Igbal Centre, 4th floor, 42 Kemal Ataturk Avenue Banani, Dhaka Tel: 9887581-4, 017-826047, Fax: 8815393, E-mail: prebank@bangla.net.

Awami League leaders took out a procession in the city yesterday protesting Jatiya Sangsad resolution condemning Leader of the Opposition

in Parliament and party chief Sheikh Hasina. Oman will recruit more Bangladeshi doctors

Oman will recruit more Bangladeshi doctors, nurses and medical technicians. A three-member delegation

from the Health Ministry of Oman expressed the interest when it called on State Minister for Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment Major (Retd) M Kamrul Islam in the city yesterday. Dr Sadia Amor Al-Riyami led

the official delegation, which is now visiting Bangladesh to take interview of Bangladeshi physicians for appointing them in the

Birth anniversary



lease.

sion, the Shilpakala Academy will hold a function at its gallery. Noted artist Mohammad Kibria will preside over the ceremony.

held on the occasion.

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