

### Dhaka to open marketing office at Silicon Valley

BSS, Dhaka  
Bangladesh is going to open a marketing office at Silicon Valley in the United States to procure business in the field of information and communication technology (ICT).  
Sources in the Commerce Ministry said the Export Promotion Bureau would open the office and necessary manpower would be recruited from the private sector.  
It was learnt that one or two Bangladeshi IT experts living in the US might be employed in the proposed office to carry out a market survey and build up a bridge between local ICT firms and Bangladeshi experts abroad.  
Software export and procuring

business for software outsourcing and bond services by bringing in ICT would be the main task of the office.  
Dr. Sheikh Mizan, coordinator of TechBangla that has links between local IT firms and Bangladeshi experts living abroad, expressed his happiness at the decision of the Commerce Ministry to open the IT office.  
"We have been trying for such an office for long," he said, adding that American Association of Bangladesh Engineers and Architects and donor agencies would extend their cooperation in opening IT offices.  
The proposed IT marketing office will have liaison with the Bangladesh mission in the United States.

### Sircar, Khaleda greet Malaysian king, PM

UNB, Dhaka  
Acting President Muhammad Jamiruddin Sircar and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday felicitated the Malaysian king and the prime minister on the occasion of the 45th National Day of Malaysia.  
In a message to Malaysian King Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail, the acting president said, "It is my firm belief that the existing friendly relations between the two countries will be further strengthened and consolidated in the years to come."  
In another message to Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad, Khaleda Zia said, "I'm confident that the friendship and cooperation that mark the relations between the two brotherly countries will continue to grow in the years ahead to the mutual benefit of our two peoples."  
Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina has also felicitated the Malaysian prime minister on the same occasion.



The Udichi Shilpi Goshthi staged a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding that the Ekushey Television be allowed to broadcast again.

### Corruption at cow corridors Govt deprived of Tk 50 cr revenue a year

UNB, Rajshahi  
The government is being deprived of Tk 50 crore in revenue every year from cow corridors in borders of the greater Rajshahi division due to negligence and corruption by a section of customs officials and BDR.  
Official sources said local customs office earned Tk 44.11 crore from 10 cow corridors in Rajshahi division in the last fiscal year.  
They said some 8.78 lakh cattle were brought into the country from India through the corridors during the last 13 months till July 2.  
The cow traders alleged that they had to pay Tk 700-800 per cow against the government rate of Tk 500.  
They said they can bring a cow in the country by giving BDR and police only Tk 200-300 outside the corridors, and many traders do so to evade tax.  
According to an estimate, more than 9 lakh cattle were brought into the country during the last fiscal year, depriving the government of over Tk 50 crore.  
Conflicts between police and customs officials over sharing of illegal money are also common.  
Activities at Rajabari cow corridor in Rajshahi were suspended for seven hours on June 8 this year due to a conflict between police and customs officials.

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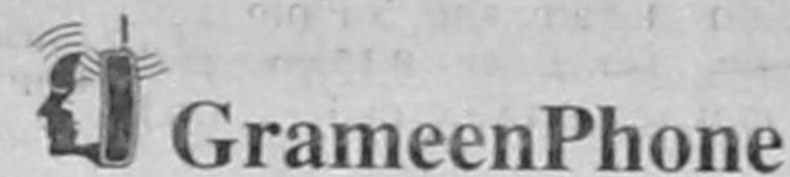
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