



Shamsuddin nominated Rotary Dist Governor

AKM Shamsuddin has been elected District Governor...

A Paul Harris Fellow and Past President of Rotary Club...

He was inducted to Rotary as a member of Rotary Club...

The country delegate, Bangladesh, of Aventus Group...

He is also associated with many social welfare bodies...

His wife, Mrs. Shamsuddin, is also a Paul Harris Fellow...

ADB to provide \$61m for CHT development

BSS, Rangamati

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide 61 million dollars...

Addressing a seminar marking the completion of one year of the government...

He said the fund would be spent in seven years.

Termining peace as pre-condition to development...

Secretary in charge of the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs...

He said the donor agencies resumed their activities in the CHT as the present government is sincere...

Chairmen of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban Hill District Councils...

Farewell for O Level students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Mastermind International School organised a farewell for the 1st batch of O Level students...

Prof Tapan Jyoti Barua of English department of the Chittagong University attended the function...

Prof Barua stressed the need for maintaining quality education in the schools...

He said English is an international language, it helps learners to cope with the competition in practical life.

The function was also addressed by Homa Zaman, vice principal, Akbar Hossain, chairman of the school.



Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman speaks at a meeting at the NEC conference room in the city yesterday on the occasion of World Thrift Day.

Army medical corps to be further modernised: PM

UNB, Rajshahi

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday said that as in the past, despite resource constraints...

She expressed her firm belief that as in the past, members of army medical corps, dental corps and armed forces nursing services...

Paying homage to the memory of soldiers and officers, who embraced martyrdom during the 1971 liberation war...

Army Medical Corps continued its forward march since its inception in the Liberation War in 1971.

services will be further modernised with latest technologies to ameliorate the health services in the days ahead...

She said members of the army medical corps, dental corps and armed forces nursing services would do their utmost in serving the people facing any calamity.

She said a large number of officers and soldiers of the then army medical corps directly took part in the liberation war.

The prime minister also offered sympathy to the family members of the martyrs, who were present at the reunion.

During the liberation war, the members of this corps served the injured people on one hand and on the other, carried out attacks against the enemy.

"Distressed people of Bangladesh received your company and services in facing every calamity in national life," Khaleda said.

She also recalled their glorious role in various missions abroad. "Your professional performance, skill, sincerity and dutifulness earned acclamation both for yourself and the country."

Khaleda mentioned that late President Ziaur Rahman had taken the first initiative to build up a time-befitting, well-trained and disciplined army.

The prime minister also asked them to be more careful in performing their respective duties. To achieve success in battlefield, "you have to attain more skill as soldiers," she said.

Govt to strengthen trade ties with neighbours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Shipping Minister Lt Col (Retd) Akbar Hossain yesterday said transportation of goods to seven north-eastern states of India through Chittagong port is under consideration of the government.

"If it is approved then an agreement would be signed with New Delhi," he said adding that the government is also considering to build up trade relation with Nepal and Bhutan.

Chittagong port is being expanded for this purpose, said the minister.

He was speaking as chief guest at a roundtable titled "The role of Chittagong port in economic development of the country" at the port rest house.

Dr M Rahamat Ullah, programme director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, moderated the dialogue.

Shipping Secretary Golam Rahman, Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) Chairman Commodore (Retd) Zulfiqar Ali, Mongla Port Authority Chairman Commodore (Retd) MK Alam, Bangladesh Land Port Authority Chairman Sharif Atiqur Rahman, General Manager of Bangladesh Railway (East) AKM Rezaul Karim, Director of Chittagong Export Promotion Bureau Kazi Mahubur Rahman, Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) President Amir Humayun Mahmud Chowdhury, BCCCI Senior Vice-President and BGMEA first Vice-President Ershad Ullah, Bangladesh Masters Stevedores Association (BMSA) Chairman HM Monjurul Alam, Chittagong Customs Clearing & Forwarding Agents Association President AKM Akhter Hossain.

11.6 lakh tons of foodgrains procured last fiscal

BSS, Dhaka

The Food Ministry build up a highest food stock in the country by procuring eight lakh metric tons of rice and 3.6 lakh metric tons of wheat during the last fiscal.

This was stated at a roundtable on "Activities, success and future plan of the food ministry" at the conference room of food department here yesterday.

Food Minister Abdullah Al-Noman attended the function as chief guest while former director general of food department Abul Hasanat Mofazzal Karim was in the chair.

The roundtable was informed that during the last one year the government had spent Tk 1600 crore for procurement of foodgrains from farmers through which the farmers were given price incentive of about Tk 300 crore to their production cost.

During the period movement of foodgrains were made cost effective. A number of food-silo were constructed and projects were taken to expand Chittagong Jetty and construct a silo in Mongla at a cost of Tk 38 crore.

Officials of the food ministry said Tk 28 crore was allocated for construction, repair and renovation of the food godowns across the country last year.

Death anniversary



The 4th death anniversary of M Anisuzzaman, an eminent journalist, columnist and former managing director and chief editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), will be observed today, says a press release.

He died of a cardiac arrest in 1998 at the age of 69.

On this occasion, quarkhwan and milad mahfil will be held at Gulbagh Jam-e-Masjid at New Elephant Road in the city after Juma prayers.

Consumer watchdog to be formed

UNB, Dhaka

The government is going to form a national accreditation body that will look after the laboratory management, quality management system, certification body management and environmental management system in the country.

In a bid to form the body, the government yesterday constituted a 14-member committee headed by the Additional Secretary of Industries Ministry. The committee will recommend the modalities of the formation of the national body within four months.

The committee, comprising representatives of public and private sector organisations, trade bodies and national-level scientific research organisations, will analyse the formation of similar national bodies of other countries to frame the recommendations.

The committee was formed at the council meeting of Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) held in the city with Industries Minister MK Anwar in the chair, said an official release.

At the meeting, the industries minister asked the BSTI authorities to earn confidence of millions of consumers by ensuring marketing of quality products across the country.

The minister said the government is going to strengthen the BSTI to enforce all producers and sellers to come under the quality and accurate weight.

At the same time, he said laboratory and manpower facilities of BSTI would be increased to protect the rights of consumers and thereby help attract foreign consumers.

The council meeting approved the amendments of BSTI Employees Recruitment Rules to fill up the vacant posts there. The meeting also approved another seven items -- two foods and five cosmetics -- to come under the compulsory certification marks (CM).

BSTI has so far taken a total of 131 category of products under the compulsory CM. Besides, another 14 items will come under the scheme shortly. The new products under CM are pasteurised milk, soft-drink, powder, skin-care cream, shaving cream, after-shave lotion, lipsticks and hair oil.

The minister asked the BSTI authorities to take steps to include ice cream and biscuit under the compulsory CM.

The meeting was told that BSTI had sent 150 surveillance teams in the city markets and other towns in the last fiscal year to ensure the quality of products, BSTI certification and weight. In the first quarter of 2002-03, they sent 17 teams in the market.

Industries Secretary Al-Ameen Chowdhury, representatives of different ministries, including commerce, agriculture, finance, energy, jute, labour, telecommunication, defence, health and Atomic Energy Commission, BUET, IEB, BOI, and chamber representatives attended the meeting.

Dhaka calls for disaster mitigation fund for LDCs

BSS, New Delhi

Bangladesh yesterday called for creating a disaster mitigation fund for least developed countries (LDCs) to address phenomena like frequent floods and droughts caused by changing climatic conditions due to global warming.

The impact of climate change is life threatening for LDCs and small island countries though it may threaten the "life style" of the developed ones, Bangladesh said at an international ministerial roundtable here.

Bangladesh also underlined the need for streamlining the Global Environment Facility and operationalisation of special climate change and LDC fund to urgently address the problems of the least developed nations.

The Bangladesh proposals came at the ministerial roundtable session on "Climate Change and Sustainable Development" at the Vidyut Bhaban as part of the high-level segment of the eighth session of conference of parties (COP-8) to United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

COP-8 president TR Baalu chaired while South African Environment Minister Valli Moosa co-chaired the second roundtable session. Ministers of USA, Germany, UK, Uganda, Colombia took part in the roundtable.



SAA Masrur, Head of Corporate and Institutions, Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh, speaks at a farewell reception accorded to outgoing CEO of SCB Muhammad A (Rumeel) Ali recently. On his left are John Filmeridis, Regional General Manager, Middle East and South Asia (MESA), Muhammad A (Rumeel) Ali, outgoing CEO, and Osman Morad, Regional Head of Institutional Banking, MESA, and CEO of SCB, Bahrain. And on his right are Azhar Hamid, CEO of SCB, Pakistan, Vivek Ahuja, Regional Head of Finance, MESA, and Badar Kazmi, Regional Head of Global Markets, MESA.

Senior Shipping Manager of James Finlay BK Chowdhury, Managing Director of QC Shipping Jamaluddin Quader Chowdhury and Chittagong Press Club General Secretary Faruq Iqbal also addressed the roundtable.

Leaders of different organisations using Chittagong port underscored the need for handing over the management of the port to private sector to bring dynamism and cost-effectiveness in its operational activities.

They opposed the construction of a private container terminal at Karnaphuli estuary. When the New Mooring Container Terminal goes into operation, there would be no need for any private port here till 2015, they observed.

They also suggested for dissolving the existing Dock Workers Management Board and entrusting the Stevedoring Agencies with the responsibility of controlling the workers.

Amir Humayun Chowdhury said instead of the port authority, a private agency can purchase and operate container handling equipment.

Md Amirul Haq said a regulatory committee can be formed for smooth management of the port activities.



Russian ballets: The Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen 8 films focusing on ballet...

Iranian film show: The Dhaka University Film Society will screen two Iranian films titled 'Children of the Haven'...

French film show: Alliance Francaise will screen a French film titled 'Une Femme ou deux'...

WB film show: Chalachitra Film Society will screen a West Bengal film titled 'Udayar Path'...

Painting exhibition: The inaugural ceremony of the solo painting exhibition of artist Murtaja Bashir will be held...

Convocation: The sixth convocation ceremony of North South University will be held with President Prof Iqbaluddin Ahmed as chief guest...

Farewell and reception: The farewell and reception programme of the School of Business Administration and School of English, Queens University will be held...

Russian ballets: The Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen two ballet films titled 'The Nutcracker' and 'Anna Karenina'...

Auction of paintings: The opening ceremony of the second silent auction of painting/art by prominent artists of Bangladesh for the Hospital Endowment Fund will be held...

Award giving ceremony: The award giving ceremony of Bexfabrics Anayid Eid Fashion Competition 2002 will be held...

Drama: Mohakal Natya Sampraday will stage a drama titled 'Shikhandi Katha' directed by Rashid Harun...

IUBAT seminar: International University of Business, Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) will organise a seminar on 'Leadership Development'...

Convention: The inaugural ceremony of the 7th annual quality convention, organised by Bangladesh Society for Total Quality Management...

WEATHER TODAY. No change in temperature. UNB, Dhaka. Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country...

Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO) Invitation of Bid, Notice No. 12/2002. 1.0 Sealed bids in two separate envelopes (One Technical Proposal, One Financial Proposal) are hereby invited...

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক. শীতকালীন পোশাক (রেডিমেইড) সরবরাহের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি. ব্যাংকের পোশাক পরিচ্ছদ পাওয়ারযোগ্য কর্মচারীদের শীতকালীন পোশাক (কাপড় ও সেলাইসহ) ব্যাংক কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত...