

Buy more goods from Bangladesh

Bhuiyan requests Bhutanese envoy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday urged Bhutan to buy more goods and products from Bangladesh to remove the existing trade gap.

He made the request when the Ambassador of Royal Bhutanese Embassy in Dhaka Dasho Dophu Tshering paid a courtesy call on him at his Secretariat office.

During the meeting, Bhuiyan said the trade balance is quite in favour of Bhutan and urged the ambassador to take initiative to reduce the gap through purchasing more goods from Bangladesh.

He said Bangladesh considers Bhutan as one of the most closest neighbours and relation between the two countries is excellent.

President, PM greet Sultan of Oman

BSS, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday felicitated the Sultan Qaboos Bin Said Al-Said on the occasion of the national day of the Sultanate of Oman.

In a message, President Iajuddin Ahmed expressed his conviction that the excellent bilateral relations that so happily existing between the two brotherly countries would grow further to mutual benefits.

Khaleda Zia in a separate message said "the government and the people of Bangladesh join me in conveying to you and through you to the government and the brotherly people of Oman our heartfelt greetings on the happy occasion of the national day of the Sultanate of Oman."

Both Bhuiyan and Tshering recalled the contribution of late President Ziaur Rahman towards strengthening trade relationship between Bangladesh and Bhutan.

The LGRD minister assured all out cooperation to the new ambassador during his diplomatic assignment in Bangladesh and hoped that he would take personal initiative to boost bilateral as well as trade relations.

The ambassador thanked the minister for his cordiality and assured him to work for further strengthening of bilateral relations.

They also discussed regional and international issues of common concern and hoped to work together for global peace.

Bangladesh envoy honoured by ROK

BSS, Dhaka

South Korea has awarded Ifukharul Karim, former Bangladesh Ambassador in Seoul, the Order of Diplomatic Service Merit Gwanghwa Medal for his "great contributions towards enhancing the friendly and co-operative relations in various fields between Bangladesh and Korea."

South Korean Ambassador, on behalf of the South Korean President, conferred the award on Karim, who is now Bangladesh Ambassador to China on Saturday in a solemn and dignified ceremony at the South Korean Embassy in Beijing.

This is for the first time that the South Korea has honoured a Bangladeshi Ambassador, a press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said here yesterday.

Karim served as Bangladesh Ambassador to South Korea before his appointment as Ambassador to China in July 2002.

Safe custody centre for women opens in Sylhet

BSS, Sylhet

Social Welfare Minister Ali Ahsan Mohammed Muzahid yesterday formally inaugurated a safe custody centre for women, children and adolescent at Bagbari area here.

He also addressed a gathering in connection with the inaugural ceremony on the premises of safe custody homes.

Nazrul Islam, Divisional Commissioner, presided over the meeting.

The women, children or adolescents ordered by court to be in the safe custody homes will be accommodated in the centre.

Now 17 persons are living at the homes which can accommodate 50 persons.

WFP, SDC sign LOU to provide emergency aid to flood victims

BSS, Dhaka

World Food Programme (WFP) and the government of the Swiss Confederation, represented by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), has signed a Letter of Understanding (LOU) regarding emergency assistance worth US \$135,000 US dollar to flood victims in Bangladesh.

Markus Waldvogel, Resident Coordinator of the SDC, and Douglas Casson Courts, Representative of WFP in Bangladesh, signed the LOU on behalf of their organisations on Thursday, a WFP press release said here yesterday.



BNP leaders offer munajat at the mazar of Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani at Santosh in Tangail yesterday.

Rich tributes paid to Bhasani

BSS, Tangail

Thousands of people from across the country converged on the mazar of Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani here yesterday and paid homage to the great son of the soil on the occasion of his 26th death anniversary.

A reverberating atmosphere prevailed around the Santosh Islamic Engineering and Technological University premises as people from all walks of life including ministers, leaders of different political parties and socio-cultural organisations wearing black badges and carrying banners poured into the mausoleum since early in the morning to pay tributes to the late leader.

They placed wreaths at the mazar of Moulana Bhasani who was conferred the title 'Mozlum Jananeta' for his life-long devotion to the cause of the downtrodden people. They vowed to implement

the ideals and dreams of the late leader.

Ruling BNP leaders led by Information Minister and convener of the National Committee for observing the Bhasani's 26th death anniversary Tariqul Islam paid homage to the late leader by placing wreath at the mazar yesterday noon.

Food Minister Abdullah Al Noman, State Minister for Housing and Public Works Alamgir Kabir, State Minister for Labour and Employment Lutfur Rahman Khan Azad, State Minister for Agriculture Fakrul Islam Alamgir, State Minister for Water Resources Advocate Goutam Chakraborty, Deputy Minister for Education Advocate Abdus Salam Pintu, General Secretary of the death anniversary observing national committee Mujibur Rahman and senior leaders of BNP and its front organisations were present.

BNP, Tangail district unit organised a discussion meeting on the mazar premises. Information Minister, Food Minister, State and Deputy Ministers took part in the discussion.

In the morning, the Santosh Islamic University Trust held a milad mahfil and prayed at the mazar seeking eternal peace of the departed soul of the great leader.

President of Krishak Samik Janata League Bangabir Abdul Kader Siddiqi, MP, Chairman of Jatiya Party (JP) Hossain Muhammad Ershad, central leader of Jatiya Party (Monju), president members of JP Shafiqul Alam Pradan and Sheikh Sowkat Hossain Nilu, leaders of different local unit of political parties, professional bodies, teachers and students of different educational institutions of the Islamic University Trust placed wreaths at the mazar.

New cultivation tech ups rice yield

BSS, Dhaka

A newly evolved simple rice cultivation technique has proved to be very effective for increased yields without extra inputs prompting growing number of farmers in north and northwestern parts of the country to practice the method.

"The technique is simple -- use younger seedlings, plant one seedling in one hill, take a wider space between the hills and use balanced volume of water for irrigation," Mofizur Rahman, a senior agricultural researcher of Life-Nopest project of Care Bangladesh told BSS.

He added that the method, which was evolved in rice producing Madagascar only some 15 years ago, could produce 32 to 46 per cent more yield for Boro cultivation and 12 per cent for Aman crops without any extra inputs.

The method called System of Rice Intensification (SRI), was tested by Life-Nopest project of Care Bangladesh through farmer level field experiments in 2000 and 2001 and found it to be very effective in boosting the yields of particularly Boro and Aman varieties.

The locations for the December 2001 to May 2002 tests were selected in Kishoreganj, Mymensingh, Sherpur, Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj districts where the production was 28, 36,

42, 16 and 22 per cent higher respectively over the conventional practice, Care officials said.

In view of the success, the Department of Agriculture, Extension of the government also took interest in replicating the method in many areas and came out with encouraging results prompting farmers to undertake the SRI method for other rice varieties too.

Care officials said under the SRI method the young seedlings are preferred for extraction of their full genetic potentials to produce more viable tillers and root growth.

Plants with single seedlings are given wider spaces to reduce competition between hills and keep the soil well-aerated condition to consume more nutrients. And balanced use of water is wanted for drying and wetting of soil in an alternative order to allow the plant to intake maximum nutrients, they said.

Under the conventional methods the farmers use 40 days old seedlings, keep a distance 30 cms between the hills, plant several seedlings for one hill and tend to use more water for irrigation. But, they said, the SRI suggested a little deviation from the traditional practice.

The SRI suggests use of younger seedlings, maintenance of

a distance of 30 to 35 cms between the hills, balanced use of water to keep the soil aerated and plant one seedling in one hill.

The Care agriculturists calculated the average gross margin from SRI at farmers' level to be Tk 22,679 per hectore.

The researchers said the SRI has already created enthusiasm among the farmers and a large number of peasants beyond the project areas also adopted the method.

Agriculture Extension Department and Bangladesh Rice Research Institute have also extended their hands for the expansion of SRI practice across the country.

SSJ programmes to celebrate Victory Day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Sammito Sangskritik Jote (SSJ) has taken up a four-day long programmes to celebrate the Victory Day.

Air Vice-Marshal (Retd) A K Khandaker, deputy chief commander of the Liberation War, will inaugurate the programmes on December 13.

The programmes will be held on the premises of Central Shaheed Minar, Dhaka University Campus and other places in the city.

This was announced by the leaders of the Sammito Sangskritik Jote at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium yesterday.

The Jote leaders said they would urge the university authorities to allow them to hold the pro-

grammes on the campus. They said several committees and sub-committees have been formed for smooth holding of the programmes in which around 200 artists and cultural activists will take part.

They urged different socio-cultural organisations around the country to celebrate the day being imbued with the spirit of the Liberation War.

The Jote leaders also expressed deep concern over the death under army custody during the joint drive against the criminals.

They urged the army to play an impartial role in discharging their duties.

Presided over by SSJ president Nasir Uddin Yousuf, the press conference was addressed by Hasan Hafiz, assistant general secretary, Ramendu Majumdar and Mofidul Haque.

Govt to help insolvent overseas job seekers

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Repatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Major Mohammad Kamrul Islam (Retd) said the government would extend financial help to insolvent overseas job seekers for enhancing income and reducing emigration cost in the manpower export sector.

He said this while addressing as chief guest a workshop titled "National Consultation Workshop on Labour Migration Process in Bangladesh" here.

The workshop, organised by International Organisation for Migration (IOM), was presided

over by UNDP Resident Representative Jorgen Lissner. It was also addressed by BIARA President M A H Selim, MP, and Secretary of the Ministry Mohammad Daliduddin Mondol.

Kamrul said the government has opened separate channel at the airports to ensure the safe transit of the expatriates. "The government will also introduce bus services for transportation of the expatriates from airports," he said adding that 4000 plots land would be allocated to the expatriates at RAJUK Purbachal Residential area.

Five research papers highlighting the problems related to emigration procedures and their possible solutions were presented at the workshop.

Dhaka College Ex-students' reunion on Dec 20

The second reunion of Dhaka College Ex-students' Association will be held at Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex in the city on December 20, says a press release.

The date for registration has been extended to November 30.

Intending ex-students of the college have been requested to collect the registration forms and submit the same within November 30.

Persons to be contacted in this regard are: Nasim Mahmud-8612504, 0171825799, Gazi Ashraf Lipu- 0171523570, Nakibul Islam-7113489, 019352542, Nurul Huda-8619358 and Ajmal Hossain-011043551.

Bangladesh envoy to Cuba presents credentials

BSS, Dhaka

Mohsin Ali Khan, ambassador of Bangladesh concurrently accredited to Cuba (with residence in Ottawa), presented his credentials to Vice-President of Cuba Juan Almeida Bosque at the Presidential Palace in Havana recently.

Accepting the credentials, the Vice-President welcomed the new Bangladesh ambassador and conveyed to him the greetings and best wishes and regards from the president of Cuba to the President and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, a press release of Ministry of Foreign Affairs said here yesterday.



Former foreign minister Abdus Samad Azad leads a human chain formed in front of the Awami League central office on the Bangabandhu Avenue in the city yesterday in demand for release of the party leaders and activists arrested in the army-led anticrime operation.

Office Space Wanted

An established and reputed company required a house of 7000 sq. ft. - 8000 sq. ft. in Dhanmondi R/A. with at least 10 car parking facilities for its corporate head office. Honorable owners of house that can be rented within next 06 (six) months are requested to contact in following numbers. Independent house will be given preference.

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Expressions of Interest

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for Evaluation of ASIRP -Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) Component. The services will include the provision of the following specialists : (a) A Socio-Economist (Team Leader) - 5 person weeks, (b) An Agricultural Extension Specialist - 3 person weeks (c) An Agronomist - 3 person weeks and (d) A Gender Specialist - 3 person weeks. The services will be provided in a period between December 2002 and February 2003. The Project Director of ASIRP, DAE now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants must provide information that they are qualified to perform the services, including an explanation of why they have a competitive advantage in undertaking this evaluation, a brief summary of evaluations they have managed during the last 5 years and brief summary CVs of potential candidates, who all need a postgraduate qualification, relevant experience and a minimum of 15 years experience (Team Leader - 20 years). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedure set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers January 1997, (Revised September 1997, January 1999 and May 2002). Interested consultants may obtain further information from the address below during the hours (09.00-14.00). Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below by 2 p.m. on December 3rd 2002. The Project Director, ASIRP, Dept of Agricultural Extension (DAE), 3rd Floor, Middle Building, Kamarbari, Farmgate Dhaka 1215 Tel: 911377, 9113480 Fax: 8128002



Dutch-Bangla Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Alamgir Rahman speaking at a press briefing at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel in the city yesterday.

পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

রেজিস্টার্ড অফিস
প্রধান কার্যালয়
২৬, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০।

উনবিংশতিতম বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভায় লভ্যাংশ হিসাবে বোনাস শেয়ার প্রদান প্রসঙ্গে প্রস্তাব।

এতদ্বারা পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেডের শেয়ারহোল্ডারদের জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ৩১/১০/২০০২ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত উনবিংশতিতম সাধারণ সভায় বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের অনুমোদন সাপেক্ষে ১৬/১০/২০০২ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অলিকাতা শেয়ারহোল্ডারদের নামে প্রতি ৪টি সাধারণ শেয়ারের জন্য ১টি বোনাস শেয়ার প্রদানের প্রস্তাবটি সর্বসম্মতিক্রমে গৃহীত হয়, তবে ১৫/১১/২০০২ তারিখের মধ্যে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক অনাপত্তি না জানালে, বোনাস শেয়ার প্রদান করা যাবে না এবং বোনাস শেয়ারের জন্য নির্ধারিত পাঁচ কোটি টাকা রিজার্ভ খাতে চূড়ান্তভাবে হিসাবায়ন করা হবে। ১৫/১১/২০০২ তারিখের মধ্যে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের অনাপত্তি পাওয়া যায় নাই বিধায় সাধারণ সভার সিদ্ধান্ত মোতাবেক বোনাস শেয়ারের জন্য নির্ধারিত পাঁচ কোটি টাকা রিজার্ভ খাতে চূড়ান্তভাবে হিসাবায়ন করা হলো।

তারিখ : ১৬/১১/২০০২ইং

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