METROPOLITAN

New Australian high commissioner calls on FM

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan yesterday said Bangladesh is looking forward to working together with Australia for further strengthening bilateral relations.

He said this when the new Australian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Lorraine Barker paid a courtesy call on the foreign minister at his office here.

Morshed Khan said every High Commissioner from Australia was good friend of Bangladesh.

During the meeting he said the government under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is committed to carry forward its economic and development agenda.

He, however, expressed his satisfaction for Bangladesh's being the largest recipient of Australian assistance in this region.

Thanking the Australian government for its student friendly visa regime for Bangladesh and the decision to provide duty and quota-free access of Bangladesh goods and ready-made garments to Australian market, the foreign minister hoped that co-operation between the two countries would reach a new height at the initiative of High Commissioner Lorraine Barker.

The new envoy told the foreign minister that Australian visa regime for Bangladesh students has been so liberalised that the number of visa issued to Bangladesh students has increased by 200 per cent in the last couple of months.

She, however, assured the minister of her cooperation for further strengthening the bilateral relations.

Mobil

Job Responsibilities:

Qualification/Experience:

candidates are encouraged to apply.

required.

advantage.



Bangladesh Mahila Parishad formed a human chain in observance of Human Rights Day in front of the High Court in the city yesterday.

Formation of Nat'l HRC under process: Moudud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

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Maintaining calendar, scheduling meeting, screening calls and

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Graduation, preferably with the background of "O" & "A" level

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Provide general office administration and event planning.

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Maintaining confidential office records and documents.

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"Personal Secretary" to Managing Director.

3-4 years experience in the similar filed.

Good command both in English and Bangla

Working knowledge of the Microsoft Office package

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed yesterday said formation of a National Human Rights Commission is under process.

He said the draft bill for the commission has been finalised. The bill now awaits for final approval of the cabinet as well as the parliament.

Moudud said this while he was

addressing a seminar as chief guest in the city vesterday.

Institutional Development of Human Rights in Bangladesh (IDHRB) Project of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, the UNDP and the UNIC jointly organised the seminar on the occasion of the 54th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at IDB Bhaban auditorium.

Moudud said human rights situation in Bangladesh is much better than other developing countries in the world. The constitution of Bangladesh itself ensures the fundamental rights of the people.

He said poverty and illiteracy are the main hindrances to human rights in Bangladesh. Women are still deprived of their rights in the

Regarding international perspective, Moudud said we appreciate war on terrorism but not war on Islam-in the name of war on terrorism, the big powers are violating the human rights in Muslim countries, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, State Minister for Law, Justice and Par-

Interim report on govt expenditure submitted

BSS, Dhaka

The Government Expenditure Review Commission (GERC) submitted the interim report on the government's expenditure in different sectors to Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rah-

man yesterday. The members of the commission led by former advisor of caretaker government MM Hafizuddin Khan submitted the report to Saifur at his office. Finance Secretary Jakir Ahmed Khan was

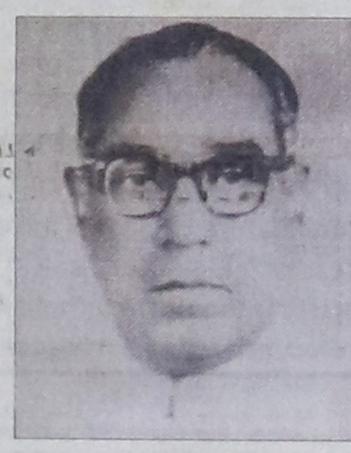
Saifur thanked the commission for submitting the interim report in a short period and expressed his hope that the commission will also be able to submit the final report within the stipulated time.

liamentary Affairs Minister Mohammad Shahjahan Umar, Bir Uttam, said human rights are a concept which determines the relationship between the govern-

ment and the governance. Jorgen Lissner, resident representative of the UNDP, said the international community supports the Operation Clean Heart (OCH) drive in the country, but the legality of OCH is now in question after so many causalities.

Presided over by Dr M Enamul Haq, coordinator of IDHRB project, the seminar was also ad dressed by Kazi Ali Reża and Md Mofizul Islam.

Tree, a theatre group, staged a street drama titled Tolerance after the seminar.



Ataur Rahman Khan's anniversary of death today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The eleventh death anniversary of national leader Ataur Rahman Khan will be observed in the city

On the occasion, a discussion meeting and a milad mahfil will be held at 3 pm today at his residence at Dhanmondi. Speaker Jamuruddin Sircar will be the chief guest in the meeting. Former foreign minister Abdus Samad Azad will attend the meeting as special guest.

Communication Minister Nazmul Huda will be the key-note speaker. Environment immister Shajahan Siraj, author Ashraf Siddiqui, journalist Gias Kamal Chowdhury, will address the meeting with former ambassador Shamsur Rahman in the chair.



Shaheed Nazmul's death anniversary today

Syed Nazmul Huq Smrity Sangsad will observe the death anniversary of Shaheed journalist Syed Nazmul Huq today, says a press re-

Nazmul was killed by the collaborators on the night of December 10 during the War of Liberation in 1971.

The Sangsad will arrange Qurankhwani and milad mahfil. In the small hours of December 10 in 1971, the collaborators picked up Shaheed Syed Nazmul Huq and took him blindfolded to the Rayerbazar Baidyabhumi

bayonets and spraying bullet. Sultana Nazmul, wife of late Syed Nazmul Huq has requested all his friends, admirers and relatives to attend the milad mahfil.

where they killed him charging

Human Rights Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Human Rights Day was observed in the country yesterday as elsewhere in the world.

Different socio-cultural organisations held various programmes in the city in observance of the

United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) held a symposium at a city hotel to mark the

Chief Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury attended the function as chief guest while Prof Salahud-

din Ahmed, president of the UNAB, was in the chair.

Addressing the symposium, Mainur Reza Chowdhury said the government must fully assumes its responsibilities to uphold the human rights.

"Unless economic, social and cultural rights are ensured, not merely on paper but in reality, civil and political rights would be meaningless" he added.

The chief justice said the government appears to be earnest in ensuring human rights in the

country and is in the process of chairman of the Human Rights the judiciary from the executive to Bangladesh Bar Council. achieve this objective.

Institute (LETI) of Bangladesh Bar Council also held a discussion on this occasion.

Justice Naimuddin Ahmed, member of the Law Commission, was present at the function as chief guest while Barrister M Amirul Islam, vice chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council, as special guest.

The meeting was presided over by Advocate MA Salam Talukder

implementing the separation of and Legal Aid Committee of

Coordination Council for Hu-Legal Education and Training man Rights in Bangladesh and Bangladesh Human Rights Commission took out separate processions and held separate rallies to mark the day.

> National Garment Workers Federation, Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) and Bangladesh Mahila Parishad also formed separate human chains on this occasion.

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of the research period. General Secretary

51 Old Secretarian Road, Nimtali, Ramnal Dhaka-1000

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh Phone: 9667586, Fax: 9560500 E-mail: asb@bangla.net

Syed Mutahir Uddin (1921-2001) MEMORIAM

Fading away like the stars of the morning, Losing their light in the glorious sun, Thus would we pass from the earth and its toiling, Only remembered by what we have done. Only the truth that in life we have spoken, Only the seed that in life we have sown, These shall live always, when we are forgotten. Fruits of the harvest and what we have done Only remembered, Only remembered,

Syeda Khaleda Khanam

Rehana Zarina Bilquis Mahmud Murad Nawsher Nabila Safir Tahiyya Ridaa Nafisa Mahreen

Only remember by what we have done

Simeen Safwat Shahir

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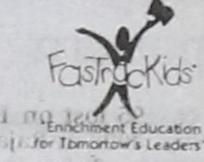
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