

# Create awareness about AIDS

Army chief tells seminar at Senakunja

UNB, Dhaka

Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury yesterday cautioned of the risk of AIDS despite the number of HIV/AIDS-affected people in Bangladesh's armed forces being very negligible compared to the armed forces of other countries.

"So far, more than 30,000 members of the armed forces stayed abroad on peacekeeping operations at different times in various countries. Of them, only three were affected with AIDS," he told a seminar on HIV/AIDS, organised by the Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) at Senakunja at Dhaka Cantonment in the morning.

Addressing the seminar as chief guest, General Mashhud underscored the need for creating extensive mass awareness about the curse of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

"A stitch in time saves nine," he reminded, saying that this is the right time to prevent AIDS. "The best way to avoid this killer disease is to pursue a normal and disciplined life, to strictly follow the religious teachings and uphold the moral values."

Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral Shah Iqbal Mujtaba and Chief of the Air Staff Air Vice Marshal Fakhrul Azam also spoke at

the inaugural session.

Director General of Medical Service Major General Mohammad Abul Hossain presided over the session while Commandant of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology and Chairman of the Technical Committee of National AIDS Committee, Major General ASM Matiuir Rahman presented the keynote paper.

"In his paper, Major General Matiuir Rahman said 69 per cent of the rickshawpullers go to the female sex workers (FSW) for sex and around 69 per cent of the truckers also visit the FSW for the same purpose. Among them, about 75 per cent of the rickshawpullers and 5 per cent truckers were found married.

He said almost 34 per cent MSM (males sex with males) and 33 per cent IDU (intravenous drug users) go to the FSW for sex. Among them, 46 per cent MSMs and 48 per cent IDUs are married. On the other hand, 10 per cent of the FSWs were found married.

"So, it is clear from these findings that HIV can easily spread to the innocent general people from the high risk group through bridging groups," he cautioned.

Officers, JCOs and NCOs of the rank of Sergeant and equivalent of the Armed Forces were, among others, present on the occasion.

# Family of Simi demands proper punishment to the culprits

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The family members and the friends of Simi Banu have demanded appropriate punishment to the culprits responsible for her death.

On the occasion of her first death anniversary yesterday, they issued a statement calling upon the government to ensure justice for the victims to check violence against women in the country.

Simi, a student of Narayanganj Fine Arts Institute, killed herself on December 23 last year after undergoing intense pressure put on her and her family by local youths, policemen and neighborhood elders.

Her apparent crime was that she returned home late from her work and led an independent life. She lived with her family at Khilgaon in the city.

Before her death, she wrote a protest note in which she accused the society of failing to deliver justice and protect the vulnerable, especially the women.

In the statement, her friends and family members alleged that the culprits could not be given appropriate punishment due to lack of sincerity on the part of the government.

# Birth centenary of Jasimuddin on Jan 1

BSS, Faridpur

The birth centenary of Palli Kabi Jasimuddin will be celebrated here on January 1.

Several socio-cultural organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to mark the day.

The Jasim Foundation, a pioneer in this field, has formed a 101-member committee and several subcommittees to observe the birth centenary with fortnight-long programmes.

Led by the DC of Faridpur, the foundation also constituted a steering committee to make the programme a success.

All the functions will be held at village Gobindapur where the grave and ancestral home of the late poet are located.

To mark the birth centenary, a bathing ghat styled as "Sojan Badar Ghat" is being constructed at an estimated cost of Tk 9 lakh. A colorful souvenir will also be published on this occasion.

The programmes of the day include placing of wreaths at the grave of the poet, milad mahfil, discussions and cultural functions.

A fortnight-long fair will open on the day.

# BATB honoured

British American Tobacco Bangladesh (BATB) has been honoured by Bangladesh Scout Guide and Fellowship for its contribution in the past years for the scout and guides, says a press release.

Health Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharrar Hossain presented a crest to BATB Managing Director Stephen Daintith at a ceremony at the Scout Bhaban in the city recently.

The ceremony was also organised to honour Habibur Alam B.P., National Commissioner (Programme), Bangladesh Scout for being elected the vice chairman of World Scout Committee, and Saiful Islam Khan, National Commissioner (Public Relations) Bangladesh Scout, for being elected as the central body member of the Union of Muslim Scout.

Dr Shoaib Ahmed, chairman of NBR and president Bangladesh Scout Guide, presided over the ceremony.



A woman candidate submits her nomination paper for the post of chairman in the Narayanganj Poursava elections at the DC office at Narayanganj yesterday. The election will be held on January 16.

# Int'l Red Cross proposes special programme to combat HIV/AIDS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Federation of Red Crescent and Red Cross has proposed a special programme to combat the ever-growing HIV/AIDS in South Asian countries, including Bangladesh.

Major General ZA Khan (ret), chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, at a press briefing in Rajendrapur, Gazipur, said, "The manmade disaster (HIV/AIDS) didn't get adequate attention in the past. We have agreed earlier at a meeting in Manila to give special focus on HIV/AIDS recognising it as a disaster."

The proposed plan of action will launch a massive movement across the South Asian region to address the problem. The press briefing was held after inauguration of a five-day workshop on the Second South Asia Red Cross/Red Crescent Network on HIV/AIDS Sunday.

"We are going to work with the youths because we believe they are most vulnerable," he said.

"Until now, 40 million people worldwide are known to be carriers of the deadly virus, which gradually leads to death. About 2.3 million people have already died

# Khaleq gets ad-interim bail

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League lawmaker Talukder Abdul Khaleq on Sunday granted ad interim bail by the High Court in connection with a murder case filed with the Batiaghata police station in Khulna.

A vacation bench comprising Justice Hamdul Huq and Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury also issued rule upon the government to show cause as to why the accused petitioner should not be granted regular bail.

Earlier, Khaleq, former state minister for disaster management and relief, had secured ad interim bail from the HC in connection with another murder charge.

Khaleq was arrested under section 54 of the CrPc on November 1 from his residence in Khulna. Later, he was detained under the Special Powers Act, which was subsequently declared illegal by the verdict of the HC.

# 99.41 pc BMA cadets receive degree

BSS, Ctg

Some 99.41 per cent cadets of 47th BMA (Bangladesh Military Academy) long course received their BA and B.Sc degree under National University on Sunday.

Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury distributed the Bachelors of Arts and the Bachelor of Science Degree Certificates conferred upon the Gentlemen Cadets by the National University.

A total of 140 cadets appeared in the BA and B.Sc examination of whom 85 were from Science Group and 55 were from Arts Group.

Besides, 20 lady cadets and 7 Palestinian cadets also passed in BA and B.Sc examination. In the Science Group 35 cadets got 1st division, 44 got 2nd division and 5 got 3rd division. Pass percentage is 98.81.

In the Arts Group 2 Cadets got 1st division, 44 got 2nd division and 9 got 3rd division. Pass percentage is 100.

Company Quarter Master Sergeant H M Mohsin Uddin stood first in order of merit in the first division with distinction in Mathematics and Military studies and received Dr Kudrot-e-Khuda Gold Medal.

He also passed his SSC and HSC examination in 1st division under Dhaka Board with star mark. Company Major Md Moinul Islam received Dr Muhammad Shahidullah Gold Medal by securing first position in the BA examination with distinction in Military studies.

Bijoy Basant Patro from India and Pitambar Aryal from Nepal, among others, spoke at the press briefing. Participants from Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India and Nepal are attending the workshop.



LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan speaks at a discussion marking the Victory Day on the Dhaka University campus yesterday. The Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal organised the event.



Health Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharrar Hossain presents a crest to BATB Managing Director Stephen Daintith at a ceremony at the Scout Bhaban in the city recently.



The Muslim Marriage Kalyan Samity held a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday.

Wishes Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

**ALMAS SUPER SHOP**  
46, GULSHAN AVENUE (1ST FLOOR)  
DHAKA-1212, PHONE : 9887322



The Bangladesh Chhatra League held a discussion meeting at the Bangabandhu Avenue in the city yesterday to mark the Victory Day.

**WEATHER TODAY**

## Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country today. Light to moderate fog may occur at many places during midnight till morning over the country, Met Office said. Slight fall in the night temperature is expected over the country. Country's highest temperature 28.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Teknaf and lowest 11.7 degree at Rajshahi. The sun sets in the capital at 5:18pm today and rises at 6:39am tomorrow. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	22.2	15.6	81	76
Chittagong	27.2	14.8	86	72
Rajshahi	21.9	11.7	100	94
Khulna	24.5	15.5	98	96
Barisal	21.5	12.5	96	89
Sylhet	25.8	14.0	100	75
Cox's Bazar	28.0	16.4	73	81

**DHAKA TODAY**

9.00am.

**Film show**  
Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen a film titled 'Sagina Mahato' directed by noted Indian filmmaker Tapan Sinha. Venue: The High Commission of India Cultural Centre, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.30pm.

**Movie show**  
Chalachitram Film Society will screen an award winning Hungarian film titled 'Meeting Venus' directed by Istvan Szabo. Venue: German Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.30pm.

**Classical music**  
The Alliance Francaise presents an evening of classical music by Shamima Parveen and Dipon Sarkar, accompanied by Sayed Sajid Hossain on tabla. Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 7.00pm.

**Preparatory meeting**  
The 10th Sangharaj Jyotipal Mahathero National Funeral Observance Committee will hold a preparatory meeting for the funeral of 10th Sangharaj Jyotipal Mahathero. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time: 5.00pm.

**Certificate award ceremony**  
The Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Darul Ihsan University, will give away certificates among its students for their achievements in various national and international programming contests. Venue: Darul Ihsan University, Dhanmondi. Time: 2.00pm.

**Rotary Dhaka**  
The Rotary Club of Dhaka will hold its regular weekly meeting and Eid reunion fellowship dinner. Venue: Shehna Restaurant, Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Banani. Time: 6.30pm.

**Rotary Ramna**  
Regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Ramna will be held. Venue: 'Candle Light', Road No. 27, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.30pm.

**Rotary Sonargaon Dhaka**  
The Rotary Club of Sonargaon Dhaka will hold its regular weekly meeting. Members are requested to attend the meeting on time. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.

**Naripakkha**  
Naripakkha will hold a roundtable to raise awareness about medicolegal investigations into violence against women at thana level. Venue: Jatiya press Club. Time: 3.00pm.

**Karmojibi Nari**  
The Karmojibi Nari will hold a roundtable on garments industry of Bangladesh in the context of globalisation and ways to protect rights of workers. Venue: CIRDA auditorium. Time: 10.00am.

**Seminar on reproductive health**  
The Urban Primary Health Care Project in coordination with the UNFPA will hold a seminar on 'Sharing Experiences of Reproductive Health Services in Urban Area'. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 10.00am.

**Seminar on mathematics**  
The Bangladesh Mathematical Society has organised a two-day seminar titled 'Mathematics in the 21st century: Bangladesh perspective'. Prof AFM Khoddad Khan will deliver keynote address at the inaugural session. Venue: TSC Auditorium. Time: 3.30pm.

**NOTICE FOR PER-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS**

A non-government organisation seeks pre-qualification of contractors for construction of their proposed training center at Rajshahi. Applications are invited from reputed 1st class Govt. enlisted contractors and only from those who have done construction work worth minimum of Tk. 1.00 Crore in single work order in last 3-year in any Govt. Semi Govt. & NGO organisation. Detail or Pre-qualification requirements and Terms of the Reference (TOR) will be available from the undersigned form 27th December/02 with payment of Tk. 100/- (non-refundable) & Per-qualification documents are to be submitted within 9th January, 2003. A panel of contractor will be selected from the intending applications and tender will be floated among the pre-qualified contractors in a short period of time. Archt. Rezaul Karim, Director & Chief Executive Professional Associates Ltd, 209/1, Elephant Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205.

**Usmania Glass Sheet Factory Ltd**  
Kalurghat I/A, Chittagong

## International Short Re-tender Notice

For 1500 M Tons Soda Ash (Heavy)

Managing Director, Usmania Glass Sheet Factory Ltd., Kalurghat I/A, Chittagong invites sealed tender from bonafide indentors/suppliers for supply of 1500 M Tons Soda Ash (Heavy) on C&F (C) Chittagong under two envelope system against Tender No. UGSF/Pur/01/2002-2003/(01) dated 11-11-2002. Tender document will be available on all working days on payment of Tk. 1000.00 (Non-refundable) from the office of the (1) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, (2) Sr. General Manager, BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong & (3) Accounts Department of this Company. Tender will be received up to 12 Noon on 12-01-2003 in the tender box kept in the Purchase Department of UGSF & BCIC Branch Office, Chittagong and will be opened immediately thereafter. No tender document will be sold on the opening date. The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

GD-1100

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
National Board of Revenue  
Rajaswa Bhaban, Segun Bagicha, Dhaka

Ref. No. 4(4) TA2/2002-598 Dated: 15-12-2002

## Re-Tender Notice (2nd)

Sealed tenders in own pad of transport manufacturer/ importer/ supplier firms are re-invited (2<sup>nd</sup>) for purchase of microbus & motor car for use in Tax, Excise & VAT Administration under National Board of Revenue. Tenders can be submitted in tender box kept at Room No. 403 at 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Rajaswa Bhaban at Segun Bagicha up to 12-00 Noon of 31 December 2002 which will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers.

02. 02 (two) separate tender schedule regarding purchase of the abovementioned transports will be available from Accounts Section of the National Board of Revenue during office hours on 29 & 30 December 2002. Firms/persons interested to participate in tender are requested to collect on depositing Tk 750/= (seven hundred fifty) only (non-refundable) per tender schedule under head 1-1103-0000-2681 in favour of Assistant Accounts Officer, National Board of Revenue and producing the original copy of challan.

03. Earnest money at the rate 2.50 per cent of the price should be submitted with the tender in Pay-Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank.

04. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender.

**Md Wazi Ullah**  
Second Secretary (Admin)  
National Board of Revenue  
Dhaka

DFP-30937-19/12  
G-2333