

Unesco goodwill ambassador arrives today

UNB, Dhaka

The Unesco Goodwill Ambassador for Peace Maria Teresa arrives in the city today on a three-day visit.

Maria Teresa, Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, will meet Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk and Science, and Information and Communication Technology Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan.

The Unesco ambassador will also visit several Unesco-aided projects in the country.

Rickshawpullers threaten movement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rickshawpullers and owners yesterday threatened to launch movement if the government makes any more roads off-limits to rickshaws in the city without arranging alternative employment for them.

At a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity, Sammiti Rickshaw-Van Chalak-Malik Parishad also placed a three-point demand that included

renewal of licence by Dhaka City Corporation, protection of rickshaws from organised gang of thieves and arrangement of alternative employment before banning the rickshaws.

Meanwhile, different organisations have expressed their solidarity with the parishad, saying that the decision to ban rickshaws in the city in phases is 'undemocratic' and 'violation of the constitution' that ensures rights of all working people.

The organisations are Manobadhikar Bastobayon Sangstha, a human rights organisation, Ain O Salish Kendro, an organisation to provide legal support, Natundhara, an organisation for social movement, and the Coalition for the Urban Poor (CUP).

Speaking at the press conference, representatives of these organisations said there should be a dialogue between the government and the stakeholders before implementing such a decision that will affect a large group of poor people.

Journalist and columnist Syed Abul Maksud, chief organiser of Natundhara Feroz M Hassan, director of Manobadhikar Bastobayon Sangstha Mahbubul Alam, John Asit Das of Ain O Salish Kendro, Tafizuddin Ahmed of CUP, and Mahbub Jamal Quader and Badsha Miah of the parishad spoke at the press conference.

Folk song festival from Dec 6

BSS, Dhaka

The Bangladesh Folk Song Council (BFSC) will arrange a three-day folk song festival from December 6 in the auditorium of Public Library at Shahbagh in the city.

Educationist Dr Ashraf Siddiqui spoke about the significance of the folk festival at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.