

President assents to two bills

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday assented to two bills passed during the ongoing 11th session of the parliament.

The bills are "The Bangladesh Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004" and "The State Acquisition and Tenancy (Amendment) Bill, 2004."



PHOTO: STAR

Communications Minister Nazmul Huda speaks at a seminar on 'Interim report on the feasibility study of Padma bridge' at Sonargaon Hotel yesterday. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) organised the seminar.

Indian foreign secretary calls on Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Indian Foreign Secretary Shashank made a courtesy call on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her Dhanmondi office yesterday and discussed various bilateral issues.

After nearly a 90-minute meeting, Shashank told reporters that the purpose of his visit to Bangladesh was aimed at "more transparent and deeper relations between the two countries."

Asked about the discussion, he said that they frankly discussed various issues. "Some agreements were signed during the previous government that made great contributions to various sectors of Bangladesh, including agriculture," Shashank said.

Briefing newsmen, Hasina's Press Adviser Jawadul Karim said various bilateral issues, including business and trade, were discussed at the meeting.

Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Veena Sekri accompanied Shashank while AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil MP, Kazi Jafarullah MP, Syed Abul Hossain MP, Hasina's Political Secretary Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Faruk Ahmed Chowdhury and former Ambassador Ziauddin were present.

Education@UK Fair begins today

DU CORRESPONDENT

A three-day Education@UK Fair 2004 organised by the British Council begins in the city today.

Education Minister Dr Osman Farruk will inaugurate the fair at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel at 11:00am as chief guest while British High Commissioner Dr. David Carter will be present as special guest.

Eighteen educational institutions will take part in the fair.

The fair will remain open from 12:00 noon to 7:30pm on March 11 and from 11:00am to 7:30pm on March 12 and 13. The entrance fee is Tk20.

Agreement with Concord to develop Foy's lake

BSS, Dhaka

The Foy's lake in Chittagong would be developed to attract tourists from home and abroad.

An agreement was signed between Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) and M/s Concord Entertainment Company Ltd here yesterday to this effect, an official handout said.

BPC Chairman Dr Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman and Chairman of Concord Kamal Uddin signed the agreement on behalf of their respective sides.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin was present on the occasion.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, the state minister urged the

private entrepreneurs to supplement the government efforts for development of tourist spots.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Secretary BMM Mozharul Huq and high officials of the ministry and executives of the Concord group were present at the signing ceremony.