'Give women entrepreneurs equal opportunities'

জনাব এম. এ. মালেক, ন্যাশনাল কলসালট্যান্ট, U.N.D.P. Banglade জনাব রিজভী আহমেদ, চেয়ারম্যান, রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্মন ব্যাহক

जूब ब्रष्ट्यान थान, मछापरि

তঃ বাজিয়া বেগম, অধ্যাপক, মার্কেটিং বিভাগ, চাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় জলাব এ প্রত্ন াম শিবলী লোমান খান, University of a call of the call of the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite multifarious hurdles, women entrepreneurs in the country have come a long way to achieve self-reliance by dint of their hard struggles, said the speakers at a seminar yesterday.

They also called for changing the patriarchal mindset and giving the women equal opportunities to help them achieve the desired success in entrepreneurship.

The seminar on 'Problems and prospects of women entrepreneurs n Bangladesh' was organised jointly by the University Women's Federation College and Women Entrepreneurs Association in the

The male-dominated society has limited the prospects of women entrepreneurship, said Prof. Razia Begum of Dhaka University in her keynote paper.

She said the obstacles, the women entrepreneurs are facing,

University Women's Federation College and Women Entrepreneurs Association (WEA) co-organised a seminar,

Problems and Prospects of Women Entrepreneurs in Bangladesh, in the city yesterday. From left to right are Prof. Razia

Begum of Dhaka University, WEA President Rokia Afzal Rahman and State Minister for Education Ehsanul Huq Milon.

Four placed on remand

Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka at 3:00 pm with a prayer for a seven-day remand

In the prayer, police said evidences show that the

arrestees are involved in the

brutal incident. So they should be remanded to gather more information about the incident.

The defence lawyers submit-

After hearing both the sides, Metropolitan Magistrate Khondaker Fatema Begum

ted petitions for cancellation of the remand prayer.

rejected the prayer for cancella-

placed them on a two-day

placed Abul Kalam Azad and Shafiuddin alias Pintu on a one-

day fresh remand for interroga-

tion yesterday. They were pro-

duced before the court on com-

pletion of a three-day remand

and sought a seven-day further

remand. The investigation offi-

cer of the case is interrogating two other youths Selim and Abul

Kashem arrested in connection

was burnt to death after rape by

some unidentified youths of

Fatema Khatun Kohinoor,26,

Victim's mother Almida

with the incident

Pallabi on March 11.

Meanwhile, the same court

or interrogation.

remand.

Pallabi teacher murder

COURT CORRESPONDENT

day remand yesterday.

Four persons arrested in connec-

tion with the incident of burning

to death of a female teacher of

Pallabi, were placed on a two-

four arrestees - Mojibur Rahman, 30, Mohammad

Roni,20, Shafiqul Islam alias

Shafiq,29 and Aminul Islam alias

Amin,26 - before the Chief

WVA executives

Ruby Rahman and Prof. Monowara

Islam were elected president and general secretary of Women's

Voluntary Association (WVA) for

the year 2004-2005 recently, says a

Other office-bearers are Vice

residents: Anisa Huq, Fouzia Haque and Hajera Alam, Treasurer: Khaleda Sabet, Joint Secretary: Monira Helal and Joint

Treasurer: Sultana Gaziul Haq.

Pallabi police produced the

include lack of access to viable credit facilities and awareness of other support services.

President of Women Entrepreneurs Association Rokia Afzal Rahman said women in Bangladesh have moved quite far in achieving their economic independence citing the example of 53 percent enrollment of women at the secondary education level.

"But I express my reservation on the issue of direct election of women to parliament as nothing

Khatun filed a case with Pallabi

Police Station accusing six

youths under the Women and

Children Repression Prevention

Domestic help

A housewife allegedly tortured her

domestic help at her Pallabi residence

The domestic help Hasina

Shorna of section-12 at Pallabi

Akther,12, was admitted to Dhaka

Medical College Hospital (DMCH)

with severe injuries yesterday morn-

asked Hasina to prepare tea for her on

Tuesday noon. As soon as Hasina

served tea, Shorna got furious and

started beating her on the pretext of

vesterday morning as her condition

deteriorated. Her body bore marks of

Hasina was rushed to the DMCH

A case was filed with Pallabi thana

under Women and Children

Repression Prevention Act following a

written complaint by the victim.

brewingtheteastrong

tortured at

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pallabi

"Women are at present a privileged group with positive discrimination in the society," said the State Minister for Education A N M Ehsanul Huq Milon.

women agitation," she added.

has been done yet in that regard

despite prolonged countrywide

Seeking recognition of the services of women, Zinat Ara Bhuiyan, convenor of the seminar committee, said they forge harmony and provide mutual support in the family

Principal Rashida Hossain, Vice-Chancellor of World University M Habib Ullah Chairman of Rajshahi Krish Unnyan Bank Rizvi Ahmed and UNDP National Consultant M A Malek also spoke on the occasion.

Govt's no to Mousumi's charity concert

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer of Kolkata Mousumi Bhowmik yesterday flew back to her home, as the government did not permit her to perform in a charity concert for the arsenic

She arrived in Dhaka Tuesday to perform in a two-day solo concert organised by Save Arsenic Victims Initiative (SAVI) at the National Museum auditorium. The first programme she was scheduled to stage was postponed the same day following the government's refusal.

The SAVI tried to get permission till yesterday in vain. However, it kept mum about the government's disposition towards the concert.

The SAVI in a press release yesterday said it will announce new date of the concert soon after getting the government's consent.

It said already sold out tickets will be valid for the fresh show and the buyers can also return their tickets to the places they had bought those.

Earlier on the eighth and ninth of this month, the organisers suspended the show for the same rea-

Death anniversary



The third death anniversary of M Salimullah, a journalist and freedom fighter, will be observed today, says a

City editor of the now-defunct Purbodesh, he also worked for several newspapers including the Sangbad.

Milad mahfil and distribution of food among the destitute have been arranged at his village home at Kalitara under Sudharam thana of Noakhali.

Dr AMA Alamgir



The sixth death anniversary of Dr AMA Alamgir, ounder of Maha-nagar Clinic will be observed to-day, says a press

A milad mahfil will be held at his residence after Asr prayers.

Abul Mansur's 25th death

anniversary

today The 25th death anniversary of Abul Mansur Ahmad, a renowned litterateur, journalist and statesman of the sub-continent, will be observed today, says a press

The Abul Mansur Ahmad Memorial Committee has organised doa mahfil at Dhaka and Mymensingh on the occasion.

One of the greatest satirist of Bengali literature, Abul Mansur Ahmad was also a renowned politician, lawyer and a very powerful

He was the editor of Daily Krishak, Nabajug and Ittehad in undivided Bengal and a pioneer in progressive journalism.

A very successful politician, Abul Mansur Ahmad was the provincial education minister in the United Front Cabinet under Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq and the central commerce and industries minister of the Awami League government of prime minister Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardy. He was known for his strong stand in matters of interest of the then East

Abul Mansur Ahmad's publications include great satires such as Aina, Asmani Purdah, Gulliverer Safar Nama and Food Conference. His works also include great writings on social and political history of Bengal. He has two autobio-graphical writings -- Atma Katha (About myself) and Amar Dekha Rajnitir Panchash Bachar (50 years of politics as I have seen it).

Abul Mansur Ahmad always propagated secularism in a manner unparalleled in the forties, fifties and sixties. His contribution towards opposition movement in the early days of Pakistan was extremely significant.

He wrote about the language issue from early forties and contributed to the Language Movement as the editor of Ittehad. He was the author of the elec-

tion manifesto of the Jukta Front (a grand coalition of the three giants of our politics -- Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq, Moulana Bhashani and Shaheed Suhrwardy) in 1954 election through which Muslim League was ousted from power. The 21-point programme (Ekush Dafa) was the first comprehensive articulation of the political, economic and cultural demands of the Bengalis of the then eastern part of Pakistan.

The Bangla Academy has recently published three volumes of Abul Mansur's collected works. Three more volumes are under

One of the greatest political personalities of Bangladesh, Abul Mansur Ahmad combined rare talents in three distinct fields -politics, journalism and literary

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Sultan Mahmud, a spiritual leader and president of Darud Sharif Prachar Sangstha, died of old-age complications at a city clinic here on Tuesday at the age of 60.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters.

Mahmud, who hailed from Muhuripara in Agrabad, was living in Jamal Khan area. The devotees visited him regularly to listen to his sermons.

He was laid to rest at the graveyard of Hazrat Miskin Shah (R) Shrine after a namaz-e-janaza on Tuesday

Krishna Pada Bhowmik

Sree Krishna Pada Bhowmik, father of Prof. Dr Nim Chandra Bhowmik. general secretary of Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad, passed away at his residence at Mirzanagar village in Begumganj of Noakhali yesterday at the age of 88, says a press release

A social worker, he is survived by his wife, one son and two grandchildren.

The Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad, Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad and Bangladesh Chhatra Jubo Oikya Parishad have expressed condolence at his death and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Lutfa Hossain

Lutfa Hossain, a social worker and mother of Dilruba Begum, retired regional director of Bangladesh Betar, died on March 15 at the age of 73, says a press release.

She is survived by eight daughters, two sons and a number of grandchildren.

Her qulkhwani will be held at her Gulshan residence after Maghrib prayers today.

CID asked to take over trader Selim murder case

Monitoring cell discusses 9 sensitive cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has been asked to take over Rezaul Karim Selim murder case and open a probe with top priority as the businessmen have been agitating in protest at the failure to arrest the killers of their fellow

State Minister for Home Lutfozzaman Babar gave the directive at the 36th review meeting of the monitoring cell on sensitive cases yesterday.

He also reprimanded Kotowali police for their inaction and not filing any case in connection with abduction and killing of Rezaul Karim Selim, a wristwatch trader.

The meeting was told that Selim was abducted and killed over a business dispute but the accused influenced the police not to file any case. He was abducted from Kotowali thana area. Two of his business partners went into hiding after the killing.

The victim's family did not give any clue to the police for fear of reprisals, meeting sources said.

Prior to the meeting held at the home ministry's conference room, Home Minister Altaf Hossain Choudhury called the CID investigators to his office and asked them to arrest the attackers of prominent writer Humayun Azad immediately.

The review meeting also discussed the incident of attack on Humayun Azad.

Investigation officials told the monitoring cell that they would question Azad as soon as he recovers, sources said.

A total of nine sensational cases came up for discussion. Two new cases -- killing of Dhanamondi Sporting Club president Khairul Anwar Piaru and abduction and killing of Fatema Khatun Kohinoor at Pallabi -- were listed as sensational cases vesterday.

"We have examined a number of cases and instructed the investiga-tors to submit chargesheet soon,"

1532 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,532 people, including three listed criminals, during their countrywide drive in the last 24 hours ending at 6am yesterday.

During the drive, they also recovered 11 firearms, two other weapons and 26 bullets and filed eight cases against 11 people under the Arms Act.

Babar told the journalists after the

The progress in journalist Manik Saha murder case is very well, he

He also said that another cell at the law ministry was monitoring the cases pending at the High Court. The meeting asked the investiga-

tion officer of Piaru murder case to arrest cook of Dhanmondi Sporting Club to find more clues.

The cook was arrested earlier but

he was released on pressure from the high-ups, meeting sources said.

The cell is currently handling 238 sensitive cases, 48 of which were

disposed of. There are 106 sensitive cases

under trial. Of them, 29 cases were $transferred \, to \, Speedy \, Trial \, Tribunal. \,$ Home Secretary Omar Farooq, Inspector General of Police Shahudul Haque and other high officials were present in the meeting presided over by Lutfozzaman

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an Indian film titled 'Koi Mil Gaya' (2003) and two American films titled 'The Usual Suspects' (1995) and 'The Annabel Chong Story' (1999). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola, Time 3.30pm, 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Conference

The inaugural session of the 4th international scientific conference of Bangladesh Association of Urological Surgeons will be held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time:

Seminar

A seminar on 'Using Greenburn Diesel Fuel Technology for a Cleaner Environment' will be held with State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources A K M Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10.30am.

Dialogue

The Citibank, in association with the Centre for Policy Dialogue and BGMEA, organises a dialogue on 'Surviving in a quota-free world: Will Bangladesh make t?' with Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time:

The inaugural session of a workshop on

'Reduction of vehicle emissions through proper fitness', organised by the Society for Urban Environment Protection, will be held with Communications Minister Nazmul Huda as chief guest. Venue: BRTA Office, Mirpur-10. Time:

Scholarship awarding ceremony

East West University organises a merit scholarship awarding ceremony for its students. Venue: University campus, Mohakhali. Time: 4.30pm.

IUB workshop

The inaugural session of a three-day workshop on multimedia, organised jointly by the Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) and ARENA, will be held Venue University campus, North Baridhara, Time: 10.00am.

Discussion

Muktiiuddha O Gonomukti Andolon will hold a discussion titled 'Bangladesh will have to be saved from communal and polluted politics'. Venue: Tajul Islam auditorium, Purana Paltan. Time:

Memorial discussion

Kendrio Khelaghar Asar organises a discussion in memory of Ahmedul Kabir, an eminent journalist and former chief editor of the daily Sangbad. Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segun Bagicha. Time: 4.30pm.



Representatives of traders' associations of the old part of the city held a meeting at Nawabpur Chistya Electronics Market yesterday protesting killings, robberies and extortion in the area. They also decided to keep all shops closed

Construction of bridge over Dhaleswari soon

UNB,Dhaka

Communications Minister Nazmul Huda yesterday said construction of the 6th Bangladesh-China friendship bridge over the Dhaleswari river at Mokhterpur in Munshiganj will start soon.

Huda said this when Chinese Ambassador Chai Xi and a high-powered Chinese delegation met him at his ministry in the city.

He said the government plans to name the bridge, to be constructed with Chinese financial assistance of 110 million US dollars, after Atish Dipankar, a great philosopher and educationist of this subcontinent.

Huda sought Chinese government's cooperation in develop-ment of Ramu-Ukiya-Teknaf highway, construction of a roadcum-rail bridge over the Naaf river and procurement of some portable steel bridges to strengthen inter-district road communication

He thanked the Chinese government for its great contribution in construction of five major road bridges -- Gabkhan Bridge, Sambhuganj Bridge, Korotoa Bridge, Mohananda Bridge and Buriganga Bridge.