



PHOTO: STAR

Participants at a seminar on 'Video Conferencing: Solutions for Bangladesh'. From left are Dr Yusuf N Islam, Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley, Syed Marghub Morshed, Prof M Shamsul Haque and Anwar Hossain.

Video conferencing can address shortage of quality teachers

Academicians and IT experts tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Video conferencing could be an effective means of information exchange in addressing the shortage of high quality teachers in the country.

Academicians and information technology experts yesterday said this at a seminar on "Video Conferencing: Solutions for Bangladesh" jointly organised by American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS), City University and BRAC University at BRAC Centre Inn in the city.

Video conferencing is an internet device that transmit verbal and image expression simultaneously.

It is a device through which people can get together and transfer information live despite being away from each other. Bangladesh Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Chairman Syed Marghub Morshed said.

"We would like to encourage such technology that brings people closure, despite technological and economic constraints," he said.

BRAC University teacher Syeed Salam said that video conferencing allow people located geographically apart to hold live meeting, facilitate distance learning and corporate affairs.

"It's a system that utilises high speed data connection to receive voice and image simultaneously to transfer information with eye-to-eye contact of the participants at two

different ends," said Aaron Gotwalt, a member of students' group from Pennsylvania State University currently visiting Bangladesh.

About 93 per cent of communica-

BOMB THREAT

Man held on suspicion in Gopalganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Gopalganj police on Tuesday held a man on charge of threatening to blow off the grave complex of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Tungipara.

Local police nabbed Paritosh Mondol, 35, in the town on suspicion at around 9:00pm, sources said.

A special police team was quizzing Mondol till 7:00 yesterday evening, said the superintendent of police, Gopalganj.

On Tuesday, unidentified criminals threatened to blow off the graveyard with remote control device.

Security measures in and around the burial ground have been strengthened following the threat. Police used metal detectors to search vehicles plying the Gopalganj streets, local sources said.

tion is transmitted non-verbally, Aaron said.

The video conferencing technology could be cost-effective for Bangladesh in joint courses with prospective universities worldwide.

"But the hurdles for installing the device in Bangladesh are expensive equipment, inadequacy of higher bandwidth internet connections, lack of Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) and paradigms for video conferencing," Aaron said.

City University Vice Chancellor Prof. M Shamsul Haque said, "Video conferencing would be extremely useful in a situation of tremendous shortage of qualified teachers for higher education in the country."

Presided by AIBS overseas director Mizanur Rahman Shelley, a number BRAC University and City University teachers, IT experts, and the visiting students from Pennsylvania were present.

Obituary



Abdullah Al Farooque, Deputy General Manager of Janata Bank, died of cardiac arrest on May 24, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, two sons and one daughter.

Girl commits suicide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 12-year-old girl allegedly committed suicide at her home in the city's Pallabi area on Tuesday afternoon.

Mansura Akhtar Sweetie, daughter of Abdul Kader, was found hanging

from the ceiling of a toilet with a scarf.

Police recovered the body in the evening and sent it to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Sweetie was a student of class five at Rupnagar Government Primary School.

Babul's son sent to jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Jamuna Group Chairman Nurul Islam Babul's son and another accused in Pramanik murder case were sent to the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday after their surrender.

Shamim Islam, Babul's son, and Saidur Rahman along with their lawyers appeared before the court and prayed for fresh bail, as their bail period has already expired. The High Court earlier granted them bail until the submission of charge sheet, while the IO (investigation officer) of the case pressed charges on April 19.

The prosecution opposed the bail petition and prayed for sending them to jail.

After the hearing, Judge Rezaul Islam of the Fifth Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court rejected the bail petition and ordered to send them to jail.

The same court earlier released Nurul Islam on Tk 1 lakh bail with two grantors.

Monirul Islam, complainant of the case and owner of a dredger, said in the first information report (FIR) that his employee Alam Pramanik was sleeping on his dredger at about 11:00pm on September 1 last year. An armed gang of about 12 allegedly led by Amir and Ripon stormed into the boat and opened fire on the workers. Fatally injured Alam later died at Suhrawardy Heart Diseases Hospital.

In a supplementary FIR filed on September 7, Monirul quoted Alam as telling his colleagues before death that Amir and Ripon shot him in line with a blueprint of Babul and Shamim. Alam also named Saidur and Dewan as the attackers.

Amir, Ripon and Dewan have already been behind bars.



PHOTO: STAR

Udichi Shilpi Gosthi stages a demonstration at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday protesting bomb blast at Hazrat Shahjalal Shrine and arrest of Proshika President Qazi Faruque Ahmed.

DHAKA TODAY

National Press Club. Time: 10.00am.

German film show
Zahir Raihan Film Society, in association with the Goethe Institut, will screen two films titled 'The Fisher Girl of Lake Constance' (1956) by Harald Reinl and 'Black Forest Girl' (1950) by Hans Deppe. Venue: The Goethe Institut, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm and 7.00pm.

Academy film show
Academy Film Society will screen an Indian film titled 'Boom' (2003), an American film titled 'Matchstick Men' (2003) and an Italian film titled 'The Decameron' (1970). Venue: Society auditorium, Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm, 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Roundtable
Dhanmondi Paribesh Unnayan Jote will hold a roundtable on 'The Goals of education and implications for city planning', with Prof. Muzaffar Ahmed as moderator. Venue: Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs, House # 22, Road # 7, Dhanmondi. Time: 10.00am.

Condolence meeting
Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies organises a condolence meeting in memory of its Chairman late Ahsanullah Master MP. Venue: WAPDA auditorium, Motijheel. Time: 4.00pm.

Discussion
The Steps Towards Development organises a discussion on 'Ways to increase accountability of union-based service providers and things to do' and screening of a video titled 'Our Union'. Venue: Cirdap auditorium. Time: 3.00pm.

Discussion on refugee issue
The UNHCR and the Bangladesh Manobadhikar Sangbadik Forum have organised a discussion on 'Refugee issue and the role of media'. Venue:

DHAKA TOMORROW

Biplobi Chhatra Moitree
A two-day national council of the Biplobi Chhatra Moitree will begin. Venue: TSC road island, Dhaka University. Time: 11.00am.

Prize giving ceremony
The prize giving ceremony of 2nd Leonine Grandmaster Chess Competition, organised by Leonine Chess Club, will be held with State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Conference room of National Sports Council. Venue: 4.15pm.

Talk on Indian election
Renowned journalist and columnist Kuldeep Nayar will give a talk on 'Indian general election 2004 in perspective'. Venue: Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs, House # 22, Road # 7, Dhanmondi. Time: 3.30pm.

Seminar
Bangladesh MBA Association organises a seminar on 'Free trade agreement', with Advisor for Foreign Affairs Reaz Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Purbani Hotel. Time: 4.00pm.

Film show
Muldhara, an international centre for writers, journalists and artists, will screen a Hindi film titled 'Koi Mil Gaya' and an English film titled 'Titanic'. Venue: Muldhara Zakia Alam Auditorium, House # 15, Road # 7, Dhanmondi. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

