NEWS



PHOTO: STAR

State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haq Milon, third from left, speaks at a seminar on "role of private initiative in polytechnic education" as chief guest at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

Govt to set up polytech instt in each dist

Milon tells seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has taken up steps to set up polytechnic insti-tute in every district to improve the country. technical education.

initiative to bring back students who go abroad for higher educa-Besides, a number of initiatives have been taken up for the development of IT education in tion to overcome the shortage of eachers, he added. the country.

This was stated by State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon as chief guest at a seminar in the city education. vesterday

The seminar on 'The role of the private initiative in polytechnic education' was organised by the Bangladesh Association of Private Polytechnic Institute seminar. (BAPPI) at the National Press Club.

Tk 8 lakh fertiliser seized UNB, Noakhali

Police on Friday seized six-truck loads of urea fertiliser reportedly worth about Tk 7.8 lakh and a cargo ship and arrested six people in Bhuiyerhat in sadar upazila.

Police arrested the six, as they could not instantly show any legal documents

and General Secretary of the National Press Club Shawkat Mahmud also spoke at the semi-Police suspect the arrestees were smuggling the fertiliser on a river route.

Menon, Selim face online interview

June 20 **STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The state minister said there is President of the Workers Party of a huge shortage of instructors for technical and computer educa-tion at school and college level in Bangladesh (WPB) Rashed Khan Menon and General Secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Mujahidul Íslam The government should take Selim will face an online interview at 10:00am on June 20.

> This is the first time that they are going to answer various questions of expatriate Bangladeshis and senior journalists from home and abroad.

ists includes Khairul Anwar, news editor of NTV, Rezwanul Haque, senior reporter of the Janakantha, Pronob Saha, special correspondent of the Prothom Alo and Sarwar Hossain, chief reporter of the Manabzamin

A panel has also been formed in abroad.

The programme, organised jointly by the popular website www.Kobitaogaan.com and www. banglasociety.com, will be broad-cast directly from the CPB office at Purana Palťan.

programme

ulfiker Russel will co-ordinate while Founder Director Mahmud Rezwan will supervise the programme.

Liver Brothers prize giving ceremony held **CU CORRESPONDENT**

80m people at arsenic risk

Bhuiyan tells parliament

UNB, Dhaka

Some 80 million people in 59 dis-tricts are at arsenic risk, but not in vulnerable state, LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan told par-liament yesterday.

Replying to Md Amzad Hossain Sarkar, he said to face the arsenic threat the government recently had approved "Bangladesh Arsenic Policy 2004" and "Mitigation Plan." The minister said it would help tackle the problem of the chemical poisoning of groundwater.

"Under this policy steps have been taken to supply safe water in different parts of the country," he told the House.

The government, giving top priority to solving the problem, is implementing 14 projects to provide safe water to arsenic-prone areas.

Work for extension of water pipeline under Dhaka Wasa has been taken up in Jurain, Maniknagar, Daniya, Mowartek, Jafrabad, Mohammadpur, Agargaon, Uttara, Rampura and other areas, which will be com-pleted within the current fiscal year, he said in reply to another question from MA Hashem. To a question from Md Mashiur Rahman Ranga, he said under a Three Year Rolling Investment Programme (TYRIP) 2003-06 a plan has been made for establishing 80,000 different sources of water to ensure pure drinking water in the rural areas.

In reply to a question from Rowshan Ershad, he said that to provide safe drinking water in rural areas under GOB-4 project, 4,700 deep tubewells in upazials, 1010 deep (Tara), 2342 tubewells, 1986 Tara, 305 PSF, 1085 ring wells, 600 wells/reestablishing water sources and to supply water through pipe-line in 92 villages are underway.

Replying to another question from Maj (retd) Manjur Kader, Bhuiyan said the government had taken initiative to implement two projects for water treatment in Dhaka metropolitan area. The government has taken up

the second phase of construction work for Syedabad Water Treatment Plant, which he said would produce 22.50 crore litres of water. If finance for the project can be ensured, the project is likely to be completed by year 2007.

He said with a capacity of producing 45 crore litres of water a day, a project to construct another treatment plant had been taken up by establishing intake at Mowa

avoided it terming it 'complex'.

Bangladesh government never recognised the stranded Pakistanis as

citizen of the country since 1972 as our

forefathers had given their options to be citizen of Pakistan, he added.

"Our forefathers wanted to be the citizens of Pakistan that does not

mean that we cannot be the citizens

of Bangladesh," Bablu said. "As the

issue has remained unsettled for the

last 32 years and we have been

brought up in this country that's

why we want to be the citizens of Bangladesh," he added.

"We cannot run any business through credit from banks as we have

no permanent asset," he said.

point on the Padma River. If nance can be ensured, the project is likely to be completed by 2008.

Bhuiyan told the lawmakers that against the demand for 200 crore liters of water a day in Dhaka metropolis, the Wasa can produce 160 crore litres.

Luton University holds open day

DU CORRESPONDENT

An open day programme, organ-ised by the University of Luton, UK, was held at Sheraton Hotel in the city yesterday.

The programme was organised to inform students about the admission procedure, course curriculum and tuition fees of the university.

Hundreds of students attended the programme that continued from 10:00am to 8:00pm

The organisers screened documentary on the university and hold seminar to inform students about the admission procedures, tuition fees and scholarships.

Steve Stephens, regional direc-tor of the university, interviewed the students seeking admission to the university.

Aunul Islam, Bangladesh representative of the university, told The daily Star that a number of students are interested to study at Luton University and from now on its Dhaka office will issue offer letters to them.

He said the Dhaka office takes Tk 6,000 as service charge from each student who will receive offer letters from the university.

Some students said they do not know why the Dhaka office takes the amount in the name of service charge.

"They should not do any busi-ness with the students by taking money against the offer letters of the university," one of the students told this correspondent.

Over 1300 held

UNB. Dhaka

Police arrested 1,305 people during their countrywide drive on various charges in last 24 hours till 6.00am yesterday.

During the drive, they also recovered four firearms, one other weapon and one bullet and filed two cases against two people under the Arms Act.

Death anniversary

Γoday is the fifth death anniver-sary of Muhammad Mufazzal Hug, Professor of



The Paily Star

Police violate HR in

city's 22 thanas

Says Odhikar report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Kotwali thana on April 10 and

Police seriously violated human rights at 22 thanas in the capital by their inhuman treatment to those taken to custody, harassing relations of the arrestees and taking bribe from them, said Odhikar, a coalition for human rights, in its quarterly research report on Saturday.

The report said in the wake of opposition's April 30 deadline to oust the government, Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) collected a huge amount of money in bribe from ordinary citizens while conducting a mass-arrest crackdown by abusing section 86 of DMP Ordinance and 54 of Criminal Procedure

In the name of foiling oustgovernment agitation, police indiscriminately picked up ordinary people from bus and railway stations, launch terminals and city slums and took

Code.

Alam Shikdar at Shyampur thana on May12. Police also harassed women in the custody both physically and mentally. Though it's man-datory to keep the women in separate cell, police kept them in he duty officer's room, and some time in the lobby. Children were kept with criminals

charged with serious crimes. The report further said hostile attitude and rampant bribery of the police have eroded people's trust in them and widen the people-police gap.

Odhikar, in association with Bangladesh Freedom Foundation, prepared the report after monitoring the situation at 22 thanas of the metropolitan city during the months of March, April and May.



in 66 camps who wants to return to Pakistan. SPYRM President Mohammed Sadakat Khan and advisor Nasim Akther Malik were present.

Shahidul Islam Chowdhury, president of the association, presented a paper on 'Private polytechnic education' at the

He said a total of 65 private polytechnic institutes are now providing diploma to 4,790 students in engineering and computer science across the country. Other speakers at the seminar said diploma engineers could earn crores of taka in foreign exchange if intentional standard

Journalist Amanuddoula, now living in New York, will present the of education could be provided to

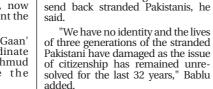
Director of ' Kobita O Gaan'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Stranded Pakistanis Youth Rehabilitation Movement (SPYRM) yesterday urged the government to give them citizenship of Bangladesh. The panel of in-country journal-"Due to lack of citizenship around three lakh stranded Pakistanis are deprived of all basic rights and passing their days in an inhuman condi-

Both the Pakistan and Bangladesh governments had hardly shown their interest in resolving the issue terming it as a 'political problem, 'he said.

said

They said for this upgrading of text curriculums, modernisation of the examination system, practical training of students and training facilities for teachers are



tion,'

rium



Stranded Pakistanis

seek citizenship

SPYRM General Secretary

Shahed Ali Bablu said this while he

was addressing a press conference at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity audito-

He said, there is not a single person

He said Pakistan did not give due attention to the issue and always

Milon said the government will do everything necessary to courage private entrepreneurs to ensure standard technical



them.

needed

Chairman of Bangladesh

Fechnical Education Board Prof M

Idris Ali, Director General of tech-

nical education Prof M Abul Basar,

PHOTO: STAR Jatiyatabadi Muktijuddher Projanma forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday demanding passage of law against hartal.

The annual prize giving ceremony of Liver Brothers Sports Recreation Club was held at the Muslim Hall here on Friday evening.

Chairman and Managing Director of Liver Brothers Bangladesh Limited Sanjib Sushil Mehta distributed the prizes among the winners as chief guest with General Factory Manager HasanZafar in the chair.

Human Resource Manager Saleh U Ahmed, President of employees union Shahidul Alam and General Secretary Selim Enayet were also present.

Around one hundred participants took part in 27 indoor and outdoor events.

The prize giving ceremony was rounded off with a cultural func-

Zontians urged to work to improve status

of women

Zonta International District 25 organised a workshop on district/club officers, committee chairmen's orientation and programme planning for the biennium 2004-2006 at the Samarkand Restaurant in the city on Friday, says a press release.

Ztn Dilruba Ahmed Governor, District 25 and Z International presided.

Dilruba also inaugurated the Year Launching of the Zonta Clubs in District 25 comprises of Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka.

Zonta International is a worldwide service organisation of executives in business and the professions working together to advance the status of women worldwide.

Dilruba congratulated the new presidents and members of the incoming boards. She apprised them of the importance of their responsibilities as Zontians to work together to implement the goals of Zonta International. She urged them to strive to provide service at the global and local level to improve the legal political, economic, education, health and professional status of women.

The 58th Biennial Zonta International Convention will be held in New York on July 2-8. The District 25 Governor members of the District 25 Board and delegates from the Zonta Clubs will attend the convention.

Andrei Konchalovsky Talk

DHAK

retrospective

Zahir Raihan Film Society, in association with Russian Cultural Centre, will screen two films by Andrei Konchalovsky. These are 'The Runaway Train' (1985) and 'Tango and Cash'(1989). Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00pm and 6.00pm.

Film show

6.30pm.

The Academy Film Society will screen an American film titled '2001, A Space Oddysey' (1968). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time:

Blood donation

In observance of International Blood Donation Day, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, in collaboration with Pan Pacific Sonargaon, organises a voluntary blood donation camp with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Tome: 9.30am.

Roundtable

Bangladesh ICT Journalist Forum organises a roundtable on 'Proposed budget for FY 2004-05: ICT sector.' Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 3.10pm.

Dr Rashid Foundation of Buet organises a talk to be delivered by Prof M Ali Asgar on the theme of his book on 'education, research and development.' Venue: Buet council bhaban. Time: 4.00pm.



Andrei Konchalovsky

retrospective Zahir Raihan Film Society, in association with Russian Cultural Centre, will screen two films by Andrei Konchalovsky. These are 'The Odyssey' (1997) and 'House of Fools' (2003). Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00pm and

held with opposition leader and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina as chief guest. Venue: Open space adjacent to Bangabandhu Memorial Museum, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00pm.

Film show

The Academy Film Society will screen a Belgian film titled 'Toto the Hero' (1991). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.



On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held after Juma prayers at his village mosque at Chaigharia in Satkhira.

Relatives, friends and students have been requested to pray for the departed soul of Prof. Mufazzal.

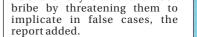
Q M Zaman



a milad mahfil will be held after Asr prayers and food will be distributed among the destitute at his village home "Shaheb Bari"in Hajiganj.

Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Mohammad Sultan former ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations in Geneva, will be held at his residence at House No-13,Road No-1 at Cantonment in the city after Magrib prayers tomorrow, says a press release



Police arrested about 700 people on April 18 and 2500 on April 20 from different areas, most of whom were innocent.

The report said Parimal and his friend Bipul, who came from Panchagarh to visit Dhaka, were picked by police no sooner had they stepped down from bus at Mohakhali terminal. Similarly, police arrested fruit trader Russel who came to the capital in search of a job.

Odhikar in its report said the condition of most thana hajats was terrible with stinky environment. It also witnessed police torture on the accused in the name of remand, and extracting money from the visitors and those who came to file general diary

> Sohel, 30, an accused in a murder case, alleged that he was tortured by Sabujbagh police to give a confessional statement during one-day remand.

Accused Shafiq, 32, alleged similar torture at Dhanmondi thana on April 27, Sattar, 45, at

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Dr Kan Te Hung, a dental surgeon of the port city, died of cancer at a city clinic at the age of 75 yesterday.

Dr Kan, popularly known as Dr Yakub, left behind his wife, three sons and two daughters.

The Chinese-born physician was the owner of Dental Clinic at Laldighi, one of the oldest such clinics in the port city.

He will be cremated at Patharghata Church Burial Ground on Wednesday after arrival of his sons and daughters, now living in Canada and USA, family sources said.



Zonta International District 25 organised a workshop on district/club officers, committee chairmen's orientation and programme planning at a city restaurant on Friday. Sitting from left are Area Director Nilufer Zafarullah, IT webmaster & Corresponding Secretary Shanaaz Ahmed, Governor Dilruba Ahmed, Recording Secretary Nahid Moyeen and Past Governor Sarwari Rahman.

7.00pm. Tree plantation The inaugural ceremony of a tree plantation programme, organised by Bangladesh Krishak League, will be

He died at Bangladesh Medical College Hospital on Saturday.

