



PHOTO STAR
Visitors at a two-day 'Communication Fair - Women Rights Materials' that began on the British Council premises in the city yesterday. The British Council and Yuktajointly organised the fair.

DHAKA TODAY

Drama

Chekhov Theatre will stage a workshop-oriented experimental drama based on the short story, 'After the Ball Dance', by Leo Tolstoy. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhannondi. Time: 6.00pm.

Bangla Academy

Bangla Academy organises a discussion marking the death anniversary of Dr Muhammad Shahidullah. It will be followed by a session of recitation. Venue: Seminar room of the academy. Time: 11.00am.

South Asia Water Forum
The inaugural ceremony of a three-day Third South Asia Water Forum 2004 will be held, with Water Resources Minister Hafiz Uddin Ahmed as chief guest. The Global Water Partnership organises the event. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 9.00am.

Muldhara

Muldhara organises a meeting to exchange views among the writers, journalists and artists. Venue: Muldhara Zaka Alam Auditorium. Time: 6.30pm.

Prize giving ceremony

The prize giving ceremony of Saif

Institute of Management and Technology will be held. Venue: IDB Bhavan Auditorium, Agargaon. Time: 10.00am.

Blood donation programme

The Orca Blood for Life organises a voluntary blood donation programme. Venue: Bangladesh Bank. Time: 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Rotary Sonargaon Dhaka

Regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Sonargaon Dhaka will be held. Members are requested to attend the meeting on time. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Memorial meeting

Sammilita Nagorik Samaj will hold a discussion in memory of Liberation War inspire and noted writer late MR Akther Mukul and slain journalist Humayun Kabir Balu. Venue: National Press Club auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.

Girls' education helps check spread of HIV in Bangladesh

Says WB vice-president for South Asia

BSS, Bangkok

Girls' enrolment in schools have been playing a vital role in keeping Bangladesh a low prevalence country of HIV/AIDS in Asia, a top executive of the World Bank (WB) said here yesterday.

Praful Patel, WB vice-president for South Asia, said girls' education was a powerful weapon to check the spread of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in Bangladesh, where 54 percent students in primary schools are female.

"Educated girls are aware of what happens to their bodies, they are capable of negotiations with their partners, and they know how to protect themselves," Patel told the news agency at the Impact Convention Centre where the 15th International AIDS Conference is going on.

The 15th AIDS conference is jointly organised by the

International AIDS Society (IAS) and Thai Ministry of Public Health. The six-day conference began on Sunday. Around 20,000 delegates including UN Secretary General Kofi Annan are attending the conference.

Patel said Bangladesh has every opportunity to maintain its low prevalence rate of HIV through development of leadership at all levels including the political arena, village heads and media world.

"The leaders in Bangladesh are shy about speaking directly on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. But it is the time to speak directly to break the social stigma and let people know the facts, he said adding that the situation still remained at a very low level, but it might turn to the worst at any time.

"If you look into the fourth national serological survey you will see 4 percent drug users are HIV positive. The situation is alarming. So you have to look into the matter seriously," he said.

"I can at least say money will not be a problem. Already money is there to fight HIV," he added.

Earlier, at a press conference, the World Bank executives from Africa and Europe said that the leaders in South Asia were very reluctant to surface the HIV issue in public. The leaders at all levels starting from state level to grassroots levels in Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh prefer to play a hide-and-seek about HIV and sex issues, they pointed out.

They said the world Bank has committed \$800 million US dollar for HIV/AIDS prevention programme in Asia, and \$1 billion US dollar for 28 sub-Saharan countries in Africa. The performance of China and Thailand are appreciable compared to other Asian nations.

Globally, the number of HIV/AIDS cases is 40 million and 15,000 new infections occur everyday. In Bangladesh, official number of HIV cases is only 363, but UNAIDS estimates the number around 15,000.

Looted arms recovered in Bhola

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police recovered the looted arms and ammunition in Bhola district on Sunday night.

A sub-machine gun, a rifle and 40 bullets were looted from a police team during a clash with a mob at Anjur Hut in Char Manik union under Charfashan upazila.

Police found the arms lying abandoned at the spot at around 11.00pm.

The clash took place over torture of a schoolboy.

Zakir Hossain, assistant sub-inspector of Char Manik police camp, lodged a case against 15 people in connection with the attack on police.

Police also arrested 18 people, including two students of Anjur Haji School, Prince and Sohel. They were sent to jail.

Regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Sonargaon Dhaka will be held. Members are requested to attend the meeting on time. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.

WEATHER TODAY

Appeal for help

JU CORRESPONDENT

Mohammad Amatullah, a student of Jahangirnagar University (JU), has sought financial assistance for his treatment.

He has been suffering from ankylosing spondylitis, a chronic inflammatory form of arthritis that affects the spinal joints, since 1995 but financial constraints forced him to withdraw from treatment.

A resident of Taltoli in Gazipur, Amatullah studies mathematics at the university. He could not sit for third year final examinations because of his illness.

Amatullah is an orphan. His younger brother, a low-paid garments worker, earns too little to afford his treatment.

"I want to live. I want to be back in classroom with the help of others," said Amatullah, with tears rolling down his face.

He appealed to the generous people to help him return to normal life.

Contributions can be sent to Account No. 18979, Agrani Bank, Jahangirnagar University branch, Savar, Dhaka-1342.

SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS, CLASSROOMS

Academic activities at 4 JU deptts disrupted

JU CORRESPONDENT

Shortage of teachers and classrooms and lack of laboratory facilities have brought academic activities of four departments at Jahangirnagar University (JU) to a virtual halt.

The authorities introduced urban and regional planning, biochemistry and molecular science, environmental science and international relations as full-fledged departments in 1998-99 academic session, but did not provide enough classrooms and teachers.

As a result, the students have been facing session jam of more than one and half years.

The students of biochemistry and molecular science at a press conference yesterday gave a seven-day ultimatum to the department chairman for appointment of at least four regular teachers.

They also threatened to boycott all classes and examinations if their demand goes unheeded.

The department has now only three teachers and two classrooms while the number of students is 135 divided into six batches.

Even the classrooms do not have enough space for students of a single batch, said a teacher of the department, seeking anonymity.

Urban and regional planning, a department under social science faculty, now has six teachers and two classrooms against about 150 students in six batches of different

academic sessions.

As most lab instruments are very old and unfit for use, the students have to rush to Dhaka University and Bangladesh University of Engineering Technology often for their laboratory works, students complained.

The department also does not have any seminar library, they said.

Environmental science, a department under science faculty, fails to offer a single classroom for the students till now. Classes are held in a room at the central auditorium that was meant for the cultural organisations.

"Although the university allotted a room, the department could not be shifted there for shortage of necessary furniture," said Rashedul Karim, a teacher of the department.

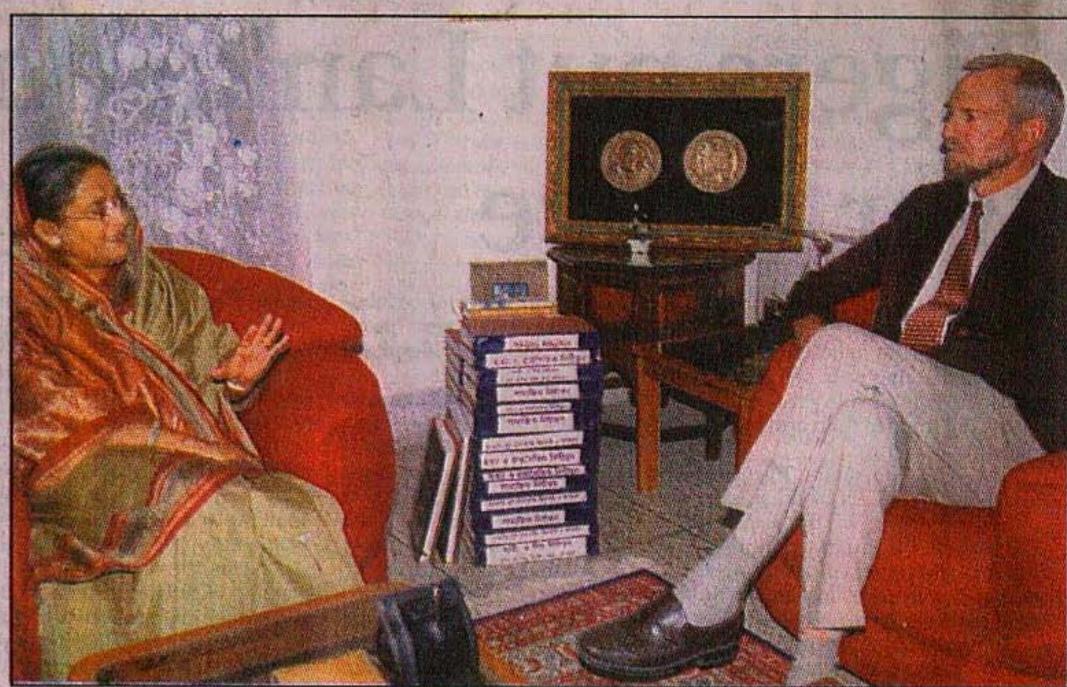
International relations, a department under arts faculty, has been facing serious shortage of teachers.

The department now has only three teachers for about 130 students in five batches.

Moreover, an internal feud among the teachers has created a deadlock at the department.

While contacted over telephone, Prof Tareq Shamsul Rahman, chairman of international relations, and Prof Shafiqullah, chairman of environmental science, declined to comment on the issue.

Prof Shajed Afas Karim, chairman of urban and regional planning, was not available for comments.



Danish Ambassador Niels Severin Munk called on Leader of the Opposition and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence in the city yesterday.

Tk 221cr BCC budget announced

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Barisal City Corporation (BCC) yesterday announced a Tk 221.74 crore budget for 2004-05 without imposing any new taxes.

Announcing the highly ambitious budget, Mayor Majibur Rahman Sarwar pledged to make Barisal a green, clean, beautiful and cultural city.

He, however, admitted that he could not carry out many developmental activities due to lack of funds.

The mayor sought people's cooperation in the development efforts of the corporation.

He also urged them to pay the taxes regularly.

Of the total amount in the budget, only Tk 20.81 crore will come from its revenue sources and the rest Tk 191.74 crore from various grants.

Obituary

Md Saad Hossain Khan, father of Md Tofael Khan, managing director of City Art Press Ltd, died at a city hospital yesterday at the age of 76, says a press release.

He was the founder of Kakardia Primary School in Sylhet and Azimunnesa Women's Madrasa.

He is survived by his wife, four sons, four daughters and a number of grandchildren.

Tk 4 crore Dutch-Bangla donation for Cancer Hospital

Dutch-Bangla Bank authorities decided to donate Tk 4 crore for construction of the first floor of the proposed Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital (AMCH) to be established by Dhaka Ahsania Mission at Utara in the city, says a press release.

The Managing Director of the Bank Md Yasin Ali handed over a letter in this regard to the Executive Director of the Dhaka Ahsania Mission Kazi Rafiqul Alam yesterday at a simple function at the Dutch-Bangla Bank head office at Sena Kalyan Bhaban in the city.

Abul Hashem Khan, Deputy Managing Director (Operations) and A. A. M. Zakaria, Deputy Managing Director (Administration) of the Bank, Dr Muzammel Hossain Khan, Coordinator of Dutch-Bangla Bank Foundation and Prof Nurul Islam, Director, Public Relations Division of Dhaka Ahsania Mission were present on the occasion.

While receiving the commitment letter Rafiqul Alam lauded the role and leadership of Mohammad Shahabuddin Ahmad, Chairman of Dutch-Bangla Bank for this great donation. He hoped that other individuals or organisations will feel inspired and come forward to help establish the proposed 500-bed Cancer Hospital costing Tk 110 crore.

Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Padma Oil Company Limited, 6, Paribagh, Dhaka.

c) At the office of the foreign embassy of the Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

i) United Kingdom, ii) Singapore, iii) Germany and iv) Dubai.

Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Chittagong, Bangladesh.

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Up to 1500 hrs. on 23.08.2004 (Local Time).

Up to 1500 hrs. on 24.08.2004 (BST).

At 1530 hrs. on 24.08.2004 (BST).

(a) For any clarification please contact: Engineering & Planning Manager (EPM) Padma Oil Company Limited Strand Road, Chittagong, Bangladesh Telex No-66227 POCL BG Fax No-88031-618312 Phone: 031-614235-7

(b) The total procurement (goods and works) will be done as per Public Procurement Regulations - 2003.

Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 2 Nos x 18000 Ltr Capacity Low Profile Aviation Refuellers for Kurmitola Aviation Depot (KAD), Zia International Airport, Dhaka (Detail specification attached in the tender documents).

DFP-17022-6/7/04

G-400

Helal Ahmed Chowdhury

Engineering & Planning Manager

Zia Shishu Academy team meets president

BSS, Dhaka

A delegation of Zia Shishu Academy, which will visit the United Kingdom and France, called on President Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday.

The members of the delegation apprised the president of the activities of the academy and Zia International Children Fair to be held in December here. In connection with the fair, the delegation is going to those countries, they told the president.

The President said the fair and the trip will help uphold country's image abroad.

Padma Oil Company Limited

(A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
Strand Road, Sadarghat
Chittagong, Bangladesh

Invitation for Tenders (Goods or Works)

| | |
|---|---|
| Tender No: COF/ZIA/13-04 | Dated: 22.05.04 |
| International tenders are invited from reputed and genuine manufacturers, agents or suppliers having previous experiences for "Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 2 Nos x 18000 Ltr Capacity Low Profile Aviation Refuellers" as noted below: | |
| 1. Project name | Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 2 Nos x 18000 Ltr Capacity Low Profile Aviation Refuellers for Kurmitola Aviation Depot (KAD), Zia International Airport, Dhaka. |
| 2. Source of fund | Own source of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC). |
| 3. Invitation for tenders ref. & date | COF/ZIA/13-04 dated: 22.05.2004. |
| 4. Tender name | Procurement of Aviation Refuellers. |
| 5. Time for completion | |