

Dhaka Book Fair from Jan 1

BSS, Dhaka

National Book Center's 11th Dhaka Book Fair 2005 will begin on the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy premises in the city January 1.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is expected to inaugurate the 15-day book fair to be sponsored by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, National Book Centre (NBC) sources said. Khaleda introduced the fair in 1995 during her first tenure as Prime Minister. "Family library enlightens the home" is the theme of the fair that will be participated by the

publishers from home and abroad, the sources said.

Meanwhile, 100 local publishers collected entry forms to participate in the fair. NBC also invited foreign publishers to participate. Those who published at least 10 new books in the previous year are eligible for participating in the book fair.

Entry fee for the fair will be Tk 2 per person while the school students will get free entry if they come along with their teachers carrying authentication from the school authorities.

Anti-corruption Day tomorrow

UNB, Dhaka

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) will observe the First UN International Anti-corruption Day tomorrow in a befitting manner.

On the day, TIB will hold a seminar titled "UN Convention against Corruption" at 4.00pm at the Brac Centre Inn at 75 Mahakhali.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed will be present as chief guest.



PHOTO STAR
Syed Abul Maksud, a senior journalist, columnist and writer, began Satyagraha, a non-violent resistance campaign, in front of the National Press Club yesterday to protest the 'killings by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in crossfire'. But police prevented him from carrying out his campaign and forced him into the press club.

NBR-iron traders' meet ends in row

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Coordination Committee of Bangladesh Iron and Steel Merchants Association yesterday demanded resignation of NBR Chairman Khairuzzaman Chowdhury and Commissioner (south) Farid Uddin following a dispute at a negotiation meeting with them over payment of Value Added Tax (VAT).

In a statement, committee convenor Mohammad Nasirullah alleged that the

National Board of Revenue (NBR) officials failed to behave properly with the business leaders at an appraisal meeting on newly introduced VAT payment system.

The NBR officials, however, denied the allegation, saying that the business leaders started a row deliberately in the meeting.

In the last week ending on December 4, the NBR seized 15 truckloads of iron rods which were allegedly being transported outside Dhaka without payment of VAT.

The businessmen displeased with the seizure of goods tried to defend themselves at the meeting, the officials said.

When contacted, Farid Uddin, the NBR commissioner (south), said that no-one misbehaved with the businessmen at the meeting. "It was a pre-planned move to foil a peaceful meeting," he claimed.

Trader shot at Khilgaon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unknown men shot and injured a trader at Khilgaon in the city yesterday.

A gang of three fired a shot at 32-year-old Shahidul Rahman Uzzal, owner of a couple of shops at Chowdhury Para, when he was returning home at around 2:30pm.

Shahidul, who received a bullet in his back, was rushed to a local clinic and later shifted to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital at around 4:00pm.

The victim said he has no idea why the gang attacked him.

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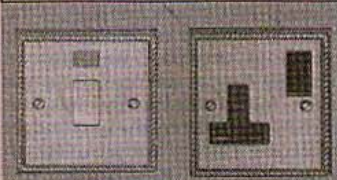
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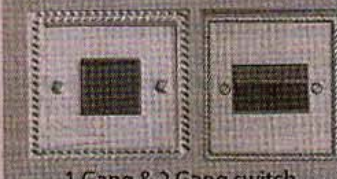
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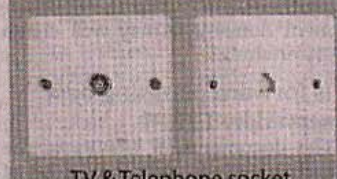


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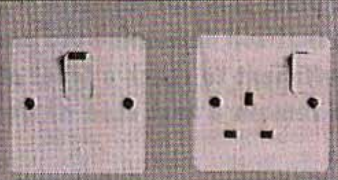


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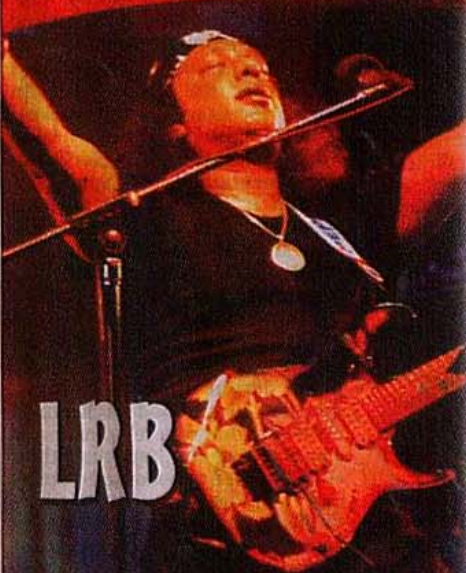
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