

# Microsoft offers free virus-busting programs

AP, Washington

Microsoft Corp., whose popular Windows software is a frequent target for Internet viruses, is offering a free security program to remove the most dangerous infections from computers.

The program, with monthly updates, is a step toward plans by Microsoft to sell full-blown antivirus software later this year.

Microsoft said yesterday that consumers can download the new security program from the company's website [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com) and that updated versions will be offered automatically and free each month. It will be available starting Tuesday.

Also, Microsoft offered Thursday a free program to remove "spyware," a category of irritating programs that secretly monitor the activities of Internet users and can cause sluggish computer performance or popups.

Microsoft said the virus-removal program will not prevent computer infections and was never intended to replace the need for traditional antivirus software, such as flagship products from McAfee Inc. or Symantec Corp.

But a senior Microsoft executive confirmed the company's plans to sell its own antivirus software, which would compete against programs from McAfee, Symantec and others.

Microsoft purchased a Romanian antivirus firm, GeCAD Software Srl, for an undisclosed amount in 2003. Industry rivals expect Microsoft's formal entry into the market as early as the spring.

"We will have a stand-alone antivirus product that is one of the things you can buy from Microsoft, but we're not announcing anything today," said Rich Kaplan, vice president for Microsoft's security business.

Microsoft and other companies occasionally have offered separate programs to disinfect specific viruses. Microsoft promised its new removal tool will target a variety of infections and will be updated each month to recognize new ones.

Microsoft is sensitive to criticism about the susceptibility of its Windows operating system software to computer viruses. It has responded by tightening security for its popular Outlook e-mail software and improving the protection.

## No action

FROM PAGE 12

Earlier he in violation of rules of the university had allowed a senior student of the department to take classes.

A member of the probe committee requesting anonymity said they would not recommend any disciplinary action as they think the teacher is suffering from mental depression due to estrangement from his wife.

The probe body would however advise issuing warning against him for giving fatwa (religious edict) as well as allowing a student to take classes.

"The probe report is ready. We would publish it after dealing with some other important issues in hand," said Prof Enamul Huq Khan.

The five-member probe committee comprising four deans was formed on September 28 last year and asked to publish report by October 7.

## Govt puts administrator

FROM PAGE 1

a petition with the Court of Second Assistant Judge against the government. The content of the petition, on which the judgement was based, could not be known immediately though.

According to the true copy of the judgement, Second Assistant Judge Syed Azad Sobhiani ruled: "The defendant no 37 (government side) is hereby directed to appoint an administrator to take over the function of the executive committee of BGMEA consisted of defendants no 9-35."

The BGMEA leaders told The Daily Star that the judgement was delivered in their absence and that they were neither given a hearing nor summoned. "We even don't know what prompted the court ruling," wondered BGMEA President Anisul Huq. "We urge the prime minister to withdraw the administrator," he added.

Insiders say the move was orchestrated to prevent 'pro-opposition' panel leaders from taking the BGMEA leadership with the election scheduled for February 17.

Two top panels, namely Sammilito Parishad and Forum, were only days away from announcing their full panel to contest in the upcoming ballot.

Sources said the incumbent president is likely to spearhead the Forum panel while Tipu Munshi is expected to lead the Sammilito Parishad panel. Both panels share between them the executive committee, the policy-making body of the BGMEA, and have huge popularity in the association.

Insiders say the Forum and the Sammilito Parishad were likely to

## Road crashes

FROM PAGE 1  
performing their annual winter exercises in the Gorai-Hatubanga forest in Tangail.

Later, the lorry was salvaged and taken to Savar Cantonment. Traffic on the highway remained disrupted for nearly half an hour after the accident.

In Sirajganj, a Nagarbari bound passenger bus from Hatukumrul in Sirajganj crashed into a roadside ditch at Chaireshkha in Ullapara upazila at around 2:00pm, killing three people on the spot and injuring 24 others.

Two of the dead were identified as Abdur Razzak, 25, and Madina, 12, of Chaireshkha village under the upazila. Identity of the other could not be known.

Police recovered the bodies and sent them to Sirajganj General Hospital for autopsy. The injured are undergoing treatment at the same hospital.

UNB adds from Faridpur: Monwara, 32, and her daughters Babita, 5, and Kohinoor, 3, were killed when as a bus knocked theirrickshaw at Shibrampur on Dhaka-Faridpur highway yesterday afternoon.

Another daughter of the ill-fated woman, Julekha, and the rickshawpuller were injured in the accident and admitted to Faridpur Medical College and Hospital.

Another UNB report says: A woman and her daughter were killed and her two other children critically injured in a road accident on the Cox's Bazar-Chittagong highway at Kalgarh in Rangam upazila at noon.

Identity of the victims could not be known. Police said a bus hit the woman and her three children while they were crossing the road, killing the woman and one of her daughters on the spot and injuring two others.

The injured were admitted to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital. Police seized the bus.

Our Sathkira correspondent reported that a road accident on the Sathkira-Assassani Road left two people killed.

The dead are Alif Uddin, 50, of village Bara Kamar and Kabir Hossain, 10, of village Ellarcha in Sadar upazila.

An unidentified man died on the spot when a Dinaipur bound passenger bus hit him at Paglapir point on the Rangpur-Dinaipur Highway under Rangpur Sadar upazila in the afternoon.

## Little headache

FROM PAGE 12  
family has already spent over Tk 16,000 for various medical tests.

According to an estimate by the neurosurgery department, about 15 to 20 percent of the patients admitted to the department are child and female patients.

"About 25 to 30 head and spinal injury cases come to our department a day through the emergency wing, and they get beds, even if those are extra beds. The main problem is scheduling their surgery. It takes long before surgery can be performed on them due to a long list of such patients," said Shafiq Uddin.

Asked about the bed crisis, a high official at the hospital said, "Most of the head and spine injury cases are of the males and we have allocated more beds for them. Female and child patients are less than one-fourth of the patients admitted."

Shafiq Uddin said, "I have requested the DMCH authorities several times to allocate more beds for the female and child patients with no response as yet."

## Rights body

FROM PAGE 12  
magistrate's court freed the woman from judicial custody of the deputy commissioner following an appeal on behalf of the organisation. The court also ordered the police to conduct a fresh medical test of the victim.

Two fresh tests were carried out at Khulna Medical College and Hospital on December 29 and January 3. The results of the tests, however, were not known.

Fourteen police led by camp-in-charge Abdul Kuddus and a Havildar Rokonuzzaman gang-raped the housewife at the camp on December 18 last year. The victim later named all the 14 police who raped her.

District police administration in the face of countrywide protest suspended five of the accused and arrested them. They are Kuddus, Rokonuzzaman and constables Harun, Sakib and Hurunur Rashid.

At the meeting, the committee rejected a plan to procure two new generation aircraft for Biman after frontline ministers blasted the airline authorities for the poor performance.

But the union leaders said Biman's financial performance is on the up and it earned Tk 17 crore operating profit during 2003-04 fiscal year.

They agreed that Biman counts huge loss on the Dhaka-New York route, but said the government had introduced the flight ignoring the economic interests of intellectuals.

Biman counts Tk 50 lakh in loss for each flight on this route and it incurred a loss of Tk 144 crore on this single route in the last three years.

About the cabinet committee's observation that Biman has huge excess manpower, the union leaders said Biman still has staff shortage. Against 6,761 approved manpower, Biman is running with 5,232 staff, they said.

Biman is currently operating a fleet of 14 aircraft and it has 373 staff for each aircraft, which is very high by international standards, sources said.

The union leaders will sit again tomorrow (Saturday) to chalk out a plan to give vent to their dissatisfaction.

He urged all garment manufacturers and owners to get united on the issue.

## Zimbabwe sent on cherry chase

FROM PAGE 1

dismissed just six runs short of what would have been his fourth Test century leaving Rajin Saleh (60 not out) and Aftab Ahmed battoning on six.

Bangladesh, eyeing their maiden Test victory in 35 appearances, will go into the second day with a desire of battoning two more sessions to push for nearly half an hour after the accident.

In Sirajganj, a Nagarbari bound passenger bus from Hatukumrul in Sirajganj crashed into a roadside ditch at Chaireshkha in Ullapara upazila at around 2:00pm, killing three people on the spot and injuring 24 others.

Two of the dead were identified as Abdur Razzak, 25, and Madina, 12, of Chaireshkha village under the upazila. Identity of the other could not be known.

Police recovered the bodies and sent them to Sirajganj General Hospital for autopsy. The injured are undergoing treatment at the same hospital.

UNB adds from Faridpur: Monwara, 32, and her daughters Babita, 5, and Kohinoor, 3, were killed when as a bus knocked theirrickshaw at Shibrampur on Dhaka-Faridpur highway yesterday afternoon.

Another daughter of the ill-fated woman, Julekha, and the rickshawpuller were injured in the accident and admitted to Faridpur Medical College and Hospital.

Another UNB report says: A woman and her daughter were killed and her two other children critically injured in a road accident on the Cox's Bazar-Chittagong highway at Kalgarh in Rangam upazila at noon.

Identity of the victims could not be known. Police said a bus hit the woman and her three children while they were crossing the road, killing the woman and one of her daughters on the spot and injuring two others.

The injured were admitted to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital. Police seized the bus.

Our Sathkira correspondent reported that a road accident on the Sathkira-Assassani Road left two people killed.

The dead are Alif Uddin, 50, of village Bara Kamar and Kabir Hossain, 10, of village Ellarcha in Sadar upazila.

An unidentified man died on the spot when a Dinaipur bound passenger bus hit him at Paglapir point on the Rangpur-Dinaipur Highway under Rangpur Sadar upazila in the afternoon.

The dead are Alif Uddin, 50, of village Bara Kamar and Kabir Hossain, 10, of village Ellarcha in Sadar upazila.

According to an estimate by the neurosurgery department, about 15 to 20 percent of the patients admitted to the department are child and female patients.

"About 25 to 30 head and spinal injury cases come to our department a day through the emergency wing, and they get beds, even if those are extra beds. The main problem is scheduling their surgery. It takes long before surgery can be performed on them due to a long list of such patients," said Shafiq Uddin.

Asked about the bed crisis, a high official at the hospital said, "Most of the head and spine injury cases are of the males and we have allocated more beds for them. Female and child patients are less than one-fourth of the patients admitted."

Shafiq Uddin said, "I have requested the DMCH authorities several times to allocate more beds for the female and child patients with no response as yet."

## Rights body

FROM PAGE 12  
one of its two members are yet to submit their statements.

Talking to reporters Wednesday, Justice Khan said, "We'll submit them if needed."

According to the commission's primary estimates, it will need at least 16 staff to run the cell.

People are reluctant to disclose any information about their wealth fearing they will also be required to reveal the source of it. So, initially, we've decided not to ask about the source of their wealth," said a source at the commission.

"Once we've their wealth statements hand, we'll monitor their activities to find out whether they are involved in any corruption," he added.

FIRST MEETING AT AGARGAON

The ACC held its first meeting in its new office at Agargao yesterday.

One of the most discussed issues in the meeting was the legal hurdle in absorbing the former Bac staff into the commission.

According to the attorney general's opinion, the ACC act provides for the Bac staff to work at the commission from the day the bureau was dissolved. They will continue working under the commission until withdrawn by the government on the commission's request, he said.

Other topics discussed include the ACC's budget, other financial matters and its organogram. "We hope to finalise the organogram next week," said Mian.

The commission yesterday appointed Khan M Mizanul Islam, a former Bac officer, as its public relations officer.

## 10,000 teachers

FROM PAGE 12

pay any heed to our demands and we don't expect any justice from them," Dhaka University Teachers' Association President Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique said.

But the union leaders said Biman's financial performance is on the up and it earned Tk 17 crore operating profit during 2003-04 fiscal year.

They agreed that Biman counts huge loss on the Dhaka-New York route, but said the government had introduced the flight ignoring the economic interests of intellectuals.

Biman counts Tk 50 lakh in loss for each flight on this route and it incurred a loss of Tk 144 crore on this single route in the last three years.

About the cabinet committee's observation that Biman has huge excess manpower, the union leaders said Biman still has staff shortage. Against 6,761 approved manpower, Biman is running with 5,232 staff, they said.

Biman is currently operating a fleet of 14 aircraft and it has 373 staff for each aircraft, which is very high by international standards, sources said.

The union leaders will sit again tomorrow (Saturday) to chalk out a plan to give vent to their dissatisfaction.

He urged all garment manufacturers and owners to get united on the issue.

Former DU vice chancellor Prof

disappointment to a 5,000-strong crowd. Bashar glided an outswinger from Christopher Mpofu to the hands of Taibu to give the debutant seamer his first Test wicket.

Inspired by Bashars 204 minutes of pure entertainment, Rajin cracked seven fours and the only six of the day when he lofted Stuart Broad over long-off.

Rajin also had a touch of luck after Zimbabwe took the new ball after 80 overs. The diminutive batsman, gaining confidence from an 82 against India in the last match of the one-day series, hooked Chigumbura in the air but Graeme Cremer could not hold the ball at square-leg.

Rajin, then on 41, did not look back and completed his fourth Test fifty in 94 balls.

Earlier, the foundation came from Javed Omar and Nafees Iqbal who put on a record 91 runs or the opening stand -- Bangladesh's fourth 50-plus effort in Tests. On way to surpassing Al Shahriar and Javed's previous best 73 against the same opposition at the same venue in November 2001, they took the

score to 72 at lunch.

It was also the first time a Bangladesh opening pair has lasted a full session's play.

Dropped on nine, Nafees notched his second half-century seven overs after lunch when the local lad drove medium-pacer Elton Chigumbura through the covers. The young local batsman, who made a fluent 56 off 122 balls, joined Javed in the dressing room shortly afterwards while trying to push paceman Mluleki Nkala from the crease, and Vusi Sibanda took an excellent catch at leg-gully to give Nkala his second wicket.

Javed (110-ball 33) was undone by a short delivery from Chigumbura that kissed the handle of his bat to the gloves of Taibu.

Bashar and Mohammed Ashraful took the total to 153 before the latter was out for an uncharacteristically 19 off the last ball of the second session.

Ashraful tried to flick the ball down the leg side but Hamilton Masakadza held a fine catch at leg-gully to give Nkala his second wicket.