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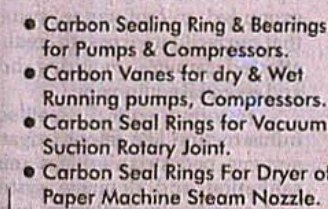
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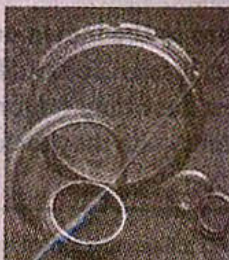
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The Daily Star celebrated its 14th founding anniversary by holding a reception dinner at Saffron Restaurant at Gulshan in the city yesterday, attended by its patrons and well-wishers.

Raise social awareness to curb crimes, corruption

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday called for raising social awareness at grassroots level to eliminate crimes and corruption.

They also urged all to be united in combating criminals and corrupt people.

The roundtable on 'Terrorism and corruption in Bangladesh: Role of the government and the civil society' was organised by Projonma Academy at the National Press Club in the city.

The speakers said strict enforcement of laws is also needed to curb crimes and corruption.

They said eradication of poverty and illiteracy can ensure peace and development.

"Lack of tolerance among the ruling parties and the oppositions is the main obstacle to making parliament effective," said Prof AKM Shahidullah, chairman of political science department of Dhaka University, while presenting his keynote paper.

He said members of the civil society could play a vital role in creating pressure on the government to combat terrorism and corruption.

Presiding over the dialogue, Prof

Dr M Ataur Rahman urged all members of the civil society to be united ignoring individual differences to fight corruption and terrorism.

He called upon the government to open criminology department at the university level so that students may learn how to eliminate corruption and terrorism.

"We have already expanded the activities of Speedy Trial Tribunals and Rapid Action Battalions to eliminate terrorism, and we hope that peace will be restored in the society soon," said Law Minister Moudud Ahmed.

He said the government has also set up an independent anti-corruption commission for finding out the corrupted people including government officials.

General Secretary of Islamic Party Abdul Mobin, General Manager of Inqilab Group Abdul Kader, and Editor of weekly Rabibar Syed Tasharuf Ali also spoke.

CPB to continue movement against govt

UNB, Dhaka

CPB leader Mujahidul Islam Selim yesterday said that his party is not out of the movement against the four-party alliance government.

"We are very much in the movement against the present autocratic government... But we will continue our movement without making any alliance with the Awami League," he said.

The leader of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) was speaking at a discussion held at Mukti Juddha Jadughar in observance of the 80th birth anniversary of eminent political leader Mahiuddin Ahmed.

Presided over by Prof Anisuzzaman, the meeting was also addressed by AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil, AL presidium member Abdur Razzaq, eminent journalist KG Mustafa, Prof Shamsul Huda Harun and Sirajuddin Ahmed.

DU GA UNIT EXAMS HELD 30 vying for each seat

UNB, Dhaka

About 30 admission seekers are vying for each seat under 'Ga unit' of Dhaka University this year.

According to official sources, 21,515 students appeared in the written test for admission to the first year honours under the 'Ga unit' (commerce) yesterday, but the number of seats is only 704.

The admission test of 'Ka unit' (science) will be held on February 4 while 'Gha unit' (combined) on February 11 and 'Kha unit' (Arts and Social Science) on February 18, the officials said.

A total of 88,382 forms have been sold against 4,388 seats of the university.

'Save 5000 Bangladeshi caterers' job in UK'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Caterers Association yesterday urged the government to take immediate steps to save the job of about 5000 Bangladeshi workers employed in catering business in the UK by extending their visas.

The call was made by Saad Gazi, former secretary general of the London-based association and director of Bangladesh-British Chamber of Commerce, at a press conference in the city.

He said Bangladeshi catering industry in London is under threat as Britain has cancelled the Sector Base Scheme for Bangladesh although it is still open for other sub-

continental countries.

Saad Gazi said around 5000 workers who went to London one year ago under the scheme were supposed to get their visas renewed.

But the British government is unwilling to extend their visas although it is providing the same to the workers of India, Nepal and Bhutan, he claimed.

Saad Gazi said more than one lakh workers are now employed in 14,000 restaurants in London. Of them, 99 percent are from Bangladesh.

He also urged the government to negotiate with the British government on the reintroduction of Sector Base Scheme for Bangladesh.

Female garment worker found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a female garment worker from a well at Jaamgora in Savar yesterday.

The dead was identified as Lata, 22, an employee of Shanta Garments at Savar Export Import Processing Zone. Lata had been missing for the last four days, said one of her neighbours at Badail village.

Acting on information, police recovered the body from the well and sent it to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Morgue sources suspected that she might have been raped before being murdered.



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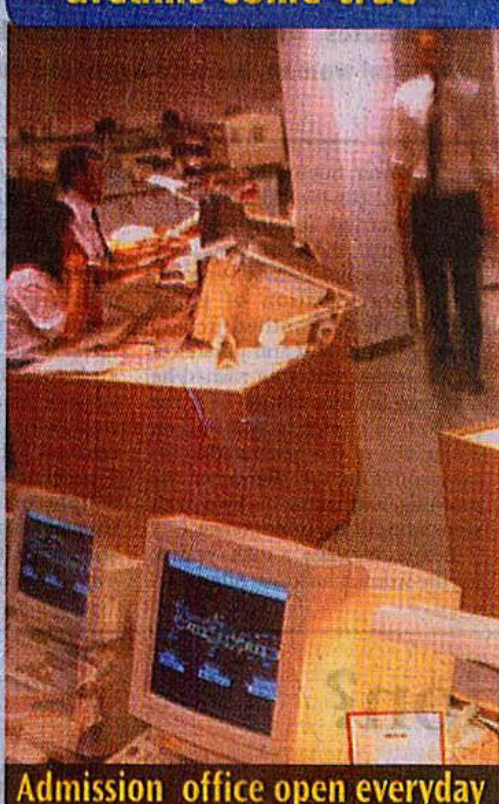


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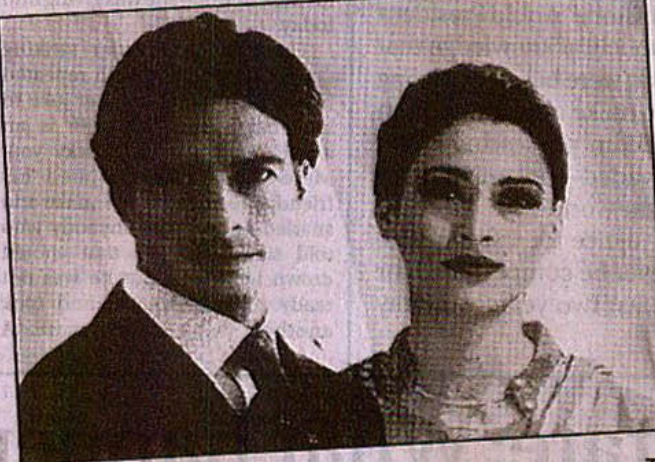
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