

Feni pourashava chairman meets Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka

Newly elected BNP-backed chairman of Feni pourashava Nurul Absar paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

Khaleda, also chairperson of the ruling BNP, suggested the chairman to ensure development and public amenities in the once-trouble-torn municipality performing his responsibilities "sincerely".

She also told him to make success the government efforts and steps to build the local government institutions as stronger and more effective ones to deliver desired goods to the locals.

Sayed Iskandar MP was present on the occasion.

Bangladeshi scientist receives Saarc Regional Award

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Secretary Hemayetuddin handed over the 13th Saarc Regional Award for Young Scientists to Sujit Kumar Debsarma of Bangladesh at his office yesterday.

The award consists of a citation, a medal and a five hundred-dollar cash reward, sources said.

This award was introduced to encourage young talented scientists of South Asia to make outstanding contributions in the field of science, particularly in environment and meteorology.

While handing over the award, the foreign secretary expressed the hope that the Saarc Meteorological Research Centre (SMRC) in Dhaka would benefit from his work.

He also noted that this scientific storm prediction model assumes special importance in the context of recent natural disasters in the region.

Sujit Kumar Debsarma is an assistant director at the Storm Warning Centre under the Bangladesh Meteorological Department. He has been conferred the Award for his research paper titled Storm Track Prediction (STP) Model.

AD FOR SELLING EYES

PM responds to poor mother desperation

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday granted financial support to poor and helpless Shefali Begum and ensured her housing and her daughter's schooling.

The helpless husband-forsaken woman gave an advertisement in a national daily, The Ittefaq, on April 17 to sell her eyes out of desperation for money.

The prime minister noticed the ad and wanted to talk with Shefali to help mitigate her sufferings. She was brought to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in the afternoon.

Shefali hails from Talukdarpara in Kalai upazila of Joypurhat district.

Khaleda listened to Shefali and instantly allocated a house to the helpless woman in Rokeya Begum Housing Project in Shibganj upazila of Bogra.

She also assured Shefali that the government would bear educational expenses of her daughter.

The prime minister directed the

authorities to 'keep in touch with the family to look into their wellbeing'.

Prime Minister's Political Secretary Harris Chowdhury was present.

Training course for newspaper press workers begins

DU CORRESPONDENT

A three-day long training course on 'Organising the Unorganised-Increasing and Enrolment of New Members' began at the Sundarban Hotel in the city yesterday.

Bangladesh Printing and Packaging Karmochari Federation (BPPKF) and Bangladesh Federal Union of Newspaper Press Workers (BFUNPW) organised the seminar with the help of FNV and UNI Graphical, two trade union organisations based in the Netherlands and Switzerland respectively.

BFUNPW President Fazle Imam inaugurated the inaugural session of the seminar while general secretary of Bangladesh Mukto Sramik Federation (MSF), Mujibur Rahman Bhuiyan was present as chief guest.

UNI Graphical Departments Head Adriana Rozen Viag was present at the seminar as special guest while BPPKF Advisor and MSF Executive President Advocate Nurul Islam Babu, BPPKF President Khandoker Jamal Uddin and General Secretary Abdus Sobhan, BFUNPW Secretary General Abul Hasem and Joint Secretary General Golam Sarwar Azad were also present as guests of honour.

A total of 20 BPPKF and BFUNPW representatives from different districts of the country also took part at the seminar.

Indigenous Children Edn Forum formed

BSS, Dhaka

A coalition of more than 50 organisations working on the indigenous people, formed Indigenous Children's Education Forum (ICEF) on Monday.

The Forum will work as an autonomous body to support efforts to implement the Ethnic Minority Frame Work of the Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-2) by advocating in favour of improved educational opportunities for minority children.

A nine-member working committee was formed with the representatives of different geographical locations from all over the country.

