



PHOTO: STAR

Dr Anisuzzaman announces the names of ten greatest Bangalees at a ceremony at Hotel Sheraton in the city yesterday. On his right is poet Samarendra Sengupta of West Bengal. The New York branch of 'Muktadhara', organised the event.

## PM for expansion of ties with Cuba in health sector

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday said there is an ample scope to expand bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Cuba in various fields, particularly the health sector.

She made the remarks when newly appointed Cuban Ambassador to Bangladesh Jaun Carretero Ibanez called on her at the PM's office yesterday.

During the meeting, Ibanez informed the Prime Minister about Cuba's progress in biotechnology and medical science.

The Cuban Ambassador, who is based in New Delhi, said Cuba now exports various medicines, including vaccines against Hepatitis B and Influenza.

In this regard, Khaleda pointed out that medicines from Bangladesh are also exported to more than 60 countries, including the USA.

She suggested looking for ways how the two countries could better use their experiences.

Ibanez said the existing good friendly relations between the two countries should be expanded to intensify economic cooperation for the welfare of the people of the two countries.

The envoy conveyed greetings from the Cuban President Fiedel Castro to the Prime Minister.

Khaleda reciprocated and recalled her meeting with the Cuban President during the Nam Summit in

Kuala Lumpur.

Ibanez referred to the next Nam Summit to be held in Havana and said the Cuban people and the government will be happy to receive her during the Summit or any other bilateral visit.

Khaleda expressed her satisfaction as bilateral relations between the two countries intensified and cooperation in various international forums increased.

The Cuban envoy assured to work for taking the relationship between the two countries to a new height.

The Prime Minister also assured him of her government's total support during his tenure.

## AL team leaves for China today

UNB, Dhaka

A six-member delegation of Bangladesh Awami League leaves for Beijing today on a 13-day visit to China.

The trip is being undertaken at the invitation of International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

Led by first joint secretary Obaidul Qader, the team comprises organizing Secretaries Abdul Mannan, Mahmudur Rahman Manna, Aktaruzzaman, Abdur Rahman and Bir Bahadur MP.

During their stay in China, they will gather information about Communist Party of China (CPC) party-building experience and China's economic development situation.

The opposition party leaders will hold meeting with Deputy Minister of CPC International Department Cai Wu, leaders of the CPC and Mayors of Qingdao, Jiangsu and Shanghai.

When contacted, a member of the delegation said, "This visit will no doubt benefit Awami League and contribute to further strengthening the understanding and cooperation between our two fraternal parties."