

Disseminate objective news to brighten image of country

Minister urges journalists

BSS, Dhaka

Information Minister M Shamsul Islam yesterday called upon the journalists to brighten the image of the country by disseminating objective news based on facts.

He made the call when the newly elected office bearers of Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU) called on him at his office here.

Shamsul Islam said the journalist community can play a vital role for the development of the nation by projecting positive achievement of the country. "We all have to build the country as Bangladesh is our motherland," he said.

He said the journalist could expedite the development process playing a positive role regarding dissemination of infor-

mation. "With lots of limitations, we have many success stories," he said, adding that the journalists should not project only the negative sides of a story. He said only negative news may disappoint the people, he added.

The DRU representatives highlighted various demands of the journalists to the minister. The minister assured them of considering their demands with sympathy.

Information Secretary Dr Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman, Principal Information Officer (PIO) Abu Jafor Mohammad Iqbal, DRU President M Shafiqul Karim Sabu and General Secretary Shakhwat Hossain Badsha were present.



Former finance minister M Syeduzzaman, second from left, launches a book on 2005-06 fiscal year's budget as the chief guest at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity office yesterday. Samunnay in association with the Manusher Jonno organises the publication ceremony.

1,702 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,702 people on various charges during their countrywide drive in the last 24 hours as of 6:00am yesterday.

During the period, the law enforcers also recovered seven bullets.

Friendship, Carrefour come to aid of victims of Savar tragedy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Friendship, an NGO, and French retailer Carrefour have extended a helping hand to the victims of the Spectrum Sweater Factory tragedy.

The nine-storey factory building collapsed in Savar in April, leaving 75 workers dead and 61 others injured.

The Friendship and the Carrefour have so far provided 49 people -- family members of the dead -- with vans or sewing machines for income generation. They also received money for one month's food and education for one child of each family for a year.

Nine workers with severe disabilities also received the same in addition to their treatment cost.

Other injured people have been given money for foods and treatment.

This programme will continue till the end of July, said a press release.

Workshop of child journalists ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-day workshop of Shishu Prakash (Children's Express), a news agency for children run by Mass-line Media Centre (MMC), ended in the city recently.

A total of 13 students from different schools and colleges in Dhaka district took part in the workshop held at the MMC conference room.

Child rights, child affairs-related journalism, reporting techniques and local issues were discussed in the workshop.

MMC Executive Director

Kamrul Hasan Monju, Programme Officer Munavvir Ahmed, Programme Associate Nina Shamsun Nahar and Dhaka district Team Leader Fatema Begum conducted the workshop.

The MMC has organised the workshop as part of its initiative to train 640 children from 64 districts on journalism.

The MMC has set up the news agency, first of its kind in Asia, in collaboration with the Unicef with a view to publishing and broadcasting more news on children and ensuring their rights.



Beautician Farzana Shakil answers questions from women on beauty tips at the ETC's Dhanmondi outlet on Saturday on the occasion of launching the distribution of her book 'Looks'.

New CMUJ executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Shamsul Haq Haidary (Ntv) and Mohammad Shahnawaz (BSS) have been elected president and general secretary of Chittagong Metropolitan Union of Journalists (CMUJ) for the next two years. They were elected in the biennial election of CMUJ held at its office here yesterday amid a turnout of around 97 percent voters. Other members of the executive committee are Vice-president - Hossain Didar (Sangram), Joint-secretary - Mahbubur Rahman (Karnaphuli), Treasurer - Mohammad Ullah (Karnaphuli), Publication and Sports Secretary - Shah Newaj Riton (Ittefaq).

Golam Molla Murad (Sangram), who was elected organising secretary, got the highest votes.

Abul Hasnat (ATN) and Mustafa Noyeem (Amader Shomoy) were elected members. The result was announced by G Abul Kasem, chairman of the CMUJ Election Committee, at the general meeting chaired by Shamsuddin Harun.

Dhaka-Dinajpur train service opens

BSS, Dhaka

The much-expected direct train service between Dhaka and Dinajpur over the Jamuna Bridge was inaugurated on Saturday.

The Dhaka-Dinajpur express train will take 9 hours and 10 minutes in its journey which will take half an hour more than the bus, said the railway officials.

'Looks' launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Etcetera Bangladesh (ETC) launched the distribution of 'Looks', a high quality book on makeup and makeovers written by eminent beautician Farzana Shakil, on Saturday.

On the occasion, ETC organised an open discussion session at its Dhanmondi outlet for its customers with Farzana Shakil who also held a free make-up session for the customers.

A similar programme was also held at the ETC's Gulshan outlet yesterday.

A large number of women of different ages took part in the discussion with the author. Shakil answered their questions on tips and techniques of beautification.

'Looks' is available only at ETC's Dhanmondi and Gulshan outlets.

BNP expels Barguna leader

BDNEWS, Barguna

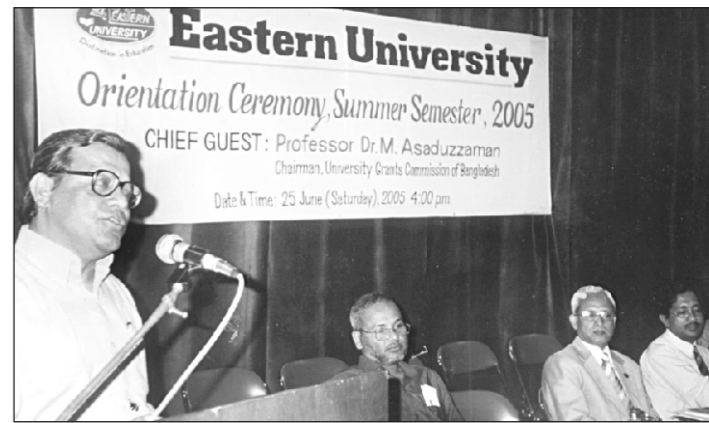
SM Nazrul Islam, senior vice president and former secretary of Barguna district BNP, was expelled from the party and his primary membership was suspended for anti-party activities.

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) central committee sent a facsimile signed by Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan to Barguna Zakir Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, in this connection.

SM Nazrul Islam said he had been misinterpreted to the central committee, as he protested district president Nurul Islam Moni's extortion, nepotism, autocracy and above all abuse of power in the party.

Meanwhile, Senior Assistant General Secretary AZM Saleh Faruk and Sadar Thana BNP General Secretary expressed their satisfaction at his expulsion on the said ground.

Earlier, SM Nazrul was also expelled from the party while he was secretary of the district BNP.



Prof Dr M Asaduzzaman, chairman of University Grants Commission, speaks as the chief guest at the 7th orientation programme of the Eastern University in the city recently.



Friendship, an NGO, distributed sewing machines and vans to the family members of the victims of Savar garments factory tragedy recently.