



The Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates has donated Tk 6.6 lakh to the Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital Fund. UAE Ambassador Khaldan Battel Ali Al-Mansouri handed over the cheque to President and Chief Executive of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Kazi Rafiqul Alam at the UAE Embassy in the city yesterday.

Maldives keen to recruit docs, engrs, teachers from Bangladesh

UNB, Dhaka

The Maldives is interested to recruit manpower, particularly physicians, teachers and engineers, from Bangladesh.

Newly appointed Colombo-based Maldives High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dr

Tribal Welfare team calls on president

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday called for upholding traditions of different regions of the country to enrich the national culture.

"We need to project our rich culture before the world," he said when an eight-member delegation of Tribal Welfare Foundation called on him at Bangabhaban.

The President said the country's all people either living in hills or plain lands are all Bangladeshis. "The cultures and traditions of different regions need to be spread to every corner of the country," he said.

The delegation, led by Bandarban Zila Parishad Chairman and former MP Ma Mayching, appraised the President of the activities of their organisation.

The delegation members include Hena Kabir Yuzin Nokrek, Manuching Chowdhury, Sikma Mri, Komol Kornelius, Neyeem Nouroz and AB Razzak.

Mohamed Asim said this when he had a courtesy call on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

Responding positively, Khaleda said there are highly trained physicians, teachers and engineers in Bangladesh.

Some 10,000 Bangladeshi skilled and unskilled people are currently working in the Maldives, according to officials.

She said the existing good relations between the two countries could be exploited in enhancing trade and commerce, which would benefit both the nations. "The Maldives can import various quality items, including garment, ceramic, pharmaceuticals and agriculture products, at competitive prices from Bangladesh," she said.

The High Commissioner emphasised visits of business delegations from two sides and formation of a joint commission to exploit the business potentials.

Both Khaleda and Dr Asim also gave importance on minister-level visits.

Khaleda hoped that the Maldives President would attend the 13th Saarc Summit in Dhaka and conveyed greetings to him through the High Commissioner.

Assuring of all-out cooperation from her and the government to dr Asim, she hoped that relations between the two countries would further enhance and he would frequently come to Bangladesh during his tenure.

They emphasised setting up of Bangladesh-Maldives Friendship Society to foster people-to-people

contact and visits of cultural delegation as there is a cultural agreement between the two countries.

The High Commissioner thanked the Prime Minister for extending her government's support to the Maldives during the Tsunami disaster.

He also appreciated Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's gesture as she had taken a student of the Maldives, Mohamed Ali, who scored GPA 5 in Gazipur Islamic University of Technology, as the PM's entourage member to the 10th OIC summit in Kuala Lumpur.

Abductor netted, victim rescued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Intelligence agency men on Monday night caught an abductor red-handed at Jahanabad cantonment area while he was receiving ransom holding an 18-year man hostage.

According to police, four young men kidnapped Russel, 18, son of Motaleb Hossain of Sonadanga area on Sunday night from Khulna Azam Khan Commerce College area. They demanded Tk 30,000 as ransom from his father threatening to kill the him for non-payment.

Motaleb Hossain went to Gilatala Jahanabad cantonment area to pay the ransom.



PHOTO: PID

Newly appointed Colombo-based Maldives High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dr Mohamed Asim paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

Transport strike in Chittagong on Aug 13,14

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong District Road Transport Owners' and Workers' Oikya Parishad called for a 48-hour transport strike in all 17 routes in South Chittagong on August 13 and 14 protesting "forceful" and "illegal" plying of vehicles.

The leaders alleged at a press conference at Chittagong Press Club yesterday that the PAB (Patiya-Anwara-Banshkhali) Sarak Paribahan Malik Samity on April 1 introduced some transports of PAB route into Barkal-Boiltali route under Chandanaish without having any route permit.

As the local workers of Oikya Parishad tried to resist the illegal plying of Samity vehicles in Chandanaish that also defied concerned motor-vehicle act, the hired goons of the Samity damaged some five vehicles of the Parishad on August 3, alleged Parishad leaders.

They also started harassing the transport workers and forced some 200 Parishad vehicles plying in three different routes to and from Chandanaish stay off the road, according to Paishad leaders.

The Parishad called upon the authorities concerned to stop illegal plying of vehicles in Chandanaish.