

MILLENNIUM SUMMIT 2000

# World leaders urged to keep promises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the eve of ensuing UN Summit 2005, marginalised sections of people at a rally in the city yesterday called upon the world leaders to keep the promises they made at the Millennium Summit 2000.

"Let's raise our voice against poverty and remind the world leaders not to break their promises they made at the Millennium Summit 2000," read the placards carried by them during a colourful rally organised by People's Forum on the Millennium Development Goals Bangladesh.

A network of various NGOs working for poverty alleviation, the PFM organised the rally as a wake-up call to poverty cut marking the 2nd World White Band Day and

expressing solidarity with the world-wide movement for poverty alleviation.

"Despite declaration of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that promised halving of the world's extreme poverty, there has been little development to that direction," PFM Managing Group Convenor Tasneem Athar told the rally.

"We want to remind the world leaders unambiguously through our government that they committed themselves to poverty alleviation across the world," said Athar who is also deputy director of Campaign for Popular Education (Campe) that serves as secretariat of the PFM.

Poverty alleviation must not be a mere commitment, it must be translated into reality, read another

placard carried by the street children who along with others took part in the rally.

The world leaders set eight goals (MDGs) in the Millennium Summit including halving extreme poverty by the year 2015, universal primary education for all children, gender equity and empowerment of women, lowering child death rate, development of maternal health, prevention of HIV/Aids and malaria, sustainable development of environment and worldwide participation for development.

The PFM leaders called for narrowing of trade gap between the developed and developing countries, protection of agriculture and farmers from the WTO aggression, and the use of 0.7 percent aid committed by the rich countries for the

welfare of the poor.

They also demanded adequate allocation for development sector reducing military expenses, transparency and elimination of corruption in the administration, end to indiscriminate privatisation, elimination of discrimination against women and sustainable development preserving the environment.

Mosharrif Hossain of ADD, Nurul Islam of South Asian Partnership, Munir Ahmed of Supra, Momena Khatun of Teachers' Union and Arifa Akhtar of Karmojibi Nari also spoke.

Several hundred members of different affiliating NGOs of the PFM network took part in the rally that started from in front of the National Museum and ended at the Central Shaheed Minar.



People's Forum on the Millennium Development Goals Bangladesh took out a procession in front of the National Museum in the city yesterday marking the Second World White Band Day.



The Campaign for Good Governance took out a procession in the city yesterday in protest against the upcoming Development Round of WTO negotiations in Hong Kong.

## Student of Dhaka school washed away at Cox's Bazar sea beach

UNB, Cox's Bazar

A student of an English medium school in Dhaka was washed away by the current during the low tide when he along with five others was taking bath in the sea beach yesterday.

K M Anmal, 18, son of businessman K M Babul of Dhanmondi, remained missing. Divers rescued alive the five others in the group, including two girls.

Sources said the tourists group came from Dhaka Friday evening and boarded in Motel Laboni. They went for sea bath during the high tide in the morning but stayed long enough to be caught by the low tide.

## Obituary



Faizunnessa Choudhury (Gulshan), wife of Professor Dr Choudhury Abdur Razaque, passed away due to brain cancer on

September 8 at the Bangladesh Medical College Hospital at the age of 68, says a press release.

Faizunnessa, also daughter of late Khan Bahadur Syed Nabib Ali of Sylhet, is survived by her two brothers, five sisters and a host of relatives to mourn her death.

She was buried at her family graveyard at Bohula in Habiganj.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at her residence at 153/1 East Raja Bazar, Tejgaon, in the city after Asr prayers tomorrow.

## Tabibur Rashid Chowdhury Bss, Faridpur

Industrialist and social worker Tabibur Rashid Chowdhury died of a cardiac arrest at Dhaka Apollo Hospital on September 9 at the age of 65.

He left behind his wife and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

Tabibur Rashid Chowdhury known as Tabu Bhai was the proprietor of Corona Industries Ltd in Dhaka.

Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf attended his namaz-e-ajanaza.

## Death anniversary



Today is the 4th death anniversary of Dr Shamsul Alam Khadem, former medical officer of Tejgaon Police Station Health Complex, says a

press release.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held at his residence at Kharampur at Akhaura.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the milad.

## Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Rokeya Begum, a senior teacher of Kamrunnesa Govt Girls High School and wife of city Awami League leader Mohibur Rahman, will be held at 34/6/B North Golapbag, Biswaroad, (opposite to Monwara Hospital) after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

Friends and relatives have been requested to attend the Qulkhwani.

Rokeya passed away due to cardiac arrest on September 9 in Dhaka at the age of 52.

She is survived by her husband and one daughter.

# Saarc paediatric surgeons' confce begins Dec 8 in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The first conference of the Federation of Associations of Paediatric Surgeons in Saarc (FAPSS) countries will be held in Chittagong in December.

Some five hundred delegates including leading paediatric surgeons from all over the world are expected to take part in the three-day conference scheduled to begin on December 8.

The theme of the conference is 'Committed Together for Better Future.'

This was disclosed by the leaders of the Association of Paediatric Surgeons of Bangladesh (APSB) while exchanging views with the journalists at Chittagong Medical College and Hospital yesterday.

The second APSB Congress, the first of its kind outside Dhaka, will also be held in Chittagong during this time, they added.

They said the World Health Organisation and United Nations International Children Emergency Fund had already agreed in principle to co-sponsor the conference along side the ministry of health.

The conference aims at transferring technology and expertise to take effective measures for conducting critical operations of the children with congenital malforma-

tions needed so badly for their survival.

Some five hundred delegates including 120 from abroad are expected to participate in the conference to be held at Chittagong Eye Infirmary and Training Complex of BNSB at Pahartali.

Eighteen world famous paediatric surgeons like Prof Jose Boix-Ochoa of Spain, Prof JM Hutson of Australia Dr Anette Jacobson of Singapore, Prof Steven Rothenberg of USA, Prof Ahmed Hadidi of Germany will conduct the

workshops on Laproscopic and Hypospadias surgeries at the CMCH.

Besides, Prof Allen Finlay of Canada, Prof DK Gupta of India, also the president of FAPSS, Prof Mahmood Shaikat of Pakistan, also the general secretary of FAPSS, Prof Anirudh Shah of India, Prof KR Srimurti of India, Prof Iftikher A Jan of Pakistan, Prof Ramanujom of Malaysia, Dr Ernesto Leva of Italy and Prof HR Faroutan of Iran will also take part in the conference.

## Animal-human transplants soon to be reality: Expert

REUTERS, Dublin

Transplants of animal organs into people could take place within a few years because of the acute shortages of donated human organs, a leading scientist said on Friday.

"It is only in recent years that many of the potential immunological problems, such as transplant rejection, have been solved, meaning the process of transplanting organs from one species into another could soon be a reality," said Dr Anthony Warrens, of Imperial College London.

Warrens told the British Association for the Advancement of Science conference in the Irish capital that for every donated human organ that became available there were five people who needed it.

Xenotransplantation, the use of organs, tissues or cells from a different species, is thought to be the best solution.

Pigs are a likely source of transplant organs because they are about the same size as humans and have a similar physiology. Scientists are working to produce genetically engineered pigs whose tissues would not provoke an immune response in humans.

Scientists do not know if "porcine endogenous retroviruses" can be transferred to humans, or if they can mutate and cause new diseases.

"That remains the principal anxiety associated with xenotransplantation," said Warrens.

But he added there was good reason to believe it would not be a major problem. Many scientists have called for a moratorium on xenotransplantation until such dangers have been overcome.

Once scientists have got to the point of starting clinical trials, which could be about five years away, patients receiving the organs will have to be monitored daily for life, according to Warrens.

## Culvert-cum-rd to be built alongside Kamalapur Stadium

BSS, Dhaka

A culvert-cum-road will be built from Kamalapur Stadium to Maniknagar to remove water-logging problems of Motiheel, Gopibagh and Maniknagar areas of the city, Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas said yesterday.

While visiting the site, he said the culvert-cum-road along the southern side of Birshreshtha Shaheed Mohammad Mostafa Stadium would increase the facilities for the people of the areas as well as huge sports fans who visit the stadium to witness games.

Mayor of Dhaka Sadeque Hossain Khoka, State Minister for Youth and Sports M Fazlur Rahman and senior officials of the concerned ministries, Dhaka City Corporation, Wasa and National Sports Council were present.

Mirza Abbas stressed the need for coordinated efforts of all concerned agencies to remove water-logging problems of Dhaka city.

He directed the concerned authorities to take it as a priority project and build the culvert-cum-road within the shortest possible time.

If necessary, the minister said, a Bailey bridge will be constructed for the convenience of the residents of Maniknagar area.

He said arrangements would be made to rehabilitate the affected people.



## JB Bankers' Forum executives

A K M Abdullah and A T M Mobarok Hossain Majumder were elected president and secretary general of Janata Bank Committee of the Bankers' Forum recently, says a press release.

S M Zahir Uddin Babar was elected organising secretary of the 51-member committee.

The committee was formed at meeting of the Janata Bank officers at head office.

Bankers' Forum President M A Khaleque and Secretary General Armanul Habib, freedom fighter Sirajul Islam, Engr Afzal Hossain, Mahfuzur Rahman Khan and SK Md Moshin spoke at the meeting.

## ATTACK ON PCU CONVENOR Punishment to JU JCD men demanded

DU CORRESPONDENT

Left-leaning Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) yesterday demanded immediate arrest and punishment to Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) men who attacked BCU convenor of Jahangirnagar University (JU).

Addressing a rally on the Dhaka University campus, the BCU leaders said though many days have passed since the attack on Rakibul Alam Rusho, they were not arrested.

Rather, the JU authorities are trying to save the JCD cadres, they alleged.

The BCU leaders said the ruling party-backed student leaders and activists are engaged in destroying the academic atmosphere of the educational institutions across the country.

The rally was addressed by BCU General Secretary Shamsul Alam Sazzon, Joly Talukder, Khan Asaduzzaman Masum, and DU unit President Manobendra Deb.

Earlier the BCU brought out a procession.

# Asthma risk higher for people with bowel disease

REUTERS, New York

People with inflammatory bowel disease are 1.5 times as likely to have asthma as individuals in the general population, a large new study shows.

Patients with ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease, collectively designated inflammatory bowel disease or IBD, were also more likely to have arthritis, bronchitis, or psoriasis than people without IBD, the researchers report in the medical journal Gastroenterology.

While other studies have linked chronic inflammatory diseases to IBD, Dr Charles N Bernstein of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg and his team note, this study is the first to identify an association with asthma.

The researchers compared 8072 patients with IBD to a "control" group of individuals matched by age, sex and geography.

The team found patients with ulcerative colitis were 1.5 to 1.7

times more likely to have asthma than the general population, while Crohn's disease patients had a 1.3 to 1.4 times greater risk.

Among Crohn's disease patients, airway disease was the most common chronic inflammatory condition identified, and it was the second most common seen in ulcerative colitis patients.

Respiratory conditions are an "underappreciated" manifestation of disease in people with IBD, and the long-term consequences of leaving such problems untreated may be "substantial," Dr Edward V Loftus, Jr of the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota notes in an editorial accompanying the study.

"Respiratory complaints in patients with IBD should be taken seriously, and probably should be investigated with pulmonary function testing at the very least," he writes.

## Goodwill team leaves for China tomorrow

UNB, Dhaka

A five-member delegation from the Bangladesh-China People's Friendship Association (BCPFA) will leave here for Beijing tomorrow on a nine-day goodwill visit to China.

The team will visit at the invitation of Chinese People's Associations for Friendship with foreign countries to commemorate the 30th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between two countries.

The delegation will meet leaders of various Chinese organisations.

Members of the delegation are former ambassador Iftikharul Karim, Managing Director of Mercantile Bank Shah M Nurul Alam, Businessman Golam Faruk Ahmed, and Rabiul Haque of Tropical Homes Ltd.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Light to moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Chittagong, Dhaka, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also expected at places during the period, Met Office said. It said day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 24.0 degree Celsius at Dhaka and Mymensingh.

**The sun sets in the capital at 6:06pm today and rises at 5:44am tomorrow.**

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.9	24.0	83	69
Chittagong	32.5	25.8	80	--
Rajshahi	33.0	25.7	83	73
Khulna	32.0	27.0	--	--
Barisal	32.6	25.4	--	84
Sylhet	36.0	25.9	75	62
Cox's Bazar	32.0	25.0	79	88



Bangladesh Jubo Moitri forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday protesting price hike of essentials and bus fare.