

## Shameem new envoy to Iran

UNB, Dhaka

The government has decided to appoint M Shameem Ahsan, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Iran, says a Foreign Ministry press release.

Shameem , a career diplomat, joined the BCS (Foreign Affairs) cadre in 1986.

During his diplomatic career, he served in Bangladesh Missions in New Delhi, Geneva, Kuala Lumpur and New York.

He was a member of Bangladesh delegation to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh in 1997, Nam Summit in Durban in 1998, OIC Summits in Tehran in 1997 and in Kuala Lumpur in 2003, 12th Saarc Summit in Islamabad in 2004 and Asia-Africa Summit in Jakarta in 2005.



PHOTO: STAR

British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Dr Kim Howells MP calls on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence in the city yesterday. British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury, right, is also seen.

OVERSEAS JOB FOR NURSES

## HC stays govt order

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court has stayed the operation of the October 17 order of the Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment suspending recruitment of nurses for overseas employment.

A division bench comprising justices MA Martin and M Rezaul Haque also issued a rule upon the government and others to explain why its action suspending the recruitment process on the plea of unavoidable reasons should not be declared unlawful.

It further directed the authorities concerned to facilitate all matters relating to recruitment and deployment of Bangladeshi nurses as usual by the petitioner without any impediments.

The rule was made returnable in three weeks.

The rule and order of stay came on Tuesday following a writ petition filed by Dr Moosa Bin Shamsheer, chairman of DATCO, a manpower recruiting agency, challenging the action of the government that the petitioner submitted deprived some 200 nurses of overseas employment.

Barrister KZ Alam, assisted by Adv Idrisur Rahman, appeared for the petitioner.

## LONG VACATION IN SC HC rejects writ

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday rejected the writ petition challenging the validity of long vacation and holidays in the Supreme Court.

After hearing the petition filed by advocate Afifa Begum, an enrolled lawyer of the High Court, a division bench of the High Court comprising Justice M A Martin and Justice M Rezaul Haque passed the order.

The petitioner submitted in the petition that as per the calendar of the Supreme Court, the Appellate Division and the High Court Division remain closed for long 179 days in 2005.

"The lawyers and clients of the cases in the Supreme Court suffer a lot due to the long vacation and other holidays," the petitioner submitted.

Senior lawyer of the Supreme Court advocate ABM Nurul Islam moved the petition.

## 30 vessels fined at Ctg port for violating law

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The mobile court of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) in a three-day drive till yesterday fined 30 vessels Tk 6 lakh for violating the port and maritime laws.

During the daylong drive at the port mooring and different jetty areas stretching from the Karnaphuli estuary to the Shah Amanat Bridge, the mobile court also seized four cargo vessels for illegal entry and tax evasion.

The seized cargo vessels are MV Mizan-1, MV Prince of Adar, MV Mugni and MV Barsha-1.

The court also fined a contractor-firm, involved in repair works, for violating environment law.

CPA magistrate Mohammad Munir Chowdhury led the drive that aimed at maintaining safe and free movement of ocean bound vessels, preventing violation of shipping law, tax evasion and the environmental pollution.