

‘Private sector can turn population into human resources’

BSS, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed said yesterday that the private sector can play an important role in transforming the huge population into human resources for overall development of the country.

He made the comment when a delegation of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) called on him at Bangabhaban.

Led by President of CCCI Saifuzzaman Chowdhury, the delegation included SM Nurul Haque, MA Latif, Ershad Ullah, Amirul Haque and Syeed Jamal Ahmed.

The President told the delegation that private sector should come forward to supplement the government efforts for overall economic progress of the country.

The delegation informed the president of the CCCI activities.

Iajuddin hoped that the private entrepreneurs will contribute to the development of tourism sector.

One killed in road accident

BSS, Chittagong

A young man was killed when he fell down from rooftop of a bus while he was travelling to Gonagari under Banshkhali upazila of the district yesterday, police and hospital sources said.

The dead was identified as Mohammad Sayedul Aidul, 28, son of Noor Hossain of Chanua village of the upazila.

Internet service on boats

SSS wins Gates Foundation award

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Shidhulai Swanirvar Sangstha (SSS), an innovative organisation, has been imparting education on information technology to the deprived and poor people in North Bengal on 12 boats equipped with computers with Internet service, mobile phones and libraries.

The organisation has been carrying out such activities for the last two years.

It has recently won the Access to Learning Award-2005 of Gates Foundation in recognition of their innovative work. They received the prize worth about US\$ 1 million from the Gates Foundation.

Sources said the organisation provided education on information technology to 86,500 families in North Bengal in 2004. They also expanded their activities in an area of 240 kilometres on waterways.

Abul Hasanat Mohammad

Rezwan, executive director of the organisation, said that if the students in the remote areas fail to go to school, the school would go to their doorstep. The projects taken up by the organisation are playing a key role in serving that purpose.

The organisation is providing Internet facilities to the deprived people who live on the banks of the river.

Abdul Azad, a resident of Kalinagar village, said that he could not even imagine having a glance at a computer. "But now I can operate computer and use Internet," he said.

Through Internet, he managed to collect necessary information such as prices of crops and methods of killing the insects, he added.

Electricity is not available in the areas where SSS is implementing its projects. So, they are using solar energy and fuel-saving generators.



Different organisations place wreaths at the grave of eminent litterateur Shaukat Osman at the Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard at Mirpur in the city yesterday on the occasion of his 89th birth anniversary.

Red Crescent Society AGM held

The 33rd annual general meeting of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and the election to its managing board were held at the Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College auditorium in the city on December 31, says a press release.

Prof Dr Gazi Abdul Hoque was elected vice-chairman while SM Munir Lablu elected treasurer.

The AGM approved the proposed budget of Tk 70.6 crore for 2006. The AGM also approved the amended budget for 2005 and audit report for 2004.

Members of the managing board, delegates from different district and city corporation units, and representative from health, food, Social welfare and defence ministries attended the meeting.

Advocate Harun-Al-Rashid MP, chairman of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, presided over the meeting while Begum Tayeba Majumder, a delegate, was present as special guest.

The meeting elected the office-bearers of the managing board for the period of 2006-2008.

The elected members are Lutfur Rahman Chowdhury Helal, Rezaul Karim Badsha, Rezul Karim Razu, Md Suruj Ali, MA Masud Bhuiyan, Md Shahidul Alam, Alhaj Zahirul Hoque Sahajada Mia, Azizul Bari Kamal, Alhaj Habibur Rahman Nantu, Md Mahbub Alam Faruque Mollah, Kazi Asaduzzaman and ABM Zakaria.

BCL founding anniversary tomorrow

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the student wing of the opposition Awami League, will observe its 58th founding anniversary tomorrow.

The BCL, formerly East Pakistan Student League, was formed in 1948 under the leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, then a student leader and a student of DU law department.

Since the inception of the organisation, it contributed a great deal to 1952 Language Movement, 1959 Mass Uprising, 1971 Liberation War, 1990 Anti-Autocracy Movement and other movements of the country.

To mark the day, the BCL has taken up different programmes in the city and across the country.

The BCL leaders will place wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at Bangabandhu Bhaban at 9:00am and bring out a colourful procession from the Aparajeyo Bangla of Dhaka University (DU) at 11:00am, said founding anniversary rally committee convenor and BCL Vice-president Aminul Islam Amin.



Harun-Al-Rashid MP, chairman of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, speaks at its 33rd annual general meeting at the Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College auditorium in the city on December 31.

9th convocation of Buet today

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The 9th convocation of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) will be held today.

A total of 934 students, including three Ph.D. holders, will receive certificates at the convocation.

Prime Minister and Chancellor of the university Khaleda Zia is expected to attend the ceremony.

Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk, State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon and Buet Vice-Chancellor Dr Md Ali Murtaza will also be present.

The first convocation of Buet after independence was held on March 20 in 1973.