

Social business can change world economy

Says Prof Yunus

UNB, Dhaka

After achieving a tremendous success in his micro-credit programme, Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus now wants to concentrate more on his new idea of "social business" which he thinks can change the world economy.

"What we know about capitalism is maximising profit. That is only half of it, the other half of capitalism still remains untold, which is social welfare. We don't know the capitalism fully yet," he said in an exclusive interview with the UNB.

Yunus, the pioneer of micro-credit that earned him the Noble Peace Prize 2006, said social business is important because it addresses the vital concerns of

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More illegal structures demolished

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha (Rajuk) during its eviction drive in the city's Nikunja residential area yesterday demolished 30 illegally built shops, warehouses and other establishments built without its approval. They also evicted a number of illegal residents in the area.

Meanwhile, joint forces demolished 1,100 illegal structures including BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami offices in Gobindhaganj and Sunderganj upazilas, our Gaibandha correspondent reports.

A mobile court led by Magistrate

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Governments less accountable than colonial era

Meet on governance told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former chief adviser to the caretaker government Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman yesterday said the workings of a state could collapse if transparency and free flow of information are absent.

"If there is free flow of information, there will be no corruption," Habibur said while speaking as the chief guest of a consultation meet-

ing in Cirdap auditorium in the city.

"People's access to information is very important," he said demanding registration of all political parties in order to ensure their accountability.

South Asians for Human Rights (SAHR) Bangladesh chapter organised the national consultation meeting titled "Right to Transparent Governance: Bangladesh Perspective" at the auditorium with assistance from Manusher Jonno.

Jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said questions should be raised why there still is a feudal democracy in the country and what are the reasons for economic disparity and institutional failure when there are constitutional provisions for "real" democracy and social justice.

He said the nation now has a consensus for a positive change and all should work for that.

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Tata may revive \$3b investment proposal

UNB, Dhaka

Indian industrial giant Tata Group may revive its package proposal for investing \$3 billion in Bangladesh.

The indication came as Tata Group's Resident Director S Manzer Hussain called on Power and Energy Adviser Tapan Chwdhury at his Secretariat office yesterday.

After the meeting, Tapan Chowdhury told reporters that Tata has an investment proposal for a long-term project and the country will be benefited if such investment proposal is entertained.

But, he said the caretaker government is presently thinking of

dealing with short-term projects. "If the caretaker government thinks about Tata's investment, there should be a prompt decision from the government."

About his meeting with the Adviser, Manzer Hussain told the news agency that it was "absolutely a courtesy call".

Sources, however, said both the adviser and Tata representative discussed the present state of Tata's \$3 billion investment plan.

There is an indication from Tata that it will revive its project if the Bangladesh government invites for

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ORIENTAL BANK SCAM Koyes Sami asked to surrender in 6 weeks

UNB, Dhaka

Turning down the plea for anticipatory bail, the High Court (HC) yesterday asked CM Koyes Sami, former managing director of the scam-ridden Oriental Bank, to surrender before the lower court within six weeks.

Until then, the court ordered the law enforcers not to arrest or harass him in connection with the Oriental Bank scam case.

The orders came on a petition of Koyes Sami, seeking anticipatory bail after surrendering before

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PHOTO: STAR

Many of the hawkers evicted from different city streets have kept their shelves at Doel Chattar on Dhaka University campus.

Jan 22 poll candidates spent Tk 15 lakh each

Says TIB survey on campaign for the scrapped election

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election candidates already spent Tk 15.2 lakh on average for campaigns before the closing of withdrawal of nominations for the now cancelled January 22 election, says a Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) survey.

One BNP candidate spent over Tk 1.94 crore while one from Awami League (AL) spent Tk 1.67 crore for

campaigns before January 3, the last date for withdrawing nominations. The current electoral laws set a ceiling of Tk 5 lakh on election expenses for a contestant.

The study covering 38 constituencies across 32 districts in all six divisions found that 122 candidates expended over Tk 18.5 crore.

The findings were published at a press briefing at the National Press Club yesterday.

The anti-graft watchdog proposed a number of recommendations to bring about a radical change in the electoral process and prevent election-related corruption.

Creation of a panel of law experts to amend the Representation of the People Order (RPO) 1972 and the 1996 Election Code of Conduct (E C C) figures

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Ex-Bol chief sues Star editor, 5 journos for defamation

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Former energy adviser Mahmudur Rahman yesterday filed a defamation case against The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam along with five other journalists for running a news item that said he was among the 41 "big fish" who had been hiding since the law enforcers' crackdown began.

The Court of Metropolitan Magistrate AJM Abdullahel Baqui asked the six journalists to appear in person before it on March 14 after Mahmudur filed the case with Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court seeking an arrest

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US to encourage fair, transparent electoral process

UNB, Dhaka

The United States keeps close contact with the caretaker government of Bangladesh and encourages a free, fair and transparent electoral process, a State Department spokesman said in Washington on Monday.

"What we encourage is an electoral process that is free, fair and

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Prayer Timing		
February 7		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	6-05
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	5-52	5-56
Esha	7-15	7-45
Source: Islamic Foundation		