

## College student drowns in CU pond

CU CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A college student drowned in a pond at Chittagong University (CU) yesterday.

The victim, identified as Bikram Das, 18, son of Raimon Das, hailed from Kadarhul of Sitakunda, was a first year student at Islamia Degree College in the port city.

Sources said Bikram along with ten of his classmates went to visit the university at around 12:15pm.

While they were swimming in the Gol Pukur, a pond near Pretulata Hall, Bikram went missing, other students said.

Failing to find Bikram, four of his friends informed the CU authorities about the incident while rest of them returned to the city.

Later, CU authorities recovered Bikram from the pond with the help of divers and sent him to CU Medical Centre where the on duty doctor declared him dead.

Hathazari Police were quizzing the detained four students—Saju Barua, Azimul Hoque, Jahidur Rahman and Imran Hossain till filing of this report yesterday evening.

## Bullet-proof vests for British kids

AFP, London

Concerned parents have been buying stab- and bullet-proof vests to protect their children in the wake of a string of fatal stabbings in Britain, the Daily Mail reported yesterday.

VestGuard UK, which supplies stab- and bullet-proof vests to government agencies around the world, said it had received more than a hundred calls from parents in London alone, whereas it usually receives about one or two inquiries from parents across the country most years.



Eminent journalist and columnist Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury speaks at a view exchange meeting with Awami Shilpi Goshthi at Shantinagar in the city yesterday.

## 'Promote folk culture'

Noted journalist and columnist Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury yesterday urged the artists to promote the folk culture.

He said artists are responsible for social changes and their honesty and patriotism will inspire the mass.

He was speaking at a view exchange meeting with Awami Shilpi Goshthi at Shantinagar in the city.

Salaudin Badal, president of Awami Shilpi Goshthi, said Gaffar never bowed down before any sort of oppression and he is an eternal source of inspiration for the patriots.

Awami Shilpi Goshthi also presented him with an album, book and cassette titled 'War of Liberation, Bangabandhu and Our struggle' published by them.

Justice KM Sobhan, former press secretary to Bangabandhu Aminul Haque Badsha, poet Abu Zafar Siddique and writer Monayem Sarker were also present.

## 'Formulate policy for security service firms'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Commemorating the merger of Securicor and Group 4 Falck A/S, two transnational security services companies, authorities of the new company, Group 4 Securicor, yesterday once again pledged to provide international standard safety in Bangladesh.

"Our officials are committed to provide the highest safety feeling to our clients and we are striving to expand our services throughout the country", said the company's Managing Director Selim Chowdhury while addressing a press conference at Dhaka Club yesterday.

The company now employs

around 8000 security professionals in different offices including some diplomatic missions in the country.

Laying emphasis on proper legislation in private security sector in Bangladesh, he also urged the caretaker government to formulate concrete policy for the security services companies.

Merger of the two companies was completed in July 2004 and consequently they also changed their logo.

The company's vice presidents Sherif Bukhtiar Daula, Resaul Amin, Chief Financial Officer Md Matiar Rahman, and Director (Operations) Brig Gen (ret'd) Salim Akhtar also spoke at the programme.

# Invest in ICT, power sectors

## President tells Algerian ambassador

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday said Algeria could invest in ICT and power sectors of Bangladesh as both the countries need to explore all the avenues of cooperation for mutual benefits.

The president said this when Algerian Ambassador in Dhaka Larbaoui Nadir made a courtesy call on him at Bangabhaban in the city.

During the meeting, the president underlined the need for enhancing economic cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the fields of trade and commerce. "At the moment, the volume of trade is not significant," he added.

The president said the Algerian government could import quality drugs and melamine and leather goods from Bangladesh at very competitive prices.

He said the Algerian government may utilise skilled and unskilled manpower of Bangladesh for its development as Bangladesh is endowed with huge population and have experienced and capable teachers, doctors and engineers.

The president told the envoy that the next parliament election would be held here in a free, fair and credible manner since Bangladesh is a democratic country.

He said the present government is creating a level-playing field for the upcoming general election and updating the voter list.

Dr Iajuddin also lauded the role of the present caretaker government in creating a peaceful atmosphere in the country.

He apprised Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika through the envoy to open a full-fledged embassy in Bangladesh.

The Algerian envoy apprised the

president that his government is keen to enhance economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

He said all the universities and educational institutions of Algeria are open to the students of Bangladesh for higher study.

The president conveyed his best

wishes to the Algerian president through the envoy.

Military Secretary to the president Major General M Aminul Karim, Secretary to the president's office M Sirajul Islam and concerned officials of foreign ministry were present on the occasion.

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## China, Russia plan Mars mission

AFP, Beijing

China announced yesterday it will launch a joint mission with Russia to Mars in 2009, marking "an important milestone" in space cooperation between the two countries.

A small Chinese satellite will take off on a Russian rocket, according to the agreement signed Monday between the China National Space Administration and the Russian Federal Space Agency, the Chinese space body said.

The agreement, signed during an ongoing three-day visit to Russia by Chinese President Hu Jintao, follows pledges by Moscow in recent months to work closely with Beijing on exploration of both Mars and the moon.

"This is an important milestone in Sino-Russian space cooperation," the Chinese space administration said as it unveiled the details of the Mars mission in a statement posted on its website.

According to the agreement, a small satellite developed by China would be launched along with "Phobos Explorer," a Russian spacecraft, probably in October 2009, the administration reported.

After entering Mars' orbit -- 10 to 11 months later -- the Chinese satellite would be detached from the spacecraft and probe the Martian space environment, it said.



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3	CSE	Asso. Prof./Assistant Professor	1
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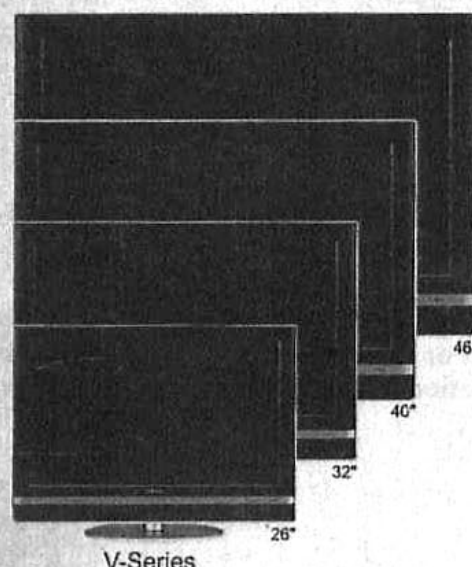
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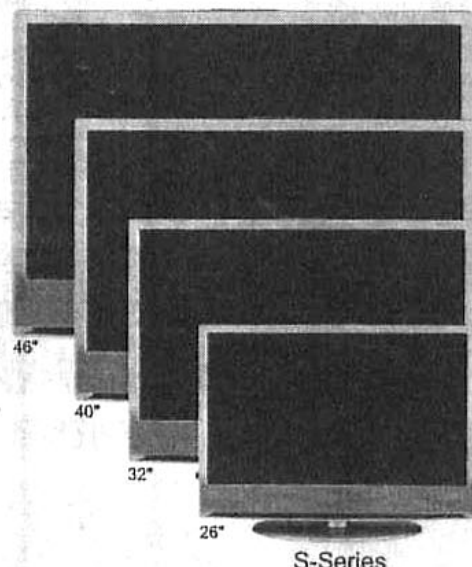
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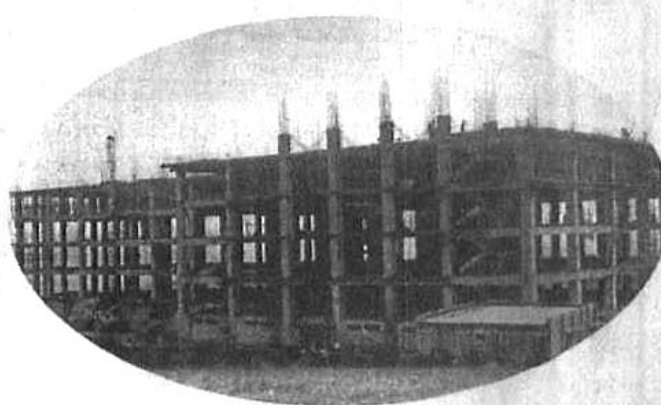


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