

## Discussion on women in Hague April 28

Bangladesh Support Group (BASUG) will hold a discussion on 'Women: Future of Bangladesh' in the Hague in Netherlands on April 28, says a press release.

The Netherlands-based migrant organisation is going to hold the discussion in association with Oxfam Novib, Seva Network Foundation and Mondriaan.

The discussion will include issues on access to justice, resources and gender discrimination, root causes of violence against women, migrant women and trafficking, women in Bangladesh community in Europe- which face endemic problem of domestic violence, forced marriages and success stories of Grameen women in Bangladesh.

Experts from Bangladesh and European countries, including UK, Belgium and the Netherlands, will present keynote papers on the issues.

Executive Director of Ain O Salish Kendra and former adviser to the caretaker government Sultana Kamal and Media Consultant of Grameen Bank Muhammad Jahangir will address the discussion.

Chairman of International Centre for Democracy in Bangladesh Dr Peter Custers will moderate the programme while Ambassador of Bangladesh in Netherlands Ismat Jahan will attend the discussion as the chief guest.



Prof A K Azad Choudhury, president of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh, inaugurates a VDO endoscope machine by examining a patient at Ahsania Mission Cancer Detection Centre and Hospital in the city yesterday.

## Charge framing against Sylhet mayor, 18 others on May 10

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Framing of charge against Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) Mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran and 18 others in the much-talked Kitchen Market Graft Case has been deferred to May 10.

Sylhet Divisional Special Judge Iftekhar Rasul Siddique passed the order and fixed the new date when Mayor Kamran and Ward Commissioners Azadur Rahman Azad and Abdul Quaiyum Jalali Ponki were produced before the court yesterday.

The court also rejected their interim bail prayers.

Sylhet Kotwali police arrested

Mayor Kamran from his house on April 6 after the District and Sessions Judge Md Abdul Gafur had issued warrant of arrest against the mayor and 18 others in the graft case.

The mayor was then produced before the Sylhet sadar cognizance magistrate's court which issued an order for sending him to jail hajat.

Earlier, the Anti-Corruption Commission filed charge sheet against 19 including the mayor and 16 present and former ward commissioners on graft charges.

The other charge-sheeted accused, who are at large, are Ward Commissioners Syed Ahmed Hossain,

Santanu Dutta, Abdul Wadud Khaled, Saleh Ahmed Chowdhury, Sazzadur Rahman, Syed Misbah Uddin, Haji Faruque Ahmed, Mohammad Shahjahan, and former ward commissioners Humayun Kabir Shahin, Prodip Bhattacharya, Azhar Uddin Jahangir, Oliur Rahman Sohel, Moksud Bakht, Bidhan Chandra Kapali and former executive engineer of the then Sylhet Pourashava Padma Sen Sinha and Storekeeper Saiful Alam Topu.

## VDO endoscope machine donated to cancer hospital

Barrister Rafique-ul Huq yesterday donated a VDO endoscope machine to Ahsania Mission Cancer Detection Centre and Hospital (AMCH) at Mirpur in the city, says a press release.

President of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh Prof A K Azad Choudhury inaugurated the machine by examining a patient suffering from abdomen and intestines complexities.

Dr Azad said that the endoscope machine is indispensable for proper detection of many diseases. Kazi Rafiquel Alam thanked Barrister Rafique-ul Huq for his continuous support in fighting cancer. He said the under construction 500-bed Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital (AMCH) at Uttara will hopefully be commissioned by the end of 2008.

Dr Farida Huq, senior consultant of Microbiology of Birdem Hospital, Kazi Rafiquel Alam, president of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Prof Dr M A Hai, director of the Detection Centre and Hospital, its Joint Director Brig Gen (retd) Sayed Fazly Rahim, Endoscope and Surgery Specialist Prof Harunur Rashid, Lt Col (retd) Dr Abdur Rahim and Kazi Farhad Alvi were also present on the occasion. The VDO Endoscope machine has been donated in memory of the donor's late brother Shamsul Huq.

## Working in shifts shortens life span

### Says study

UNB, New Delhi

Working in shifts throughout the day instead of a normal day job could shorten your life span, a study has found.

A study of 3,912 day workers and 4,623 shift workers of the South Eastern Central Railway in Nagpur showed the former lived 3.94 years longer than their counterparts on shift duties, said the study by Atanu Kumar Pati of the School of Life Sciences in Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur.

"Though the study was conducted on railway employees, it can also be applied to workers in other sectors, including the BPO

industry," said Pati from Raipur according to a report run by PTI on Sunday.

Shift work affects the circadian rhythm, the 24-hour cycle in the physiological processes of humans that leads to several sleep-related and social problems.

Circadian rhythms are important in determining the sleeping and feeding patterns of all animals, including humans. Brain wave activity, hormone production, cell regeneration and other biological activities are linked to this daily cycle.

Pati and his colleague K Venu Achari analysed a database of dates of death, retirement and death of each worker and pub-

lished their findings in the latest issue of "Current Science".

They also studied data on deaths due to all causes of 594 railway employees, including 282 day workers and 312 shift workers, over a span of 25 years. The cause of death was not documented in the database.

An analysis of the data showed that day workers tend to live 3.94 years longer than counterparts working in shifts.

All day workers performed duty between 9:00am and 6:00pm with an hour-long lunch break at 1:00pm and included those on office job and doing miscellaneous duties, the study said.