



M Syeduzzaman, chairman of Bangladesh Association of Banks (BAB), hands over a cheque for Tk 1.3 crore to Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his office recently for flood victims in additional contribution from some member banks of the association.



Employees of Citibank NA Bangladesh have contributed to the Chief Adviser's Relief and Welfare Fund for the flood-affected people. On behalf of the employees, Sayeda Tahya Hossain, head of Human Resources, Citibank NA Bangladesh, handed over a cheque to Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his office recently. Mamun Rashid, managing director and Citigroup country officer - Bangladesh, was also present.



Bangladesh Leasing and Finance Companies Association Chairman Anis A Khan and Vice-Chairman Mafizuddin Sarker hand over a cheque for Tk 11.6 lakh to Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his office recently for the flood victims.

ATTACK ON UK ENVOY

Recording of statements of PWs resume tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Recording of statements of prosecution witnesses (PWs) in one of the two cases filed in connection with the grenade attack on British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury will resume tomorrow and continue till September 19, court sources said on Thursday.

Judge Dipyoman Sarker of Sylhet divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal started recording the statements of PWs on August 26 and it continued till September 12. So far, 19 PWs, out of 57, gave their depositions.

The grenade attack on Bangladesh-born British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury took place on the premises of Hazrat Shahjalal (RA) in Sylhet on May 21 in 2004. Three people were killed and 70 others, including the envoy, were injured.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) submitted two charge sheets in the two cases against four persons -- outlawed Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami chief Mufti Abdul Hannan, his brother Mofizur Rahman and Huji operatives Delwar Hossain Ripon and Sharif Shahedul Alam alias Bipul.

Software Freedom Day today

Today is Software Freedom Day (SFD).

The Day is an annual worldwide celebration of the free open-source software.

SFD is an effort to facilitate public education, not only to celebrate the virtues of free and open source software, but also to encourage its use, to the benefit of the public, says a press release.

SFD was first observed on August 28, 2004 while in 2005 the Day was observed on September 10, 2005.

However, from 2006 onwards, it has been decided that Software Freedom Day will be held on the third Saturday of each September.

North South University Computer Club (NSUCC) has chalked out different programmes to mark the Day.

The Club will bring out a rally at 10:00am in the morning, followed by a seminar on open source software and SFD, workshop and free linux installation on desktops and laptops, and a contest on self-configured linux desktops, the release added.

'Displaced children face rejection from community'

Children and women rescued from trafficking or hazardous jobs face huge challenges to get integrated with their families and societies due to the lack of a supportive environment.

Speakers said this at a workshop on 'Social Integration of Children Withdrawn from Sexual Exploitation, Worst Form of Child Labour and Trafficking' at LGED Bhaban in the city on Thursday.

The workshop was organised jointly by the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MWCA) and Unicef, says a press release.

John Frederick, international expert on social reintegration, facilitated the workshop, which explored various options and alternative ways of implementing social reintegration.

The speakers at the workshop raised concerns about the limited understanding of the concept of social integration and said that many children do not wish to return to their families and communities as the family members and the society often reject them.

In the concluding session, Joint Secretary Mushfeka Ikfat reiterated the government's commitment to the issue and said, "The government is open and keen to address this issue with care, openness and a realistic vision for the interest of the children."

A set of programmatic interventions and guidelines were developed for evolving a minimum standard of social reintegration in Bangladesh for children withdrawn from commercial sexual abuse, worst forms of child labour and trafficking.

Boy killed in wall collapse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

An eight-year-old boy was killed and another severely injured in a wall collapse in Jhenidah on Thursday.

The victim was identified as Nahid Ahmed, son of Ruhul Amin of Hamdah Mollapara village. He was a student of class V.

Family sources said Nahid and Nafiza, 5, were playing by an under-construction building. But suddenly a wall of the building collapsed on them, killing Nahid on the spot and injuring Nafiza seriously.