

Enhance trade  
*President tells Dutch envoy*  
UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed has underlined the need for enhancing bilateral trade and commerce for the mutual benefit of Bangladesh and Netherlands.

The remark came when the newly appointed Ambassador of the Netherlands to Bangladesh Berendina Maria (Bea) Ten Tusscher presented her credentials to the president at Bangabhaban yesterday.

The president congratulated her on her new assignment as the Ambassador of Netherlands to Bangladesh.

He said Bangladesh attaches great importance to its bilateral relations with the Netherlands. He expressed satisfaction at the existing bilateral relations between the two countries and hoped that it would be further strengthened and deepened in the coming days.

Iajuddin assured the envoy of all support and cooperation in discharging her duties in Bangladesh and wished her a good health and happiness.

# RMG workers go berserk for Eid bonus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than a thousand workers of a garment factory yesterday damaged the glasses of two factories in Tejgaon Industrial Area demanding an increase in their Iftar allowance and Eid bonus.

The workers of a factory of the NASAGroup came out of the factory at around 2:00pm and staged demonstration in front of the factory, blocking the nearby lane to press home their demands, police said.

At one stage, they went berserk and damaged the glasses of two factories of NASA and Sepal group by pelting stones and brickbats.

The workers also took to Tongi Diversion Road at around 4:00pm and marched up to the group's head office at Mohakhali to place their demands to the higher authorities.

The area caught in a gridlock for an hour during the procession.

Police quoting workers said the employees were demanding an increase in the Iftar allowance to a reasonable level from the existing Tk 5 since the Ramadan began. As their demand was not met until yesterday, they took to the street.

Police said none was however arrested in this connection. No case was also filed until 9:00pm.

Banani graveyard to be expanded  
UNB, Dhaka

A decision would be taken soon for expansion of the Banani graveyard in the city in order to solve the burial problem.

RAJUK will hand over about 12 bighas of land, recovered from land grabbers near the graveyard, to Dhaka City Corporation for implementation of the expansion programme, a government handout said yesterday.

Law, Information, Public Works and Land Adviser Mainul Hosein and LGRD Adviser M Anwarul Iqbal said this after visiting the area yesterday.

The advisers said the government took the decision considering the growing demand of the city dwellers for graveyard.

They hoped that the expansion programme would reduce the existing problem for graveyard to a slight extent.

Former Adviser ASM Shahjahan, high officials of DCC, RAJUK and Housing and Public Works Ministry were present during the visit.



Chief of Army Staff General Moeen U Ahmed receives cheques and relief goods for flood-affected people from different organisations at the Banquet Hall at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

Air chief leaves for US  
UNB, Dhaka

Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal SM Ziaur Rahan left for the United States yesterday on an eight-day official visit.

He is accompanied by his wife Begum Shameema Parveen and a Staff Officer.

During his visit, the Chief of the Air Staff will attend Global Air Chiefs' Conference-2007, which is scheduled to be held from September 22 to 28 in Washington DC.

Air chiefs of 128 countries will take part in the conference. Spouses of the air chiefs will also take part in several programmes.

The Chief of Air Staff is expected to return home on October 1.



Garments workers stage a demonstration at Tejgaon in the city yesterday demanding payment of bonus before Eid.

PHOTO: STAR