

POST-SIDR REHABILITATION

Dev partners to assist

CA hopes

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday hoped that the development partners and friendly nations would come forward to help Bangladesh in its long-term rehabilitation programme.

He expressed the hope while receiving donations for the Chief Adviser's Relief and Welfare Fund from different organisations and individuals at his office.

"I told the representatives of the development partners and the envoys of friendly countries at a meeting on Monday that it is their responsibility to provide assistance to Bangladesh as the country has

become a victim of climate change... it faced flooding and cyclone the same year," the CA said.

In the meeting, the head of the caretaker government sought \$1 billion from donors for a long-term disaster management.

The CA said the government has already started reconstruction of houses, rehabilitation of agriculture, fisheries and livestock in the cyclone-battered districts alongside the relief operations.

Yesterday's donors include former foreign secretary and Chairman of Delta Brac Housing Finance Corporation Faruk A Chowdhury, Communications

Secretary Mahbubur Rahman, National Professor MR Khan, Chairman of Sadharan Bima Samsul Alam, Chairman of Dhaka Bank Ltd Khandochar Moniruddin, President of Bangladesh Fruits, Vegetables and Allied Products Exporters Association SM Jahangir Hossain, Chairman of Islami Insurance Bangladesh Ltd Tofazzel Hossain, Country Manager of Malaysian Palm Oil Council AKM Fakhruddin Alam, Secretary of Bangladeshi Tea Sangsas GS Dhar and National Director of SOS International Sishu Palli Bangladesh GS Ifshaq.

Waive installment of agri loans

Gen Moeen asks NGOs, receives more donations for cyclone victims

UNB, Dhaka

Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed yesterday received cheques for about Tk 2.25 crore and other relief items for Bangladesh Army Relief Fund from individuals and

SWID Bangladesh elected AFID board member



S. W. I. D. Bangladesh was elected a board member of the Asian Federation for the Intellectually Disabled (AFID) recently, says a press release.

The election was held at the general assembly of the 18th Conference on Intellectual Disability in Taipei, Taiwan, recently.

Sajida Humayun Kabir, former secretary general and first vice president of SWID Bangladesh and the president of its Ramma branch, was elected a member of the AFID Board securing the highest vote.

Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Japan and Iran participated in the election.

About 600 delegates from 21 countries took part in the conference.

Sajida Kabir presented the country paper on behalf of SWID Bangladesh.

The other member of the delegation was Saleha Chowdhury, former third vice-president of SWID and executive committee member of Dhamondi Branch, SWID Bangladesh.

The 19th AFID will be held in Singapore in 2009.

New president of Ramakrishna Mission



Swami Atmasthanandaji Maharaj was elected president of the Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Math and the governing body of the Mission on December 3, says a press release.

He is the 15th president of the Order.

Swami Atmasthanandaji had been one of the vice-presidents of the Math and Mission since May 22, 1997.

Born in 1919 at Sabajpur, near Dhaka, he received mantra diksha from Swami Vijnananandaji Maharaj, a monastic disciple of Sir Ramakrishna, in 1938 and joined the Ramakrishna Order at Belur Math on January 3, 1941 at the age of 22.

Stephen Murray new CEO of ISD



Stephen Murray, an educationist of international repute, has recently joined the International School Dhaka (ISD) as its chief executive officer, says a press release.

He is British and has taught and been involved in education for over 30 years. He was the headmaster/CEO of Antwerp International School in Belgium until recently.

Before moving to Belgium, Murray was senior consultant/operations manager for the West Australian Department of Education and Training. He was also the joint CEO of Alice Smith School in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

organisations at Army Headquarters mess in aid of the cyclone-hit people.

The organisations and individuals, who donated to the fund, are Premier Bank and Bank Asia Tk 50 lakh, Col (retd) Jalaluddin, on behalf of USA expatriate Shawkat Hossain, Tk 50,000 US dollar, Salauddin Ahmed of Bangladesh Foundation, Florida, 6,500 US dollar, Purbani Group Tk 10 lakh, Al Amin Group Tk 20 lakh, Paradise Group, Hamdard Laboratories and Dhaka Customs Agent Association and Aid Group Tk 5 lakh each, Al-Iraqi Association Tk 7 lakh, Dhaka Bank Tk 5.10 lakh, Maj Gen Jibon Khan Das on behalf of Bangladesh Ordnance Factory Tk 3 lakh, Maj Gen Ashab Uddin on behalf of Savar Golf Club, Merchant Association Madhabdi Tk 3.15 lakh, Sylhet Division Development Parishad and Healthcare Pharmaceutical Company Ltd Tk 2 lakh each, Rawa Ladies Club, Willtalk International, RS Shipping and Trading Company Ltd and

Bangladesh Book Publishers' and Seller Association Tk 1 lakh each. Brig Gen Nizam on behalf of Shaheed Bir Uttam Lt Anwar Girls' College also handed over 500 cartons of foodstuff, Confidence Salt 3mts salt, Rotary Club of Dhaka Purba cheque for Tk 1 lakh and foodstuffs and cloths, My One Television Tk 50,000, Khandakar Faizul Morsalin and Khandakar Faizul Rahman Tk 50,000, Institute of Diploma Engineers' 2,000 pcs sweaters, Ananda Niketan English Medium School, Sylhet cheque for Tk 1.38 lakh and 44 cartons of foodstuffs, Sylhet Foundation cheque for Tk 1 lakh, and six power tillers, Sylhet Chamber of Commerce six power tillers, foodstuffs and cloths and Madhabdi SP Institution cheque for Tk 25,000.

After receiving the cheques and relief items, the army chief requested the NGOs, working at the cyclone-hit areas, to waive installation of the agriculture loan that distributed among the farmers considering their distress.



Gen Moeen (retd) Syed Mohammad Ibrahim speaks at the launching ceremony of his new political party named Bangladesh Welfare Party at Imperial Hotel in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 16)

Valuables worth over Tk 4.5 lakh looted in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Robbers looted ornaments, cash and valuables worth over Tk 4.5 lakh from the residence of a businessman at Saraipara under Pahartali Police Station in the port city yesterday.

Police said the incident occurred at around 11:30am at the residence of one Didarul Alam, a scrap businessman, at Saraipara near Sagarika Community Centre.

Alam was not at the residence

when an armed gang of four robbers, claiming them as relatives, pressed the doorbell. When his wife opened the door, the robbers confined the inmates of the house in a room and took away 22 vories of gold ornaments, a cell phone set, electrical goods and Tk 20000 in cash.

Meanwhile, a patrol team of the same police station caught a mugger, identified as Wahed Halder, red-handed at around 7:30am from Sagarika area while he was trying to mug a woman rickshaw passenger.

Sources said the mugger was arrested at Cox's Bazar Police Station.

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