

'Regional cooperation a must for development'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Cultural Affairs Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury yesterday said mutual understanding and cooperation among the South Asian countries

would have to be increased through creating a congenial political atmosphere in order to bolster the economic development of this region.

She said human trafficking is more dangerous than terrorism in the region, adding,

"Women and children are mostly victimised through human trafficking. These problems will have to be solved through mutual understanding and cooperation

among the governments of these countries."

The adviser hoped that the new government, which will assume power through the upcoming national election, would take necessary steps to solve these problems.

Speaking as the chief guest, Rasheda said this at a workshop on 'Economic management in South Asia in the context of new global experiences' organised by the Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (BUP) at Cirdap auditorium in the city.

She said, "At least five lakh people of the country who were involved in jatra industry became unemployed for the last four years. The present government has lifted the ban and the people have become employed again."

The government has conducted the hajj management by the private sectors through a regulatory system this year, the adviser added.

Former adviser of a caretaker government CM Shafi Sami said terrorism is a major problem in respect of the economic development in the South Asian countries.

Congenial political atmosphere will have to be created in the region to remove the mistrust among the countries and cooperation and confidence will have to be developed to remove the problems, he added.

Presenting a keynote paper, BUP Chairman Quazi

Police teams off to Congo, Darfur

UNB, Dhaka

Two contingents of 195 police personnel left Dhaka on Friday night to join the United Nations Peace Keeping Mission in Congo (MONUC) and Darfur (BANFPU-1).

Police Super Harunur Rashid led the 125-member MONUC team while Police Super M Sayedur Rahman led the 70-member BANFPU-1 team.

Some 1,083 police personnel are now engaged in UN peacekeeping missions in different parts of the world.



Participants at a roundtable on 'Future Directions of Bangladesh Foreign Policy' jointly organised by The Daily Star and Centre For Foreign Affairs Studies (CFAS) at the newspaper's office in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

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