6,500 die of cervical cancer a year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

GlaxoSmith Kline yesterday formally launched the vaccine Cervarix against cervical cancer which causes death to some 18 women in the country everyday.

At the launching ceremony at Bangladesh -China Friendship Conference Centre, the experts said approximately 12,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and of them 6,500 die in the country every year.

They said a woman dies of cervical cancer in every two minutes across the globe due to cervical cancer caused by Human Papilloma

Virus (HPV). Of all cervical cancer cases, 70.7 percent are due to HPV types 16 and 18, and three doses of the new vaccine provides cent percent protection against pre-cancerous cervical lesions caused by HPV 16 and 18, said the experts.

It also provides additional protection against oncogenic HPV infections and helps antibody levels stay high, providing the confidence of longlasting protection, they said, adding that the vaccine should be provided to

a girl before her sexual exposure.

In Bangladesh the average age of the girls taking the vaccine should be 10 to 15 years, they added.

They however cautioned that the vaccine should not be given to pregnant women.

Quoting from the South Asia Regional Report, Prof Farhat Hussain of Dhaka Medical College said some 4.50 lakh women above the age of 15 years are now at risk of cervical cancer in the country.

Vice- chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Prof Nazrul Islam was present as chief guest at the launching ceremony which was also addressed by President of South Asian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology Prof Abdul Bayes Bhuiyan, Dr Partha Sarathi Basu of Kolkata Chittaranjan National Cancer Hospital, Prof Kohinur Begum, Prof Abdul Hannan and Dr Rachel Skinner.

Managing Director of Bangladesh GlaxoSmith Kline M Azizul Haque and Medical Adviser Prof SAR Chowdhury also spoke on the



vaccine Cervarix was launched at a ceremony at Bangladesh -China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday. From left are Dr Rachel Skinner, Prof Md Nazrul Islam, Prof Abdul Bayes Bhuiyan and Prof Kohinoor Begum.

GTCL to install 165 km gas pipeline in SW region

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Petrobangla Gas Transmission distribution of internal pipe-Company Limited (GTCL) has line for the implementation of added. recently decided to install 165- Tk 612-crore project. kilometre gas supply lines and Khulna.

The installation work in this regard will begin shortly, said Sharif Nurul Ambia, team Bagerhat, Bhola, Khulna and leader of The House of Phultalaupazila, headded. Consultation Ltd.

to conduct primary test of environment and its impact south-western region.

When asked yesterday, she western region. said Sundarbans Gas Company Ltd having its main

The 5th Dhaka Int'l

Exhibits Profile

ACCESSORIES

machinery

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₩Winding machinery

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*Auxiliary equipment

Bleaching and washing

★Chemicals and dyes

★Inspecting, measuring and

TEXTILE MACHINERY AND

Accessories for textile machinery

office in Khulna has been very important for the socio-

The districts which would ranging between Bheramara be covered by pipelines include Kushtia, Chuadanga, Meherpur, Magura, Jhenidah, Jessore, Narail, Satkhira,

KCC Mayor Talukder Abdul The function of the firm is Khaleque said the present necessary move to implement with a view to supply gas in the the project for gas supply through pipeline in the south-

ing the fact that supply of gas is

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assigned to do the job for economic development in south-western region, he

He further said all mills and industries had become absolutely sick due to want of natural gas and also for being unable to cope with price hike of electricity.

The mayor told The Daily Star that there is no alternative but to ensure supply of gas through pipeline as demand government is also taking of the time for greater economic interest of southwestern region where over two crore people live. Of them, at least 40 percent people use Because, there is no deny- fields and factories as sources of their livelihood.

INVITATION

Knitwear equipment & machinery

*Labeling machinery

%Laundry equipment

※Leather machinery

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industrial/household

Sewing machine motors

synthetic materials

FIBERS, FILAMENTS, YARN

FABRICS AND ACCESSORIES

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#Sewing machine attachment and

#Sewing machine drive & control

★Pocket welting machinery

3 minor girls killed in wall collapse

UNB, Comilla

Three minor girls, including two siblings, were killed when a mud wall of a house collapsed on them at Sholonal village in Burichang upazila yesterday afternoon.

The victims were identified as Sumia, 7, and Rubia, 5, daughters of Ibrahim Mia, and Tanni, 9, daughter of Paru Mia of the same house.

Witnesses said the old mud wall fell on the girls while they were playing beside it at about 4:30pm, killing them on the spot.

Local people said cracks developed in the dilapidated mud wall long ago, but the house owner did not renovate it.

Govt seeks info on flaws in appointing pry teachers

BSS, Dhaka

The appointment process of primary school teachers is transparent and there is no scope of corruption or nepotism, said a government handout yesterday.

It said if there is any irregularity or anybody claiming money for the appointment of assistant teachers to primary schools, the matter should be brought to official notice.

The director general of the department of primary schools may be informed of such matters in writing or by fax or phone, the handout said. The numbers are: 8016499 (Fax) and 8057877 (phone).

One can also inform the acting secretary of the ministry of primary and mass education through Fax No. 7168871 or Telephone No. 7162484.

The government will take stern action against those involved after investigation, said the handout.

The results of written examinations for appointment of assistant primary teachers for 2008 were published on January 19.

Two book shops fined over textbook crisis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A mobile court fined two book shops in Barisal city yesterday for creating a crisis of textbooks.

Rahmania Library was fined Tk 500 for selling textbooks at prices higher than the fixed price while Book Villa was fined Tk 300 for refusing to sale textbooks although the books are available in the shop.

Delwar Hossain Rupak, owner of Book Villa and president of Barisal Pustak Baybasayee Samity, said the books the mobile team found in the shop have just arrived from Dhaka.

Ensuring adequate supply of books in fair price is a must to solve the textbook crisis, he added.

Most booksellers have stopped selling textbooks following the drive against the sale of books at higher prices.



Rajshahi court

accepts charge

sheet against

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,

A Rajshahi court yesterday

accepted charge sheet against

former Rajshahi mayor

Mizanur Rahman Minu and

seven others in a case filed in

connection with misappropria-

tion of government relief mate-

City Corporation (RCC) and his

staff are accused of misappro-

priating around 2 lakh tonnes of

rice and 540 CI sheets from

Rajshahi Deputy

Commissioner's office during

According to the charge

Minu as mayor of Rajshahi

rialsworthTk60lakh.

2001 to 2006.

Minu

Rajshahi

Karmojibi Nari stages a demonstration at Muktangan in the city yesterday demanding an increase in minimum wages and introduction of rationing system.

SUNDARBANS DAY ON FEB 14

Call to save biodiversity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Sundarbans Academy called on the government for full implementation of the Khulna Declaration in order to save biodiversity of the world's largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest.

February 14 in 2001 in the national convention president Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed. Talking to The Daily Star, Executive Director

of the academy Prof Anwarul Kadir said this at his office yesterday on the occasion of the 8th Sundarbans Day to be observed on February The Khulna Declaration is yet to be materi-

alised although eight years have already passed, he said, adding that it contains 18 recommendations to save the Sundarbans and its biodiversity from extinction. The recommendations include develop-

ment of law and order in the Sundarbans to protect its biodiversity, stoppage of killing its animals, including deer and tiger, positive move to make it a suitable tourist spot, dredg-

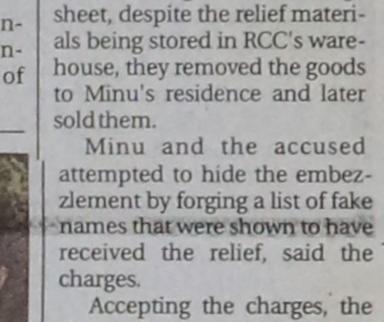
ing of canals and rivers passing by and through the forest and formation of a watchdog group comprising experienced forest officials, environmentalists, researchers, NGOs and representatives from civil society with a view to saving Sundarbans from being ruined.

Kadir blamed both the then four-party The declaration was announced on alliance government and a section of officials of the Sundarbans forest division for giving negaon the Sundarbans inaugurated by the then tive response to implement any of those recommendations.

He urged the present government to come forward and take necessary steps at the state level for the overall development of the Sundarbans by saving it from looters, poachers, criminals and corrupt officials.

The Sundarbans acts not only as a revenue earning sector of the government, but also as a shield to protect south-western region from the onslaught of natural disasters and source of earning livelihood of several thousands of people, Kadir added.

He emphasised the need for a mass awakening movement, if necessary, for full implementation of the declaration on the development of the Sundarbans.



Accepting the charges, the Court of Senior Special Judge AR Masud issued arrest warrants against Minu's seven aides.

The accused are former mayor's personal assistants Mansur Rahman John, Nurul Islam Mamun, BN Ruhul Amin Raju, Achinta Kumar Bhaduri, Saifuddin Bachchu, RCC's Research Officer Mahbubur Rahman and RCC's Store Officer Akhtar Hossain.

Minu was released on bail in the case filed February 14 last year by Anti-Corruption Commission Deputy Director Abdul Karim.

GRAFT, IRREGULARITIES

Probe against RUVC, pro-VC demanded

RU CORRESPONDENT

Pro-Awami League teachers and different student organisations at Rajshahi University yesterday demanded the government form a neutral investigation into corruption, nepotism, irregularities and politicisation by former VC Prof Altaf Hossain and Pro-VC Prof Mamnunul Keramat.

Earlier on May 15, the education ministry removed the VC from his post considering the public interests.

On Sunday, acting VC Prof. Mamnunul Keramat resigned in the wake of angry demonstrations by different pro-AL organisations on the campus.

Economist Atiur Rahman launches an art folder of renowned artist Quamrul Hassan on the Dhaka University campus recently. Patua Quamrul Hassan Art School published the art folder to mark the death anniversary of the artist.

Govt to initiate specialised treatment at dist hospitals

Says health minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health Minister Dr AFM Ruhul Haque has said the government will initiate specialised treatment to some extent in district sub-centres across the country. hospitals to provide better health services at grassroots

He was speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session of the international conference of Bangladesh Society of Medicine in the city on Sunday.

Dr Haque said the government will also work to provide better health services at the community clinics, upazila health complexes and union

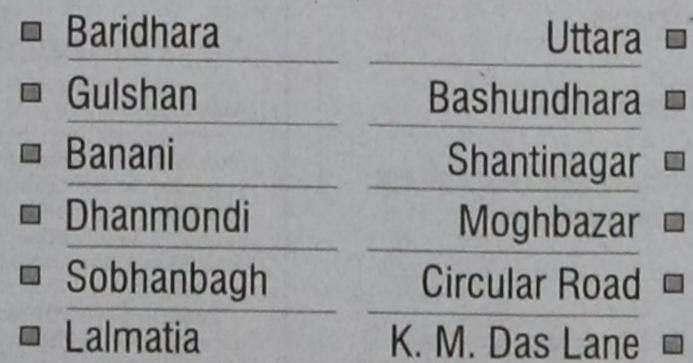
"If people can receive proper health service from these facilities, it would reduce pressure at tertiary level hospitals," he said, adding it would also reduce patients' sufferings and health expenditure.

The minister said the gov-

ernment is going to take steps for the recruitment of doctors their promotion and training to provide a better career to health professionals.

Presided over by Society President Prof Mohammad Abul Kashem Khandaker, the function was also addressed by Health Secretary Sheikh Altaf Ali, National Professor Dr Nurul Islam, and Director General of DGHS Prof Shah Monin Hossain.

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- - Knives and scissors

 - Knives/scissors grinding

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