

### Removal of Proshika chief demanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Employees of Proshika formed a human chain on the Press Club premises in Manikganj yesterday demanding removal of its Chairperson Qazi Faruque Ahmed.

Later, at a press conference, they alleged that Faruque's monetary indiscipline, political ambition and nepotism have pushed Proshika to the brink of financial collapse.

There has been no salary increase or any new pay structure for the employees for the last ten years, the officials said.

Rather, Faruque recently took a move to reduce the salaries of several thousands employees by 25 percent, they added.

Proshika's acting Director Mohammad Hossain, Central Coordinators Abdullah Faruk and Jan-E- Alam, Zonal Coordinators Aminul Islam Shahin, Sunil Kumar Saha and Zakir Hossain spoke at the press conference.

Later, they submitted a memorandum with 20-point demand to the deputy commissioner.



Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain speaks at the presentation of the inception report on Padma Multiple Bridge at Sheraton Hotel in the city yesterday. Sitting from left are Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Cabinet Division Secretary M Abdul Aziz and Agriculture Secretary CQK Mostaq Ahmed. (Story on Page 16)

## Proper planning, awareness a must to reduce disaster risks: Razzaque

CU CORRESPONDENT

Food and Disaster Management Minister Abdur Razzaque in the port city on Wednesday stressed the need for proper planning and its implementation, skilled manpower and awareness among common people to fight disasters and reduce risks.

"Geographically, Bangladesh is a disaster-prone country and the government is now putting stress on ensuring the inter-cooperation between the concerned agencies to identify pre-disaster, disaster and post-disaster periods," he said.

The minister was addressing the handover ceremony of 'Equipment for search and rescue operations during earthquake and other disasters' as the chief guest at Army Embarkation Unit in Fakirhat area.

Chief of Army Staff General Moeen U Ahmed as the special guest received the equipment from the minister at the programme with Secretary Mokhesur Rahman in the chair.

Razzaque said, "A total of 600 volunteers are being trained up in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet City Corporation areas for post-disaster search and rescue operations under the earthquake component assistance of Comprehensive Disaster Management

Programme," he added. He hoped that they would collect excavator, wheel dozer, forklift, mobile light unit, generator and 90-metre high hydraulic track ladder with some other equipment

to accelerate the rescue operations. General Moeen in his speech highlighted the role of Bangladesh Army in fighting disasters in the country. Disaster Management

Bureau Director General Farhad Uddin also spoke the ceremony, while Brig Gen Abu Naim Md Shahidullah received the key of a crane on behalf of the fire service and civil defence.



Food Minister Dr Abdur Razzaque hands over the keys of equipment for search and rescue operation for earthquake and other natural disasters to Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed at a ceremony in Chittagong yesterday.

## Most violence against women take place at households

Speakers tell workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The majority of violence against women take place at their own residences, but in most of the cases these incidents go unreported and women suffer silently while the abusers escape unpunished, speakers at a workshop said yesterday.

Prip Trust organised the workshop titled 'International workshop on situation of violence against women in Bangladesh' at IDB Bhaban auditorium in the city.

Renowned journalist Baby Moudud inaugurated the workshop.

Aroma Dutta, executive director of Prip Trust, said, "Violence against women still occurs in large number. However, the forms of violence have only taken different shapes these days with the advent of globalisation."

A survey of Prip Trust was presented at the workshop, which shows physical torture is the most common form of violence against women followed by sexual harassment and dowry. Husbands are the top most aggressors in the country, it added.

The workshop was also participated by Indian and Nepali partners of Prip Trust.

Suparna Mitra, manager empowerment, Self Help Group Promotion Forum, discussed on the

general status of women in India, which according to her is quite appalling even after the introduction of protective tools and enactment of many laws.

Mitra said at least one crime is being committed against women in India in every three minutes and about two-third of the married women are victims of domestic violence.

Seventy five percent do not seek help for the sake of the family's honour and more than 50 percent pregnant women experience physical torture. About 6,000 deaths take place every year for dowry.

Rachana Shreshtha, programme officer, South Asia Partnership International, Nepal spoke on violence against women in politics.

Character assassination, harassment and sexual abuse alongside murder, rape, intimidation and abduction of women politicians and their family members are amongst the most common violence against women in politics, she said.

The workshop recommended ensuring education for girl children, educating people on moral ethics, ensuring 100 percent marriage registration, ensuring women's rights to property and access to legal aid, eliminating superstitions etc.

Mahmuda Khandaker of CARE Bangladesh and Bidyut Devnath of SPADE, West Bengal, also spoke on the occasion.

## Contribution of CRP to society lauded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking the 30th founding anniversary of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), a special get-together was held for the government-high officials at its head office in Savar yesterday, says a press release.

CRP Founder and Coordinator Valerie A Taylor delivered the welcome speech while its Executive Director Md Emdad Moslem described a brief history of the organisation.

The officials praised the contribution of CRP to the society.

Mobasherur Rahman, director general of Postal Department of Bangladesh, its Deputy Director Mominul Azam, Social Services Officer in Savar Md Rokonul Haque and Prof ABM Enayet Hossain of JU were present on the occasion.



Valerie A Taylor, founder and coordinator of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), speaks at a get-together to mark its 30th founding anniversary at its head office in Savar yesterday.

## Circulation Managers' Assoc executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Wahid Murad of Dainik Jugantor and Md Billal Hossain Mantu of Dainik Sangbadpatri were elected president and general secretary of Bangladesh Newspaper Circulation Managers' Association yesterday for 2009-2010, says a press release.

Other office-bearers are Senior Vice-president: Harunur Rashid of Dainik Shamokal, Vice-president: Sohel Ahmed of Dainik Inqilab, Joint Secretary: Md Abu Masud Bulbul of the Daily Star, Organising Secretary: Anir Rahman of Dainik Jugantor, Treasurer: Sarwar Hossain of Dainik Prothom Alo, Literary and Cultural Secretary: Helal Uddin Apu of Dainik Destiny, Office Secretary: Mujahidul Islam of Dainik Jai Jai Din, and Publicity and Publication Secretary: Shafiqul Islam of the Daily New Age.

Executive Committee members are Kamrul Hassan of Dainik Naya Diganta, Dipak Chandra Roy of Dainik Ittefaq, Abul Kalam Azad of Dainik Aker Kagoj, Abdul Karim of Dainik Amar Desh and MA Matin of Dainik Banglabazar Patrika.

Besides, Moslehuddin Ahmed, first president of the organisation, had been made adviser for lifetime while Sarder Rofiqul Amin, Abdur Rahman, ABM Zakaria and Dilip Sarkar made advisers.

## BARAPUKURIA POWER PLANT Power generation at 2nd unit remains suspended

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Power generation at the second unit of 250MW Barapukuria coal-fired power plant has become uncertain as it was shut down on April 22 following detection of a major technical glitch.

Sources said one of the induced draft fan (IDF) of the unit was creating frequent vibration as some devices of the plant broke down.

Besides, the authorities found more glitches at different points of the unit.

The IDF of the unit had been

creating abnormal vibration inside the plant disturbing smooth coal supply to the burners.

So the power generation declined to 50 percent as the burners burning less coal, the sources added.

The first unit of the plant is now generating about 50 to 65MW power instead of 100 to 110MW due to problems at IDF.

This plant was also shut-down on March 15 last for problems inside the boiler.

### Dohar Press Club executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amitabh Paul Apu, Dhaka district correspondent of RTV and local correspondent of the Bhorer Kagoj, and Md Kamrul Hasan, correspondent of the Naya Diganta, have been elected president and general secretary of Dohar Press Club at an election on April 23, says a press release.

Other office bearers are Vice President Oli Ahmed of the daily Nowroz, Joint Secretary Mizanur Rahman of the Aker Prabhat, Treasurer Md Nurullah Khan of the daily Janata, Information and Research Secretary Habibur Rahman Baksh of the Mukta Khabar and Executive Members Saif Uddin Fomu of the daily Inqilab, Mahbubur Rahman Tipu of the daily Ittefaq and Sheikh Sohel Rana of the daily Jajaidin.

## Nazmunnessa Lions 2nd vice district governor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nazmunnessa Ali, an eminent eye specialist and wife of Dr Syed Modasser Ali, adviser to the

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, has been elected second vice district governor of Lion District 315 A-2 for 2009-2010, says a press release.

The election was held at its 14th district conference at a city hotel on April 25.

### Introducing PAJERO Intercooler Turbo Diesel 3.2 & 2.8

There are obviously reasons to use Pajero Intercooler Turbo Diesel, our engines are far more advanced to our competitors, more torque better fuel economy and a longer engine life are just few of its attributes. Our diesel engines are 20% - 30% more efficient than Petrol engines. And adding the lower cost of diesel, the total savings is more than 60%. In addition intercooler turbine produces far greater torque and power than conventional diesel engines. Due to lower number of parts than gasoline engine, our diesel engines are also cheaper to maintain and have a longer life span. So book for a test drive now and feel the difference.

**RANGS LIMITED**  
Cell: 044/4500491, 01713016592, 044/4500459, 044/34495354

**SAVE MORE THAN 60% IN FUEL COST**