

Establish knowledge-based society for sustainable dev

Says Dr Abdul Kalam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A knowledge-based society should be established through creative, interactive and self-learning education system to achieve sustainable development, visiting former Indian President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam said yesterday during a lecture at Dhaka University.

Replying to a question from a DU professor, he said the two countries need to focus on better water management to solve the problems relating to trans-boundary rivers.

Dr Kalam delivered the lecture on 'Capacity Building for National Development' at the Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhavan. Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique chaired the session.

The former Indian president, who arrived in Dhaka on Sunday on a three-day visit, also attended a programme at Viharunisa Noon School and College and exchanged views with the students and teachers in the morning.

During the lecture at DU, he called upon the faculty members to assess the development needs of Bangladesh and place recommendations to the government.

He also urged them to focus more on researches, saying that good researches would ensure quality education.

"To achieve energy security, we need to focus on the renewable energy, as the conventional fuel like oil and gas will disappear within the next 60 to 80 years," said the noted scientist.

"The world of the 21st



Prof Mijanur Rahman and Prof Harun-or Rashid present a bouquet to former Indian President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, second from left, at a programme at Dhaka University yesterday. On their right is Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique.

century would be a knowledge-based society. The economy in the past was industrial economy and the economy of the future would be knowledge economy," he said.

Welcoming Dr Kalam on the DU campus, Prof Arefin said Dr Kalam's visit would help strengthen further the bilateral relationship between Bangladesh and India.

He also hoped that the local researchers would be inspired by the presence of this great scientist in Bangladesh.

Prof Arefin presented a crest of Dhaka University to Dr Kalam while the visiting guest presented some books to the university.

AHSANULLAH MURDER

Bail to convict stayed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) chamber judge yesterday stayed for six weeks a High Court (HC) order granting bail to Rakibuddin Sarker alias Pappu Sarker who was sentenced to life term imprisonment in sensational Awami League lawmaker Ahsanullah Master murder case.

Earlier in the morning, the HC granted six months' bail to Pappu Sarker in the case.

Chamber bench of Justice Md Abdul Aziz also asked the government to file a regular leave to appeal petition with the SC against the HC order of bail to Pappu within this period (six weeks).

The judge passed the stay order upon a provisional leave to appeal application moved by Additional Attorney General AKM Zahirul Hoque on behalf of the government.

He told the court that there are serious allegations against Pappu Sarker of his involvement in the conspiracy of killing Ahsanullah Master and those allegations should be examined at the

apex court.

If the convict gets release from jail following the HC order, the government's petition against the HC order will become ineffective, he said.

The additional attorney general told The Daily Star that Pappu is now in Lalmonirhat jail and there is no chance of his getting release from jail following the chamber judge's order.

Upon an appeal filed by convict Pappu Sarker, the HC bench of Justice AFM Abdur Rahman and Justice SM Emdadul Hoque yesterday granted six months' ad interim bail to him in this case.

His lawyer barrister Moudud Ahmed told the HC bench that there was no evidence of his client's involvement in any conspiracy to kill Ahsanullah Master.

A Dhaka court on April 16, 2005, gave death sentences to 22 persons while life terms to six others, including Pappu Sarker for assassinating the AL leader in Tongi on May, 2004.

CTG ARMS HAUL

Former NSI director Sahab applies for bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detained former director of National Security Intelligence (NSI) Sahab Uddin yesterday filed a petition with the High Court (HC) seeking bail in the sensational Chittagong arms haul case.

Earlier on Sunday, former NSI director general Major Gen (Retd) Rezaul Haider Chowdhury filed two separate bail petitions with the HC in the case.

The HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husan and Justice Md Rais Uddin fixed Thursday for hearing the petition of Sahab Uddin.

Deputy Attorney General KM Jahid Sarwar Kajal yesterday told The Daily Star that the hearing of the petitions of Rezaul Haider may also be held on Thursday.

Sahab Uddin was arrested on May 3 and Rezaul on May 16 in connection with the 10 truckloads of weapons seized in Chittagong in April 2004.

Celebrating Life Festival begins in Khulna today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Celebrating Life Festival, jointly organised by The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank, kicks off in Khulna today.

The week-long festival features a concert and a photography exhibition and film show.

The concert featuring patriotic songs will be held at Zia Hall in Khulna city at 7:00pm today while the photo exhibition will be held at the Khulna Press Club auditorium from July 21 to 26.

A daylong screening of films and documentaries, which won prizes in the composite competition, Celebrating Life-2008, will be held from 10:00am today at Khulna Press Club auditorium.

A roundtable on 'Development of Khulna Division and its problems and prospects' will also be held at the conference room of Hotel Royal International today.

Implement traffic rules properly to ease jam

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday stressed the need for proper implementation of traffic rules to ease traffic congestion in the city.

They also called for implementing strategic transport planning (STP) immediately and issuing registration for private cars under a proper plan to reduce traffic jam.

The government has rightly imposed restrictions on public transport but did not impose such restrictions on private car -- such policy is contradictory, said Prof Sarwar Jahan, president of Bangladesh Institute of Planners, at the roundtable organised by the daily Destiny at the National Press Club.

"We need to prepare mid-term and long-term policy

instead of short-term policy," said former communications secretary Md Mahbubur Rahman.

Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police AKM Shahidul Haque said that as the registration for cars being issued without any plan, 130 new cars hit the roads a day.

He also said there are thousands of unfit vehicles plying the city roads every day.

Replying to a question, he said that if any policeman takes bribes, it is a criminal offence and that they will take action against the policeman concerned, if he is found guilty.

He also said it is not possible for the police alone to improve the traffic situation. Everybody should come forward to cooperate with the police, he added.

Tapan Kumar Nath, former project director of Detailed Area Plan of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha, said the traffic congestion would be reduced significantly if the laws and rules are implemented properly.

He also called for raising awareness among the people, including drivers.

Khandakar MA Khaled presented the keynote paper at the roundtable presided over by Editor of the Destiny Md Rafiqul Amin.

Prof ASM Mahbub-Un-Nabi, Abdul Matlub Ahmed, president of India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry, chief engineer of Dhaka City Corporation Col Md Abdul Kader and Niaz Rahim, managing director of Rahimafrooz, also spoke.



Md Mahbubur Rahman speaks at a roundtable on traffic congestion at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

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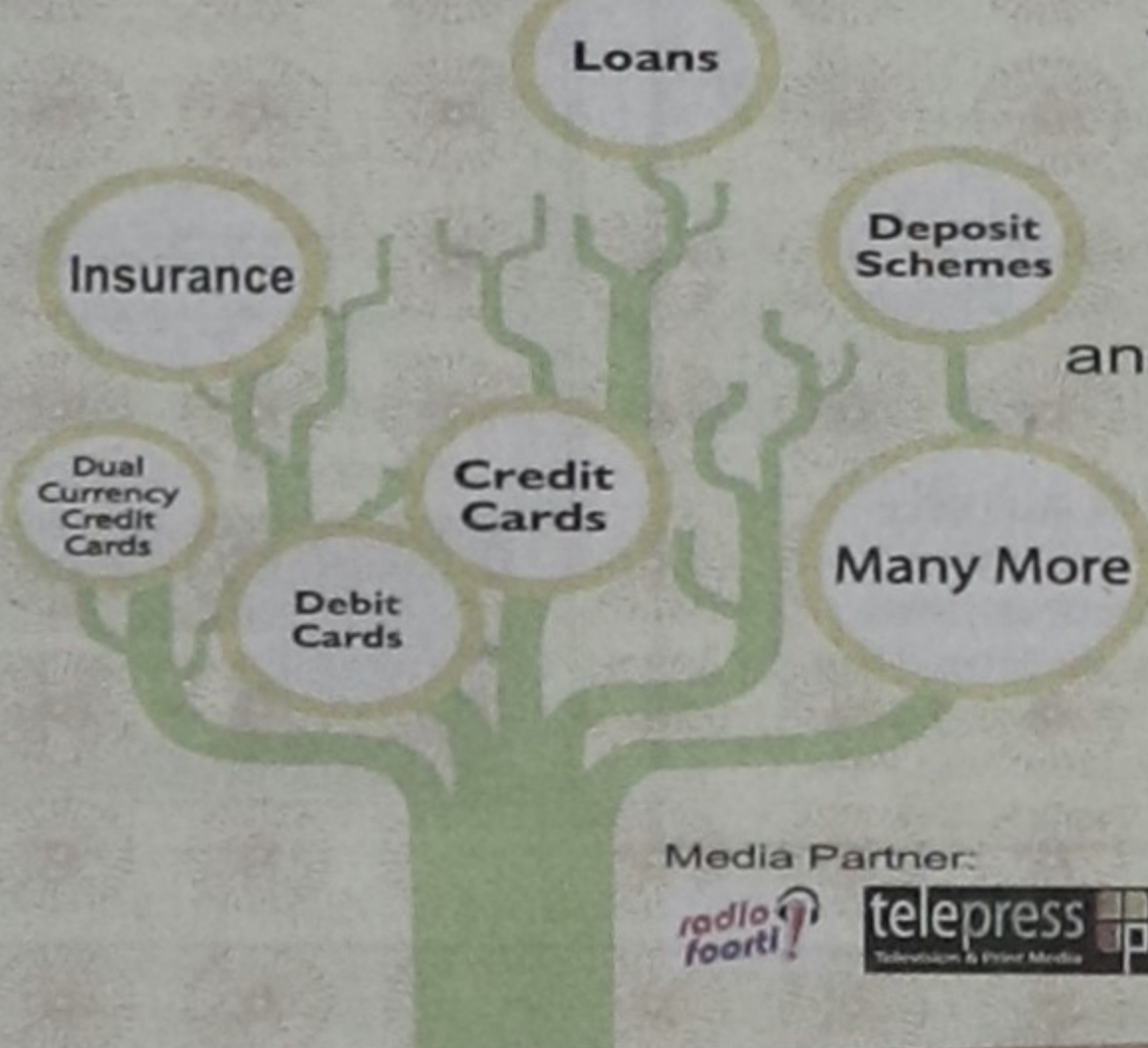
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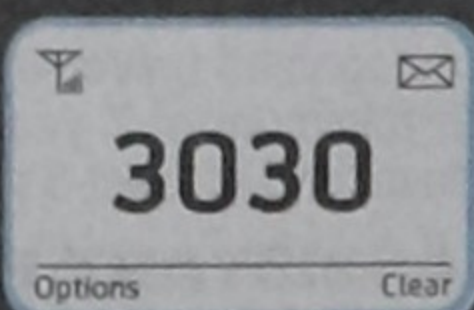
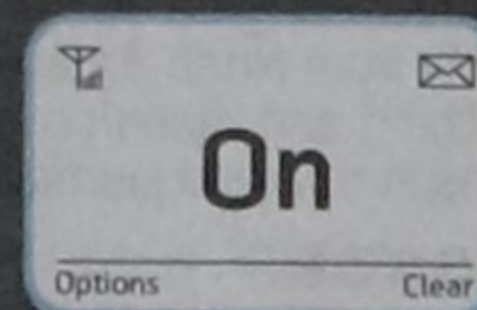
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