

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.

Replies 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 Bhaban. 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 Vigarunnisa 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

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 Zahurul 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



PHOTO COURTESY

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.

Earlier, Dr Kalam delivered the convocation speech at the convocation of University of Information Technology and Sciences (UITS) in the city.

He said education in the present century has to be shaped as borderless education, which promotes virtual, interactive and collaborative powerhouse," he said.

Urging the universities to generate creative minds, he said whatever the issues like energy independence or environment protection or increasing outreach of science or combating terrorism or preserving family ties are there, they all require the creativity of best minds.

"Universities in every nation have to become the breeding ground for such creative minds."

Outlining his vision for the universities of 21st century, Dr Kalam said the 21st century university education is about

developing enlightened citizenship for a knowledge society for peace and prosperity of nations and the world.

"Twenty-first century university has to be the incubator of world knowledge powerhouse," he said.

Science and technology is the best vehicle for economic upliftment, he said, adding that the future of innovation will demand a fast interface between science and engineering.

He also stressed the need for collaboration between the universities and developing creative leadership.

Dr Kalam also said that he would not be surprised if Bangladesh and India become partners in the development of complex ICT products and the only hope for such borderless interaction to continue is to inculcate the spirit of borderlessness in the education also.

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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 Husain 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 may also be held on Thursday.

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

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

to implement traffic rules

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 everyday.

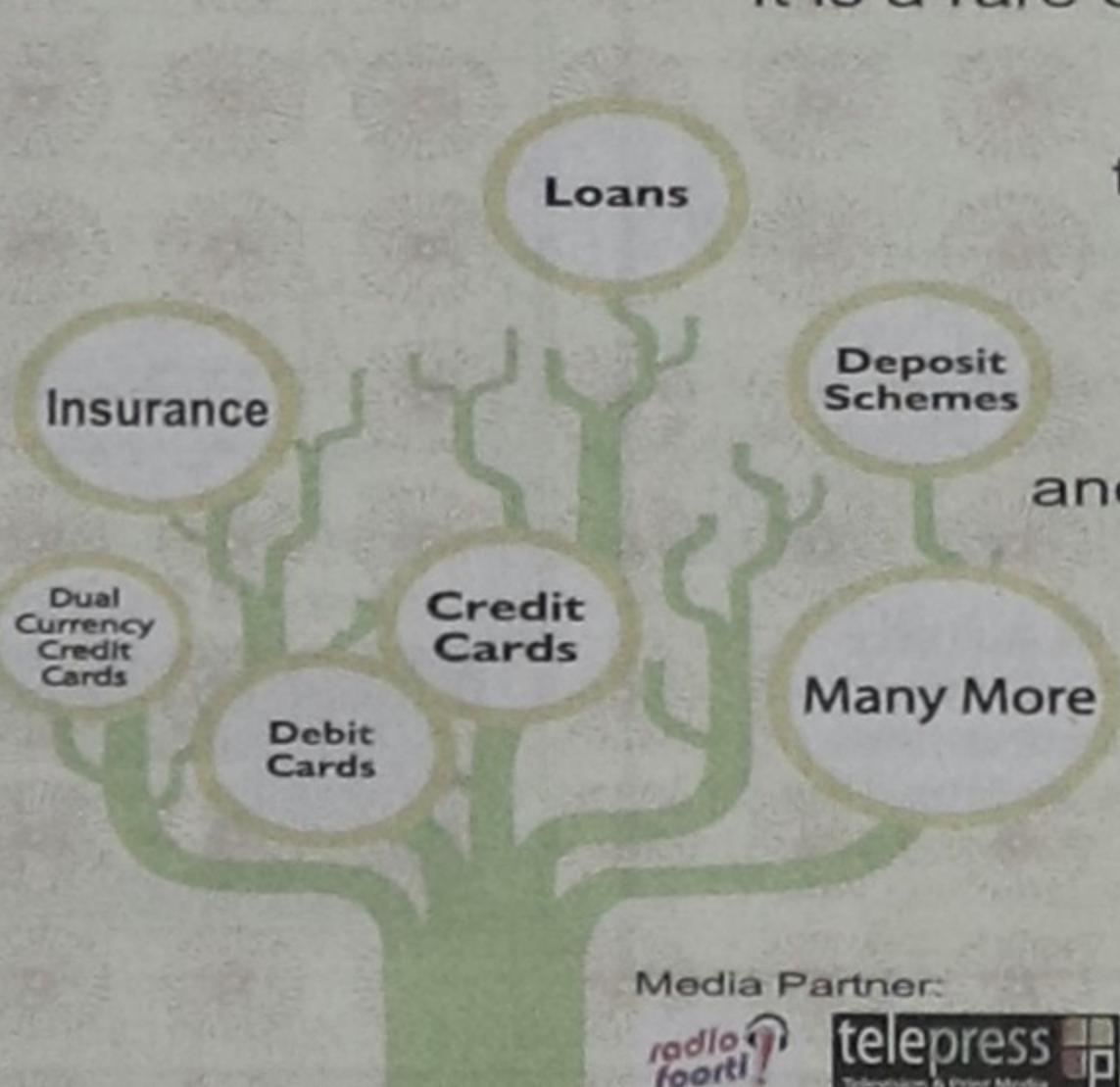
Khandakar MA Khaled presented the keynote paper at the roundtable presided over by Editor of the Destiny Md Rafiqul Amin.

Prof ASM Mahbub-Ul-Nabi, Abdul Matlib 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 Rahimafooz, 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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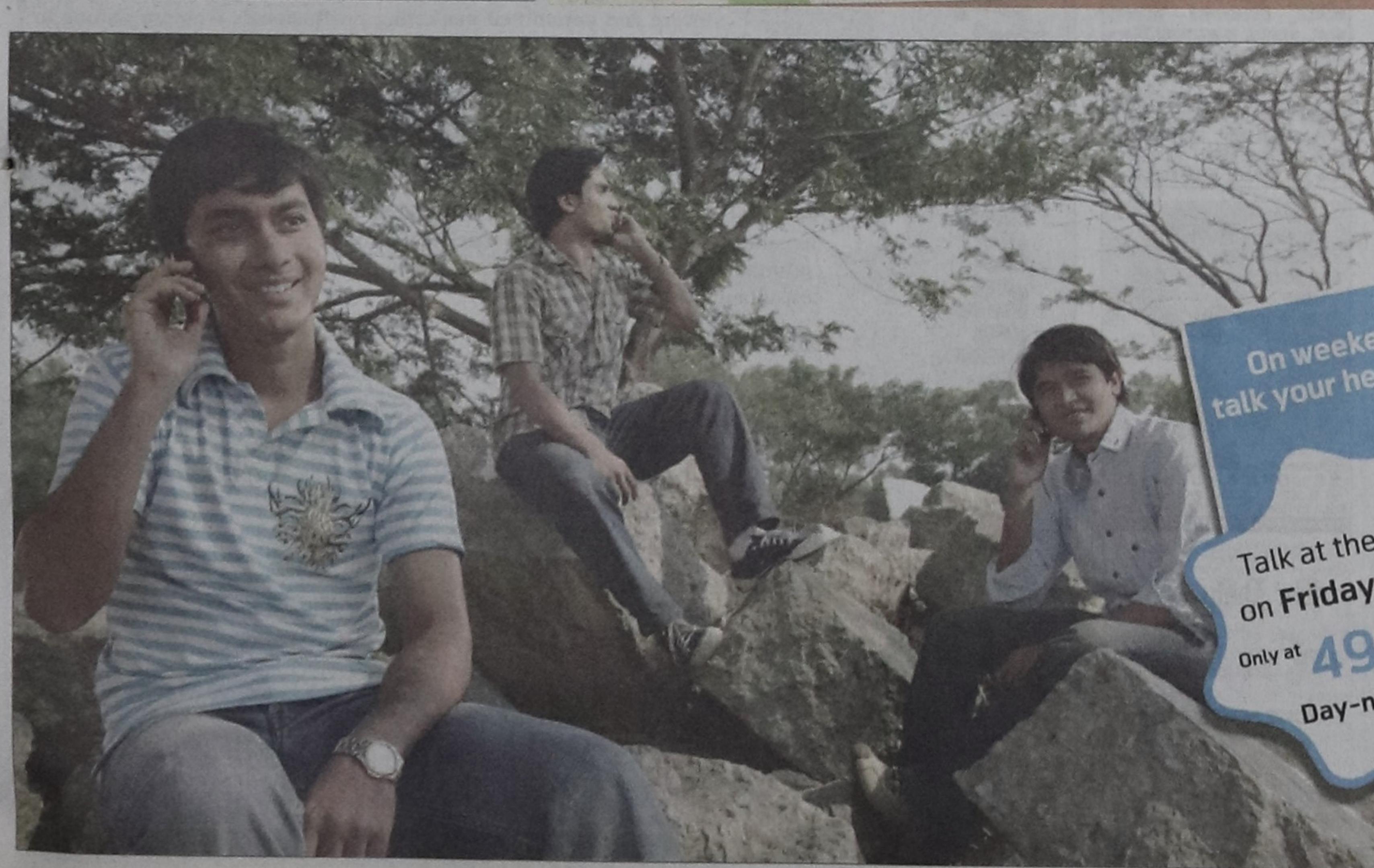
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