METROPOLITAN

SC stays HC bail to Mamun STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed for seven days a High Court verdict that granted bail to controversial businessman Giasuddin Al Mamun in a money laundering case.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division Justice Md Muzammel Hossain passed the order upon a petition moved for the government by Attorney General Mahbubey Alam.

The judge also asked the government to file a regular leave to appeal petition with the apex court against the HC verdict within the period.

The HC on January 28 granted him bail in this case.

DEFAMATION CASES Mahmudur Rahman's petition rejected STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday rejected a writ petition filed by Mahmudur Rahman, acting editor of the daily Amar Desh, challenging the proceedings of 24 defamation cases against him.

Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister Towfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and 23 others of different districts separately filed the cases against Mahmudur Rahman and two others on charge of publishing a false news against him and prime minister's son Sajeeb Wazed Joy in the December 17 issue of the daily Amar Desh. The HC bench of Justice

Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Md Rais Uddin rejected the writ petition considering that the petition was not pressed to the court.

The court passed the order following a submission placed by Additional Attorney General Murad Reza. Reza told the court that a

Dhaka court earlier had issued summons against Mahmudur Rahman in the case filed by Towfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury. Now Mahmudur Rahman

is a fugitive from justice and therefore, his writ petition challenging the proceedings of the case is not maintainable, he said.

Mahmudur Rahman's lawyer Barrister Abdur Razzaq prayed to the court to reject the petition considering that it was not pressed so that they can move the petition after amending it.



Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury and Rokeya Kabir inaugurate the 'W8', a global campaign of eight extraordinary women from different countries, by lighting a lamp at the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday.

'W8' GLOBAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

'Monitor primary schools to ensure quality edn'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a campaign programme vesterday underscored the need for strengthening the monitoring mechanism of the primary schools in rural areas to ensure the quality of education.

They said it is necessary to improve the quality of primary education as it is the stair and foundation of all educations. They also underscored the need for more involvement of the local government bodies in the primary schools.

They also urged the government to build at least one primary school in every village to create scope for education for all children.

Amar Odhikar Campaign organised the launching of 'W8', a global campaign of eight extraordinary women from different countries,

demanding health and education for all at Jatiya Press Club in the city.

Speaking as the chief guest, State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury said the government has given highest priority to education, especially primary education.

programmes taken by her government, she said her ministry is running preprimary education in 14 districts under different projects and will take steps to spread the programme across the country.

She said the government is committed to implementing its election manifesto that includes setting up of government secondary schools at every thana in Dhaka gradually, improving the quality of education at schools at district level and building gov-

ernment secondary schools at upazila level.

Stressing the need for expediting the monitoring system of primary schools in rural areas through a coordinated efforts by the local government organisations, governing bodies, school management committees, parents teachers associa-Referring to different tions, upazila education officers and upazila nirbahi officers (UNO).

> complete the syllabus during the class hour so that students are not dependent on private tuition. Prof Anisuzzaman in his speech laid the emphasis on

She urged the teachers to

training of the teachers to ensure quality education. Rokeya Kabir, member of W8 and convener of Amar Odhikar Campaign, urged the government to increase the number of government edu-

cational institutions.

Swapan Saha made minister press in Washington

BSS, Dhaka

The government has appointed Swapan Kumar Saha, Chief News Editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), as Minister (Press) at Bangladesh Embassy in Washington for a two-year term.

According to an official notification issued yesterday, the contractual appointment of Swapan Saha, who has been working in the national news agency for 38 years, will be effective from the date of his joining in the post.

Saha, former general secretary of National Press Club, is now president of Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad.

The post of press minister at Bangladesh Embassy in Washington fell vacant following the death of Akhter Ahmed Khan, an eminent journalist and former secretary general of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalist.

Akhter, 54, died at his residence in the US capital on November 30.

'Explore gas to meet demand'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a human chain yesterday demanded the government to take immediate steps to explore gas from the country's gas fields to ensure adequate supply of gas.

They made the demand while addressing the human chain organised by Demra-

Shyampur Pani-Biddut Sangram Committee in front of

the National Press Club yesterday, says a press release. Convener of the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity

and Ports Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah demanded cent percent state ownership on gas.

Convener of the Sangram

Committee Mosleh Uddin Masud blamed the government's defective action plan for on going gas crisis.

Communist Party of Bangladesh leader Ruhin Hossain Prince, Sangram Committee joint convener Farid Hossain, Nahid Ali Imam, Bangladesh Chhatra Union Jatrabari Unit Vice-President MR

Khan Jitu also spoke.

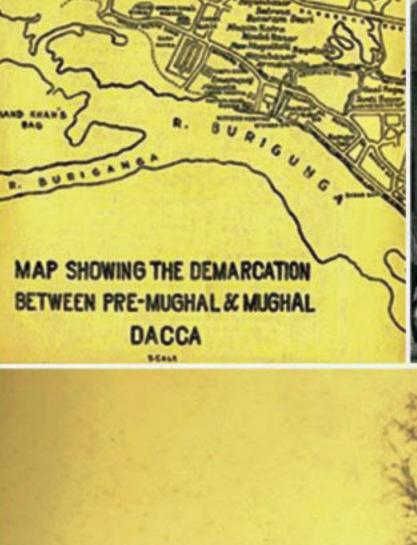




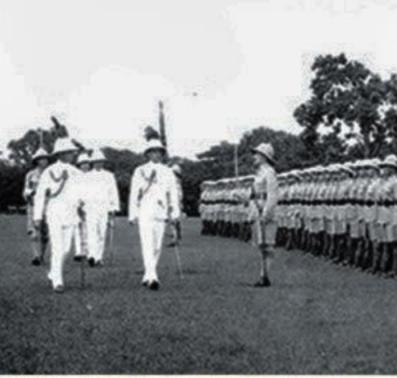


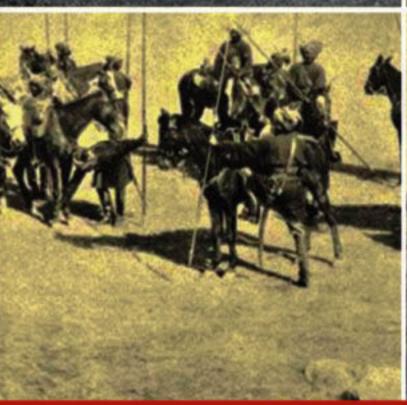
প্রতিদিনের খুঁটিনাটি, সহজ আর হালকা মুহূর্তগুলো আরো জমে ওঠে যখন থাকে



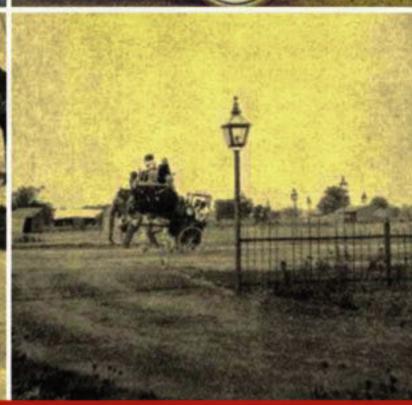


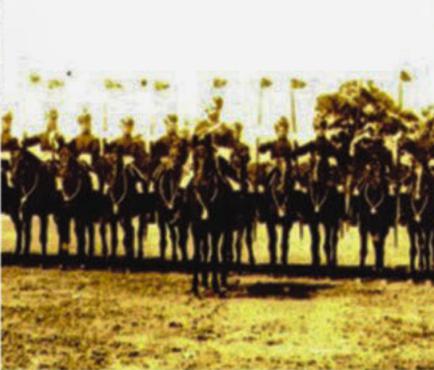


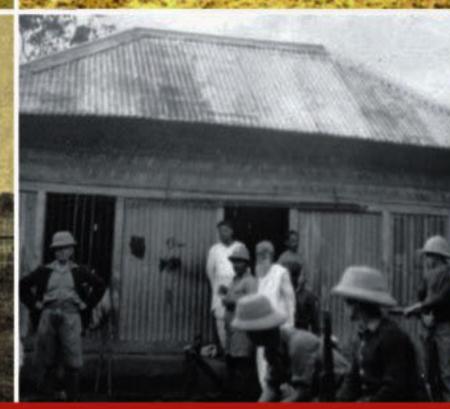


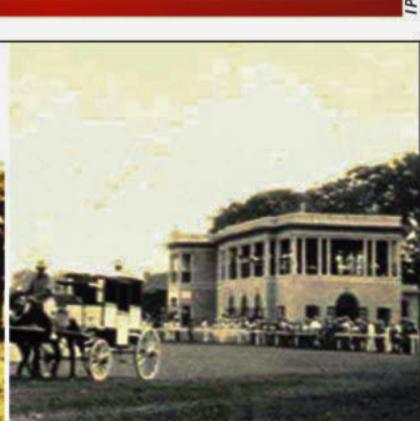


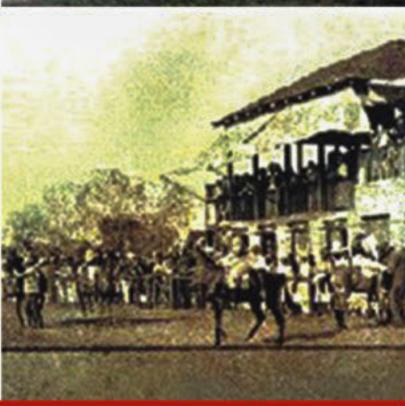












400 YEARS OF DHAKA. 400 YEARS OF HISTORY.