

President Zillur Rahman gives away gold medal to a successful graduate at the 1st Convocation of Prime Asia University at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre yesterday

Maintain standards of edn from primary

President says at Prime Asia University convocation

UNB, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday called for maintaining standards of education from primary level with a view to strengthening the base of quality higher education.

"It's not possible to face the global challenges without ensuring quality education," he said while addressing the 1st Convocation of Prime Asia University at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre as the chief guest.

Stressing quality primary education, Zillur Rahman said standard of education would have to be ensured from primary level because it's the foundation of the country's education.

"Quality education at higher levels will not be achieved if the foundation does not become solid."

The president said it's a matter of hope that the government has undertaken various programmes for improvement of education.

About private higher education, Zillur Rahman hoped that the country's private universities would keep up their utmost endeavors to provide quality education at higher levels.

"Today the private universities have gone a long way in expanding opportunities of higher education."

Prof Hafiz GA Siddiqi, vice chancellor of North South University, was the convocation speaker while Prime Asia University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Giasuddin Ahmed also spoke.

President Zillur Rahman awarded M Delwar Hossain and M Nasir Ullah with chancellor's gold medals for their outstanding academic results.

DRUG CASE Three journos, two others acquitted

A CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Bagerhat court yesterday acquitted five persons, including three journalists, of a case allegedly for using and possessing drugs during the last caretaker government.

Joint District and Sessions Judge Manjurul Hossain delivered the verdict.

The journalists are the Dainik Samakal Mongla Correspondent Monirul Haider Iqbal, the Dainik Bhorer Kagoj Mongla Correspondent Hasan Gazi and the Dainik Amar Desh former Mongla Correspondent Niaz Uddin. Two others are Selim Hossain and Mesbaul Roni

Monirul Haider was arrested from the Dainik Samakal local office and two others were arrested from the town on April 29 in 2008 allegedly for using and possessing drugs.

Join voluntary services Try war criminals to for country's dev

Badiul Alam urges youths

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Badiul Alam Majumdar, country director of The Hunger Project, has called on the youths to get themselves involved in social development activities through voluntary services for the country's overall development.

"Voluntary services are necessary for changing society and lifestyle of community people in developing countries like Bangladesh. So, the young generation should come forward with voluntary services to develop the society as well as the coun-

Badiul Alam said this at a discussion styled 'Unity and Diversity Through Youth Leadership' to share views and experiences of some local and foreign young volunteers who work together for three months in Rangpur.

Nagorik Udyog (Citizens' Initiative) organised by the discussion at the Cirdap auditorium in the city yester-

Noted columnist Syed Abul Maksud at the programme stressed the need for promoting voluntary services across the country for its development, especially changing the lifestyle of community people.

Eighteen young people of Bangladesh and England worked together in Rangpur under a project 'Global Exchange Programme' to encourage the youth community for their involvement in different social activities though voluntary services.

They will work in England for next three months.

Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and British Council funded the project, which was implemented by Nagorik Udyog.

Mathew Knowles, acting director of British Council, and Sahana Haiyat, country director of VSO, were present at the function, among others.

protect independence Says Maj Mannan

BSS, Dhaka

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh Secretary General and former state minister Maj (retd) Abdul Mannan yesterday said the perpetrators of crimes against humanity during the liberation war must be held to safeguard the country's independence, the greatest achievement in thousands year.

In an exclusive interview with BSS, he said the whole nation is against those who were involved in genocide, rape and setting fire.

Mannan, who was also a lawmaker during the tenure of BNP government, expressed his full support in favour of the trial of war crimes and all sorts of crimes against humanity.

He, however, said the government would have to be cautious so that other important national issues are not hampered while holding trials of the war criminals.

Abdul Mannan said it would not be right to call anybody war criminal unless the allegation is proved.

Replying to a question on the role of Jamaat-e-Islami during the liberation war, he said those who committed crimes during that period should be tried irrespective of their party identity.

Customary allegations against any particular party would not be right in this regard, he added.

The Bikalpa Dhara secretary general said the main objective should be to bring the real culprits to book. It is the responsibility of the

authorities concerned to find out the political identity of those who had killed the innocent people under the banner of Peace Committee, Rajakar and Al-Badar. There is no alternative to

holding trial of the war criminals to uphold the national achievements, he said and added that the trial would have to be held without dividing the nation.

We want to give democracy a solid base

PM tells Pak envoy

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government is working hard to provide a strong base for democracy in the country, which was established through free and fair elections on December 29 in 2008.

"We got democracy through a free, fair, credible and acceptable election, and we want to establish it properly," she said when Pakistan High Commissioner in Dhaka Ashraf Qureshi called on her at the Prime Minister's Office.

The PM said it is not possible to do any real welfare for

the people of the country without democracy. "It was the people who suffered most in absence of democracy."

She said her government is working hard to provide a strong base for democracy in the country. Mentioning that poverty is

the main enemy of the South Asian region, Hasina emphasised collective efforts to eradicate poverty from the She stressed the need for

exchanging parliamentary and business delegations between Bangladesh and Pakistan.

PM's Press Secretary Abul

Kalam Azad, who was present at the meeting, later briefed the reporters.

Qureshi praised Sheikh Hasina for her visionary leadership. He mentioned that the

'Vision 2021' and 'Digital Bangladesh' of Awami League were both excellent and these could greatly advance Bangladesh towards more development.

The envoy emphasised united efforts of the member countries to eradicate poverty from the region. They also had discussion

on various bilateral issues of common interest and the upcoming Saarc summit.

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Vehicle Rental Service

Grameenphone Ltd., the leading Telecommunications Company in Bangladesh has taken an initiative to appoint compliant and professional business organizations in order to provide Vehicle (minibus) Rental Services (VRS) for its employee(s).

Grameenphone is requesting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from interested service provider(s) for the said service as mentioned below:

Subject:

Provide employees pick-up & drop-off exclusive service to Grameenphone by minibus.

Closing date for receipt of EOI

: April 20, 2010 : E0I/GP/VR2010

EOI should be addressed to (mentioning the subjects)

: Supply Chain Management Department

Grameenphone Ltd., Celebration Point, Plot 3 & 5, Road 113/A

Gulshan - 2, Dhaka -1212, Fax: +880-2-9882970

: localprocurement@grameenphone.com

E-mail Address

Eligibility of EOI:

Reference No.

- The service provider should have the capability to provide at least 05 (five) or more reconditioned/brand new air conditioned minibuses with 26 (twenty six) to 30 (thirty) seating capacity, exclusively for Grameenphone's transportation.
- Compliant with all the relevant laws, rules and regulations including Motor Vehicle Ordinance, 1983 and the regulations made by BRTA from time to time for providing the VRS.
- · The service provider shall appoint drivers having valid driving license with at least 5 years of experience.
- · The interested service provider that possess the substantial and proven track record in providing the said services and experience with Multinational Companies, UN Bodies, Large Local Companies etc. are encouraged to participate in the EOI.

Only the service providers that respond with documents and information supporting their qualifications and experience, may receive request to submit the quotation. The submission of EOI doesn't guarantee that the service provider will be invited for submission of the RFQ (Request for Quotation).

Grameenphone reserves the right to change any of the above mentioned requirements at any time during the evaluation of EOI and/or during further selection or during proposal evaluation process and may also reject any or all EOI's at any time without any prior notice.

The EOI must consist of the following documents:

- Application expressing the interest for this service
- 2) Name and address with relevant contact details
- 3) Main line (purpose) of business of the company 4) Proof of experience (at least 2 years in respect of the company)
- 5) Valid business and Legal Documents (Trade License, VAT Registration Certificate, Insurance Documents, TIN Certificate, Bank Solvency Certificate etc. as well as for Limited Companies MOA, AOA, Certificate of Incorporation, and for Partnership Firm the respective partnership agreement).
- 6) Other related documents which will prove the fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above.

Interested parties are requested to submit EOI at the above mentioned address on or before the closing date (April 20, 2010).



MUGGING IN KERANIGANJ

Police take case at last

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police at last registered a case yesterday, 22 hours after snatching Tk 5.4 lakh from a cloth dealer at Keraniganj by six unidentified criminals under the guise of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) personnel.

The muggers also threatened the trader of killing him in a 'crossfire'.

In his case statement, cloth trader Rabiullah of Ruhitpur said six armed men identifying themselves as Rab personnel snatched the money around 2:30pm from him at Basta when he was returning

home along with his assistant Lokman in a human hauler from Nayabazar.

Claiming to be Rab mem-

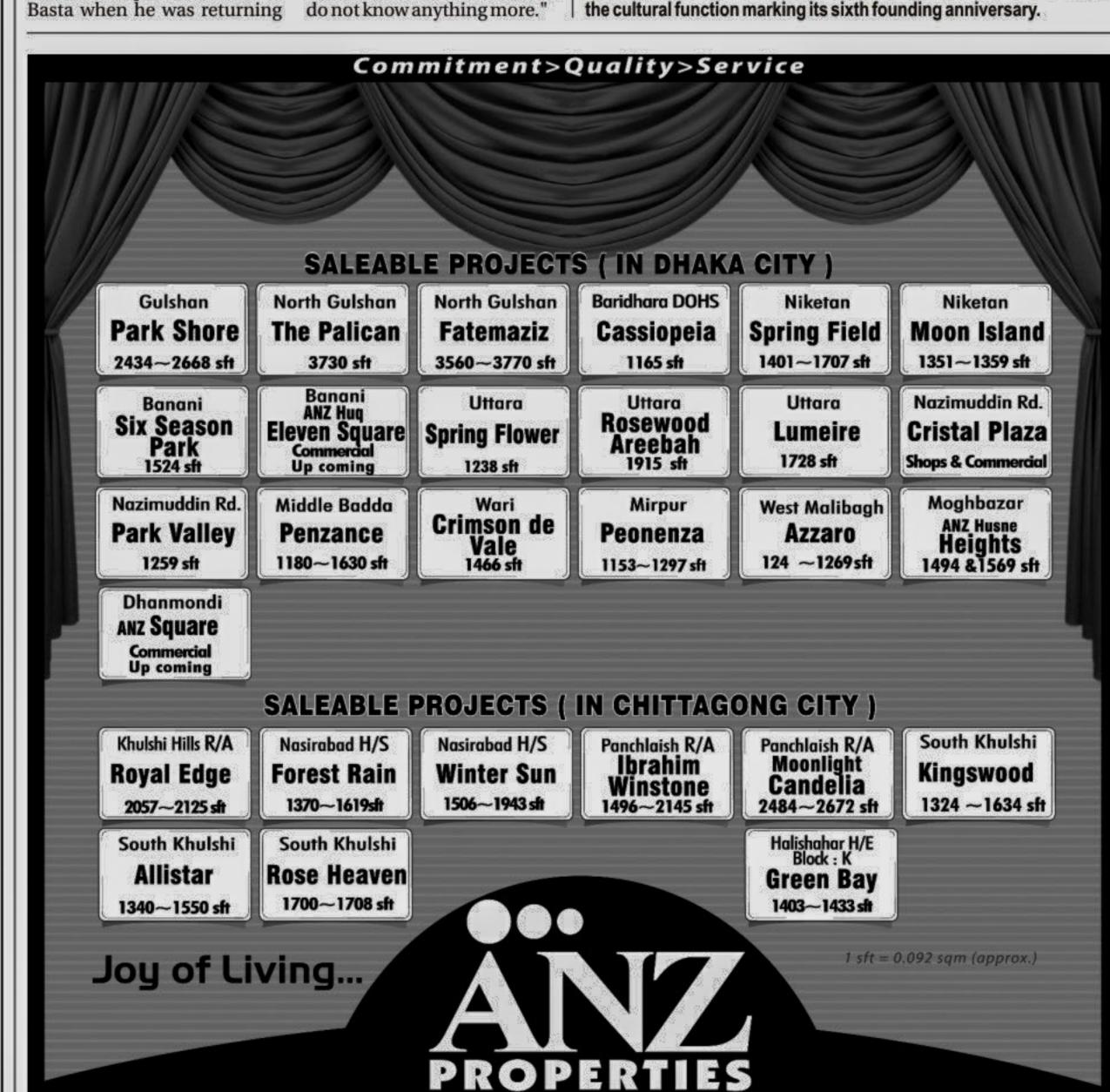
bers, the group asked other passengers to get down for a body search, he added. After they found Tk 5.4 lakh with them, they took the two on

theirmicrobus and later left them at Rajendrapur, said the statement. OC of South Keranigani Police Station Nil Utpal Dey

said none was arrested so far. SM Kamal Hossain, commanding officer of Rab-10, told The Daily Star: "We've heard about the incident but



Valerie A Taylor, founder and coordinator of the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), speaks at a cultural programme at Russian Centre of Science and Culture in the city on Saturday. Students of School for Gifted Children run by Tauri Foundation staged the cultural function marking its sixth founding anniversary.



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