



PHOTO: STAR

Newly elected Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation Mohammad Monjur Alam gives a photo of Mother Teresa to Sister Mary Prema, head of Missionaries of Charity (Prem-Procharika Sangha), at a civic reception programme for Prema at Saint Placid's School in Chittagong yesterday.

RECEPTION FOR MARY PREMA Vow to continue services to poor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Sister Mary Prema M.C., superior general (head) of Calcutta-based Missionaries of Charity, was given a civic reception here on Sunday evening. Missionaries of Charity, a Roman Catholic religious order established in 1950 by Mother Teresa in Calcutta, organised the reception at Saint Placid's School Auditorium at 7:00am. Speaking as the chief guest, newly elected Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Mohammad Monjur Alam thanked Mary Prema for visiting Chittagong and lauded Missionaries of Charity for serving poor, helpless and oppressed people, particularly in Pahartoli through a destitute centre. He assured the organisation of all out support from CCC.

Mary Prema, a German-born Sister who is now in

India, expressed vow to continue their services for oppressed, sick and helpless people of all religions in Christian values. Bishop of Chittagong Catholic Diocese Reverend Patrick D'Rozario, C.S.C. presided over the function. Prof of Physics department of Chittagong University Bikiron Prosad Borua, Auxiliary Bishop of Chittagong Catholic Diocese Reverend Lawrence Subrato Howlader, C.S.C., writer Fahmida Amin and Parish Priest of Chittagong Cathedral Catholic Church Father Gordon Dias were also present. Two branches of the charity -- Missionaries of Charity Sisters and Missionaries of Charity Brothers -- have 13 destitute centres in Dhaka, Khulna, Satkhira, Barisal, Moulavibazar, Sylhet, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Thakurgaon and Tangail.

Proposed changes to make BTRC toothless again

Says TIB

DU CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International, Bangladesh (TIB) demanded re-evaluation of the proposed amendments to The Bangladesh Telecommunication Act, 2010 so that the telecommunication sector can be freed from political influence and administrative complicity to encourage investment.

TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman said the proposed amendments to the act made by the parliamentary standing committee placed before the parliament on July 11 will categorically make the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) a powerless body, said a press release yesterday.

The amendments will also create irregularities in this sector, he said. TIB thinks that the proposed amendment is against the election manifesto of the ruling Awami League as it clearly says initiatives would be taken to ensure a political influence and administrative complicity free environment for flourishing the industry and capital market.

The organisation also opined that the proposed amendments are also against the National Telecommunication Policy, 1998. TIB said public opinion on the amendments should be taken through website and various mass media to make the discussion in the parliament effective.

WORKERS' UNREST IN N'GANJ

Production suspended at 100 RMG factories

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Garment unrest in Fatulla industrial area escalated after a garment factory was declared laid-off yesterday morning. Production in more than 100 factories was suspended during the agitation and all the factory authorities closed their units for the day at noon.

Workers of Rony Composite Dying and Garments factory, an export-oriented composite garment factory, ransacked it and also vandalised a number of other factories in the area to

bring the workers out of the factories. They barricaded Fatulla Post Office-Hajiganj road for over one hour from 8:00am. Traffic movement on Dhaka-Narayanganj Link road remained suspended from 10:00am to 11:30am. Police later brought the situation under control after the law enforcers assured them of solving the problem through talks with the factory owners.

Officer-in-charge Jibon Kanti Sarker of Fatulla Police Station said about 450 workers of Rony garment factory have been continuing movement for last few days to press home their demands. The workers beat the factory offi-

cials and the authorities declared laid off the factory for indefinite period from Sunday night. The workers became agitated when they saw the lay-off notice at the factory gate during their joining the work at 8:00am yesterday. Workers of Rony garment factory at Kutubail Rail Line of Bottola in Sadar upazila said the authorities without consulting with the workers laid off the factory for indefinite period. They also did not pay the workers' arrear as per the labour act, they added. The owner of the factory is now not available for comments.

11 tonnes polybags seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Department of Environment (DoE) during a drive yesterday seized 11 tonnes of banned polythene shopping bags and polythene making materials from city's Lalbagh. Director (enforcement) of the DoE Mohammad Munir Chowdhury and acting Director of Dhaka Divisional Office Shukumar Biswas led the drive as part of the on going crack downs against the banned polythene shopping bags. Being tipped off, they led a drive at the Amir Plastic Industry at 29/3 Raj Narayan Dhar Road,

Lalbagh and seized the banned items. The three-hour-long drive is the largest in recent time. Steps have been taken to file a case against the owner of the factory Sheikh Amir Hossain, now absconding, says a press release from the DoE. The man was running the factory at the ground floor of a five-storied building for a long time. Executive Magistrate of Dhaka District Administration Mahbuba Bilkis led the mobile court while members of Dhaka Metropolitan Police and a 20-member team of DoE took part in the drive.

EC secretary Humayun made health secretary

BSS, Dhaka

Secretary of the Election Commission (EC) M Humayun Kabir has been transferred and appointed secretary of the Health and Family Welfare Ministry, said an official release in the city yesterday.

বঙ্গের শহরে, বঙ্গের বাড়ী

নিজের এমন একটি বাড়ী যেখানে সেই কোন কোলাহল ও কালোদোয়া, আছে সবুজ ঘেরা প্রকৃতির ঘোঁড়া। সমস্যার নিজের বাগানে বসে সুর্য্যাস্ত দেখা যেন বঙ্গের মতো আনন্দময় জীবন। আপনাদেখি বঙ্গ পুরনে আমাদের এই নিষ্কটক জমিদার ডুপ্পের বাড়ী। নিজের চোখে দেখে আসুন আপনাদেখি বঙ্গের শহরে বঙ্গের বাড়ীটি।

** ইতিমধ্যেই দুইশত বাড়ী হাজার সম্পন্ন।

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