



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

The centuries-old Lalbagh Kella (fort) is now vulnerable, as local influential people have constructed around 30 houses on the fort's land violating laws. Mughal prince Muhammed Azam commenced construction of the fort in Old Dhaka in 1678. (Story on Page 16)

## Dhaka to further strengthen ties with China

Says Ashraf

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh is eager to develop multidimensional relations with China to explore new avenues of co-operation for strengthening economic, political and cultural ties.

"Bangladesh is very much interested to develop multidimensional ties with China. The government is taking initiative to strengthen economic, political and cultural relations with China," said IGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashraful Islam on Saturday.

He was addressing as the chief guest a reception at Hotel Sheraton hosted by Bangladesh Samyabadi Dal to celebrate the 61st founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China and the 35th anniversary of Bangladesh-China diplomatic relations.

Industries Minister Dilip Barua and Chinese Ambassador in Dhaka Zhang Xianyi attended the function as special guests.

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Quader, lawmakers Rashed Khan Menon and Moinuddin Khan Badal, and CPB President Manjurul Ahsan Khan also spoke at the function.

Ashraf, also general secretary of ruling Awami League (AL), said the government would develop effective political relations between youth and women of two countries and exchange parliamentary delegation to become an active partner of China's economic development.

Ashraf hoped that Bangladesh would soon export RMG products to China and its volume will be three-fold higher than export to EU.

Dilip Barua said the trade volume with China would stand at US\$ 5 billion in the current fiscal.

He urged the Chinese entrepreneurs to come forward to help achieve the objective of Digital Bangladesh by 2021.

Political leaders, members of civil society and representatives from media were present.

## Mainul's death condoled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different organisations and leaders of different political parties yesterday expressed grief at the death of Maj Gen (ret'd) Mainul Hossain Chowdhury Bir Bikram.

In a condolence message, BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia said Mainul Hossain was a worthy and patriotic son of the motherland.

"Contributions of the courageous soldier in our War of Liberation will never be forgotten," she added.

Khaleda said Mainul was a successful adviser to the caretaker government.

He contributed immensely to protect the country's democracy, she added.

"His honesty, skills and responsible conducts as an army officer should be an ideal for people from all professions," she added in her message.

Khaleda prayed for salvation of the departed soul and conveyed her deep sympathy to the family and relatives of Mainul.

In a separate condolence message, Banga Bir Osmani Smriti Parishad and Bangladesh Workers' Party leaders condoled his death.

## CRACKER BLAST

### Paban gets bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka Court yesterday granted a 15-day bail to Khandaker Akhter Hamid Paban, son of BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, in a cracker blast case.

Judge Mohammad Zohurul Hoque of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court passed the order considering Paban's illness after he along with his lawyers appeared before it and sought the bail.

Moving the bail petition, Paban's lawyers Masud Ahmed Talukder and Sanullah Miah told the court that their client was brought to the court by an ambulance due to his sickness.

## Call to establish eco-friendly transport system

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environmentalists yesterday called for establishing an eco-friendly transport system and promoting bicycling and walking, to reduce carbon emissions and check climate change.

They also suggested strengthening the public transport system and reducing the number of private cars in the capital, says a press release.

The recommendations came at a discussion before a bicycle rally organised by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) and Work for a Better Bangladesh (WBB) Trust in front of the National Museum in the city.

They said increase of carbon dioxide caused by excessive use of fuels and activities in the name of development is contributing to climate change. This is going to affect mother world very badly, they said.

Prompt actions to cut carbon dioxide emissions could bring down the amount of the gas to 350ppm in the air and that could help check disastrous effects of climate change, said the green activists.

Stating that the environment to use bicycles in the capital is almost gone, Bangladesh Astronomical Society President Dr AR Khan

said it is important that the authorities concerned keep separate lanes and stands for bicycle riders.

He suggested authorities to introduce a system where there will be bicycle stands in different parts of the city so that people with identity cards can use those in exchange for money.

Bapa Treasurer Mohidul Haque Khan said most people in Dhaka walk but the arrangements for pedestrians are very inadequate. Constructing wide and plain footpaths is imperative to inspire people to walk, he said.

National Cycling Trainer Shahidur Rahman said the government should take up promotional activities so that students of schools and colleges are inspired to use bicycles for transport.

Aftabur Rahman of Dhaka Cycling Club demanded waiving import taxes on bicycles, keeping it within the reach of people with low-income.

WBB Trust National Advocacy Officer Maruf Rahman said walking and bicycling not only helps cut carbon dioxide emissions but also cuts the risks of various diseases like diabetes, blood pressure, heart diseases and cancer.

## Repressed journalists' body formed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Repressed Journalists' Committee was formed with journalist Saleem Samad as convener and Barun Bhowmik Nayan the member secretary on Thursday, says a press release.

The committee was formed to press different demands including trial of the persons responsible for torture, harassment and filing false cases against journalists during the last BNP-Jamaat alliance government and realisation of compensation for the victims.

The journalists who were subjected to repression during the period have been requested to contact Barun Bhowmik over cellphone number 01711266299.

## Practise objective journalism

DU CORRESPONDENT

Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of Dhaka University yesterday organised a discussion and cultural programme on the occasion of its freshers' reception and farewell programme to students completing their post graduation degree.

Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique inaugurated

## Make ICT prime tool of dev: President

BSS, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday called for extending internet access to all corners of the country for making information and communication technology (ICT) as the prime tool of development.

"ICT will be beneficiary in real sense when it can be utilised in fulfilling daily demands including agriculture, education, health and employment of mass people," he said while inaugurating the launching of WiMAX internet service at seven divisional cities, provided by Banglalion Communication, at a city hotel.

WiMAX internet service is

the latest wireless internet providing fourth generation technology with high speed connectivity.

Zillur said country's majority population don't know how to use ICT in receiving various services as well as in creating employment opportunities. "Practical knowledge about proper use and implementation of ICT would have to be imparted to the people," he added.

President said desired development of the country would not take place without taking the huge potential of ICT information and technology.

"We would have to take initiatives to integrate more with the ongoing global advancement of the ICT for expediting our development,"

he observed.

Referring to the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's declared Vision-2021 to build an information technology based Bangladesh at the golden jubilee of the independence, the President said, "It's our collective responsibility to implement the vision."

Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad, Commerce Minister Faruk Khan and Industry Minister Dilip Barua spoke as the special guest at the Launching ceremony.

Banglalion Communication Ltd Chairman Major (ret'd) Abdul Mannan gave the welcome speech while Chief Executive Officer Khaled Shams gave the vote of thanks.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Energypac Electronics Limited provides monetary assistance to a freedom fighter at Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology in the city recently.

## '71 heroes honoured

METRO DESK

An event titled "Projonmer Chetona" to honour freedom fighters, Birangonas and martyred intellectuals of 1971 was recently held at Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology (DUET).

Srijoni, an entity of the university, organised the event with the slogan "Let's illuminate the twenty-first century with our Independence War awareness," says a press release.

Orunjit Barua, head of Abhayok Projonmer Chetona 2010 initiating committee, and Srijoni conducted the event.

Aly Zaker, eminent personality and a member of the Independence War Museum Trustee Board, was present as special guest along with the Director of DUET Prof Mohammad Abu Naeem Sheikh and Shahin Reza Nur, head of Projonmo 71.

Acclaimed Rabindra Sangeet (Tagore Song) artist Rezwana Chowdhury Bonna initiated the event at 2:45pm followed by a rally and sowing of plant seeds.

Energypac Electronics Limited provided monetary assistance to three poverty-stricken freedom fighters and expressed gratitude to Uttoron Mohila Shongtha of Sirajgonj, followed by a film on the War of Liberation.

## SPACE FOR RENT AT NEW AIRPORT ROAD

Exclusive commercial space for rent at RAJUK TRADE CENTRE (Regency Hotel Building) located on Airport Road, Nikunja-2, Dhaka.

- Main Features:
  - Floor area: approx. 23,000sqft (entire 4th floor)
  - Plenty of parking & 8 reserved spaces
  - Independent elevator with 13 persons capacity
  - Air conditioning (entire floor)
  - Full Generator for uninterrupted power supply.
  - Private lobby, entry/exit & stairs for safe fire exit
- Multinational companies & financial institutions will be given preference.

Contact: Mahmudul Alam Jewel, Cell : +8801713066316  
Rubayet Sazzad Hossain, Cell : +8801819232291  
Tel : +880-2-8834564-5, Fax : +880-2-8813077  
Email : jewel@mahingroup.com, rubayet@mahingroup.com

## জমি বিক্রয়

আমেরিকান এম্বেসীর কাছে

bddl নতুনধারায়

জরুরী প্রয়োজনে কোম্পানীর চেয়ে কম মূল্যে  
৩ ও ৫ কাঠার কয়েকটি প্লট বিক্রয় হবে।

Contact

Impel Properties Ltd.

13/A/1, Feroz Tower (2nd Floor),  
Panthepath (East), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.

Phone: 9121979, 9116668, 8143485.

01713377561, 01713370113, 01977772020, 01713377575

## Post Graduate Diploma in Management Consulting (PgDMC)

Institute of Management Consultants Bangladesh (IMCB), the national forum for the management consultants of Bangladesh is offering the Post Graduate Diploma in Management Consulting (PgDMC) for those who are interested in building a career in management consulting. This is a course recognized by the International Council of Management Consulting Institutes (ICMCI), the world apex body of the management consulting institutes. PgDMC is a qualification recognized all over the world which opens opportunities for offering consulting services worldwide.

- Period : November 06, 2010 to February 12, 2011
- Days and Time : Thursday and Saturday Evening (5:30 PM to 9:00 PM)
- Course Fee : IMCB Member BDT 28,000. All Others BDT 30,000
- Participants : Master Degree in Business, Economics and Social Science

For further information and registration, please call 02-8834046, 01716 236868

Institute of Management Consultants Bangladesh

House 357 (2nd Floor), Lane 27, New DOHS, Dhaka, Tel: 02-8834046, Fax : 02-8834046

E-mail : info.imcb@gmail.com, www.imcbangladesh.org