



The Rajakhal Khal (canal) flowing beside Chaktai and Khatunganj was once the lifeline to business since loading and unloading of goods were done from the canal. But, the canal has been narrowed due to encroachments on both the banks. The narrow canal now results in waterlogging at Chaktai and Khatunganj during heavy rain and high tide, causing damage to huge properties. PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

theweekthatwas

Science Festival concludes

The two-day 3rd Daily Star-Bank Asia-Drishity Science Festival concluded on Friday. Drishity, a cultural organisation arranged workshops, exhibition, Wikipedia photo and film competition on Chittagong and impromptu and spot quiz competitions on the premises of Ispahani Public School and College. A reception was accorded to Dr Hasina Khan, a member of the team that discovered the genetic sequence of jute. Around 1700 students from different schools, colleges and universities in Chittagong took part in various events while 200 projects of the participants were displayed, said Drishity General Secretary Saif Chowdhury. City Editor of local daily Suprobat Bangladesh M Nasirul Haq, Dr Hasina Khan, Secretary of Chattagram Biggan Parishad Jahar Lal, Principal of Ispahani Public School and College Mahabubul Alam Chowdhury were present as guests at the award giving ceremony with Drishity President Masud Bakul in the chair.



Winners of The Daily Star-Bank Asia-Drishity Science Festival pose for photograph at the prize giving ceremony on the Ispahani School and College premises on October 15. Drishity, Chittagong organised the festival. STAR PHOTO

Publication ceremony held

State Minister for Science and Information and Communication Technology Yeafes Osman said, "A dream for a prosperous country inspired us to achieve the freedom in 1971. But later we lost it and this is high time to materialise the dream." He urged all to be united in this regard. He was addressing as the chief guest at the publication ceremony of a book titled "Itihaser Prekhhapotey Samprotik China" (Recent China on the Historic Perspective) written by Chittagong Press Club (CPC) President Abu Sufian. Poet and journalist Abul Momen presided over the ceremony held at the CPC auditorium on Friday. Speakers at the ceremony thanked the author for properly depicting how China has emerged as a super power in recent time. They hoped that many would be inspired through reading the book. Awami League lawmaker Abul Kasem Master, East Delta University Vice Chancellor Prof Muhammad Shikander Khan, former Premier University VC Prof Anwarul Azim Arif, The Daily Azadi Editor M A Malek and The Daily Purbakone Editor Architect Taslim Uddin Chowdhury spoke at the function.

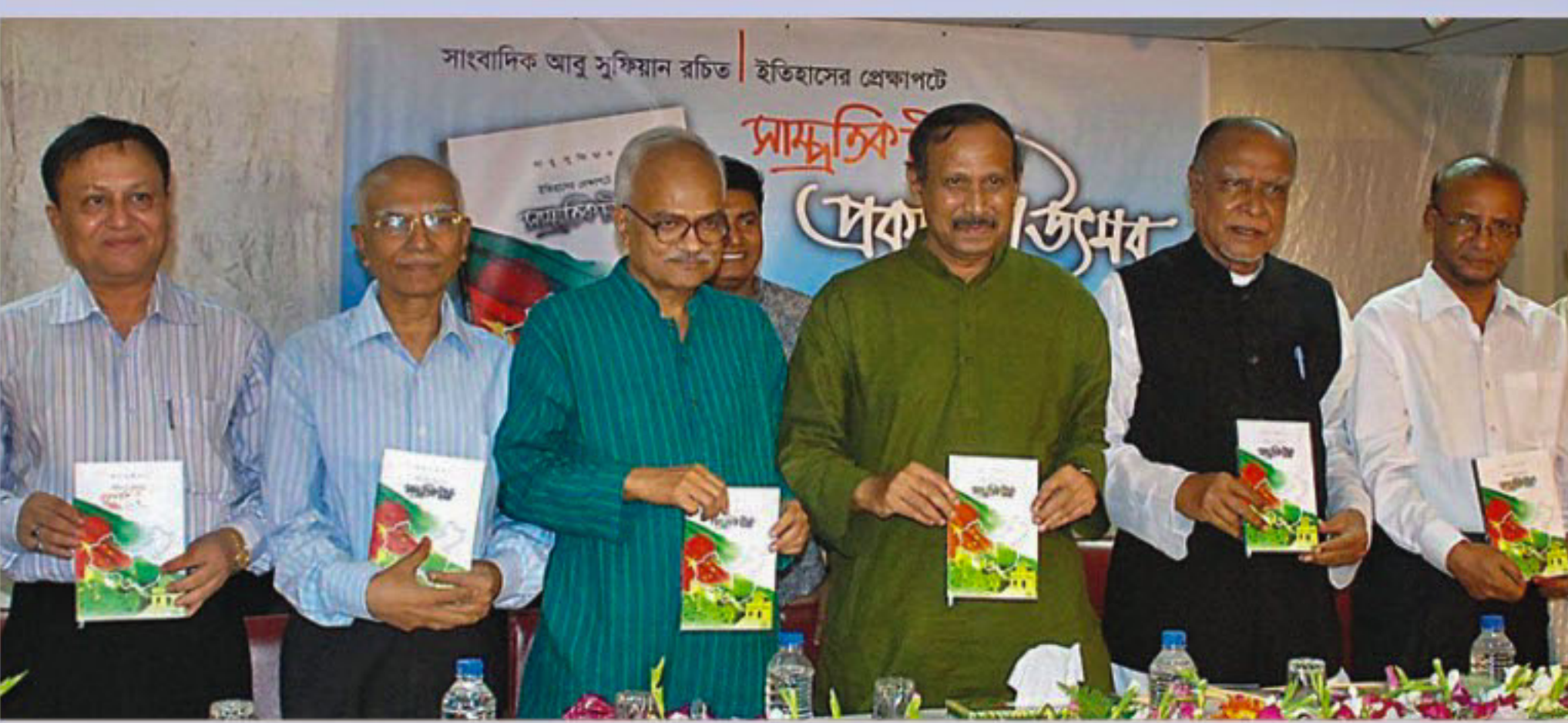
University Campus (CU) on Friday. Speakers at a meeting organised by DISSCU at the CU Sharan intersection said the people with disabilities should not be treated as the challenged persons since they can cope with every sphere of life. They urged the CU administration to come forward to help the students with disability of the university. Speakers called upon all to provide all kinds of cooperation to the challenged in the society. The visually challenged students at the meeting put forward some demands including seats reserved for the challenged students in CU transports, opportunity of participation in all cultural activities, increase in quota in each faculty and opening a corner in the library with Braille equipment. Chairman of Philosophy Department Prof Dr M Shafiqul Alam, Chairman of Political Science Department Prof Dr Siddique Ahmed Chowdhury, DISSCU President Abdul Malek and visually challenged students also spoke at the meeting.

Call to reopen Chemical Complex

Leaders of Chittagong Chemical Complex Puno Chalu Sangram Parishad gave one month's ultimatum to the government demanding resumption of production at the state-owned plant. Announcing month long programmes including protest rally and procession, signature campaign and submitting memorandum to the prime minister, they also threatened to put up barricade on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway on November 17 if their demand is not met. They announced the programmes at a press conference at Chittagong Press Club on Saturday. Parishad Convener SM Nasir Ahmed read the written statement at the conference. Sitakunda Upazila Chairman Abdullah Al Baker Bhuyian, workers leader Nur Ahmad, Didarul Kabir and Joinal Abedin Suja were present at the press conference.

Kaiser's contribution recalled

Awami League (AL) leaders urged the activists of the party to follow the character of devoted leader like Presidium Member Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser. They were addressing a condolence meeting in memory of Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser on Saturday. AL city unit Vice President Mahtab Uddin Chowdhury presided over the meeting held at Muslim Institute Hall. Speakers said leaders like Kaiser did politics for welfare of the people and the country but did not use politics as a tool for personal benefits. He (Kaiser) always followed the party direction during his forty years of political career. They called for strengthening the party activities at grassroots level to foil conspiracy of the anti-liberation forces. AL city unit Vice President Noim Uddin Chowdhury, leader AJM Nasir Uddin, Safar Ali, Sheikh Md Ishak, Noman Al Mahmud, panel mayor of Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Chowdhury Hasan Mahmud Hasni and Jubo League central leader Raihan Yusuf spoke at the meeting.



State Minister for Science, Information and Communication Technology Yeafes Osman, third from right, and other guests hold copies of a book titled "Itihaser Prekhhapotey Samprotik China" written by Chittagong Press Club President Abu Sufian, extreme left, at a publication ceremony at Chittagong Press Club auditorium on Friday. STAR PHOTO

White Cane Day observed

Disabled Students Society of Chittagong University (DISSCU) observed the World White Cane Safety Day on the Chittagong

Plan to boost tourism

NUR UDDIN ALAMGIR
To boost tourism and provide one stop recreational facilities for both the local and foreign tourists, Concord Entertainment Company Limited is setting up a five-star hotel inside their Foy's Lake amusement park in the port city.

different countries will rush in the port city which now lacks adequate accommodation facilities of international standard," said Concord Group General Manager (Marketing) Anup Kumar Sarkar.

AK Khan and Company and Sena Kalyan Sangtha laid foundation stones of two five-star hotels on November 10 and May 11 last year here. AK Khan and Company laid the stone of Niketan Hotel in city's Batali Hill area. Alongside developing international standard accommodation facilities for boosting up business and tourism, they had planned to complete some segment of the hotel targeting the world cup. But, they have yet to start the construction work.

"We hope to complete construction works of the first phase within next four months and the works are going on in full swing using modern technologies and additional manpower to fulfil the target," Anup informed.

On the other hand, Sena Kalyan Sangtha laid the foundation stone of Water Garden Hotel Chittagong on a land between Zia Memorial Museum and Chittagong Club. Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Mayor Mohammad Manjur Alam inaugurated the construction work of the hotel of Concord Group on October 10 at a ceremony at the Foy's Lake amusement park. Concord Group Managing Director SK Lala, Deputy Managing Director Shahriar Kamal and Senior Executive Director Shah Kamal Uddin were present on the occasion. First phase of the five-storey hotel will be developed on 1.5 acres of land just beside the Sea World, a water park inside the Foy's Lake.

The hotel of international standard will house all the rooms with lake-faces, restaurant, conference hall, health club, swimming pool, business centre and spa. "The zigzag hills, water of lake and other natural settings of the picturesque site will help the boarders to go close to the nature and enjoy every moment of staying there," Anup said. The hotel will be developed on a plain land beside the Sea World without touching the natural hills standing to express presence of the scenic nature there, he said.

"We are implementing the first phase of the hotel targeting the upcoming World Cup Cricket when huge number of foreign cricket fans, journalists and cricket officials of

"We planned for a five-star hotel aiming to offer the boarders everything needs for entertainment. Alongside the exotic beauties of the site, the boarders will get the Sea World and amusement park for entertainment and restaurant for food. They will need not to go anywhere for entertainment, Anup said, adding that they will make it part of an international hotel chain. Concord, a leading entertainment company, developed the Foy's Lake Amusement Park in 2004 and hill view resorts on the bank of the lake for the tourists. It also set up the country's first ever theme park Fantasy Kingdom in 2001. Later, they developed Water Kingdom, Heritage Park, Extreme Racing, Foy's Lake, Sea World Resort Atlantis and resorts in the Foy's Lake.