



World Trade Organisation Director General Pascal Lamy meets Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Geneva of Switzerland on Tuesday, where she is attending the 16th World Meteorological Congress and the 64th World Health Assembly.

PHOTO: PID

No election without CG: BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the main opposition in parliament BNP yesterday said they would not participate in future elections without the caretaker government system. Just retired chief justice ABM Khairul Haque would also not be acceptable as head of the next caretaker government by any means, they added.

"No election will be held in future in the country without the caretaker government.

"A respectable person who will be acceptable to all, specially to the opposition, must be the chief of the caretaker government," said BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir.

He was addressing a protest rally in front of BNP's Naya Paltan office in the city organised as part of its country-

wide demonstration against the recent decision of the government to hike fuel price. Several thousand BNP leaders, workers and supporters attended the rally with processions.

The leaders bitterly criticised the government for hiking price of fuel once again and its failure to coordinate bus fares.

Mirza said ruling Awami League (AL) is hatching conspiracy to hold the next election under political government, as they know their candidates would lose their election deposit if the election were held under a neutral caretaker government.

He said a neutral election commission is a must for BNP's participation in upcoming parliamentary election, where they would not accept introduction of electronic voting system.

"None of the people serving Awami League now instead of the country will be spared," said Mirza Abbas, member of BNP standing committee.

Woman found dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the decomposed body of a female sweeper of a high-rise at Banani in the city yesterday.

The deceased, Rajab Begum, 35, was wife of Abdur Rahim of Korail slum of Mohakhali.

She used to work at Partex Builders Ltd at Banani road no. 17.

Police could not confirm how the woman died and sent the body to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Locals found the body of Rajab, who was mission since May 16, under a pile of garbage on the first floor of the building as it spread foul smell in the area.

20 hurt as truck rams train

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

At least 20 people were hurt, four critically, as a truck rammed a carriage of a moving passenger train at an unmanned level crossing in Mammathpur of Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur yesterday.

Agitating locals blocked the tracks demanding a gatekeeper at the crossing. Later, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

The wounded are Faruk, 35, the truck driver; and the train passengers -- Bristi 17; Arpan, 7; Daya Rani Pando, 17; Nasrin Akter, 28; Ramiza Begum, 52; Khodeza Begum, 30; Alam, 27; Moslem Uddin, 45; and Akram Hossain, 32.

The wounded were rushed to Parbatipur Health Complex while 10 were admitted with the upazila health complex. Later, Faruk and Khodeza were shifted to Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital as their condition deteriorated.

Railway authorities suspect either the driver lost control over the wheel or the truck's brakes failed to function. The truck was dragged around 300 metres before the train came to a halt.



Help save Limon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unable to bear the costs of treatment, Limon Hossain's parents have appealed for financial help to all conscientious people of the society.

On March 23, 16-year old college student Limon from Chhatura of Jhalakathi was shot in the leg by members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) as he went to bring back his family calf near his house.

Following the incident, Rab filed two cases against Limon accusing him of possessing firearms and obstructing law enforcers from performing their professional duty.

Limon's leg had to be amputated and he is now undergoing treatment at Dhaka Pangu Hospital. Ain o Salish Kendra, a non-government organisation, is providing free legal support to Limon.

Any donation can be sent to Mst Henora (Limon's mother), Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd, Account # 148101291570.

Memorial meet on Prof Nooruddin Bss, Dhaka

A memorial meeting on Prof QAIM Nooruddin, the pioneer of journalism education in the country, will be held today. 'The Friends of 70' has arranged the meeting at 4:00pm at TSC Cafeteria of the university marking the 9th death anniversary of Prof Nooruddin.



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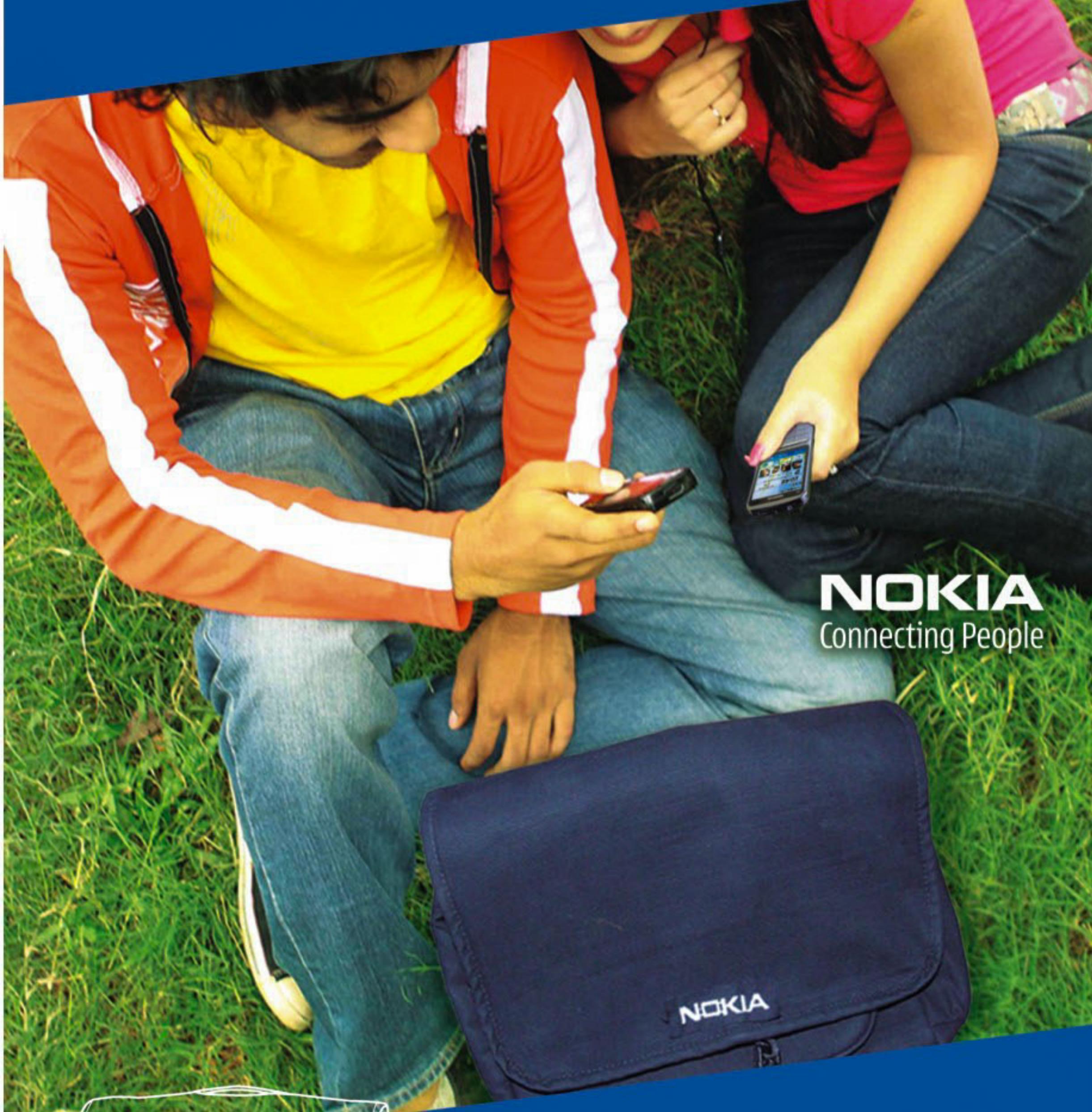
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