

**\$14.85m Australian support for health**

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Australia will provide AUD14.85 million to International Centre for Diarrheal Diseases, Bangladesh (icddr,b) for improving health of the poor both in Bangladesh and abroad.

To this respect, the Australian government has signed an agreement with icddr,b to provide the Dhaka-based health research institution with AUD14.85 million over the next four years - a significant increase in Australia's support for the organisation, says a press release yesterday.

"I am very pleased that Australia is increasing its core support to icddr,b - an impressive institution that makes a very significant contribution to improving health of the poor both in Bangladesh and abroad," said Rachel Payne, head of AusAID, at the Australian High Commission in Dhaka.

The Australian aid program in Bangladesh has grown considerably over recent years - more than doubling to AUD92 million since 2007.



This photo snapped yesterday shows that an electric transformer has been set up in the middle of the road instead of electric pole at Uttar Mugdapara in the city creating obstacles to movement of vehicles as well as commuters.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

**Three get 4 yrs' RI for attempt to grab house of journalist**

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Three people were sentenced to four years' rigorous imprisonment on Tuesday for an attempt to grab a house of former executive editor of the now-defunct Bangladesh Observer in May 2008.

First Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate AHM Habibur Rahman Bhuiyan handed down the sentence at a packed courtroom.

The convicts are Shahjahan Mollah, Shahjahan Siraj and Enamul Haq Kajol. Of them, Shahjahan was present while two others were absent during delivery of the verdict.

The court cancelled bail of Shahjahan Mollah, now on bail, and ordered to send him to jail with a conviction warrant.

The three were convicted and sentenced for an attempt to grab a house of Abdur Rahim, making forged documents. The three were also accused of an attempt to sell the property of Rahim to a real estate company with a fake power of attorney.

The punishment of the fugitives will be effective from the day of their arrest or surrender, the court said.

Rahim who was present at the court, expressed his satisfaction with the verdict.

Rahim filed a fraud case against the three with Gulshan Police Station on May 5 in 2008 on charge of an attempt to grab his 12 kathas of land where he had been living for over four decades.

The investigation officer pressed charges against the three on November 10 in 2008. The court recorded statements of 11 prosecution witnesses including complainant of the case.

**'Reforms in police a must to fight rising crimes'**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The police forces should be reformed so that it can combat the emerging and transnational crimes, speaker told a conference Tuesday.

Police Reform Programme (PRP) hosted the three-day conference on "Sustainable police reform in Bangladesh: From global experiences to local strategies" launched Tuesday at the city's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel.

In his speech, UNDP Country Director SK Murthy expressed pleasure on the theme of the conference -- responding to human trafficking and emerging crimes.

He quoted a Unicef report as saying that each month about 400 women and children in Bangladesh fall victim to both internal and international trafficking. Three lakh

Bangladeshi women and children aged 12-30 had been trafficked to India while another two lakh were sold in Pakistan in the last 10 years, he added.

The UNDP official also pointed out that Bangladesh Police is governed by an age-old Act promulgated in 1861, and laid emphasis on experience sharing on how modernisation of relevant legislation and regulations might play a critical role in ensuring sustainable police reform and fighting emerging crimes.

PRP's National Project Director Mokhesur Rahman said the conference puts stress on four focus areas -- organisational reform, community policing, enhancing serious crimes investigation, and responding to human trafficking and

other emerging crimes.

Participants from Canada, Australia, South Africa, Thailand and Cambodia attended the inaugural function of the conference among others.

Home Minister Sahara Khatun addressed the conference as the chief guest while State Minister Shamsul Hoque Tuku and PRP project manager Henk van Zyl also spoke.

The PRP started in 2005 with the aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Bangladesh Police by supporting the transition from a colonial to democratic policing model. The second phase of PRP has been in progress since 2009.

**Withdraw decision to withhold DAP**

Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers yesterday urged the government to withdraw the decision of withholding effectiveness of Detailed Area Plan (DAP) formulated by Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) under Chittagong Metropolitan Master Plan.

They also protested the decision at a press conference, organised by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolan (BAPA), at Chittagong Press Club (CPC).

The parliamentary standing committee on the housing and public works ministry on July 15 decided to withhold the DAP and revive the master plan of 1961.

Speakers said the DAP of Chittagong has been remaining effective since December 21, 2008 by a gazette notification. It is "unethical decision" after gazette notification, they added.

They said if the DAP is withheld, the dream of healthy and environment friendly city for the dwellers would not come true.

Vice chancellor of East Delta University Sikander Khan, town planner Zarina Hossain, Engineer ABM Baset, Engineer Subash Barua, Advocate Akhter Kabir Chowdhury, Quamar Banu and Nazma Suriya Khan spoke, among others, at the press conference.

**Unilever funds setting up OT, ICU**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Unilever Bangladesh Ltd has sponsored setting up of a modern operation theatre complex and intensive care unit (ICU) to upgrade the existing capabilities of "Ma o Shishu Hospital" in Chittagong.

The complex includes four special beds with an advanced ICU to provide high quality medicare facilities for critically ill patients.

Chairman and Managing Director of Unilever Rakesh Mohan yesterday inaugurated the complex and ICU at the hospital while Vice Chairman of the hospital Dr. M.A. Taher Khan was in the chair.

Unilver Human Resources Director, Jerry Jose, Acting General Secretary of the hospital Nur Mohammad, Aminur Rahman, Rezaul Karim Azad, Kazi Saiful Islam, Shahabuddin and Morshed Hossain also spoke.



Chairman and Managing Director of Unilever Rakesh Mohan visits the intensive care unit of "Ma o Shishu Hospital" in Chittagong yesterday after inaugurating it.

PHOTO: STAR

**Japanese woman found dead**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of a Japanese woman was found hanging in a flat in Sector 11 of Uttara in the city yesterday.

The deceased is Fato Makiko, 34, who came here in Bangladesh last month on business purposes, said police.

Officer-in-Charge Khandaker Rezaul Hasan said, on information, they broke open the door of the flat and found Fato hanging by the neck with a cable from a lock situated on the top of the bathroom door.

She was living alone in the flat she rented this month. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy while the Japanese embassy has been informed, he said.

An unnatural death case was filed in this connection.

**Bangladesh gets Best New Comer Award**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh achieved the Best New Comer Award in the 42nd International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) held in Thailand from 11 to 17 July.

The country also received two Honourable Mention Awards in its maiden participation in the 45-year-old competition, says a press release.

Five Bangladeshi students represented the country at the contest competing with representatives from 86 countries.

They were selected through National Physics Olympiad organised by Oxford International School in Dhaka and attended a two-month training course before participating at the contest.

**3 bakeries fined**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A mobile court fined three bakery owners Tk 2.15 lakh for manufacturing adulterated and substandard food items and maintaining unhygienic condition in its factories in BSCIC industrial area of Rajshahi yesterday.

Mujibar Rahman, manager of Bishal Biscuit Factory, was fined Tk 1 lakh and Tarik Aziz of Ruchita Backery and Agro and Dairy Food Industries was fined Tk 1 lakh for manufacturing and marketing adulterated and substandard food items and unhygienic condition. Abdur Rahman of Ratul Bakery was fined Tk 15,000 for selling expired date food items and stealing weight.

**BNP, LDP to forge**

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decided to form a six-member joint committee to work out the next course of action, to be finalised by the respective party chiefs.

The decision came from a meeting between Acting Secretary General of BNP Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and LDP President Oli Ahmad MP, held at the latter's residence in the city's Mohakhali.

Oli said after the meeting and thanked BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia for taking the initiative for greater unity.

"Both BNP and LDP have opposed the latest amendment as the ruling party has made the country's charter a bio-data," mentioned Oli adding, "They introduced some inflexible provisions which are unacceptable."

He insisted the government must cancel the "one-sided and illegal" 15th amendment. The lawmaker hinted to go for an anti-

government agitation to meet one-point demand. Terming the meeting successful, Mirza Alamgir hoped the unity would soon lead the way to protest the 15th amendment and other wrongdoings of the government.

City BNP convener Sadeque Hossain Khoka and LDP Secretary General Jahanara Begum were present in the meeting among others. BNP has recently initiated a move to bring like-minded political parties together for launching a

movement especially for reinstating the caretaker government system.

Oli, a founding member of BNP, left the party along with 13 other BNP lawmakers and floated LDP on October 26 in 2006, a day before completion of the tenure of the then BNP-led four party alliance government. He blamed the BNP leadership for corruption and misrule. LDP later sided with Awami League but contested the general election separately and won a parliamentary seat.



**MASTERMIND VACANCY**

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(Uttara & Dhanmondi Branch)

**1. FACULTY POSITIONS:**

**Physics, Biology, English & Bangla (Male/Female)**

Candidates must be smart, fluent in English and capable of teaching up to A-Level. Minimum qualification : Masters & 2 years experience teaching in English medium school. Candidates having English medium background will be given preference.

Interested candidates are requested to drop their C.V in the school drop box by Thursday, the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

Contact Place : House # 5, Road # 12 (New) 31 (Old), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka.