

Scientific creations stir visitors' curiosity

ARUN BIKASH DEY and TAREK MAHMUD, Chittagong

Young scientists were bombarded with questions from curious visitors as they put on show their creations at Chattagram O Bigyan Charcha (Science in Chittagong) festival Friday.

Abdul Awal and friends, including Farzana Parvin and Omar Faruk, from Chittagong University showcased what they called "Ultrasonic Object Detector".

The device, Awal said, could produce signals as soon as an object enters its four-metre range. Users can apply the object detector as a door opener and a receiver tool for visually challenged people or have it installed in toys and other security appliances.

It takes only Tk 500 to Tk 700 to build the device, said Awal, who came with his team from the Department of Applied Physics, Electronics and Communication Engineering at CU.

Like Awal and friends, 1,157 students from 47 educational institutions of Chittagong took part in different events of the daylong science festival held at Fulki auditorium Friday. It was part of The Daily Star-Odommo Chattagram (Indomitable Chittagong) programme.

Dwaipayyan Ghosh, Pappu Saha, Sunny Rodrigues and friends, all class VIII students of Saint Placid School, were displaying their project "Perfect House", which needs no electricity from outside. The house taps sunlight to generate power for itself.

The house also consists of environment-friendly garbage treatment and water management systems, and thus making, the team said, it a perfect house.

A team from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Chittagong University has developed a software tool called "Result Management System". The software, as claimed by the students, can ease the process of publishing results.

Another project exhibited was "Automatic Entrance with Counter and Limiter" developed by a team of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at International Islamic University Chittagong (IIUC). The device automatically shuts itself after a certain number of items as commanded pass through it.

The science festival also included "Robotic Show", where ASROW, a science club at Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (Cuet), and Premier University Robotics Club presented different projects.

The ASROW team presented "Dual Tone

Multi Frequency (DTMF) Control Robotic Arm". Factories and mills, the team said, could use the apparatus for carrying hot iron or dangerous items. Another Cuet team presented what they called "Line Follower Robot".

Two more Cuet teams displayed "Industrial Product Counter Robot" Digital Thermometre project and "Smart Home Security System" at the festival respectively.

Students Climate Cell, Cuet, exhibited "Climate Change Show", while students of Chittagong University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (CUVAS) presented "Experimental animal and alternative medicine exhibition".

IDEA CONTEST

The science festival also awarded three best ideas among 10 concepts which have been developed by young scientists from different institutions of the port city.

The idea of "Hybrid Rapid Sand Filter" by Mahmudul Hasan, a student of the Department of Forestry and Environmental Science at CU, was adjudged the top one.

Hasan showed in his concept how water could be purified in a simpler and easier way, and how it could remove the crisis of drinking water in future.

Winning the second prize was "Automatic Money Receiver", an idea of Kawsar Hamid Miji, a student of the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) at Cuet.

The device enables clients to withdraw cash from bank accounts using a separate password, and thus eliminating the hassles of cheque transactions and saving time, he said.

The third prize was won jointly by Biplab Roy, student of Department of Marketing at CU, for his "Green Mosquito Coil" idea and Khalilur Rahman, student of the Department Pharmacy of IIUC, for his concept of "Vita Juice".

Green Mosquito Coil is an environmentally clean item, which eliminates mosquitoes and avoids producing dangerous smoke. The production cost is also reasonable.

Khalilur's "Vita Juice" differs from ordinary juices in the market in that it is nutritious and contains a number of food values. It is consumable for people of all ages.

More ideas appearing in the Idea Contest were "Idea for the Development of Chittagong", "Herbal Fat Reducer", "Digitalisation of Academic Institutions in Bangladesh", "Renewable Source of Energy", "Automatic Power in Road Speed Breaker", and "Bio-Detergent".



Babul Jaladas and his troupe play drums at a three-day musical show, "Ananda Sandhya", which began on DC Hill premises in the port city yesterday. The Daily Star organised the programme as part of the ongoing Odommo Chattagram festival.

PHOTO: STAR

ODOMMO CHATTA GRAM

Feast of flavours ends

SHAHENOUR AKTHER URMI and TAREK MAHMUD, Chittagong

The aroma of a myriad Chittagong dishes wafted down Chittagong MA Aziz Gymnasium for the last time yesterday with the end of the three-day food festival.

Organised as part of The Daily Star's "Odommo Chattagram" festival, the food fiesta brought forth foodies from around the country to sample mouth watering and sumptuous dishes prepared by Chittagong's finest food connoisseurs.

Chittagong Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CWCCI) coordinated the gastronomic festival which contained 40 stalls presenting local flavours of the Chittagong food heaven, including "Mezban" meat curry, dry fish, "pithas" (cakes) and drinks.

Keeping up with the dishes were the crowds who appeared in their hundreds to soak up the feast of flavours.

"It was a wonderful day for me. I loved the Isa Kabab, which is shrimp cooked in bamboo shoots, in the stall Bongo Roshona. It was incredible," Usha, a Chittagong University

student.

"Bongo Roshona" owner Ivy Hasan, a fashion designer cum passionate cook, said "Isa Kabab" is a part of the indigenous cookery. They had several more dishes to offer like "Kura Kabab" (chicken in bamboo) and "Momo" (rice mixed with shrimp, chicken and dry fish).

Not to be outdone, "Meridian" and "Well Park" served their specials, "Sweet and Sour Chicken Balls" and "Irani Kabab".

"The Irani Kabab tastes like no other grilled meat I had before. It was unique," said Asma, a university student.

"Dhaba" presented cooked rice soaked in yogurt as "Doi Panta Baat". The side dishes consisted six varieties of "Bhartas" (mashed-spiced vegetables), topped by "Doi Fuska", a crispy snack made of yogurt and chick peas.

Dishes showcased by "Well Park", "Sabina's Kitchen", "Karu Shoili", "Hotel Agrabad" and "Food Mart" focused on fast food, mostly chicken and beef, to match the faster pace of

city lifestyle.

"Aparupa Caterers" displayed the many forms of dry fishes at present available in the country.

Visitors found the taste of edible mushrooms in unique forms, as in pickles, jellies, coffees, soups and a sweetened dessert "Faluda". Two brothers, Abu Saleh and Sahid Md Ali, of Chittagong's Patiya upazila, came up with the recipes in their stall, "Meem Mushroom Zone".

The stall "Chatgaia Khana" offered "Mezban meat" with rice bread and different types of "pithas" as dessert to go along, including "Gurapitha", made of palm

fruit and milk.

The variation of "pithas" unfolded at the booths of "Shaadi Events", "Ad Home Service" and "Fashion Max".

Guests savoured around 18 types of "pithas" made from an assortment of ingredients like rice, milk, palm fruit, coconut and molasses. They came in striking shapes, colours and names like "Puli", "Pakon", "Taal", "Golap",

"Pata", "Maas", "Chittoi" and "Moira".

"The Naru (balls of sweetened coconut grains) in the Hot & Cool booth was amazing," said a college student, Razib.

Visitors with a sweet tooth also found solace in the hot "Jilapis", a coiled dessert filled with syrup, in the "Seetara Food" booth.

"Zebu's Rannaghar" unveiled several handmade sauces made from unique items, like green mangoes and carrots alongside pickles of various fruits and vegetables.

Nearly all the stallholders kept juices made from fruits such as water-melons, oranges and green mangoes and from yogurt to quench the thirst of visitors in the mid-day heat.

"We aimed at highlighting the culinary traditions of Chittagong. It was great to hear so many people comment on the fantastic crowd and stalls," said CWCCI Director Mahmuda Hadi.

Ruhi Mostafa, owner of "Essential Catering and Handicraft", said, "We had a fantastic festival. Not only was it a local festival, but it was one of the best organised events we ever attended."



Winners pose with BGC Trust University vice chancellor Saroj Kanti Singha Hazari, chief guest at Chattagram O Bigyan Charcha programme, organised as part of The Daily Star-Odommo Chattagram at Fulki school yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Govt urged not to evict slum dwellers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several eminent citizens yesterday urged the government not to evict Korail slum dwellers without arranging for their rehabilitation, says a press release.

In a statement, they said low-income people were suffering due to the eviction especially the HSC examinees. These types of sudden eviction were creating social instability in the country.

They expressed deep concern over the issue and urged the government to follow the High Court's order which directed it not to evict the slum dwellers without ensuring their rehabilitation, the release added.

The signatories to the statements are Syed Abul Moksud, Prof Nazrul Islam, Engineer Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah, Prof MM Akash, Anu Muhammad, Rubaiyat Ferdous, Abu Naser Khan, Dibalok Singha, AN Rasheda, Rokeya Kabir and Engineer M Shamsul Alam.

3-day cultural show begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A three-day cultural show, "Ananda Sandhya" (entertainment evening), part of "The Daily Star-Odommo Chattagram" festival, began at DC Hill premises in the port city yesterday.

The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam inaugurated the programme while Prothom Alo Resident Editor Abul Momen was present as a special guest.

Mahfuz Anam said, "The cultural programme will highlight Chittagong's rich music genres, dance, and the traditional lifestyle of indigenous people".

The first day of the music evening featured popular local songs, maijbhandari songs, and kawali (spiritual songs).

Poet Kamrul Hasan Badal, organiser of "Ananda Sandhya", emceed the programme.

The festival opened with a beating of drums by the troupe of Babul Jaladas, followed by the performances of noted local artists Kanta Nandi, Babul Akhtar, and Shimul Shil.

Prem Sundar Baisnab, son of Shyam Sundar Baisnab, and Susmita presented local duets - "Bhaitha Dhari" and "Pat Pat".

Artist Shimul Shil performed his well-acclaimed song "Dui Nayner Mon". He also rendered the popular local song, "Rahamater Bristi", among others.

The programme ended with the performance of "qawwalis" sung by Mannan Qawwals and Ahmed Nur Qawwals.

Today's session will feature instrumentals, Nazrul and Tagore songs, and modern songs to be performed by prominent Chittagong artists.

Children festival held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Children Festival was held at Fulki premises as part of the ongoing "The Daily Star-Odommo Chattagram Festival" yesterday.

The programme entertained children and involved them in such festivities that they could learn the history, heritage, and prospects of Chittagong.

A total of 200 students from 30 schools of the port city took part in the programme, which included poetry recitals, drawing competition, and cultural events.

"Kids Chittagong", a theatre group, performed a drama at the festival, while Fulki students performed a chorus. A magic show was also held, performed by Rajib Bosuk.

The Children Festival was followed by a prize giving ceremony.

The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam, Prothom Alo Resident Editor Abul Momen, The Daily Star Chittagong Bureau Chief Raisul Haq Bahar, and Sunshine Grammar School Principal Safia Ghazi Rahman were present on the occasion.

A cordial step towards success



The Daily Star
আদ্য চট্টগ্রাম
উৎসব

Chittagong- the capital of commerce have long been away from focus. The Daily Star has cared to bring this city of sophistication in limelight and be lighted in its own pride again, through The Daily Star 'ODOMMO CHOTTOGRAM UTSHAB'. Sanmar had been constantly trying to work for the advancement of this peaceful city in case of making better constructions and thus giving a better neighborhood.

Hats off to The Daily Star. Sanmar rejoices its Heartfelt Gratitude, for making this whole community feel proud.

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