

# Automation of BRTA to begin next year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The automation of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) under a US\$2.7 million project is expected to begin in the second quarter of 2013.

Korea International Cooperation Agency (Koica) will fund the "Digital BRTA" project, says a press release.

An Implementation Survey Team from Korea visited Bangladesh from July 29 to August 2 to finalise the project's scopes and undertakings.

Under this project, a high-tech Central Database Centre will be created at the newly constructed BRTA head office in Dhaka, while Koica will provide software and hardware and train BRTA officials in Korea for capacity development.

opment.

The successful implementation of the project will make BRTA operation more efficient, cost effective, reliable and transparent, the release said.

The Digital Database Centre will preserve all licences and vehicles related information, and provide all required information to BRTA management in shortest possible time.

On an updated BRTA web-portal, people will get one-stop, fastest and accurate service to know driving licence test results, present status of fitness certificates, and transport related tax payment information.

The project is expected to integrate Bangladesh Traffic Police to enforce traffic rules more efficiently and help them track illegal driving licences and vehicle registrations.

# Former CU VC declared unwanted

CU CORRESPONDENT

Activists of Chittagong University (CU) unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday at a press conference protested an article written by former vice-chancellor of CU Prof Abdul Mannan and declared him persona non grata at CU.

At the press conference held at CU Journalists' Association, CU BCL General Secretary M A Khaled said Prof Mannan should prove what he wrote in the article.

In the article published in Prothom Alo on Wednesday, Prof Mannan wrote that BCL should be banned at CU as the activists shelter Shibir men and are involved in various illicit activities on the campus.

# DHAKA UNIVERSITY MCJ dept celebrates golden jubilee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism (MCJ) of Dhaka University celebrated its 50th founding anniversary yesterday.

The event began with a colourful procession brought out from the base of Aparajeya Bangla in the morning.

Moments ago, Vice Chancellor Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique, also a faculty member of the department, inaugurated the year-long celebration programmes which include seminars, exhibitions, cultural programmes and a communication fair.

A discussion and scholarship awarding ceremony was held at TSC with Prof Akhtar Sultana, chairperson of MCJ department, in the chair.

Prof Arefin Siddique addressed the programme as chief guest while Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed, dean of social science faculty; Dr Shakawat Ali Khan, senior professor of the department; and Swapan Kumar Das, general secretary of DU MCJ Alumni Association, also spoke on the occasion.

Saiful Haque, lecturer of the department, conducted the programme.

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