

Press Council annual report placed in JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Bangladesh Press Council is becoming an ineffective and powerless institution as press-related complaints and cases are now being filed in general courts.

Fatulla Sramik League president arrested

President of the Fatulla Regional Sramik League, Kausar Ahmed Polash was arrested on Saturday night when he came to Fatulla police station. Police said Polash came to the police station in connection with Pagla truck drivers union election scheduled to be held on July 18.

Justice Md Mozammel Haq, MP, attributed the ineffectiveness of the institution to its limited power. The report was placed at parliament yesterday. The chairman in the report noted that a proposal was sent to the government to amend the Press Council Act, 1974 for enhancing the power of the council to make it more meaningful and effective. But the government has taken no step yet for brining in the necessary amendment to the act, he added. The report noted that the council was facing difficulties in proper functioning at a rented house with a staff-strength of 15 only. It was mentioned in the report that Judicial Committee of the Bangladesh Press Council held 18 meetings while Finance Committee met once in 2001. Other committees of the council including the Newspaper Standing Committee, Law Evaluation Committee, Seminar Committee, Rules Committee, Publication Committee, Disciplinary Committee, and Recruitment Committee did not meet for a single occasion, it added.



Awami League presidium member Abdus Samad Azad talks to Environment Minister Shahjahan Siraj before the namaz-e-janaza of Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed on the Supreme Court premises yesterday. Barrister Ishtiaq died of old-age complications at BIRDEM Hospital on Saturday.

'Make adolescents aware of reproductive health risks to prevent AIDS'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Participants at a discussion have said the adolescents should be kept informed about the reproductive health risks to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. The present generation will be vulnerable to AIDS if they are kept out of sexual information because of shyness, the speakers added. The discussion on 'A billion adolescents: The right to health, information and services' was organised by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to mark the World Population Day.

and adolescence health. Suneeta Mukherjee, UNFPA representative to Bangladesh, said AIDS spreads its wing when lack of information regarding AIDS/ STD exists in the country. Parents and teachers have a great role in preventing AIDS and giving right information to the young people, she added. Speaking as chief guest, Mohammed Fazlur Rahman, state minister for youth and sports, said we must groom up the young people properly so that they can build up the country. Speaking as special guest, Major General (Retd) ZA Khan, chairman of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, said if we fail to disseminate information regarding reproductive health to the young people, we will fail to control population growth and spread of HIV/AIDS. Mohammed Fazlur Rahman, director general of family planning directorate, said institutions have to be developed to provide service and information to the young people.



Left Democratic Front took to the streets yesterday protesting the move to shut down state-owned mills and factories and send troops to Iraq.

WEATHER TODAY Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country till 6pm today.				
Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also expected at places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Sylhet and Chittagong divisions. Met Office said predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.				
Highest temperature 33.9 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 24.0 degree at Bogra and Rangpur.				
The sun sets in the capital at 6:49pm today and rises at 5:20am tomorrow.				
Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:				
City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.7	26.0	89	79
Chittagong	32.5	26.0	77	75
Rajshahi	33.0	25.7	98	96
Khulna	31.2	25.8	88	93
Barisal	32.5	26.8	94	98
Sylhet	28.6	25.6	92	83
Cox's Bazar	30.7	26.0	85	90



The ruling four-party alliance took out a procession in the city yesterday to protest violence by the opposition Awami League.

Journalists under death threat demand security

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna Seven journalists who have received death threats from the extremists submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner of Pirojpur on Friday night demanding security for them. At an emergency meeting on Thursday night, the speakers demanded immediate arrest of the extremists who issued death threats to the newsmen. The meeting was held at the Pirojpur Press Club with its President Advocate Shahidul Alam Niru in the chair. Police Superintendent Abdullah Al Azad Chowdhury told The Daily Star over phone that the detective branch of his department will submit an inquiry report in this regard on July 17. He also said that special security measures have been taken for the seven journalists.

Khoka welcomes JICA's move to make Dhaka a clean city

BSS, Dhaka Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka MP yesterday urged the city dwellers as well as government and non-government organisations to make their best efforts towards developing Dhaka as a modern and clean city. "Dhaka city dwellers should be more vigorous in their efforts to turn the capital as an ideal abode for the coming generations," he said during a discussion with a Japanese delegation at the Nagarbhawan here. The nine-member delegation of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) held a discussion with Khoka on "Study on Solid Waste Management in Dhaka City." He welcomed JICA's initiative to make Dhaka a clean city by removing garbage in a planned way and asked the DCC officials to provide all supports in this regard. The JICA delegation members expressed their keen interest in making Dhaka a clean city by implementing an appropriate master plan, a DCC press release said.

JU employees go on three-day strike today

JU CORRESPONDENT The employees of Jahangirnagar University (JU) go on a three-day strike from today to press home their 55-point demand, including regular promotion. The JU Employees' Association and the JU Employees' Union jointly called the strike after the deadline to meet their demand passed yesterday. On June 23, they set the deadline for the JU authority. The employees also demanded amendment to promotion rules. The two unions have been agitating for the one and a half years to realise their demands. They will hold a meeting at Supari Tala on the campus at around 7:30 am today.

NDI team calls on UGC chairman

A four-member delegation of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) called on University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman Dr Mohammad Asaduzzaman at his office yesterday, says a press release. The team led by James V Oliver, resident representative of NDI, discussed possible collaborative programmes with different universities. The other delegation members are Deborah Healy, director, political party programme, Dr Stanley Bach, senior consultant, and Saiful Karim, programme coordinator. Prof Dr Dalem Ch. Barman, chairman, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Dhaka University, was also present.

Scholarship for RU students

Rajshahi University Old Students Association will provide scholarships to three meritorious but poor students studying in masters final year of Rajshahi University for one year at the rate of Tk 1,000 per month, says a press release. Interested candidates are requested to submit their application forms through the head of the department to the President, Rajshahi University Old Students Association, Swanirbhar Bangladesh, 5/5 Block-C, Lalmatia, Dhaka-1207, Phone (9116806) by July 15. All applications will accompany insolvency certificate from union parishad or ward commissioner, mark-sheet of all examinations and a self-introductory letter by the candidates in this respect.



Chief Justice Khandaker Mahmud-ul-Hasan yesterday administers oath to Justice MM Ruhul Amin who was appointed a judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

DHAKA TODAY

Jean-Luc Godard retrospective

Film show

Drama festival

Discussion

IUB seminar

Rotary meeting

Installation ceremony

Workshop



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