

President asks people of all religious faiths to ensure harmony

BSS, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday said a peaceful social and religious atmosphere existed in Bangladesh.

The president said the people of all religious faiths should contribute to ensure harmony, social peace and development.

He was talking to the members of the Chittagong Purnachar International Buddhist Temple Management Committee who called on him at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Founder president of the Temple Sreemat Sattayaprio Mahathero led the 10-member delegation.

The government has taken a number of development projects for welfare of the people belonging to different religious faiths, he said.

He said yearly donations are being given to various places of worship for maintenance and development of mosques, temples and churches.

Iajuddin said the proposed 'Atish Dipankar Science and Technology University' was named after a Buddhist personality of high repute at home and abroad.

He wished early completion of the Purnachar International Buddhist Temple and the guest house in Chittagong.

The delegation members told the president that late President Ziaur Rahman had donated the land for building a Buddhist temple and a guest house of international standard in Chittagong.

The members of the delegation included advocate Nepal Chandra Barua, Deshpri Barua Chowdhury, Chandrayoti Sraman, Joysen Barua, Ananda Mitra Talukdar, Dolon Barua, Arindom Ther, Sugat Bikash Chowdhury and Sreemant Barua.

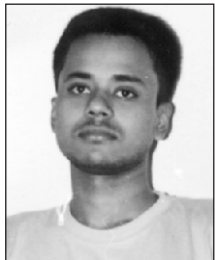
BUET classes resume Aug 23

UNB, Dhaka

Classes of different levels and terms of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) will resume on August 23.

The students have been asked to complete their registrations in their respective departments on August 17, 18 and 20, said a press release today.

Appeal for help



A college student who has been suffering from cancer appeals to the generous people for financial assistance for his treatment, says a press release.

Sajal, a brilliant student of Shaikh Burhanuddin Post Graduate College, seeks help from the affluent section of the society as his poor father cannot afford to pay the treatment cost ranging from Tk 6 lakh to 8 lakh.

Interested persons have been requested to send contributions to the following account: A/C No 11100002179, Shahjalal Bank, Mitford Branch, Dhaka.



Visitors at the painting exhibition of Japanese artist Obata Takashir that began at the Institute of Fine Arts yesterday.

54 species of fish on verge of extinction: Minister Fisheries fortnight begins tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

The government has a plan to release fish fries worth Tk 2.80 crore during the current season in different water bodies.

This was disclosed by State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Ukil Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan at a press conference yesterday at the Fisheries Directorate in connection with the observance of 'Fisheries Fortnight'.

The fisheries fortnight will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Khaleda Zia tomorrow.

Sattar said during the fiscal

2001-2002, the country produced 18.90 metric tons of fish - 6.88 MT from open waters, 7.86MT from cultivable water bodies and 4.16MT from sea water.

He told the newsmen that at least 54 species of traditional fish were on the verge of extinction. However, he said efforts are underway to protect them through artificial insemination through other research pursuits.

He said 1.20 crore people were directly and indirectly dependent for their life and living on the fish sector.

And as such, he said, the government had imparted training to two lakh fish growers by setting up 8,000

fish villages in 300 upazilas under 54 districts with financial and technical assistance from World Bank, DFDI and other financial institutions.

The state minister said the country earned foreign exchange to the tune of Tk 1637.14 crore by exporting 41,482 metric tons of frozen fish, shrimps and other fish resources during the fiscal 2001-2002.

He said the government has taken various plans to develop fish resources, including setting up of 50 sanctuaries in different rivers, haors and other water bodies.

Death anniversary



The third death anniversary of Dr Syeda Firoza Begum, a renowned gynaecologists, will be observed today, says a press release.

Qurankhwani, doa mahfil and food distribution among the orphans have been organised at her village home at Chandina in Comilla district.

M Wazed Ali Miajee

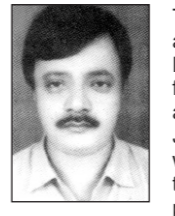


The third death anniversary of M Wazed Ali Miajee, a renowned sports personality of this sub-continent, will be observed today, says a press release.

Qurankhwani, milad mahfil and food distribution to different orphanages have been organised on this occasion.

Different clubs and organisations will also hold milad mahfils and memorial discussions.

Monir Uddin



The fourth death anniversary of Monir Uddin, a freedom fighter and drug trader of Jamalpur town, will be observed today, says a press release.

Doa mahfil and food distribution at orphanage and madrassah have been organised on this occasion.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

DHAKA TODAY section containing various event listings like Film show, Rotary meeting, Monsoon song, Seminar, Publication ceremony, Discussion, AL meeting, Jubo Dal meeting, and Inauguration.



BADC Diploma Engineers' Association forms a human chain in front of the Krishi Bhaban at Motijheel yesterday demanding reinstatement of 550 diploma engineers.



LGED Chief Engineer Md Shahidul Hassan inaugurates a ten-day training on AutoCAD system for the assistant engineers and upazila engineers of LGED in Dhaka on Saturday. The Local Government Engineering Department and Japan International Cooperation Agency jointly organised the training programme.



Management Net, an organisation of the ex-students of Department of Management Studies, Dhaka University, organised a voluntary blood donation programme on the university campus on Friday.

Programming contest held

The AIUB Inter-University Programming Contest was held in the city for the second time on Saturday, says a press release.

A total of 82 teams from 32 public and private universities took part in the competition. Of them, five teams were comprised of female students.

The American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) in association with the Prothom Alo, a Bangla daily, organised the contest.

Founder Chairman of AIUB Dr Anwarul Abedin inaugurated the competition.

Carmen Z Lamagna, vice chancellor of AIUB, Matiur Rahman, editor of the Prothom Alo, Hasanul A Hasan, Ishtiaque Abedin and Nadia Anwar, founder directors of AIUB, and Dr Tafazzal Hossain, pro-vice chancellor, were present at the inaugural ceremony.

AutoCAD training for LGED engs begins

A ten-day training on AutoCAD system for assistant engineers and upazila engineers of LGED began in the city yesterday, says a press release.

Organised jointly by LGED and JICA, the training aims at increasing the efficiency of engineers in computer aided design and drawing.

Kanezo Takeuchi, team leader of rural development engineering centre, highlighted the importance of learning AutoCAD system.

Hajime Nabeta, deputy resident representative of JICA, said AutoCAD was extremely useful for preparation of different designs.

LGED Chief Engineer Md Shahidul Hassan thanked JICA for extending cooperation to infrastructure development of his organisation.

The inaugural session was also addressed by Addl Chief Engineer Saroj Kumar Sarker and Superintending Engineer Md Wahidur Rahman.



Founder Chairman of AIUB Dr Anwarul Abedin inaugurates the AIUB Inter-University Programming Contest on Saturday.

'Withdraw decision to lay off 3 jute mills'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Samajtantrik Sramik Front (SSF) yesterday urged the government to withdraw its decision to lay off three jute mills in Khulna.

In a statement, SSF President Abdullah Sarkar and Secretary General Zahedul Hoque Milu, urged the people to resist the move.

They said the government is closing industries one after another on the advice of World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Congratulations



Mohammad Intiaz Farooq has achieved a first class honours degree in law from Cardiff University, says a press release.

He is going to Oxford University (St. Catherine's College) for the degree of B.C.L. which will lead to a Ph.D. degree.

He is the only son of Mohammad Ozair Farooq, a senior advocate and former president of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

WEATHER TODAY section with a weather forecast for Dhaka and other cities, including temperature and humidity data.