



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina speaks at a discussion marking the National Mourning Day at Dhanmondi yesterday. The Bangladesh Krishak League organised the event.

PHOTO: STAR

Lankan envoy calls on Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Sri Lankan High Commissioner Gaminie Munasinghe yesterday made a courtesy call on Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her Dhanmondi residence.

They discussed matters of bilateral interests and ways to expand cooperation in various fields between Dhaka and Colombo.

During the meeting, the former prime minister recalled her government efforts to boost economic and trade relations between the two countries, said Jawadul Karim, press adviser to Sheikh Hasina.

AL general secretary Abdul Jalil MP, presidium member Kazi Zafarullah MP, organising secretary Saber Hossain Chowdhury and international affairs secretary Syed Abul Hossain MP were present.

1,900 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested a total of 1,900 people, including five listed criminals, during their countrywide drive in the last 24 hours ending at 6.00am yesterday.

They also recovered 10 firearms, four other weapons and 51 bullets. And nine cases were filed against 20 people under the Arms Act.

Ulan-Dhanmondi cable repaired Power supply to resume by Monday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Power supply through Ulan-Dhanmondi cable under Ulan sub-station of Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) will resume by Monday as repairing work of the cable was completed yesterday, DESA officials said.

The repairing work has been completed at a cost of Tk 90 lakh. Power supply through the underground cable was disrupted on August 6 following the development of two glitches.

The repairing work started on August 19 after an expert from the UK-based cable manufacturing company arrived in Dhaka.

State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Iqbal H Mahmood yesterday visited the site of the repairing work at Malibagh rail crossing on Rampura road.

After the visit, the state minister told the reporters that the installation of an alternative high-quality underground cable line alongside the existing Ulan-Dhanmondi cable is expected to

start in September this year.

He said a project proposal worth Tk 1000 crore has been submitted to the planning commission to modernise the total power sector.

Chinese government is expected to provide credits for implementing the project, he added.

Blood donation programme

A voluntary blood donation programme was jointly organised by the Army, Navy and Air Wings of the Dhaka University BNCC at the BNCC office yesterday, says an ISPR press release.

Chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society Major General Z A Khan (Retd) inaugurated the programme as the chief guest. A total of 30 male and female cadets from the Army, Navy and Air Wings of the Dhaka University BNCC took part in the voluntary blood donation programme.

"We hope to start the work during the tenure of our government which will take around four years to complete," Iqbal said.

He blamed the defaulting consumers alongside the unscrupulous staff and officials of the power sector for the existing power crisis including system loss.

"Without the cooperation of all, it will not be possible to bring the power sector in a stable position," Iqbal added.

DESA Chairman AMA Rob said "We need more sub-stations to tackle the power supply crisis in the capital."

According to DESA, the current load shedding is estimated at 22MW to 25MW per day in the city due to glitches in Ulan-Dhanmondi cable while it remains between 12MW to 15MW normally.

Shab-e-Meraj on night of September 24

UNB, Dhaka

The Shab-e-Meraj will be observed on the night of September 24, as the month of Rajab begins today.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the National Moon Sighting Committee at the Islamic Foundation in the city yesterday with its president and State Minister for Religious Affairs Mosharef Hossain Shahjahan in the chair.

Director General of the Islamic Foundation, Syed Ashraf Ali, Khatib of National Mosque Baitul Mukarram, Maulana Obaidul Haque, and other members of the Moon Sighting Committee were present in the meeting.

The meeting took the decision after reviewing reports received from different district administrations, the head office of the Islamic Foundation and its divisional and district offices and meteorological department, says a press release.

Non-govt teachers threaten tougher programme

UNB, Dhaka

Non-government teachers and employees threatened to launch a tougher programme if their eight-point demand is not met by September 30.

A delegation of the National Front of Teachers and Employees led by Principal Kazi Faruk Ahmed submitted a memorandum to the state minister for education on Thursday.

In the memorandum, they urged the government to hold a meeting with the teachers and employees on the demands. They expressed the hope that the government would meet the demands before their grand rally to be held on September 30.

On Wednesday, another delegation of the Front, led by joint conveners Professor Asadul Haque and Principal Abdur Rashid, submitted a written note to National University Vice Chancellor Dr Aftab Ahmed protesting the approval of 'illegal' removal of Principal Kazi Faruk Ahmed.



Bangladesh Trade Union Federation, Dhaka region, took out a procession yesterday to mark its second council.