



Oli Ahmad awarded Ph.D.

Col. (Retd.) Oli Ahmad, Bir Bikram MP, 65, was awarded Ph.D. degree on September 22 following a six-year study at the Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, United Kingdom, says a press release.

The title of his thesis is 'Revolution, Military Personnel and the War of Liberation in Bangladesh.'

Dr Oli Ahmad was born in 1939 in the well-known Kutub family of Chandanaish, Chittagong.

He completed his schooling at Chandanaish Primary School and Gasbaria NGHE School.

He graduated from Karachi University in 1966 and joined the Pakistan Army while attending the Islamia Law College of Karachi.

A valiant freedom fighter, Dr Oli Ahmad was the first officer to receive the gallantry award 'Bir Bikram' during the liberation war of 1971.

He resigned from the Bangladesh Army to join politics in 1979, although he was due for retirement in 1993.

He was also a minister in Khaleida Zia's first cabinet during 1991-96 period.

He is presently in the UK and will return home on October 6.

Attack on journalists Punishment to JCD cadres demanded

JU CORRESPONDENT

The Jahangirnagar University Journalists Association (JUJA) yesterday at a rally demanded exemplary punishment to the Jatayatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) cadres responsible for attack on journalists during the last two months.

The JUJA leaders at the rally also urged the authorities to reopen its office and handed it over to the elected committee. They also demanded a congenial atmosphere on the campus.

Earlier, the JUJA brought out a silent procession on the campus yesterday protesting JCD attack on Khosru, Shah Alam and Joyee Jasmin, three JU correspondents.

The JCD cadres beat up Billal Khosru, the JU Correspondent of the daily Sangbad on September 14 and Gazi Shah Alam, Banglabazar corre-

spondent, on August 14. The female leaders of JCD also ousted Joyee Jasmeen, Correspondent of the daily New Age, from her room of Pritilata Hall on September 21.

The JCD activists ousted Joyee as she protested the staying of Rebeca Sultana Ria, an outsider and joint secretary of Jahanara Imam Hall.

The authorities shut the JUJA office on July 9 as it was occupied by some journalists having link with JCD on July 7.

Alamgir Swapan, Hadiuzzaman Sourav, Noor Siddique addressed the rally.

Meanwhile, Vice-Chancellor Prof Jasim Uddin Ahmad said Showcause notices have been served on the JCD activists responsible for the attack on Khosru and Joyee and initiative will be taken to reopen the JUJA office.

'BNP-CPC ties to help cement relations'

BSS, Dhaka

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan underscored the need for greater cooperation among leaders of Bangladesh and China to reap maximum benefit.

Mannan Bhuiyan, who is now on a visit to China, said the bonds between Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and Communist Party of China (CPC) are historic and significant.

"The ties between BNP and CPC will help cement relations between the two countries, and their people," he said at dinner hosted by Shanghai unit of CPC last night.

First Joint Secretary of BNP Tareque Rahman, Vice Secretary of CPC Leu Xian and other senior leaders attended the dinner.

Recalling the contribution of China to the economic development of Bangladesh, Bhuiyan said the ties between the two countries were truly established during the government of late president Ziaur Rahman.

The relations were geared up further by Prime Minister Khaleida Zia, he said adding that the existing ties would grow further in future.

Later, they visited industrial city of Purang, which reached peak of the development within 13 years only. They also visited the tallest TV tower of China.

12 UP chairmen to visit China

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twelve Union Parishad chairmen will visit China next month to see the functioning of the local government bodies at the grassroots level and their contribution to the national development.

Officials at the Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives said the UP chairmen would also be given training during their stay in China. Details of the programmes have not yet been finalised.

The ministry has decided to select one chairman each from Dhaka, Narsingdi, Patuakhali, Jhalakathi, Rajshahi, Bogra, Khulna, Jessore, Chuadanga, Moulavibazar, Sylhet and Chittagong districts for the tour.

BNP MPs of those districts have been asked to nominate the UP chairmen, the officials said.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Abdul Halim Mia, a senior consultant of Holy Family Hospital, died of cancer on September 18 at the age of 65.

He was buried at his village home in Boalmari, Faridpur.

Dr Abdul Halim set up a 100-bed hospital in his area to provide health services to the poor.

Qulkhwani

UNB, Dhaka

Qulkhwani of Khan Mohammad Lutfur Rahman, an educationist and pioneer of adult literacy, will be held at his elder son's residence at Basundhara after Asr prayers today.

Khan Lutfur Rahman, who evolved a new method in adult education, died of old age ailments at his residence here on Sunday at the age of 98.

Khan, hailed from Kemanna village of Shailakupa upazila of Jhenidah district, established two schools in his district. He wrote a number of books on mass literacy and adult education.

Chehlum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chehlum of Moksed Ali Mollah, a social worker, will be held at his village home at Jalisha under Dumki thana in Patuakhali today.

A qurankhwani and milad mahfil will be held after Zohr prayers.

Moksed Ali, father of Hasan Arefin, a staff reporter of the Jugantar, died on August 15 at the age of 86.

He is survived by his wife, four sons, one daughter and a number of grandchildren.



The Oikya Prochesta stages a demonstration in the city yesterday to protest Israeli threat to expel and kill Palestinian President Yasser Arafat.

Bangladesh a low HIV prevalent country Minister tells UNGA meeting

BSS, New York

Strong religious and cultural values have helped Bangladesh remain a low HIV prevalent country, State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mizanur Rahman Sinha said here on Monday.

He told a United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) meeting on HIV/AIDS that religious motivation is being regularly conducted for mass awareness about prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI.

The state minister said the country's vulnerability stems from its large population size, high illiteracy rate, poverty, internal and external migration, the fact that the country is sur-

rounded by high prevalent countries and the documented high risk behaviour in the most vulnerable population groups.

Focusing on the positive impact of religious motivation and cultural heritage, he said HIV infection among Armed Forces personnel remains commendably low in spite of their deployment in high risk areas overseas as UN peacekeepers.

"Only three were found HIV positive out of 44,000 so far deployed. This is due to an intensive and comprehensive programme initiated in 1989 to reduce the risk of HIV and STI transmission amongst. Armed Forces personnel," Mizan said.

The state minister told UNGA that Bangladesh is highly committed to addressing issues of public health concerns including HIV/AIDS. Bangladesh with its 130 million population is still fortunate to be a low prevalent country.

The HIV positive cases in Bangladesh have been estimated at 13,000 by UNAIDS and WHO. But at the end of world AIDS Day 2002, the number of our reported cases was 248 of whom 26 developed AIDS. Of the 26 AIDS patients, 20 died.

He said the government will revisit the estimated number of HIV/AIDS by UNAIDS and WHO and calculate its own estimate.

The state minister, however, said that the numerical figure is not a major concern for Bangladesh. "We have made it high priority to work with people living with HIV/AIDS to reduce the stigma associated with a positive status, to start enacting laws for the protection of the rights of HIV/AIDS infected and affected people in line with the National HIV/AIDS policy and other International Agencies and UN guidelines."

"We are also starting to address issues of making anti-retroviral drugs available at an affordable price," he told the UNGA.

The state minister's comments came when the non-government organisations find that despite increased AID/HIV awareness among sex workers the safe sex campaign yielded little results in promoting the use of condoms by brothel goers.

According to different voluntary organisations and women's groups that most prostitutes, both brothel inmates and floating ones, are aware of the risks of AIDS and other venereal diseases, but the customers are reluctant to use condoms.

At least six non-governmental organisations have been working for months in the port town of Narayanganj, promoting safer sex behaviour and raising awareness of risk generating situation.

'Rotary SEED Award' for Prof Hanif

UNB, Dhaka

Prof Mohammed Hanif of Bangladesh Institute of Child Health, has been named for 'Rotary SEED Award 2002-03' for his outstanding contribution to the development of Paediatric Nephrology in Bangladesh.

Prof Hanif detected the cause of unexplained kidney failure of Bangladeshi children in 1992, which saved the lives of innumerable children of the country. The detection has also created a cautionary awareness amongst the general public regarding food and drug safety.

The award carries a cash award of Tk one lakh, a gold medal and a citation. Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka (RCMD) former President Mir Mokshed Ali at a press conference at National Press Club said RCMD introduced Rotary SEED Award in 1994 to recognise outstanding and original work by Bangladeshi citizens in science, education and economic development (SEED) that benefits the nation and its people. RCMD President Prof Neaz Ahmed, Dr M Ahsan, Fazle Rabbi, Farid Hossain, AFM Toaha and Nazma Khan were present.



The Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal took out a procession in the city yesterday demanding formation of a national government.



No change in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at few places over Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions till 6pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 34.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and the lowest 23.6 degree at Dhaka.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:53pm today and rises at 5:48am 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	31.1	23.6	92	82
Chittagong	31.0	25.5	86	72
Rajshahi	31.8	26.7	84	92
Khulna	32.5	27.4	86	83
Barisal	31.2	26.5	84	88
Sylhet	32.8	25.6	80	76
Cox's Bazar	33.5	26.0	86	89



The Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka announced the names of the winners of Rotary SEED Award for 2002-2003 at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday. The award carrying Tk one lakh is given every year to a person for contribution in the fields of science, education and economy.

Power sector revenue up

BSS, Dhaka

The power sector, blamed for irregular supply of electricity round the year, earned an increased revenue of Tk 1,921 crore during the last two fiscal years.

The fragile power sector, which has arrears of Tk 6,708 crore to different government and autonomous bodies, achieved 14.30 per cent revenue growth from Tk 5,031 crore to Tk 6,952 crore during 2001-02 and 2002-03, according to a report of the power division.

The report said the power generation also increased by 5.81 per cent during the last two years. Commissioning of Meghghat 450 MW power plant and establishment of 230 KV sub-station at Rampura with necessary transmission lines contributed significantly to reduce loadshedding,

the report said yesterday.

It, however, underscored the need for taking a balanced programme to ensure a reliable and stable power supply in the country, which has been facing an average demand growth of eight per cent per year.

Immediate measures should be taken to establish new plants, and expand transmission and distribution of power, the report added.

The country marked a record generation of 3,592 MW electricity on August 17 against an installed capacity of 4,710 MW including 1,290 MW from independent power plants.

The country needs an immediate generation of 1,100 MW power to meet this year's demand, but it will have only 635 MW from four power plants, which can not generate electricity before 2004-05.



Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. SMA Faiz inaugurated the RC Majumdar Arts Auditorium on the campus on Monday.

DU auditorium named after RC Majumdar

UNB, Dhaka

An auditorium at the Lecture Theatre (near Kalabhabor) on the Dhaka University campus has been named after its former Vice Chancellor and noted historian Dr Romesh Chandra (RC) Majumdar.

Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz inaugurated the auditorium on Monday as the chief guest at a function to mark the occasion. Chairman of Bangladesh University Grants Commission Prof Mohammad Asaduzzaman, acting Dean of Social Science Faculty Prof Abu Ahmed addressed the function. Dean of Arts Faculty Prof Kazi Shahidullah presided.

The air-conditioned auditorium will be available on rent for seminars, symposiums and educational discourses under appropriate permission from the authorities.

Ganja seized

BSS, Barguna

Police seized 100 grams of ganja from the possession of one illegal drug trader in the town on Sunday.

Police said acting on a secret information, DB police raided the house of one Afzal and arrested him. Police also seized the illegal drugs from the house.

DHAKA TODAY

Memorial lecture

The Asiatic Society of Bangladesh organises the National Professor Atwar Husain Memorial Lecture. Prof. Muzaffer Ahmed will deliver the lecture. Venue: Seminar room of the Society. Time: 5.00pm.

Film show

Matir Moina, the Cannes award winning film, will be screened as part of the International Film Festival. Venue: Balaka Cinema Hall. Time: 10.00am

The Industry Business Award

The Industry, a fortnightly, organises The Industry Business Award-2003 ceremony on the occasion of its 13th founding anniversary, with Law Minister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 9.30am.

Roundtable

The Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal organises a roundtable on 'Indian river-linking project: Environment of Bangladesh and India-Bangladesh-Nepal joint water resources management'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 3.00pm.

Discussion

The Bangladesh Chhatra Federation will hold a discussion on 'Indian river-linking project: Commercialisation of water versus people and nature'. Venue: DUCSU Cafeteria, Dhaka University. Time: 4.30pm.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of four books by educationist and former secretary Kazi Azhar Ali will be held. Venue: Bangladesh University auditorium. Time: 12 noon.

Blood donation programme

The Orca Blood for Life organises a

voluntary blood donation programme. Venue: BNCC Jagannath University College Contingent. Time: From 4.00pm to 7.00pm.

Certificate award ceremony

The certificate distribution and closing ceremony of a two-day training programme on Environmental Management Systems ISO-14001 will be held. The University of Asia Pacific (UAP) organised the programme. Venue: UAP auditorium, House # 73, Road # 5A, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm.

IUBAT orientation

The orientation programme for the students and faculty of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) will be held. Venue: Academy for Planning and Development, Nilkhet. Time: 3.00pm.

World Peace Organisation

The World Peace Organisation will hold a meeting and a cultural function to mark its 22nd founding anniversary, with its founder Syed Shah Alam as the key speaker. Venue: Dhaka Bar Association auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.

Book Club meeting

The Bangladesh Book Club will hold a meeting of its executive committee. Venue: Club office, 83 Aziz Super Market, Shahbagh. Time: 5.30pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Meeting

The monthly meeting of the 'BUET '72 Batch' will be held. Members have been requested to attend the meeting. Venue: Ramna Restaurant, Ramna Park. Time: 5.00pm.