

Web portal for Bangalees launched

A web portal -- www.ukbengali.com -- for the Bangalees across the world was launched in London on Friday, the first day of Bangla year 1413, says a press release.

The portal has different sections such as daily news, views, interviews, trade and commerce, arts and literature and rules and regulations of immigration into the UK.

General Secretary of London Bangla Press Club Syed Nahash Pasha inaugurated the web portal. Chief Editor of the web portal Masud Rana spoke on the occasion.



PHOTO: STAR
Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina speaks at a discussion at the Institute of Diploma Engineers auditorium in the city yesterday. AL organised the discussion in observance of the Mujibnagar Day.

UP MEMBER SOBHAN MURDER CASE

One to die, 10 others get 40 years

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced a person to death and 10 others to 40 years' rigorous imprisonment (RI) for killing Sobhan, a Union Parishad (UP) member at Haluaghat in Mymensingh, in July 2002.

The court handed down the death penalty to Akkas Ali, who was tried in absentia. The other convicts are Ashraf Ali, Diamond, Ahmmad Ali alias Madhu, Khorshed Ali alias Khorso, Mohammad

Ali Sadhu, Babul, Ezzat Ali, Abed Ali, Kader Sheikh and Shahab Uddin.

The punishment of Akkas will be effective from the day of his arrest or surrender and he can appeal to the High Court (HC) against the judgement within 30 days, the court said in its verdict.

Judge AR Masud of Speedy Trial Tribunal-4 pronounced the verdict at a packed courtroom.

The court also acquitted 19 other accused as the charges brought

against them were not proved.

According to the prosecution, a gang of criminals led by Akkas attacked Sobhan with sharp weapons and killed him over previous enmity on July 13 in 2002 when he along his son-in-law, cousin and some of his relatives was returning to his village home at Purbadara.

His wife Rabeya Khatun filed a murder case with Haluaghat Police Station against 25 people the same day.

FS leaves for Beijing

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Secretary Hemayetuddin left Dhaka yesterday for Beijing to attend the 8th round of Bangladesh-China annual bilateral consultations.

The Foreign secretary is leading the Bangladesh delegation.

The talks will cover the entire gamut of bilateral relations and exchange of views on major regional and international issues of mutual concern.

Hasina protests attack on Dohar AL leaders

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina yesterday strongly protested and condemned the barbaric attack on her party leaders and workers at Dohar in Dhaka on Sunday.

In a statement, Hasina, also Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, said armed cadres of BNP have been carrying out continuous attacks on AL workers across the country in a planned way to kill or maim them.

She said Dohar Police Station did not register any case against the attackers when AL leaders went to lodge case, but police are harassing them (AL workers) on the basis of false cases.

She demanded immediate arrest of the attackers, their exemplary punishment and stopping harassment of her party workers.

BNP cadres of Dohar attacked AL activists at Shilakotha of Kushumhati union on Sunday injuring 50 leaders and activists, including Dohar unit President Nazrul Islam Babul.

BEEN's coordinating office launched

BSS, Dhaka

The Coordinating Office of Bangladesh Earthquake Engineering Network (BEEN) was launched at the Department of Civil Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) yesterday.

Alee Murtuza, vice-chancellor of Buet, signed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) recognising the Buet a coordinating partner of BEEN, said a press release.

Engineer Md Atiqur Rahman, president of Bangladesh Association of Construction Industry (BACI), also signed the MoU agreeing its partnership with BEEN on the same occasion.

The vice-chancellor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) had already signed the MoU and became a partner of BEEN.

The process of establishing BEEN has been supported by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).