DHAKA SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2006

METROPOLITAN/NEWS

The Daily Star

Fast food poses health risk

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fast foods tend to increase obesity which is primarily responsible for high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer and arthritis, said the speakers at a seminar yesterday. They said fast foods like cookies,

burger, chips, candy and other snacks are commercially prepared with trans fat which is very harmful to health

The seminar titled 'Impact of fast food and soft drinks on people's health' was organised by Save Environment Movement in collaboration with Bangladesh Photojournalist Association in the city. On children's psychology

towards fast food, Psychiatrist Dr MA Mohit Kamal said the ingredients used in fast foods and cold drinks occupy the brain of children and generate a drive to get more

vegetables, water and curd in diet in which is responsible for obesity. 'This biological urge associated

with social motivation is creating an alarming situation in the society. Obesity associated with depression reduces the productivity of the children. It also reduces the power of concentration," he said, adding that it is time to fashion alternative behaviour for the children. The speakers said it is important

to change food behaviour for better mental and physical health and the children especially should be motivated to take fresh fruits and vegetables instead of junk foods.

They said it is time for governmental action in this regard and the government should increase tax on marketing of fast food items and reduce price of fresh vegetables and fruits

The speakers said the tendency to obesity could be reduced through exercise and taking more fruits,

বাঃলাদে

lieu of high calorie food items

"The fast food items should contain the quantity of trans fat on its packet so that people can know how much harmful fat they are receiving through their food." Prof Dr Subhagata Chowdhury of Ibrahim Memorial Diabetes Centre said, adding that it needs legal steps to control trans fat in food items used to preserve the items as well as to

> increase its flavour and test. Mustafa Anwar, a consultant of Suhrawardy Hospital, moderated the seminar while Convenor of Save Environment Movement Abu Naser Chowdhury and Vice-chancellor of Pundra University of Science and

Technology Prof Lutfor Rahman also spoke on the occasion.

Petrobangla goes for gas reservoir study

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Petrobangla, the state-run oil, gas and mineral corporation, is going for reservoir study for gas fields of its three production companies.

Officials concerned said Petrobangla on Thursday signed an agreement with British Exploration Consultant Limited (ECL) for carry-Under the Tk 14-crore agree

ment, the ECL will conduct study to determine the current actual gas reserves in the fields under Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited, Sylhet Gas Fields Company Limited and Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company Limited (BAPEX)

The ECL will take two years time for completing the study. The three companies will make

payment as per ratio of work for their respective fields.

Apart from knowing the reserves of the gas fields, Petrobangla from the study will know how much gas could be produced from the fields as well as what should be the true management system of the wells.

Officials said this kind of reservoir study was scheduled to start 10 years back. Initially the World Bank vas to provide the fund for the study but it did not happen, they added.

Experts had long been suggesting such a study.

EXTORTION Injured UP chairman dies

BDNEWS. Comilla

Union Parishad (UP) chairman Nuruzzaman Munshi injured on Wednesday in gunshot by miscreants died on Thursday night at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Police and locals said the terrorists demanded Tk one lakh from Nuruzzaman as toll from him as he was the contractor of an underconstruction bridge. As he refused to give the toll, the terrorists opened fire on him.

He was admitted to DMCH in a critical condition where he died at 11:00pm while undergoing treat-

Following the incident, police in a drive arrested 11 people from Daudkandi, Chandina and Muradnagar thana in connection

Victim's friend Zakir Hossain filed a case with the Speedy Trial Tribunal in Daudkandi.

Meanwhile, as local lawmaker and Health and Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain reached the area along with the body of Nuruzzaman yesterday, a m daeran



PHOTO: STAR State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babar and Deputy Minister for information Abdus Salam Pintu met the leaders of Photo Journalists Association at its office in the city yesterday to express sympathy for the recent police attack on photojournalists in Chittagong.

West Bengal, Kerala all set for polls today

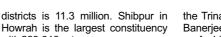
LDF sitting pretty, UDF hopeful in Kerala

to win hands down

balloting in 45 constituencies covering West Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia districts. Although these were known Maoist strongholds, there was no violence and the entire exercise took place peacefully.

polling on Saturday, Hooghly has 19 seats followed by 16 each in Howrah and East Midnapore and 15 in Nadia. The total number of voters in the four

aid U



with 269,646 voters A total of 122,99 polling stations The total electorate in West

While Maoist violence and underdevelopment were the overriding concerns in the first phase, the areas in the second round are beset by industrial sickness. law and order problems, shoddy civic amenities, Bangladeshi infiltration and erosion of the Ganges river.

Howarh and Hooghly have been facing industrial sickness for decades, leading to the closure of hundreds of factories. In Howrah, which is also Kolkata's twin city, civic

the Trinamool Congress of Mamata

Banerjee. Ambika Banerjee, the Trinamool candidate who has won from Howrah Central five times, alleged that the Left had treated the district shabbily. But of late Howrah has been in the limelight with upcoming projects like a food processing park, an IT hub and a motorbike factory by the Indonesian giant Salem besides a modern township by the same group. Hooghly district, adjoining

50 percent this way, they added. Howrah, too faces similar industrial sickness. district, was present as chief quest In Nadia district, illegal migration and DAM Director Prof Dr MA Hadi of Bangladeshis is a major problem presided over the programme. and an election issue.

Murshidabad on the other hand sented a keynote paper on the is wilting under severe erosion of the occasion. banks of the Ganges. The river has devoured human settlements, rendering people homeless.

Expert urges SE Asia to close terror camps

'Many types of

cancer curable

if detected early'

Experts at a discussion urged all to work together in order to ensure

good service networking to fight

They said one third of all types of cancer are curable if those are

The discussion on 'Information

Exchange and Service Networking

to Fight Cancer' was organised by

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) at

the Narshingdi District Hospital

before the age of 20 and conceive

since cancer can be prevented by

Women should not get married

Tobacco should be avoided

Dr Mansur Ali, civil surgeon of the

Gazi Nazrul Islam Faisal pre-

cancer, says a press release

detected at the early stage.

recently.

after 30, they said.

PHOTO: STAR Awami League presidium member Tofail Ahmed speaks at a 14-party opposition combine meeting at the party central office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city yesterday.

Five killed in road crashes

mishap on the Hati Kumrud-

STAR REPORT

Five people were killed and 59 others injured in separate road accidents in four districts in last two days.

Our staff correspondent reports: At least one person was killed and three others were

night The injured were rushed to

Complex.

Bonpara highway at China camp private car. area in Sirajganj on Thursday

local clinics in Khulna city. Sadar Hospital and Tarash Health Police recovered an Indian passport from the brief case of Police and witnesses said the mishap took place at around Ashraf Hossain. His body is now

with the murder. Rahman, 36, the driver of the The injured were admitted to

Dumuria Health Complex and

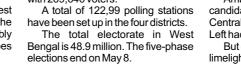
INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Kolkata/Thiruvananthapuran

Four more southern districts of West Bengal go to the polls today in the second round of staggered assembly elections the ruling Left Front hopes

Of the total 294 constituencies the second phase would involve 66 in Howrah, Hooghly, East Midnapore and Murshidabad districts where 348 candidates, including 28 women, are in the battlefield.

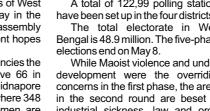
The first phase on April 17 saw

Among the four districts having



amenities are poor.

As everywhere in West Bengal, the main battle will be between the Left Front led by the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) and



iniured when a passenger bus skidded off Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Demra yesterday.

The dead was identified as Kala Chan Mia, a van puller. The injured were rushed to

nearby hospital The Bhairab-bound bus skid-

ded off the road and ran over around ten vans at Rayerbag in Demra when the driver lost control of the vehicle.

The aggrieved locals set fire to the bus and barricaded the road for over half an hour.

On information, the fire fighters went to the spot and doused the fire

Fire brigade sources said another unidentified man was killed after taken to the hospital.

Our Correspondent from Sirajganj adds: Two people were killed and eight others injured, three of them critically, in a road

10.00pm when a Bonpara-bound tempo turned turtle on the road after the driver had lost control over the steering

Amirul Islam, 29, of Chowbari under Sathia upazila in Pabna district, died on the spot while another unidentified person, 30, succumbed to his injuries on the way to Pabna Hospital

Police recovered the bodies and sent them to Sirajganj General Hospital morgue for postmortem

Our staff correspondent from the mishap occurred when a Khulna reports that two people including an Indian national were Thakurgaon-bound bus from killed and 13 others injured when Dinajpur with 50 passengers on a Satkkhira-bound passenger bus board collided head-on with a collided head-on with a Khulnaspeedy truck at Chehelgazzi bound private car at east Jieltala Mazzar under sadar upazila. under Dumuria upazila in the district vesterday.

Of the injured, 30 were rushed The dead were identified as to Dinajpur Medical College Ashraf Hossain, 40, and Matiar Hospital

car were seized by police.

to escape after the accident.

Our correspondent from

Dinajpur adds: At least 35 people

were injured, 20 of them critically,

when a speedy overloaded truck

hit a roadside bus on Dinaipur-

Thakurgaon highway in the dis-

Police quoting witnesses said

trict yesterday.

lying in the morgue for autopsy area. The passenger bus and private Nuruzzaman was the chairman

of Dashkindanki Iliatgani o The driver of the bus managed Daudkandi upazila. A tense situation is prevailing in

the area following the murder

Eight houses gutted in Kishoreganj

UNB, Kishoreganj

A fire broke out at Nagerhati village in Nigri upazila yesterday, burning down eight dwelling houses.

Police said the fire originated from the kitchen of Zulhas at about 4:00pm and soon engulfed the nearby houses.

Villagers struggled for about three hours to put out the fire. The extent of damage was stimated at about Tk 20 lakh.

Kabita Utsab begins in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONSENT, Tangail

A two-day Bangla Kabita Utsab (Bangla Poetry Festival) began in Tangail yesterday amid a festival mood.

Eminent poet Al Mahmud inaugu ated the festival organised by Fangail Public Library at Bhasani Hall in the town with Tangail Deputy Commissioner Saifuddin Ahmed Maiumdar in the chair.

Over 200 poets of India and Bangladesh joined the festival.

Poets Al Mujahidi, Fazlur Rahman Faruque, Moniruzzamar Bulbul, Khandakar

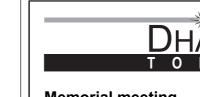
Nazimuddin, and Harunui Rashid addressed the inaugural session.

In the second session, a discussion on "Why poetry does not get popularity among the readers" was

Chandra, Shamol Kanti Das, Zahangir Firoz, Habibullah Siraji Abu Karim. Chaitalee Chatterjee and Ishita Bhaduri addressed the second session chaired by Dr



Citizens' Rights Movement forms a human chain at Shahbagh in the city yesterday protesting hike of BTTB land phone call charge.



Memorial meeting for DU teacher

prophet Refugee and Migratory Movement Bangladesh Muslim Party will hold a Research Unit organises a memorial discussion on 'Siratunnabi' with Monthly meeting for Syed Imtiaz Ahmed, Madina editor Muhiuddin Khan as cheif assistant professor of International guest. Venue: Madina auditorium. Time Relations, Dhaka University. Venue: 3:30pm Conference Room of the Faculty of Business Studies, DU. Time: 11:30am

Lecture

Centre for Advanced Research in Humanities organises a lecture on 'Postmodernism and its impact on contemporary literature'. Venue: Lecture Theatre, DU. Time: 4:00pm.

Discussion on Lenin

Communist Party of Bangladesh will hold a discussion to mark the 136th Birth Anniversary of Comrade Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. Venue: Party Central Office. Time: 5:00pm

IT fair

The opening ceremony of Brac Bank IT Fair will be held with ICT Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan as chief guest. Venue: UTIS REUTERS, Mactan Island

The Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia must act jointly against the regional militant network Jemaah Islamiah (JI) to dismantle its camps and limit its movements, a security expert said on Friday.

Rohan Gunaratna, head of the political violence and terrorism centre at Singapore's Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, said Indonesia must ban JI as an organisation and oppose moves to free the group's spiritual leader. Abu Bakar Bashir, in June."Everything must be done to make sure that he is not released," Gunaratna told reporters on the sidelines of a counterterrorism forum in the central Philippines.

"JI has gained very significant strength because it is now working with so many other groups in Indonesia. The Indonesian government must be encouraged to ban JI." he said.

"JI is still a legal organisation in Indonesia. JI must be criminalized, he added.

PHOTO: STAR

campus. Gulshan. Time: 10:30am

Roundtable

Press Club. Time: 10:00am.

Rotary Dhaka

Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30pm.

Central

Reunion

Discussion on

A roundtable discussion on 'Election

2007: Our expectation' will be held with

ASM Shahjahan, former adviser of

caretaker government. Venue: National

The regular meeting of Rotary Club of

Dhaka Central will be held. Venue:

The Annual General Meeting and

reunion of Salimullah Muslim Hall Old

Students Association will be held with

President lajuddin Ahmed as chief quest.

Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship

Conference Centre. Time: 9:00am

He warned that JI, al-Qaeda's franchise in Southeast Asia. continued to pose a serious threat despite the arrests of senior leaders such as Bashir and Isamuddin Riduan, alias Hambali

Noordin Mohammad Top, a Malavsian suspected of masterminding bombings on the Indonesian holiday island of Bali last year, is believed to have taken over JI's operational leadership.

It has a few thousand members around Southeast Asia, including less than 100 in the southern Philippines.

Citing intelligence reports, Gunaratna said JI had training camps in Indonesia and the southern Philippines, producing 400 to 500 potential terrorists every year.

Gunaratna, who has written books on al-Qaeda and JI, said Southeast Asian states -- particularly the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia -- must cooperate more to defeat terrorism.

Those links should include common data bases, an exchange of personnel and joint training and operations, he said, describing these activities as "a new format for fighting terrorism.

The United States, Australia and Europe should support the region's counter-terrorism efforts because they have the resources and intelliaence networks to check movements of people and funds, Gunaratna said

neld Poets Shihab Sarkar, Dhurgat PHOTO: STAR

Tapodhir Bhattacharya.



One stabbed to death in

Barguna, two arrested

UNB, Barguna A gang of criminals stabbed a man

area to earn a living.

away, police added.

Purakata area.

Pochakoralia area.

to death and took away his motorcycle at Pochakoralia in Amtali upazila on Thursday night. The victim was identified as

Panu, 32. He carried passengers in

his motorcycle in Taltali river port

Mahbub, members of inter-district

motorcycle hijackers' gang, rode

Panu's motorcycle in the guise of

As the vehicle reached

Pochakoralia, the two forced Panu

to stop it at about 9:00pm. Then they

stabbed Panu to death and sped

Later, the police arrested the two

Acting on their statement, the

along with the motorcycle from

police recovered the body from

passengers on Thursday evening.

Police said Shaheed and