METROPOLÎTAN/NEWS

14,200 pry teachers to be appointed by June

Some 14, 200 teachers will be appointed to primary schools across the country within next month under a major education development project jointly funded by government and a consortium of 11 development

Officials said the scheme, titled 'Primary Education Development Program II (PEDP)', will create 35,000 jobs for teachers within 2009.

The recruitment plan was disclosed at a press briefing arranged by the Asian Development Bank yesterday at its office, detailing the objectives of the comprehensive programme, undertaken in 2004.

The government is spending 1.161 million US dollar while the 11 development partners are funding 654 million US dollar. Of the 654 million US dollar the donors are giving 250 million US dollar in credit.

In the donor consortium are the Asian Development Bank, CIDA (Canada), DFID (UK), EC, Norway, the Netherlands, SIDA (Sweden),

Bangladesh stressed the need for

establishing a full-fledged resident

mission of the Maldives in Dhaka

for exploring the fullest range of

possibilities of cooperation

Khan made the suggestion when

the visiting Foreign Minister of the

Maldives, Dr Ahmed Shaheed,

met him at State Guesthouse

eral issues and trade and eco-

The two sides discussed bilat-

Strengthening Saarc process

developments in the Middle East,

regional and international affairs

also came up for discussion.

Padma yesterday.

nomic cooperation.

Foreign Minister M Morshed

between the two Saarc countries.

UNICEF and AusAid (Australia).

The six-year-long programme got off in September 2004 with Prime Minister Khaleda Zia inaugu-

PEDP II Programme Manager Brajesh P Nath gave a PowerPoint presentation at the press conference. ADB country director Hua Du, DFID country Director David Wood, ADB senior country specialist Putu Kamayan and DFID senior education advisor Barbara Payne also

Braiesh P Nath in his presentation stated that the goal of this programme is to reduce poverty through universal primary education and sustainable and equitable socio-economic development as envisaged in the MDGs as well as providing quality primary education

eligible children in Bangladesh Under this programme, 11,000 staff (including 9,000 teachers) have been transferred to revenue budget and about 14,000 new

Bangladesh urges Maldives to

better exploration of huge poten-

recruit Bangladeshi manpower,

especially teachers, to his country

for expanding education among

sought cooperation of Bangladesh

in training police personnel of his

eration with Bangladesh, the chair

of Saarc, in bringing dynamism in

the Saarc process and strength-

friend" and "dynamic member" of

the Saarc, Morshed Khan briefed

the activities of Saarc and

expressed the hope that after

ening the secretariat

the mass people

He expressed keenness to

The visiting minister also

He assured his country's coop-

Terming the Maldives a "good

establish full-fledged mission

PEDP II) are being constructed, he

With these new teachers and new classrooms, it is expected that pupil-teacher ratio would improve, more schools would be converted to single shift from double shifts and overcrowding in classrooms reduce, Brajesh P Nath hoped.

He also said that under the programme, necessary reforms, including enhancing good gover-nance with a focus on ensuring fund flow into transparent and accountable manner, are under way.

"In addition, there is also focus on accountability and service delivery (in teacher recruitment), quality construction by LGED, social auditing, and prevention of, and responses to, corruption as part of a coherent strategy for good governance," he added.

ADB country director Hua Du said only 10 percent schools in the country are single-shift and this "should be increased for better

be a more attractive destination for

between the two countries, he

said. "Bangladesh Biman has

limitations, but we welcome the Air

Lanka or other Airlines in this

providing teachers from Bangla-

desh and also imparting training to

Foreign Secretary Hemayet-

uddin, Bangladesh High Commi-

ssioner to the Maldives

Mohammed Mijarul Qayes, High

Commissioner of the Maldives,

resident in Colombo, Dr

Mohammed Asim, and Director

General (South Asia) Masud Bin

Momen were present at the meet-

the Maldives cops.

He assured cooperation in

Regarding air connectivity



Jatiya Oikya Mancha President Dr Kamal Hossain speaks at a discussion to mark the 2nd founding anniversary of Bikalpadhara Bangladesh (BDB) in the city yesterday. On his left are BDB President AQM Badruddoza Chowhdury, Krishak Sramik Janata League President Kader Siddiqui MP, Awami League Organising Secretary Mahmudur Rahman Manna, while on his right is Bangladesh Tarikat Federation President Syed Nazibul Bashar Maizbhandari.

Crisis prevails in every sector under present regime

KILLING OF GAZIPUR JUBO DAL MAN

One to die, 9 get

Speakers tell BDB anniversary discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) President Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday said people of this country do not like familybased politics, rather they want a politics free from violence, corruption and black money.

He said the two main political parties are trying to divide the country by undermining the image of two national heroes Banga-bandhu Sheikh Muiibur Rahman and former president Ziaur Rahman.

Prof Chowdhury was speaking at a discussion organised by the BDB

Maldives keen

to employ

Bangladeshi

teachers, docs

The Maldives is willing to employ

Bangladeshis, including teachers

and doctors, in white-collar profes-

Visiting Maldives Foreign

Minister Dr Ahmed Shaheed said

this when State Minister for

Expatriate Welfare and Overseas

Employment Qamrul Islam met

him at the Guest House Padma

During the meeting, they dis-

cussed issues relating to the

welfare of Bangladeshi workers in

the Maldives, further prospects of

employment there, protective

measures and the possibility of

drawing up of a broad guideline for

They agreed on the need for

measures to address problems

created by unscrupulous agents

officials of the Ministry of Foreign

Canadian envoy

meets commerce

Canadian High Commissioner

Barbara Richardson met

Commerce Minister Hafizuddin

Ahmed at his secretariat office here

yesterday and exchanged views on

Later, Slovakian Ambassador

Alexander Ilasoik also met the

minister and hoped that the existing

relations between the two countries

would be strengthened further in the

Death anniversary

Today is the first

death anniver-

sary of

Mohammad

Abul Faiz,

husband of

former minister

matters of business interests.

ers, said an official release

Affairs were also present.

minister

UNB, Dhaka

vesterday.

employment.

to mark its second founding anniversary in the city.

He said since its inception BDB is pursuing a politics where the welfare of people will be ensured. It will never compromise with the

politics of poverty, corruption and

black money, he added. Prof Chowdhury said BDB has been established to bring a meaningful change in the country and no repression can force the party to

He thanked people for expressing their solidarity with the BDB. Jatiya Oikya Mancha President Dr Kamal Hossain said the four-

life term

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced

a man to death and nine others to

life imprisonment in the killing of

Kazi Mahmud Hussain alias

Hashem, founder general secretary

of Jubo Dal of Gazipur district unit, in

the Speedy Trial Tribunal-3 handed

down the sentence in presence of

the convicts at a packed courtroom.

Judge Mohammad Firoz Alam of

Two other accused in the case

The public prosecutor, however,

rejected the verdict while victim's

family members and relatives

protested the acquittal of the prime

accused and held agitation on the

while Elias. Jewel alias Shakhawat

Hossain Mollah, Hero, Rubel alias

Shahadat Hossain, Zillur Rahman

The convict with death is Apple

COURT CORRESPONDENT

April 2004.

were acquitted.

court premises.

deviate it from its cherished goal.

made before the election.

Referring to Kansat tragedy, Dr Kamal said the government did not learn anything from the incident and that's why same incident had happened again at Shanir Akhra in

party alliance government has not

fulfilled their single promise they

Rather they have looted public

money to build up their fortunes, he

He said under the present regime the constitution has been violated, administration politicised and crisis has prevailed in every

faction over it saying that five eye-

witnesses of the case told the court

during trial that Ismail was present

at the place of occurrence and that

he masterminded the killing, then

Brigadier General (retd) Kazi

Mahmud Hassan and wife

Shamima Nasrin told the journalists

that Ismail was the prime accused in

the case with specific allegations

against him, adding that they would

appeal to the higher court against

Earlier, the prosecution and the

defence completed their arguments

and the court recorded statements

According to the prosecution,

A murder case was filed against

Meanwhile, rejecting the verdict,

Ismail and 11 others with Joydevpur

relatives and well-wishers of the

victim brought out a procession in

Police Station the same day.

Gazipur in the evening.

over a previous enmity a gang of

of 20 prosecution witnesses.

the verdict.

The victim's elder brother

how could the court acquit him?

Dr Kamal urged people to vote for honest and competent candidates in order to help establish an accountable government.

Awami League Organising Secretary Mahmudur Rahman Manna, Krishak Sramik Janata League President Kader Siddiqui MP. Bangladesh Tarikat Federation President Syed Nazibul Bashar Maizbhandari, BDB Secretary General Major (Retd) Abdul Mannan and Organising Secretary Mahi B Chowdhury MP also spoke on the occasion

Roundtable on

malnutrition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

rium in the city.

occasion as chief guest.

CPB leader

Selim suffers

cardiac arrest

General Secretary of Communist

Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Mujahidul

Islam Selim was admitted to

Bangabandhu Sheikh Muiib Medical

University (BSMMU) after he suffered

Selim felt pain in his chest

around 12:30pm at the party office

n Paltan and he was rushed to the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

a cardiac arrest yesterday.

The World Food Programme (WFP) in collaboration with The Daily Star

will hold a policy roundtable on

'What More Can We Do to Reduce

Hunger and Malnutrition' at

10:00am today at the Cirdap audito-

Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf

minister for food and disaster man-

agement, will be present on the

The slain outlaw was also wanted in 15 criminal cases including those for murders and extortion recorded with Daula-

The judge of Khulna Divi-sional Special Trial Tribunal acquitted the three accused in journalist Harun murder case on February 7

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday arrested a union parishad member of Sajek in Khagrachhari and seized two remote controlled

house Rab 7 of Chittagong went to the house, about 100 kilometres away from Khagrachhari town, of

arms traders and arrested him.

hospital immediately, says a press release He was receiving treatment at

the Coronary Care Unite (CCU) of the hospital under the care of Dr

JU vacation begins today

BDNEWS. Savar

All classes of Jahangirnagar University will remain suspended from May 10 to June 12 on the occasion of the summer vacation, Fateha-e- Yajdaham and Bouddha

The university offices will remain closed from May 20 to 25 due to summer vacation, the JU authorities

The emergency services including water, electricity, medical, tele-

phone, e-mail. Internet and bus services will continue as usual during the vacation.

1,319 more held

Police arrested 1,319 people on various charges from different parts of the country in the last 24 hours

During the drive, the lawenforcers also seized 6 firearms. 258 bullets and 272 explosives, said

Opposition to protest against 'fake voter' list today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League (AL)-led 14party opposition alliance will stage demonstrations across the country today demanding immediate cancellation of the "fake" voter lists.

The 14-party will hold a rally at Muktangon in the capital and other parts of the country at 4:00pm demanding immediate cancellation of the voter lists and ensuring uninterrupted power supply, and protesting price hike of essentials and crisis of water and gas.

JOURNO HARUN MURDER

Accused killed in Rab 'encounter'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime accused in journalist Harun-or-Rashid murder case and a regional leader of outlawed PBCP (Janajuddho) Rafiqul Islam Baby was killed in an 'encounter' between members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and his accomplices at around 3:30am yesterday at Madhya-danga in Daulatpur of Khulna city.

Baby, 38, was arrested on Monday evening at Jugnipasha village under Phultala upazila of Khulna district.

Two Rab men sustained bullet injury during the 15-minute encounter, a Rab press release said, adding that a pipe gun, a sixshooter gun, five bullets and two shells of used bullets were seized from the spot.

Baby, who had been absconding for long, was one of the three charge-sheeted accused in the murder case of Shaikh Harun-or-Rashid, a reporter of the Dainik Purbanchal, who was gunned down on March 2 in 2002 at Mujgunni in Khalishpur under

tpur Police Station since 1992.

UP member held with remote controlled bombs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

bombs and a China-made rifle at his

Althanga Pankhoa in the guise of

Rab 7 troops, led by Lieutenant

Colonel Hasinur Rahman, took Althanga to Chittagong and they are quizzing him to learn more about his involvement with smuggling

The arrestee had been reportedly smuggling and selling arms to the former guerillas of the Shanti

Obituary

UNB, Dhaka

Mansur Ali, former ward commissioner of Ward No-23 and an Awami League leader, passed away due to of old age ailments at his Chowdhurypara residence yesterday at the age of 75.

Mansur Ali, also a former chairman of Satarkul Union Parishad, left behind his two daughters, one son and a host of relatives to mourn his

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina, in a condolence message,

expressed deep shock at his death. She prayed for salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sym-

pathy to the members of the bereaved family.

Mosammat Hasna Banu BDNEWS, Dhaka

Mosammat Hasna Banu, mother of Kazi Sahera Anwar Shammi Sher M P, passed away due to old age ailment on Monday at Bangladesh

She left behind her three sons and five daughters to mourn her

miscreants directed by Ismail, his and certain categories of employalias Masum, Momen, Azad, Humayun and Sagor were given life sons and some of their accompliterms in iail. ces, killed Hashem in front of Red Secretary of the Ministry of Of them, Elias, Azad and Crescent Society office adjacent to Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Humayun were tried in absentia. Employment, Bangladesh High the office of Gazipur deputy com-The punishment of the fugitives missioner on April 28, 2004. Commissioner to the Maldives and

will be effective from the day of their arrest or surrender, the judge said.

The court acquitted Ismail Hossain Mollah and Nurunnabi as the charges brought against them

were not proved. Special Public Prosecutor (SPP)

Nurul Iman Babul rejected the

verdict and expressed his dissatis-

Savar students lay siege to electricity office tricity office led by Savar Awam

BDNEWS, Savar

Nearly 200 students from different schools and colleges under Savar yesterday laid siege to the local Palli Biddyut office demanding uninterrupted supply of electricity. Sources said the students staged

a demonstration in front of the elec-

US Embassy closed tomorrow

UNB, Dhaka

Sveda Razia on the occasion of Buddha Purnima

President assents to three bills

League President Hasina Doula.

They also chanted slogan "we

want to study, ensure uninterrupted

UNB, Dhaka

supply of electricity."

President lajuddin Ahmed yesterday assented to three bills passed in the 21st session of the 8th

Nazrul Islam University Bill, 2006, tion and Privileges) (Amendment) Bill, 2006, said an official release.

The bills are: National Poet Kazi

ending at 6:00am yesterday. a handout.

UNB, Dhaka

Medical College Hospital in the city at the age of 88.

Parliament The American Embassy offices, Faiz, says a including the American Centre, the press release. Archer K Blood American Centre He passed away in Dhaka on this Village Court Bill, 2006 and day last year at the age of 84 Library, and the student counselling truck plunged into a roadside ditch Supreme Court Judges (Remunera-All have been requested to pray service will remain closed tomorrow for the eternal peace of his soul.

mutual collaboration in tourism SAFTA becoming operational from sector and air connectivity

Maldives Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Shaheed calls on Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan at State Guesthouse

Six killed in road accidents

Padma in the city yesterday

At least six people were killed and 32 injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Chittagong, Magura, Bogra and Mymensingh yesterday.

Our Staff Correspondent reports:

A youth was killed in a road accident at Uttara in the city in the early hours Abul Kashem, 20, of Gazipur's Kapasia was run over by a speeding truck while he was crossing a road

near Uttara's Jashimuddin road. A critically injured Kashem was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him

BSS from Chittagong adds: A woman was killed and two others were injured in a road accident at Shitolour on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway under Sitakunda upazila

early yesterday morning. The dead was identified as Rowshan Ara, 40, wife of Shah Alam of the same area.

Police said Rowshan Ara died on the spot and her two relatives were injured when a Dhaka-bound oil tanker hit the CNG-run autorickshaw they were travelling in at 9:00 am.

The identities of the injured, who were admitted to local health complex and Chittagong Medical College Hospital, could not be known imme-

Police seized the oil tanker but its driver managed to escape. UNB from Magura adds: A jour-

nalist was killed and 30 people were injured when a truck and a bus collided head- on at Jagla on Magura-Jessore road yesterday. The deceased was identified as Nizamuddin, 35, staff reporter of the

'Daily Chobbish Ghanta', published from Dhaka. Police said Nizamuddin died on the spot when the Benapole-bound bus of Shohag Paribahan and the

Of the injured, eleven were

seized the vehicles

Acase was filed. Another report from Mymensingh says: A truck fell into a roadside

Rainmari in Trishal upazila yesterday leaving its driver and helper dead on the spot. The deceased were identified as

driver Mansur Ali, 35, and the helper Abdul Karim, 28.

mishap occurred when the driver of

the Mymensingh-bound truck lost his

Police and witnesses said the

Trishal police recovered the Our Staff Correspondent from Bogra reports: One person was killed in a road accident at Ranbaga area

on Bogra-Natore highway on Monday night.

The dead was identified as contractor Rabbani, 45. Police and witnesses said the accident occurred when a Natorebound truck hits the contractor

from behind. Rabbani died on the

Humidity in

Rain likely

5:18am tomorrow.

major cities and towns yesterday were:

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi

Dhaka and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country,

Highest temperature 34.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rangamati and lowest 22.8 degree Celsius at Sayedpur. The sun sets in the capital at 6:32 pm today and rises at

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some

	in Celsius		percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
ıaka	34.4	26.2	75	72
ittagong	33.2	24.3	72	80
ijshahi	34.2	25.2	71	63
ulna	34.2	26.0	76	96
risal	33.5	25.8	75	91
lhet	33.0	25.0	75	
x's Bazar	32.0	26.5	71	79