METROPOLÎTAN/NEWS

Dhaka a committed partner in int'l coalition against terror

Reaz Rahman tells seminar in London

Bangladesh is a willing and committed partner in the international coalition against terror, Foreign Affairs Advisor Reaz Rahman told a seminar in London on Monday.

"Bangladesh has condemned acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, irrespective of motives, perpetrators and victims. We believe it poses a threat to international peace and security and is a violation of human rights, he said.

He was delivering his keynote speech in the daylong seminar titled "Bangladeshi Perspectives

9 pirates caught

Members of Bangladesh Coast Guard

caught nine pirates red-handed from

the outer anchorage of Chittagong

Port and seized two engine boats

Badiuzzaman, Shahab Uddin, Abdul

Malek, Sheikh Farid, Abdul Wahab,

Abdul Kader, Nurun Nabi, Abdul Haq

and Zakir. They were handed over to

Patenga Police Station in the morning.

Guard raided the outer anchorage

area and found that a ship named MV

Banga Badar was being looted by a

gang of pirates. Sensing presence of

the law enforcers, the gang members

The Coast Guard members

A case was filed with the

Patenga PS in this connection.

however, managed to catch the nine

They also seized two engine boats

jumped into water to escape arrest.

Tipped off, a team of the Coast

The nine pirates were identified as

red-handed

early yesterday.

in Chittagong STAFF CORRESPONDENT,

on the Global War on Terror," at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies (RUSI) in London.

Reaz Rahman said the majority of the people in Bangladesh feel that militancy and fundamentalism are alien to the country and counter to the ethos of the people who

"Today", he added, "There is a deep-rooted anger in Bangladesh society, including the religious nucleus, over the efforts to distort Islam and undermine the country's

He mentioned various short-

and long-term measures taken by the government to rein in the terror-

Reaz Rahman said, "Confrontational politics...weakening governance, especially law and order, have certainly created a climate conducive to the encroachment of criminal terrorism, violence and

On the possible links between domestic and international militants. Reaz said links to al-Qaeda have never been proved while links between HUJI-B and JMB and JMJB are yet to be established.

He said the government's counter-terrorism crackdown has

achieved tangible success as it has disrupted the terrorists' command chain and a huge stock of explosives has been unearthed.

Director for Defence and Strategic Threats at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Mariot Leslie, former High Commissioner Peter Fowler, Robert Bradnock of London King's College, Chatham House associate fellow Charu Lata Hogg, and Jeremie Codron of the

Paris-based Centre for International Studies and Research, among others, attended the seminar.

Present govt's dev work won't be stopped if AL returns to power

Hasina tells Japanese FM

Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday assured visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Aso that the development activities initiated by the present government would not be stopped if her party comes to power.

The assurance came when Taro Aso met with Hasina at her Sudha Sadan Residence in the city.

During nearly an hour meeting, Hasina sought Japanese assistance for the construction of Padma Bridge and a tunnel under the Karnafuli River.

She also requested the Japanese Minister to help Bangladesh set up a Water Treatment Plant to mitigate arsenic

After the meeting, Awami

League General Secretary Abdul Jalil MP told the reporters that the Japanese Minister assured that they would assist Bangladesh to tide over the present situation.

Jalil said the AL president recalled the Japanese assistance to Bangladesh since the country achieved independence. Sheikh Hasina and Taro Aso hoped that the relationship between Bangladesh and Japan would be strengthened in the coming days.

AL leader Syed Abul Hossain MP, former ambassadors Mohammad Ziauddin and Awlad Hossain, and Deputy Chief Of Mission at the Japan Embassy in Dhaka Yonezo Fukuda and Japanese Foreign Minister's Secretary Kazuvuki Yamazaki were present at the meeting

Bangladeshi TV production house launched in New York

BSS, New York

The first television production house owned by two expatriate Bangladeshis was launched here on Sunday.

Senator John Sabini and New York City Councilman Hairam Monserat inaugurated the production house named Digital Photofare in the city's main commercial centre Jackson Heights.

Addressing a function on the occasion, John Sabini lauded the efforts of Bangladeshi people in consolidating their position in the mainstream economic activities in America. "Bangladeshis are a talented and peace loving nation," he said.

Councilman Hairam Monserat expressed his hope that the production house would make a significant role in promoting art and culture Bangladesh in the USA.

Rimon Islam and Hasan Jilani are the owners of the production house.



former director

of GMG

Industrial

Corporation

and managing

director of

Victory Steel

Obituary

Former Inspector General of Police Enamul Haque speaks at a roundtable on 'Controlling use of private vehicles: Necessity and duty' organised by Save the Environment Movement at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

POLICE ACTION AT CTG

Journos receive compensation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five out of 19 journalists who were injured and lost their cameras and other valuables in police action during the test match between Bangladesh and Australia at Chittagong Divisional Stadium on April 16, yesterday received compensation from the government.

Of them, Saidur Rahman Shamim of Jugantor received Tk 63874, Zahedul Islam of Independent Tk 29500, Zafar Iqbal of Sangram Tk 20300 and Abhijeet Banik of Khabarpatra Tk 9000. Maksuda Lisa of Banglabazar also received an amount.

State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfozzaman Babar along with State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman and Deputy Minister for Information Abdus Salam Pintu handed over the compensation in cash to the journalists at a meeting at the home ministry.

Other journalists who will get compensation but were absent at the meeting are Anurup Titu of Purbokon, Pronob Bol of Prothom Alo, Ruhul Amin Rana of Jai Jai Din. Abu Raihan of BDNEWS, Ujjal Dhar of Naya Diganta, Rabi Shankar of Ajker Kagoj, Rajesh Chakrabarty of Samakal, Deb Prashad Das of Bangladesh Observer, Prodip Kumar Shil of Daily Life, Jahir Bhuiyan of Sangbad, Sajedul Alam Tuhin of RTV, Mujahidul Islam of Jai Jai Din and Shamsul Alam Tenku of

photojournalist Jahirul Haque could not be assessed as he was staying abroad while two others Arifur Rahman Babu of Janakantha and Farzana Khan Godhuli of AFP did not claim any compensation.

total of Tk 6.51 lakh to 12 journalists working in Chittagong and seven in Dhaka as per a report prepared by a committee comprising government officials and journalists' leaders.

to provide compensation, leaders of Sangbadik Oikya Parishad called for taking punitive action against the policemen who were involved in the attack.

Babar thanked the parishad leaders for their cooperation to settle the matter

Mahmud Ruhul Amin Gazi, Fazle Imam, Omar Faruq and Mozammel Haq were present at the meeting.

the treatment of Anurup and

'Control private vehicles to reduce city traffic jam'

Bss, Dhaka

Speakers at a roundtable on environment issues yesterday stressed the need for controlling the uses of private vehicles to reduce city's traffic congestion, save petroleum and protect the environment.

They said the coordination between land use planning and transport planning is a must to improve the communication system in the capital.

Save Environment Movement (SEM) organised the roundtable on Controlling of Uses of Private Vehicles: Necessity and what to be done' at the Jatiya Press Club in the city with former inspector general of police Enamul Haque in the chair. Project Director of WBB Trust,

Buddhadeb Biswas, presented the keynote paper on the topic while SEM convenor Abu Naser Khan, additional executive officer of Dhaka Transport Coordination Board (DTCB) Engineer Saleh Uddin, Prof Sarwar Jahan and Sakil Bin Kashem of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) took part in the discussion "The private vehicles carry only

8.73 percent of passengers using 34.41 percent of road network while the public vehicles carry 28.3 percent using only 6 percent of the network in the city," Buddhadeb said at his keynote paper quoting a DUTP statistics. He said the main reason behind

movement is unplanned transport management. The planners would have to work with more sincerity in removing the problem for the welfare of the people, he said. The keynote speaker also sug-

sufferings of the city people with traffic

gested improving mass vehicles and train management to reduce pressures on the private vehicles so that the people can move easily. He also said strictness should be

followed during giving licenses to the orivate vehicle owners.

DTCB official engineer Saleh Uddin said the government has already prepared a strategic plan for 20 years to ease the traffic movement in the city.

One electrocuted in Kurigram Bss, Rangpur

A youth was electrocuted at village Panchpara under Ulipur upazila in Kurigram on Monday, police and The sources said Minhajul Islam,

25, son of Kasir Uddin of the village, died on the spot while disconnecting

residence in the early hours of yesterday at the age of 69, says a press release.

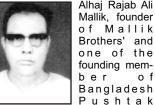
He is survived by his wife, one son and two daughters. Sattar was laid to rest at the

away due to a cardiac arrest at his

Banani graveyard. Friends and relatives have been requested to pray for salva-

Alhaj Rajab Ali Mallik

tion of the departed soul



Prokashak O Bikreta Shamity, passed away due to old age complications at the Lab Aid Cardiac Hospital in the city yesterday at the

age of 75, says a press release. He left behind four sons, two daughters and a host of admirers to mourn his death

All the bookshops of Liaguat Avenue, Banglabazar and Paridas Road will remain closed today.

Rabeya Akhter Khatun Begum Rabeya Akhter Khatun,

mother of Shah Habibul Huq, direcior ot attad banumukni farms Lto passed away at Shamorita Hospital in the city due to old-age complications on July 24 at the age of 85, says a press release.

She left behind her three sons and three daughters.

She was buried at the family graveyard at Mohammadpur after namaz-e-janaza on the Circuit House Mosque (Tip Top Mosque) after Zohr prayers yesterday. Her qulkhwani will be held at

Eastern Bailey at 146 New Bailey Road after Asr prayers on Friday.

Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the qulkhwani.

Death anniversary Today is the 6th



sary of Daiyan Malik, eldest son of Malik Abdullah Al-Amin Sadi, Divisional Special Judge Dhaka, says a

press release. Daiyan died of Dengue fever on this day in 2000.

are requested to pray for salvation of

police stepped in to bring the BNP leader Anwar Mallick lodged a case against 16 opposi-

afternoon and demanded punish-

emier University

Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui speaks at the inaugural ceremony of a cultural workshop at the Premier University in Chittagong city yesterday.

ANTI-ADULTERATION DRIVE

3 restaurants fined Tk 1.2 lakh in Chittagong

CU CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court yesterday fined three restaurants Tk 1.2 lakh at the port and Agrabad commercial areas for preparing, preserving and serving unhygienic foods. During the drive, the court fined

Boishakhi Restaurant Tk 30000, Sangri-la Chinese Restaurant Tk 50000 and Bhai Bhai Hotel and Restaurant Tk 40000. The magistrate was aston-

ished to see a cockroach in the refrigerator of Sangri-la, one of the city's elite Chinese restaurant in Agrabad.

The kitchen was also very dirty and a jar of petrol was found alongside food items The court found unhygienic

toilets and drains beside the kitchen and cooked foods in uncovered condition in the restaurants, sources said

It also seized label-less colour and ammonia-flavoured rice from

Chittagong Port Authority Magistrate Mohammad Munir Chowdhury led the antiadulteration drive with the help of Chittagong Metropolitan Police and Bangladesh Standard Testing Institute officials.

All the restaurant authorities paid the penalty money in the afternoon, sources added

Old man killed in road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT. Satkhira

An old man, who came to attend a natient at the Sadar hospital, was killed in a road accident in front of the hospital in the town on Satkhira-Khulna highway yesterday.

The deed was identified as Moksed Ali Gazi, 70, son of Sarup Gazi of village Kawandanga in Sadar upazila.

the accident occurred when a truck hit Moksed when he was crossing the road to buy medicine from a

pharmacy in front of the hospital. He was rushed to the hospital in a critical condition where the on-

duty doctor declared him dead. Sadar Police Station Officer-In-Charge (OC) Shahjahan confirmed

Humidity in

Light to moderate rain likely

City/Town

Cox's Bazar

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until

Moderately heavy falls are also expected at places during the period, Met Office said predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.

Highest temperature 35.1 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and lowest 25.0 degree Celsius at Feni. The sun sets in the capital at 6:45pm today and rises at

Temperature

in Celsius

major cities and towns yesterday were

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some

percentage Morning Evening 73 Dhaka 34.6 28.0 32.8 Chittagong 27.0 77 77 35.0 27.8 Raishahi 69 35.1 27.7 Khulna 33.2 Barisal 26.8 27.7 Svlhet 33.0

AL-BNP clash Quoting local people police said at Kalapara,

17 injured **OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**

> Seventeen people were injured and 11 shops vandalised at Kalapara town during a series of clashes between the activists of the ruling and opposition parties on Monday night.

Blaming each other for the clash, both the groups lodged cases yesterday. Witnesses and police sources

said the clash erupted after a

procession of BNP activists came under attack by their rivals at about 9:00pm Soon the clash spread to different areas of the town and contin-

ued until 12:00 midnight when the

situation under control. At least 11 shops and restaurants were ransacked during the clash. Six of the injured people were admitted to Kalapara Upazila Health Complex.

BCL leader Md Shamim filed another case against 24 ruling party activists and leaders with Kalapara Police Station. Protesting the attack, BNP held a rally at Monoharpatty yesterday

ment to the attackers. The Awami League also held a rally at its office blaming the ruling

The AL leaders also termed the clash a factional feud of the ruling

tion leaders and activists while

party for the attack on its activists.

Compensation for sexagenarian

The government is providing a

Welcoming the government step

Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Altaf

Earlier, Bangladesh Cricket Control Board spent Tk 5,24,730 for

33rd performance of a drama titled

'Jalbalika'. Venue: Mohila Samity. Time:

Adeb anniversary

Association of Diploma Engineers

Bangladesh (Adeb) will hold a

discussion on "Bangladeshi

Nationalism in Bangladesh

perspective" to mark the 5th

anniversary of the association with

Seminar A seminar on 'International

held. Venue: BSTI auditorium Time: 9:00am Workshop South Asia Partnership Bangladesh will hold a workshop on 'Preventing

standard of food products:

Viewpoints of Bangladesh' will be

Cirdap. Time: 10:00am Discussion

Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) organises a discussion on 'The rise of fundamentalism and its implications'. Venue: BILIA auditorium. Time: 3:15pm.

Seminar

Drama

Partnership: Today and Tomorrow' will be held. Venue: Dhaka Sheraton Hotel. Time: 7:00pm

Padatik Natya Sangsad will present the

violence against women'. Venue: Health Minister Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Auditorium of Public Health Engineering

> Dhaka Buriganga will be held. Venue: Hotel Sarina. Time: 5:00pm.

Department. Time: 5:00pm.

Rotary Buriganga

The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of

Seminar A national seminar on 'Bank-NGO/MFI

Buet. Time: 4:00pm.

and Technology (Buet) organises a seminar on 'Microsystems for sustainable building, energy and environment'. Venue: Civil Building

Centre for Energy Studies (CES) of Bangladesh University of Engineering

> Relatives, friends and admirers the departed soul

Residents of Swamibagh and Sayedabad form a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday demanding release of Atiqul Islam and Alamgir Hossain, who were arrested in Kolkata on charge of involvement in the Mumbai serial bombings