

Researchers-farmers direct contact stressed

Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Prof M Asadur Rahman has underlined the importance of reorganization of the targets and approaches of agricultural research to ensure socio-economic development in the country, reports BSS.

Stressing the need for participatory approach of the agricultural research, the special guest said that the farming system had brought about a new ray of hope in solving multi-dimensional problems at grass root levels.

In his presidential speech Prof Hussain elaborated the human component of farming system research approach.

A total of 18 scientific reports were presented in the four technical sessions of the workshop.

Govt employees urged to perform duties with sincerity

An executive meeting of the Bangladesh Sarkari Karmachari Samannoy Parishad Tuesday urged all employees to discharge their duties with utmost sincerity by going back to their workplace in accordance with the office timing announced by the government, reports BSS.

According to a press release of the Parishad, the meeting held at its Public Works Department office with its working President Mattur Rahman in the chair.

The meeting was addressed, among other, by Abul Kalam Shamsuddin, Azizuddin Ahmed, Abdul Malek, Gazi Mattur Rahman, Abu Saleh Talukder and Mofazzel Hossain.

The leaders said they had announced the withdrawal of their programmes in view of present overall economic condition of the country and getting assurance from the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in implementing the three point-demand of the parishad.

Earlier, the leaders of the parishad met the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Monday night at her Sugandha office.

Tree plantation for ecological balance emphasized

Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz Tuesday called for massive participation of people in the September 5 referendum aiming at changing over to a form of government best suited for the country, reports BSS.

Addressing three separate public gatherings at Mirzapur, Atwari and Thampur of Panchagarh districts the minister said, "all our efforts are being made unanimously for restoration of constitutional rights and privileges of common people to facilitate their participation in fair and impartial election, a PID source said.

Explaining the significance and necessity of the coming referendum the minister said, the people by this would decide what system they want for the best running of the government and as such the people would exercise their power in resolving major national issues.

Referring to the local problems, the minister urged the people to come-up with constructive suggestions to solve those with available resources. He called for massive tree plantation for maintaining ecological balance.

Begum Khurshid Jahan Hoq MP also addressed the gatherings.

Allowances for the aged urged

A three-day training workshop on 'Health and Welfare of the aged' began at the 'Prabin Bhaban' at Agrargang in Dhaka Monday with a call for creating awareness among the people and the government to engage the aged persons in development projects for their overall welfare, reports BSS.

The workshop was jointly organised by Bangladesh Prabin Hitaishi Sangha in co-operation with Bangladesh government and World Health Organisation (WHO), a press release said.

Speakers Dr Humayun Kabir, Prof Dr Mohammad Yusuf Ali, Prof Dr Nazimuddin Choudhury, Prof Dr MA Jalil, Dr MA Wahid, Dr KM Rashid, KM Atiqur Rahman and Dr Sheikh Lutful Rahman discussed socio-economic position and psycho-physical aspect of the aged persons.

The recommendations of the workshop called for observing 'Prabin Dibash' under government initiative, honouring the senior citizens, launching allowances for the aged, special arrangement for the aged in hospitals and incorporating a chapter in the school and university syllabuses for sympathy, honour and consciousness to the aged people.

A great number of aged people from Comilla, Rangpur, Moulvibazar, Narail, and Natore who are the members of Hitaishi Sangha have joined the workshop.

Obituary

Mrs. Hasina Begum, wife of Dr. M A Wahed, Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery, Sylhet Medical College, died of cancer on Monday night at Sylhet town, reports BSS.

She was 48. She has been buried at the Arifur graveyard at Pabna town. Late Hasina was a teacher of Sylhet Blue Bird School.

She left behind three sons, husband, relatives and hosts of well wishers.

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Pashu Shampad Bhaban, (3rd floor)
Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215

No. PIO/Store/12-4/89/469

Dated: 21-8-91

International Tender

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for ENLISTMENT OF PRE SHIPMENT INSPECTION AGENT for two years from bonafide nationals of Bangladesh and other Asian Development Bank (ADB) member countries who has office (s) in the ADB's member countries for pre-shipment inspection work, under ADB Loan No. 733 BAN (SF).

Tenders will be received on 8-10-91 up to 1 pm local time in tender boxes in the offices of the Project Director, Second Livestock Development Project, Pashu Shampad Bhaban (3rd floor) Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka and will be opened on the same day at 1.30 pm in the same office. The schedules will be available up to 7-10-91 in the working days during office hours on payment of a cash Tk. 500.00 (Five hundred) or 15 (Fifteen) US dollars (non-refundable). No tender will be entertained without the tender schedule to be supplied from the office of the undersigned.

Bio-data, performance certificate of related work etc. must be submitted along with the offer as per terms and conditions of the tender schedule, failing which offer will not be evaluated for acceptance.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DR. NUR MUHAMMAD CHOWDHURY
Project Co-ordinator
Second Livestock Dev. Project
Bangladesh, Dhaka.
Phone: 314165

DFP(G)-9647-24/8
G-450



State Minister for Land Jamiruddin Sircar addressing a press conference at the National Press Club Tuesday.

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AIDS not an infectious disease

Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf has said that nurses could play vital role in preventing different infectious diseases including the AIDS, reports BSS.

The Health Minister called upon the people of all walks of life to come forward to save the nation from the curse of AIDS. In this regard he emphasised the primary health education, consciousness from the religious point of view and other constructive publicity about the dreadfulness of AIDS.

Presided over by Prof AT Siddique, Director General of the Health Directorate, the inaugural function was addressed, among others by Health Secretary M Mokammel Haque, National Professor Dr

Nurul Islam, Major General MR Chowdhury, and Mrs Shahjadi Harun, Director of the Nursing Directorate.

The Health Minister called upon the people of all walks of life to come forward to save the nation from the curse of AIDS. In this regard he emphasised the primary health education, consciousness from the religious point of view and other constructive publicity about the dreadfulness of AIDS.

The Health Minister urged the respective authorities to continue their research on AIDS. The government as well as people of the society should

come forward to help prevent spread of AIDS in the country.

He also called upon the journalists, physicians and other mass-media man to play their role to make the people aware of the research findings on AIDS. "It is easily possible to save the Third World countries from this dreadful disease by creating awareness", the minister said.

According to the specialists, AIDS is not an infectious disease. If a pregnant mother becomes an AIDS patient her kid must be and AIDS-victim. It can be easily prevented by avoiding sexual relationship with the AIDS patients and by

avoiding use of the needless and syringe used for transfusion of blood of an AIDS patient.

Later the Health Minister visited the Dhaka Medical College Hospital to see for himself the condition of the injured government employees Tajimul Islam, Accountant in Special Affairs Ministry, Mazlish of LORD Ministry and Firoz Miah of Finance Ministry. The condition of the employees are improving.

The minister advised the attending physicians to take proper care of the employees for their speedy recovery.

4 lakh children lose eye-sight due to malnutrition every 10 years

Minister for Education and Cultural Affairs Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury Tuesday laid emphasis on creation of mass awareness for the prevention of blindness of children due to malnutrition, reports BSS.

He said in our country over every ten years about four lakh children, lose their eye-sight due to malnutrition in spite of high concentration of vitamin "A" in most available green vegetables and ripe fruits.

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at a discussion meeting on prevention of child-blindness due to malnutrition held at Atpara under Srinagar upazila of Munshiganj district. Presided over by Dr Abdul Halim, the meeting was addressed, among others, by local upazila chairman Kazi Azzul Hoq, Dr SR Tarafder and Dr Showkat Rashid.

Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury said, most of the people of the country did not know the food value of vegetables and fruits available at the way-sides and suffer from malnutrition and some other diseases. He added

that children also become blind at early age due to loss of excessive water and iron during dysentery and diarrhoea.

Later, the minister inaugurated an eye-camp and posthumous eye donation programme at Atpara Family Welfare Centre and visited some patients there. Organised by Atpara Modern Club and

Rajshahi Lions Hospital, a total of two thousand eye patients were given outdoor treatment and 50 others were operated upon.

Mashahid Ali dies in London

Mashahid Ali Chowdhury of Sylhet known as Shaheh died in London August 19 after a protracted illness. He was 56, says a press release.

Late Chowdhury was well known to thousands of Bangladeshi residents in UK. He migrated to England in the late 1950s and pioneered the opening of Bangladeshi restaurants in England. He was a founder member of the Pakistan Welfare Association, UK. During Liberation War he was the Secretary of the Bangladesh Survival Committee, Croydon, Surrey. He was the nephew of late General Osmani, Shaheh was also the General Secretary of the Bangladesh Caterers' Association, UK for 11 years.

He was buried in Luton in UK.

Sight Savers official leaves for UK today

Dr. S. M. Munirul Huq, Country Representative of Sight Savers— Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, leaves Dhaka today to attend the Senior Overseas Staff meeting to be held at its headquarters in London, says a press release.

During his stay in London, he will discuss with the Headquarters management about the expansion of Sight Savers activities in Bangladesh in the field of eye-care and rehabilitation.



PDB employees brought out a procession in the city Tuesday protesting formation of DESA.

— Star photo

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thundershower with temporary gusty winds is likely to occur at many places over Chittagong and Khulna divisions and at few places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours ending 6 pm Wednesday.

Day temperature is likely to rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country, according to Met office on Tuesday.

The Sun sets on Wednesday at 6-21 pm and it rises on Thursday at 5-39 am.

Chief amount of rainfall reported from Hatiya 7 cm, Sathkira 5 cm, Khepupara 4 cm.

Day temperatures remained nearly unchanged over the country. The highest temperature of 34 degrees was reported from Srimangal while the lowest of 23.2 degrees from Mymensingh.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Rainfall activity may increase.

Extended outlook for another five days: Little change. The temperature and humidity of some towns and cities on Tuesday were:

Town/City	Max	Min	Humidity in percentage
Dhaka	32.4	25.5	9 am 83 6 pm 69
Tangail	32.7	26.8	84 72
Chittagong	32.0	25.5	77 78
Sylhet	33.7	24.8	78 81
Rajshahi	33.0	25.2	95 92
Dinajpur	32.5	26.3	88 77
Khulna	30.0	26.2	92 83
Barisal	30.6	25.2	95 82

Five alleged dacoits arrested in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Aug 27: Chittagong Metropolitan Police arrested five alleged dacoits and recovered from their possession four fire arms from Sholahahar area here today, reports BSS.

According to a police press release, the dacoits were arrested after an exchange of fire with them when they tried to flee in a microbus.

The fire arms loaded with bullets and the microbus used by the dacoits were seized. The dacoits later confessed that they were following a man who had withdrawn money from a bank.

The fire arms recovered included, two foreign revolvers and two country made light guns.

Assistant Police Commissioner, Akram Hussain, Kotwali OC ASM Nazmul Huq, SI Serajuddin and Anisuzzaman were among those who rounded up the dacoits.

Plea to cast 'yes' vote in referendum

State Minister for Education Principal Md Eunus Khan Tuesday urged the people to cast 'yes' vote in the September 15 referendum, saying it would be the reflection of a unanimous parliamentary verdict, reports UNB.

Aquatic flowers merit attention

by Prof M R Khan

The countryside of Bangladesh looks like a green carpet stretched from horizon to horizon and occasionally interrupted by the riverines, canals, ditches, 'bils', and 'haors'. This scenic green beauty occasionally bursts out into different shades of colour here and there to reveal their wealth of flowers. Bangladesh is very rich in vegetation and we are really proud of it.

But approximately one third of the total area is occupied by natural water bodies and we often forget to appreciate the inhabitants adapted to the aquatic habitats. These are the aquatic plants either submerged, emergent or floating—they all like water. Whether they love it or live in it, they are commonly known as aquatic plants.

It is a fact that during a particular season, the beautiful water lilies growing in the uncared for ditches by the rail roads attracts the eyes of travellers not only for the show off but possibly also to remind of the very temporary existence of oneself.

However, we can start with the water lilies, not because of the fact that one of the members of this group is our national flower, but these are also found to be growing so comfortably and profusely in our country that one can hardly overlook. The common water lilies belong to the family Nymphaeaceae and

What's on today...

Seminar of food preservation

A seminar on 'radiation processing and preservation of food' will be held at the Atomic Energy Centre today (Wednesday) at 10 am.

The Institute of Food and Radiation Biology (IFRB) of the Atomic Energy Centre has organised the seminar. Dr GO Giddings, an international atomic energy expert on radiation processing will be the main speaker on the occasion.

Present status of the use of ionizing radiation in the preservation of food stuff, its prospects, problems etc will be highlighted in the seminar.

Workshop on nutrition

Save the Children (USA) with the support of USAID will hold a two-day workshop on 'lessons in practical nutrition: Approaches and action in Bangladesh', beginning today (Wednesday) at Parjatan hotel, Mohakhali in the city.

This workshop will concentrate of female malnutrition targeting female children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women. This workshop will compile the needed interventions to address these problems.

Participants in this workshop are expected from ICDDR, UNICEF, local and international NGOs and government agencies.

Asiatic Society AGM

The 20th monthly general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh will be held today (Wednesday) at 5-00 pm in the Seminar Room of the Society at 5 Old Secretariat Road, Nittali in the city.

Dr Azizur Rahman, First Secretary (Customs), National Board of Revenue, will give a talk on 'The Eagle and the Peacock: The Formative Years of the United States—India Relations (1947-1956)'. Dr AM Sharafuddin, President of the Society, will preside over the meeting.

Rotary Club of Buriganga

The regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga will be held today (Wednesday) at 5.30 pm at Sonargon Hotel, Abul Ahsan, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and former Secretary General of SAARC will be the guest speaker. He will speak on the problems and prospects of SAARC.

Members of the Club have been requested to attend the meeting.

Rotary Club of Dhaka South

The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka South will be held today (Wednesday) at 5.30 pm at Hotel Purbani International.

Inter-Religious Brotherhood Assoc

A general meeting of Bangladesh Inter-Religious Brotherhood Association will be held today (Wednesday) at 5.30 pm at Redfort, 46, Kawran Bazar in the city.

Lions Club of Dhaka Central

The Board of Directors meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Central will be held today (Wednesday) at 5 pm at Chang Wah Chinese Restaurant, Bijoynagar in the city.

All the members have been requested to attend the meeting in time.

Liberty Forum

Liberty Forum has convened a meeting of the former Vice-Chancellors of the universities today (Wednesday) at 4.30 pm at its office to discuss the way to overcome the crisis of the educational institutions.

Social Service Deptt

A two-day conference of district-level Deputy Directors of the Social Services Department begins today (Wednesday) at the Shishu Academy auditorium.

State Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Tariqul Islam is expected to inaugurate the conference.

The field-level DDs will take part on open discussion on the motivational activities of registered voluntary organisations working throughout the country.

It will also review the activities regarding administration, establishment, finance of the department and application of acts entrusted to the Social Services Department by the Social Welfare Ministry.

... and tomorrow

Seminar on socialism

A two-day seminar on 'there is no alternative to socialism in the path of freedom for the people of Bangladesh' will begin at 4 pm in the Engineers' Institution tomorrow (Thursday).

Theatre's 24th production

The 24th production of Theatre, a stage drama group, will be presented at the Guide House auditorium, Baily Road, tomorrow (Thursday) at 7 pm.