

Dhaka Day by Day

Travails of US Visa Seekers

by Sharier Khan

Mukul is never an early riser. He is often criticised for waking up very late. But one morning this month he made a mockery of his old habit by waking up too early. He woke up at 4 am.



lounge. The old man, already bored, told Mukul, 'Well it feels like a prison here. But I won't mind the arrangement if I get the visa'.

Struggle begins from 9 am. A fresh que is made. This time somebody makes serial number of every body. It was then that Mukul met several other guys who previously attempted to get visas.

SAARC festival in Delhi from Oct 9

The first South Asian festival of SAARC countries will be held in the Indian capital New Delhi on October 9-24, reports BSS.

According to an Indian High Commission press release, one of the events in the festival will be the SAARC competition for children, which will be jointly organised by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Shanker's International Children's Competition.

Entries are invited in the form of paintings/drawings or as written work in English. The last date for receipt of entries by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Azad Bhaban, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi 110002 is August 15, 1992.

PM's Pak visit to help resolve crisis: SPGRC

Leader of the stranded Pakistanis here M Nasim Khan yesterday hoped that Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will be able to set a concrete time-table for their repatriation during her forthcoming visit to Pakistan, reports UNB.

'We firmly believe that the Prime Minister of Bangladesh will resolve this long-lingering issue by using her good office and pressuring her Pakistani counterpart,' he said in a statement.

The chief patron of the Stranded Pakistanis General Repatriation Committee (SPGRC) thanked Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman for discussing the issue with the State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan during his recent visit to Islamabad.

He appealed to the Prime Minister to allow a 5-member delegation of the SPGRC to apprise her of the problems faced by the stranded Pakistanis.

Film Director Al-Masud dies

Eminent film director, story writer, and screen playwright Al-Masud died of cancer in a city nursing home yesterday morning, family sources said.

He was 50, reports BSS. Of the 60 stories and screen-plays he wrote for the country's film industry, prominent among those were, 'Ora Egaroan' (The Eleven Freedom Fighters) and 'Sangram' based on the War of Liberation of Bangladesh.

Masud left behind his wife, one son and a daughter and a host of friends, well-wishers and admirers to mourn his death.

Information Minister Nazmul Huda expressed his profound shock at the death of Al-Masud.

In a condolence message the Information Minister recalled the contributions of Al-Masud in the development of film.

The Information Minister expressed his heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

Foundation of centre for deaf, blind children laid in Pahartali

CHITTAGONG, July 17 : Communications Minister Oli Ahmed today called upon the philanthropists and richer section of the society to build hospitals and other welfare organisations for serving the needy and the poor, reports BSS.

He said there was nothing greater than serving the ailing and needy people. Speaking as chief guest at the foundation laying ceremony of the centre for deaf and blind children at Pahartali near Foy's Lake here this morning, he said, the government was engaged in massive development and rehabilitation activities in order to alleviate the sufferings of the people.



Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee brought out a procession in the city Friday demanding trial of Golam Azam.

Private university will be set up in Ctg soon

CHITTAGONG, July 17: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed today said a private university will be set up soon here with a view to widening the scope for higher education in the country at private initiative, reports BSS.

He said the government despite resource constraint, is pledged to provide optimum facilities for dissemination of education for all.

The Minister was addressing as the chief guest the freshers reception arranged at Pahartali Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS). City Mayor Mir Muhammad Nasir Uddin, National Professor Nurul Islam, Kiranok Kawahara, ITCMR Professor Dr Nurul Amin also spoke on the occasion. Director of IAHS Dr P Barua presided over the function.

A musical soiree held on the occasion was participated by students artists of the institute.

Nirmul body meet today

By Staff Correspondent Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee will hold a public meeting today (Saturday) at 4 pm at the south gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque.

The rally will be held to press for execution on Golam Azam, banning of Jamaat-Shibir politics and police excesses on the committee workers across the country.

Jahanara Imam, Convener of the Central Coordination Council of the Liberation War and Elimination of the Killers and Collaborators of 1971, will address the meeting as chief guest.

Lt Col (retd) Kazi Nuruzzaman, Dr Ahmed Sharif, Faiz Ahmed, Maj (retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed MP, Maulana Abdul Awal, Prof Hamida Rahman, Shahjar Kabir, Naim Jahangir and Engineer Saifullah will also address the meeting.

Death anniversary of Osman Ghani observed

The 24th death anniversary of Al-Haj Osman Ghani, a noted businessman of village Sukubashpur, Munshiganj was observed yesterday, reports BSS.

On this occasion a milad mahfil was held at the Hare Road official residence of Food Minister Shamsul Islam, the eldest son of late Ghani.

Law Minister Mirza Golam Haifz, Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf, Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Mia, Energy Minister Dr Mosharrar Hossain, Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni, State Minister for Law Aminul Islam and Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Hasan Ahmed were, among others, who attended the milad mahfil.

11 judges removed since independence

Three High Court Division judges and eight others of the lower courts were removed from service after the independence of the country till date, State Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs M Aminul Haq told the Jatiya Sangsad Thursday reports BSS.

In a written reply to question from Haji Rashed Mosharrar (AL-Jamalpur), the state minister said Justice KM Sobhan, judge of the High Court Division, was removed from service on March 24, 1982, Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury, judge of the High Court Division, removed on September 1, 1983 while Justice S M Hossain, judge of the High Court division was removed on January 8, 1984.

The removed judges of the lower courts are: Kazi Shamsur Rahman, former special judge of Rajshahi on July 13, 1982.

Saudi sacrificial meat handed over

KHULNA, July 17: Thirty seven thousand three hundred carcasses of Saudi sacrificial meat were formally handed over at Mongla Port premises Thursday as a gesture of brotherly and friendly ties between the governments and peoples of Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia, according to an official handout yesterday, reports BSS.

Jatiyatabadi landless parishad formed

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Landless Rehabilitation Welfare Parishad was formed at a meeting of the landless held yesterday, reports BSS.

A 41-member executive committee was formed with Mahmood Hossain Khan and Mohammad Ali Ashraf Chowdhury as President and General Secretary respectively, according to a press release.

The meeting participated by leaders and representatives from different districts of the country discussed rehabilitation of landless people in the light of the government's land policy.

Dateline Rajshahi 56 lakh cattlehead vaccinated

RAJSHAHI, July 16: The Livestocks Department has vaccinated 56 lakh 31 thousand cattlehead and 5 crore 65 thousand ducks and hens in Rajshahi division during 1991-92 fiscal year, reports BSS.

It was stated at a meeting of district level officers of Livestocks Department here Wednesday with Divisional Deputy Director of the department Dr Golam Rahman in the chair.

During the period the department provided treatment to two lakh 50 thousand cattlehead and 25 lakh ducks and hens.

Besides, the department has distributed 3 lakh 88 thousand day-old chickens and 2 lakh 10 thousand hens and 2 lakh 60 thousand eggs of ducks and

hens among the people for development of the sector.

The department exchanged 90 thousand improved species of ducks and hens with the people and inseminated 3 lakh 32 thousand cows and provided training on cattle rearing and poultry farming among 37 thousand people during the time.

The department also undertaken a programme to plant two thousand saplings at its office premises in the division during the current year.

The Deputy Director, in his speech said, the Livestocks Department is now capable of producing 25 crore doses of vaccination for cattleheads and poultry and produces 40 lakh poultry birds and inseminate 10 lakh cows in a year.

'Govt firm to eradicate illiteracy'

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan yesterday said that the present government had allocated the highest amount for the education sector in the current national budget with a view to eradicating curse of illiteracy from the country, reports BSS.

He said 'if we can educate the whole nation, our development in every sector would be achieved.'

Mannan was speaking at a meeting organised on the occasion of the 70th founding anniversary of the Tarini Bama High School at Nawabganj.

He said the teachers and students had to play the most vital role to make the government programme a success.

He called upon them to help implement the government programme with utmost sincerity and dedication to spread the light of education among the people.

Presided over by Barrister Shamsul Alam, the meeting was also addressed by the Deputy Commissioner, Dhaka, Abu Sulaiman Chowdhury.

Later, the Mannan unveiled the plaque of the newly built house of the school and planted a sapling in the school ground.

Table with BTV logo and Saturday programme schedule from 5:00 to 11:45.

Weather Rain with gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent Light or moderate rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Khulna, Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi division during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Saturday).

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country. The Met office observes no appreciable change in weather in the next five days.

Yesterday (Friday), rainfall occurred at most places of the country. Rajshahi recorded the highest rainfall of 26 mm in 12 hours from 6 am to 6 pm while Dhaka recorded 9 mm, Rangamati 15 mm, Cox's Bazar 14 (in six hours), Dinajpur 8 mm, Barisal 7 mm and Sylhet recorded 1 mm of rainfall.

The maximum temperature of 33.5 degree Celsius was reported from Chuadanga yesterday and the minimum of 24.0 was reported from Dhaka and Bogra.

The sun sets today (Saturday) at 6.68 pm and rises tomorrow (Sunday) at 5.22 am.

Table showing temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns of the country yesterday were.

What's on today...

Inauguration of ultrasonic testing course

The inauguration of the ultrasonic testing (level-I) training course will be held today (Saturday) at the auditorium of the Atomic Energy Centre at 9:30 am. Organised jointly by UNDP, IAEA, RCA and BSEC Industrial project, Lt Col (Retd) Hsam Uddin Ahmed, Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology will inaugurate the opening session.

Press conference Dsh Bachao Forum will hold a press conference today (Saturday) at Janata Bhaban, 47/1, Toyneeb Circular Road at 10:00 am.

ADAB review meeting Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) and like-minded environmental activist groups will jointly hold a review meeting following the global ecology conference (UNCED) today (Saturday) at the BMDC auditorium at Sobhanbag at 4 pm.

FBCCI discussion meet Executive Council members of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) will hold a discussion meeting with a 20 member high trades representative team headed by President of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mia Habbullah at the Federation auditorium today (Saturday) at 4:30 pm. The meeting will focus on expansion of trade between the two countries and setting up of joint-venture industries.

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