

Metropolitan

Gen Nasim visits Faujdarhat Cadet College

CHITTAGONG, Dec 19: Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Abu Saleh Mohammad Nazim, Bir Bikram visited the Faujdarhat Cadet College today. says an ISPR press release.

General Nasim reviewed a smartly turned-out parade by the cadets and took salute. He also presented gold medal to the best all-round cadet, Saifur Rahman Bakul.

Paying homage to the nine members of this college who had embraced martyrdom in the War of Liberation in 1971, General Nasim said, the cadets of this institute would follow the footsteps of their predecessors and face the challenges of their future life.

The ceremonial parade was also attended, among others, by the Adjutant General, Bangladesh Army, Major General Amin Ahmed Chowdhury, Bir Bikram and the Chittagong Area Commander, Major General Mohammad Azizur Rahman, Bir Uttam.

Mexico keen to extend trade ties

COX'S BAZAR, Dec 19: Waiving of land development tax on salt cultivation will incur the government revenue loss of Taka 20 crore annually.

State Minister for Land Kabir Hossain told UNB here today henceforth all salt farms will be treated as agricultural land.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at a public meeting at Pekua here on Sunday announced the lifting of land development tax on salt cultivation to help increase its production and remove dependency on imported salt.

Present government's declaration of tax exemption on

twenty-five bigha agricultural land will also be applicable for salt production, the State Minister for Land said explaining the new step for encouraging the salt producers.

Nearly 50,000 acres of coastal land in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong districts produce more than seven lakh tons of salt every year to meet the country's requirement.

Salt producers had expressed their surprise over government's recent decision to import salt through the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) although the country's production target of 6.5 lakh tons had been exceeded last year.

Sources said nearly seven lakh tons of salt had been produced last year exceeding the annual target of 6.5 lakh tons.

Special Christmas High Mass Dec 25

A special Christmas High Mass will be offered at the National Major Seminary, Catholic Mission, Banani arranged by Cyril Palmer, an employee of the American Embassy (LGP), for the welfare of all at 6:00 pm on December 25, says a press release.

Missionary sisters and all who want to participate in religious song with music have been requested to attend.

Rev Father James Fannan (CSG) from Catholic services of congregation will conduct the same in English.

The Central Kanchi-Kanchar Mela has drawn up programmes to celebrate the birth anniversaries of Shripacharja Zainul Abedin and poet Jasimuddin, a mela press release said, reports BSS.

A children's painting competition has been arranged at the Institute of Fine Arts, Shahbagh at 9:00 am on December 29 on the occasion of the 80th birth anniversary of Shripacharja.

Children aged between 3 and 15 years have been requested to join this competition with their own painting materials, except paper.

On the occasion of the 92nd birth anniversary of poet Jasimuddin, a recital contest will be held at the same venue at 9:00 am on December 30. Children of 3 to 14 years have been invited.

Interested children should enlist their names, along with name of guardian, date of birth, school and class, full address, telephone number, if any, etc. at the Central Kanchi-Kanchar Mela, 58/1A, Purana Paltan, Dhaka 1000, telephone number 230550.

There will be three age groups for each competition, and 18 prizes will be awarded.

Seminar on Russel philosophy : A seminar on "Conventional Philosophy and Bertrand Russel: A Study" will be held. Venue: Arts Building, DU. Time: 4 pm. The key-note paper will be presented by Dr Nayeema Haq, Assistant Professor of the Department of Philosophy. Pro-Vice Chancellor of the Dhaka University Dr Wakil Ahmed will preside.

Krishibid Institution seminar : The institution has arranged a seminar titled "Role of livestock in poverty alleviation." Venue: BARC auditorium. Time: 10:30 am. Chief guest: Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdulah Al-Noman. Special guest: State Minister for Planning Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan.

Pry Education Fortnight from December 24

"Primary Education Fortnight" will be observed at all district, thana and school levels across the country from December 24 to January 7, reports BSS.

Decorating schools at district and thana levels education offices with colourful banners, posters and festoons, holding rallies, *mild mahfil*, debate and sports competitions and cultural functions are the highlights of the fortnight observance.

Cooperations from people of all walks of life have been sought to make the education fortnight a success.

Montas, a senior resident engineer of the Louis Berger International Inc, first came to Bangladesh in 1988.

His wife Rose has invited all their friends and admirers to attend his memorial service at the Banani Catholic Seminary at 10 am on December 20.

His body, accompanied by his wife, will be flown to Port-au-Prince, Haiti for burial.

Karima Khatoon, a retired regional manager of Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation (BHF) died in the city yesterday morning due to old age complications. She was 70, reports BSS.

She left behind her son, Khaledur Rahman Tito, a former state minister and general secretary of Jatiya Party and five daughters.

Her *namaz-e-janaza* was held at Naya Paltan Mosque after Zohr prayers.

Raj, a noted film actor of the country, died of brain strokes in the city yesterday morning. He was 55.

Raj, who hails from Pergipur, left behind his wife, three daughters and two sons.

His *namaz-e-janaza* was held at the mosque of Kazi Nazrul Islam Road, Mohammadpur, after Asr prayers yesterday.

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