



Deputy Leader of the House Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury distributing prizes among the winners of the second Inter-university Debate Competition at the North South University campus yesterday. — Star photo

Inter-university debate: DU bags championship

The Dhaka University has become champion in the 2nd Inter-university Debate Competition which began on December 24, 1994, says a North South University press release yesterday.

The North South University (NSU) ended the competition with the runner-up position.

The eight-day long debating fiesta was organised by the NSU Debating Club.

Deputy Leader in Parliament Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury handed over prizes among the winners at the concluding ceremony at NSU campus.

The organisers also honoured Prof Serajul Islam Chowdhury of Dhaka University and Mahfuz Anam, Editor of the Daily Star, with the Award of Respect.

The concluding ceremony was presided over by NSU president Prof Musleh Uddin Ahmed.

Hassan Ahmed Chowdhury Kiron of DU Debating Society, BDF president Birupaksha Paul and moderator of the NSU Debating Club Quazi Mahmud Ahmed were also present.

Biennial confce of Barisal Division Assoc

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday urged the leaders of all sections of society to put in their best efforts for the balanced development of different parts of the country, reports BSS.

"We all have to joint our hands to ensure the development of all backward regions of the country by the year 2000 so that every citizen may feel and enjoy the equal taste of development," he said.

President Biswas made this call while addressing the biennial conference of Barisal Division Association in the city at the Institution of Engineers auditorium.

Sircar visits Razzak Ali

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar visited ailing Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad Shaikh Razzak Ali at Suhrawardi Hospital in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

The minister stayed with the Speaker for some time and enquired about his treatment.

15 Dhaka College students exposed to uncertainty

By Staff Correspondent

Uncertainty looms over the future of 15 students, graduated in English from the Dhaka College in 1993 as the Dhaka University authorities refused their admission in Masters classes.

Dhaka College does not have masters course in English. When these students approached Dhaka University authorities to take them in Masters (English) class, they were refused.

Surprisingly, DU authorities allowed students, who passed BA (Hons) in General History and Chemistry from the same college in Masters classes.

According to students, the Principal of Dhaka College in an official letter requested the authorities concerned in DU to absorb students who passed BA (Hons) in English in Masters class of the university, but there was no favourable response.

Students wonder why they have been subjected to discrimination by DU authorities.

Tk 2.74 cr disbursed among urban women

The Jatiya Mohila Sangstha has imparted training and provided loans of Tk 2.74 crore to 400 poor women under its urban based development project for self-employment of women, reports UNB.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Begum Sarwar Rahman disclosed this at a certificate-distribution ceremony organised by the sangstha's head office here yesterday.

Begum Rahman said, the activities of the sangstha, initiated by late President Ziaur Rahman, were expanded at district, thana and union levels, and some 24 training centres were set up in Dhaka during Zia's regime.

The government has reconstituted the committees in the district level, and project activities at 150 thanas has already gone in operation, she said.

The state minister urged the project officials to design training courses for women trainees keeping in view of the demand of the market and utility of the products so that they can easily sell their home-

made products. Later, Sarwar Rahman distributed certificates among the successful trainees from the first batch of the urban-based women development project.

The function was addressed by additional secretary in-charge of Women and Children Affairs Ministry Md Matir Rahman, vice-chairperson of the Sangstha Dr ZN Tahmida Begum, Chairperson of the Sangstha Begum Salima Rahman, MP presided over the function.

The urban-based women development project has set up training centres in 10 thanas of Dhaka metropolitan city, an official handout said.

Abu Rushd hospitalised

Abu Rushd, a noted litterateur and a noted educationist is undergoing treatment for jaundice at BIRDEM in the city family sources said, reports BSS.

Rushd celebrated his 75th birthday on December 25. His condition is stable, the sources said.

What's on today . . .

Dhaka Boi Mela '95: The opening ceremony of the Dhaka Boi Mela '95 will be held. Venue: Ground close to Military Museum at Vijoy Swarani. Time: 4 pm.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the mela. State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahan Ara Begum will preside.

Dhaka Sarak Drama Week: Drama troupe Theatre will stage three plays — *Dandadhar*, *Gatokal Eld Chhilo* and *Manush* — as part of the ongoing Dhaka Sarak Drama Week organised to mark the maiden founding anniversary of the Dhaka Sarak, a group theatre. Venue: Guide House auditorium, Bailey Road. Time: 6:30 pm.

Art competition: An art competition for children organised by the Kendriya Kachi-Kancher Mela to mark the 80th birth anniversary of Shilpachereya Zainul Abedin. Venue: Institute of Fine Arts, DU premises. Time: 9 am.

Folk songs evening: A folk songs session by Ifat Ara Nargis will be held. Venue: Biswa Shahittya Kendra auditorium. Time: 6:30 pm.

Notun Projanma: In memory of late Jahanara Imam, Notun Projanma Sangskritik Gosthi, a cultural troupe, will perform the play Prajanma 71. Venue: Engineers Instt. Time: 6pm.

Poetry recital: Sarabritya has organised a recitation programme marking the 92nd birth anniversary of poet Jashimuddin. Venue: Biswa Shahittya Kendra auditorium. Time: 8:30am.

Rotary Club of Dhaka Cosmopolitan: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: CIRDAP cafeteria. Time: 5:30 pm.

. . . . and tomorrow

Moni Singh-Farhad Smriti Trust: In observance of the 4th death anniversary of Communist leader Moni Singh, the trust will hold a memorial meeting. Venue: Trust premises (21/1, Purana Palani). Time: 4 pm.

Dhaka Assoc of the Deaf: A certificate awarding ceremony of the deaf apprentices on the just concluding Architectural Drafting course will be held. Venue: Auditorium of the association at 62, Bijoy Nagar. Chief guest: Director, Rotary International, Danial Moor.

Inaugural ceremony: The inauguration of SAARC Meteorological Research Centre (SMRC) will be held. Venue: Bangladesh Meteorological Department, Agargaon. Time: 10:30 am. Chief guest: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

Shefa Medical Services Ltd: The inauguration of the Shefa Medical Services Ltd, a computerised diagnostic complex, will be held. Venue: 18, Green Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm.

Annual jamboree of sea scouts

The annual jamboree of the Bangladesh Sea Scouts concluded at the scouts training centre at the Mouchak under Gazipur district Friday. BSS reports quoting an ISPR press release.

About 450 sea scouts belonging to Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Mongla and Kaptai regions took part in the four-day long jamboree.

Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral Mohammad Mohaiminul Islam attended the jamboree as the chief guest. He took salute at the marchpast of the sea scouts and visited some of the camps set-up by them. The navy chief also lit the camp fire and enjoyed a cultural function presented by the sea scouts.

He expressed his satisfaction at the performance of the scouts and urged them to devote themselves in their studies.

Nat'l Fine Art Exhibition begins Jan 6

The Eleventh National Fine Art Exhibition 1994 will begin on January 6 under the auspices of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, reports UNB.

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali will inaugurate the three week long exhibition at 4 pm, according to an announcement made by the Academy yesterday.

Prof Jahanara Begum, State Minister for Cultural Affairs will attend the inaugural ceremony as special guest. Cultural Secretary Mokhlesur Rahman will preside.

Speaker Ali later will distribute prizes among the winners.

Three best awards — Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Award, Arab Bangladesh Bank Award, and Pacific Group Gold Medal — are on stake for participants. Three honorary awards will also be given.

Weather

Dry spell likely

Dry weather is likely to prevail over the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

No appreciable change in night temperature is expected over the country during the period, the Met Office forecasts.

In its outlook for subsequent two days it predicted a fall in the night temperature but no appreciable change is likely in the following week.

Country's lowest temperature 8.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at Srimangal and the highest 28.0 degrees at Sakshira.

The sunsets today at 5.22 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.42 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded yesterday in some major cities and towns of the country are:

| City/Town | Temperature in degree Celsius | | Humidity in percentage | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------|------------------------|------|
| | Max | Min | 6 am | 6 pm |
| Dhaka | 27.0 | 11.6 | 71 | 65 |
| Chittagong | 26.2 | 13.3 | 78 | 65 |
| Cox's Bazar | 27.0 | 15.0 | 59 | 58 |
| Rajshahi | 24.3 | 09.7 | 79 | 77 |
| Khulna | 27.0 | 11.0 | 88 | 68 |
| Dinajpur | 22.0 | 10.8 | 91 | 68 |
| Barisal | 26.0 | 10.4 | 93 | 73 |
| Sylhet | 24.8 | 12.3 | 89 | 71 |



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