



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina taking part in the akheri munazat at the Biswa Itjema at Tongi yesterday.

Veterinary colleges in Ctg, Sylhet likely

The country will have two veterinary colleges, one in Sylhet and the other in Chittagong, reports UNB.

The institutions have been planned in view of the short supply of veterinary doctors vis-a-vis growing demand of physicians to treat animals in the fast expanding livestock sector.

According to a source in the Livestock Directorate, about 500 posts of veterinary surgeons have been lying vacant for a long time, affecting services in the livestock sector.

The decision to open new colleges was taken when Bangladesh Agricultural University in Mymensingh expressed inability to increase capacity in its veterinary science department. The university provides

60 doctors a year. The new institutions are expected to produce 100 doctors a year.

The college in Sylhet is to be housed at the Livestock Training Institute.

In Chittagong, the college will have to be constructed.

Meanwhile, the Livestock Directorate is setting up three dairy farms, similar to the one at Savar, to breed and supply high yielding varieties of milch cows to the people.

The farms, each with about 2000 cows, will be situated in Chittagong, Barisal and Bogra.

Two new goat breeding farms, one in Jheridah and the other in Chuadanga, are also underway to provide goats to poor women. There are already three goat farms in the country.

New allocation for poverty alleviation schemes

The government has sanctioned an additional allocation of 55,000 metric tons of foodgrains under three schemes to alleviate rural poverty, reports UNB.

An interministerial meeting held yesterday with Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman in the chair took the decision.

The new allocation was made with a view to bringing down prices, help with poverty alleviation and job creation in the rural areas.

Of the total allocation, 25,000 metric tons will be used for Food For Works programme, 20,000 in test relief and another 10,000 metric tons as gratuitous relief.

The government has allocated 8.20 lakh metric tons of foodgrains in the current budget for the schemes.

The Disaster Management and Relief Ministry has been directed to despatch foodgrains immediately to different rural areas of the country.

Cultural accord

By Staff Correspondent

A bilateral accord between the Shahitya Academy of India and the Bangla Academy has been signed recently under which cultural activities can be exchanged between the two countries, says a Bangla Academy press release yesterday.

Secretary of the Shahitya Academy Prof Indranath Choudhury and Director General of the Bangla Academy Prof Md Harun Ur Rashid signed the accord on behalf of their respective sides.

Under this accord the two countries will also exchange literary translation works, research data, publications and other information and will also organise seminars on literature with the participation of litterateurs of the two countries.

44 held in city

Police arrested 44 people, including eight wanted criminals, on various charges from different parts of the city yesterday, UNB reports quoting a DMP press release.

Of the accused two were arrested for possessing illegal arms, one for robbery, one for stealing and the rest for other charges.

Reunion of DU Economics Deptt Alumni Assoc

Vice-Chancellor of the Dhaka University Prof Emajuddin Ahmad yesterday stressed the need for sound political atmosphere for country's smooth economic growth, reports BSS.

Prof Emajuddin Ahmad was addressing as the chief guest the biennial reunion of Dhaka University Economics Department Alumni Association at Hotel Sonargaon in the city.

With association president Prof Montazuddin Ahmad in the chair, the function was also addressed by industrialist Sayed Manzur Elahi, Prof Ayubur Rahman Bhuiyan and association's general secretary Prof Harunur Rashid Khan.

Vice Chancellor of the Jahangirnagar University Prof Anirul Islam Chowdhury, Prof Sula Hasna Jahan Ali of Dhaka University and Chhatra Dal President Fazlul Huq Milon, among others, walked down the memory lane when they were the students of the Economics Department of Dhaka University.

The function was followed by a cultural programme participated by noted artists.



The Ustad Manon Ali Khan Sangeet Parishad held a musical soiree at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy auditorium in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Notice

Our regular feature 'Dhaka Day by Day' could not be published today due to space constraint. Inconvenience to our readers is regretted.

BDR officials, jawans donate blood

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) yesterday organised a blood donation programme as part of its bicentennial celebration, reports UNB.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury inaugurated the programme at city's Palkhaha BDR Hospital as chief guest.

President of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society Sayed Sahidul Haque Jamal MP and BDR Director General Major General Mohammad Anwar Hossain attended the programme as special guests.

Some 100 officers, including BDR director general and its deputy director general, donated blood on the occasion.

Garib Dal stages hunger strike today

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Garib Dal will hold an eight-hour token hunger strike from 9 am today protesting what they said, national leaders' silence over price hike of essentials, says a party press release.

Md Bulbul Chowdhury, convenor of the Garib Dal urged all poor people of the country to extend support to their programme designed to protest terrorist activities across the country and doctors 'negligence' to poor patients, added the press release.

Rabitat's concern over Chechen crisis

The secretary general of Rabitat Al Alam Al Islami (Muslim World League), Makkah Al Mukarramah, expressed regret over Russian interference in the internal affairs of the Chechen republic, reports BSS.

The Rabita secretary general said, the military intervention and bombing of the Chechen republic in a bid to occupy its land and change its government was in contradiction with all international norms, more so, that this comes against the wishes of the Chechen people who declared their determination to repulse aggression and preserve full independence.

Inner Wheel walkathon today

By Staff Correspondent

Inner Wheel Dist 328, Bangladesh will organise a walkathon in the city today in observance of the International Inner Wheel Day, says a press release.

The walkathon, aimed at creating social awareness among the public about the problems prevailing in the society, will start from the Engineers Institute at 6:30 am and end up at the Jasiya Press Club.

Weather

Light rain likely

Light rain is likely at a few places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna divisions and the regions of Chittagong, Sylhet and Comilla during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

The Met Office forecasts weather may remain mainly dry with cloudy sky elsewhere across the country.

Night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

After the end of the prevailing rainy days or cloudy weather, marked fall in night temperature is expected and country is likely to come under the grip of moderate to severe cold wave, the Met Office added.

In its outlook for subsequent two days the Met Office forecasts weather is likely to improve at the end of the period.

Giving extended outlook for another five days weathermen say country is expected to experience another spell of cold wave.

Country's lowest temperature, 12.5 degrees Celsius, was recorded yesterday at Rangpur and the highest, 30.2 degrees, at Teknaf.

The sun sets today at 5:29 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:44 am.

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

City	Temperatures in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Min	Max	6 am	6 pm
Dhaka	16.0	20.8	85	89
Chittagong	17.5	26.0	66	59
Rajshahi	14.5	17.9	97	97
Khulna	16.0	20.1	93	89
Barisal	16.4	22.4	82	84
Sylhet	15.2	19.2	89	97
Cox's Bazar	16.2	27.5	69	65
Faridpur	15.8	19.9	93	94
Mymensingh	-	19.5	-	89
Comilla	16.3	21.0	85	90
Rangpur	12.5	18.0	87	91
Dinajpur	13.7	18.2	87	89
Jessore	15.6	19.2	-	-



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