

Minister tells JS

Tk 7.2 cr sanctioned for construction of 8 new jails

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government had sanctioned Taka 7.22.00.000 for construction of eight new district jails in the current financial year, reports BSS.

In reply to a question from M Golam Rabbani (Joypurhat), the minister said, the government had already spent Taka 1,95,41,070 since July 1, 1994 for development of 16 district jails.

He said the new district jails are being constructed at Panchagar, Lalmonirhat, Sherpur, Gazipur, Manikganj, Cox's Bazar, Moulvibazar and Sunamganj districts.

He said, the district jails at Faridpur, Mymensingh, Tangail, Narsingdi, Bogra, Joypurhat, Nawabganj, Thakurgaon, Chittagong, Moulvibazar, Sylhet, Noakhali, Sunamganj, Durgam, Comilla and Kushtia have been taken for development in the current financial year.

In reply to a supplementary he said, measures had been taken for expansion of the jails in every district.

The minister also informed the House that a committee had been formed to take necessary action against those involved with the construction faults of Joypurhat district jail. He said, recently the Home Ministry retained the Bureau of Anti-corruption to give report on the issue at the earliest so that the committee could take its decision.

Obituary

AKM Abdul Hamid, a retired SP and the area manager of the Green Delta Insurance Co Ltd, Khulna, died on February 5 at 11:20 pm at the Dhaka Combined Military Hospital. He was 68, says a press release.

Matin Chowdhury informed the Jatiya Sangsad that about nine kilogram of heroin was seized since January 1, 1994, and 199 persons, including four women were arrested in this connection.

In reply to a question from Begum KJ Hamida Khanam (women-20), the minister said 149 cases were filed against the accused who are now under trial.

In reply to a supplementary, he said that Jawful actions had been taken against 140 heroin smugglers so far, and they were given various sentences, including death penalty and

life imprisonment.

In reply to another question from M Niamatullah (Savar), the home minister said, the government had a plan to increase the number of highway petrol cars with a view to stopping highway robbery. He said, the plan would be implemented in phases with the availability of funds.

In reply to a supplementary, he said, to reduce traffic jams and the travel time between Dhaka and Narayanganj, the government would construct a new road linking Jatrabari with Narayanganj which would be completed soon.

What's on today . . . .

**Ekushey Boi Mela:** A discussion on Satabarsher Natok (part I & II), edited jointly by Syed Shamsul Haq and Rashid Hayder will be held. Speakers: Ataur Rahman and Jubaida Gulshan Ara. Venue: Bangla Academy premises. Time: 3 pm. Prof Moinuddin will preside.

**Rotary Club of Ramna:** The regular weekly meeting will be held. Venue 3/7, Johnson Road. Time 9:30. The meeting will be followed by an iftar party.

**Zahir Raihan Film Society:** The Society will screen two films — *Why Does Mr R Run Amuck* and *The Chronicle of Anna Magdalena Bach* — on the third day of the ongoing German film session. Venue: German Cultural Centre auditorium. Time: 2 pm.

**Rapport Bangladesh:** A two-week training course on 'security and fire-fighting' will begin. Venue: Rapport Seminar Hall, 98, Malibagh. Time: 10 am.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka:** The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Dhaka Sheraton Hotel. Time: 5 pm. Guest speaker Dr Golam Moazzem will speak on Ranadar.

. . . . and tomorrow

**Monthly meeting:** The regular monthly meeting of Voice of America (VOA) Fan Club of Dhaka Cantonment will be held. Venue: Club premises. Time: 10 am.

Veterinary Assoc calls work stoppage Feb 11

Bangladesh Veterinary Association (BVA) enforced a day-long work stoppage in the capital yesterday protesting administrative anomaly in implementing the government order to upgrade some 523 BCS Livestock cadre posts from 7th to 6th grade at the thana level, reports UNB.

The association has called another day-long work stoppage across the country on February 11 and two-hour token strikes from February 7 to 10 express their indignation at the "undesirable complexities."

Addressing a press conference at a local restaurant in the afternoon, BVA secretary general Dr Mohammad Sultan Mohiuddin demanded immediate filling up of the vacant posts in the Livestock Directorate.

Also demanding removal of the anomalies in restructuring the Directorate, Dr Mohiuddin called for introduction of an integrated degree in veterinary science and animal husbandry as well as setting up veterinary colleges in the country.

He blamed administrative anomalies for denial of "legitimate rights" to the veterinary doctors.

The BVA secretary general also held the "bureaucratic tangle" responsible for not modifying the appointment rates since 1986 that led to increasing number of vacancies in the Livestock cadre.

He said 500 posts at the entry level were vacant in the revenue sector and another 600 in other sectors of the Livestock Directorate.

Appeal for blood

By Staff Correspondent  
A newborn baby needs blood. Blood Group A — (Negative). Generous donors have been requested to contact Ward 2B, Bed H2, Unit 1, JGMR Hospital, or Tel: 864474, 326320, 316563.



A sequence of a street drama staged at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday in observance of the Amar Ekushey. — Star photo

National Edn Conference today

The day-long National Education Conference will be held today marking the observance of National Education Week, reports UNB.

The theme of the conference is "role of education in creating human resource."

President Abdur Rahman Biswas is expected to inaugurate the conference at Shilpakala Academy at 10:00 am.

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar will attend the conference as special guest.

Director General of Technical Education Rafiqul Haq will present the keynote paper. Renowned educationists, scholars and high officials will take part in the discussion.

Govt to distribute 2.79 lakh tons of foodgrains

The government has sanctioned 2.79 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for distribution under different heads during the current month (February), an official handout said yesterday, reports BSS.

Meanwhile, sale of foodgrains in the open market is going on in full swing across the country. The quantity of foodgrains and number of sale centres were increased from today considering the requirement in all district towns and Dhaka metropolitan city. Along with rice, high quality flour is also being sold from these centres.

The government has sought cooperation from all to ensure fair prices to the ready.

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Weather

Temperature may fall

Dry Weather is likely to prevail over the country with partly cloudy sky in Chittagong and Barisal divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

The Met Office forecasts night temperature may fall by one to two degrees Celsius over Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions, during the period.

Yesterday's highest temperature 29 degrees Celsius was recorded at Teknaf, Cox's Bazar and Sitakunda and the lowest 9.4 degrees at Srimongal.

The sun sets today at 5:29 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:38 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded at some major cities and towns of the country were:

City/Town	Temperatures		Humidity	
	in degrees Celsius		6am	6pm
Dhaka	Max 26.5	Min 13.3	85	69
Chittagong	28.5	14.6	78	59
Rajshahi	25.5	10.8	93	-
Khulna	26.3	12.4	89	68
Barisal	26.8	12.5	88	75
Sylhet	26.5	12.0	97	71
Cox's Bazar	29.0	15.8	78	70

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বিনামূল্যে চিনি

প্রতি লিটার কোকা-কোলা, স্প্রাইট ও ফান্টা  
বোতলসহ পানীয় কিনলে  
পাবেন ২০০ গ্রাম চিনি।  
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