



Bangladesh Chhatra League brought out a procession on the Dhaka University campus yesterday welcoming the Prime Minister's visit to the Bangla Academy today to inaugurate the Ekushey Boi Mela. — Star photo



Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal brought out another procession on the DU campus yesterday protesting the PM's visit. — Star photo

Comments made in HR Report by US baseless: JP

By Staff Correspondent
Comments made in the Human Rights Report on Bangladesh released by the US is "unfortunate, deplorable and baseless," said Nazim Rahman, additional secretary general of the Jatiya Party in a press statement yesterday.

Regarding the comment made in the report that Ershad was serving a 20-year sentence, the statement said, "the party chief was given 10-year sentence by the lower court which was set aside by the High Court."

About the allegation made in the report that the government was not actively pursuing the cases instituted by its predecessor, Nazim Rahman said, "the Awami League has so far not interfered with the judicial system and its process."

"Any incorrect report of the US government will affect the sentiments of the peace-loving people of Bangladesh especially the political leaders and workers of the Jatiya Party," the statement added.

Waz mahfil

CHITTAGONG, Feb 6: The annual waz mahfil, milad and jikir mahfil of Anjuman-e-Rahmania Moinia Maizbandaria will be held on February 9 on the occasion of holy khoshroji sharif of Alhaj Shah Sufi Matulana Syed Moniruddin Ahmed Al Hasan Maizbandari, reports BSS.

The yearly programmes of Maizbandaria Rahmania Moinia Madrasa and Orphanage will also be held on the occasion.

Ershad attends Breakfast Prayer in Washington

Jatiya Party Chairman and former President H M Ershad met with US President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary Clinton at the 46th national Breakfast Prayer in Washington on Thursday, reports UNB.

According to a fax message received in the city yesterday Ershad was introduced to the US President and the First Lady at the meeting. Hillary, at this time, recalled her visit to Bangladesh.

About 4,000 distinguished guests all over the world took part in the Breakfast Prayers.

Cheat arrested

Police arrested a youth, who identified himself as the private secretary of Prime Minister's special security force office, from the city's Bijoy Sarani on Thursday, reports UNB.

A DMP press release said yesterday, acting on a tip-off, Tejgaon police arrested Sayedul Islam, 25, when he was trying to buy a colour television from a Rangas Electronic shop at about 4:30 pm introducing him as the private secretary of the Prime Minister.

He also showed false check of Grindlays Bank of Kawran-bazar branch.

Weather

Light rain forecast

Light rain or drizzle may occur at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Pabna, Bogra and Barisal during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country during the period, according to a Met office bulletin.

Slight rise in night temperature is expected over Barisal and Khulna divisions and the regions of Faridpur and Dhaka and no appreciable change is expected elsewhere over the country, it added.

Country's highest temperature 27.6 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Teknaf and the lowest 7.6 degrees Celsius at Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 5:49 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:36 am.

Int'l confce on arsenic Feb 8-12

The first ever international conference on arsenic will be inaugurated in the city on Sunday to find out remedial measures to the deepening arsenic crisis, reports UNB.

The five-day conference on "Arsenic Contamination in Ground Water in Bangladesh: Causes, Effects and Remedies" will be held at the auditorium of Local Government Engineering

Department (LGED) Bhaban, Chief Advisor of the former caretaker Government Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman will open the conference.

Ninety-four arsenic experts from 14 countries and 23 from home will present research papers on various aspects of arsenic at the conference, to be jointly organised by Dhaka Community Hospital and the

School of Environmental Studies (SOES), Jadavpur, Calcutta.

The participating countries are Australia, Canada, China, Chile, France, Germany, India, Japan, Hungary, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, UK and USA.

The foreign experts will visit Chandipur village, an arsenic affected area, in Ramganj thana of Laxmipur district on Sunday.

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