

Metropolitan

Four-day BRRRI internal meet begins

Farmers get much less yield from modern varieties of rice

A four-day annual internal review meeting of the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRRI) began in the city at the BRRRI auditorium yesterday, reports BSS.

Dr M A Hamid Miah, Director General, BRRRI inaugurated the view meeting as the chief guest, a BRRRI press release said. Some 150 scientists and specialists from different research institutes, universities, government and non-government organisations including BRRRI are participating in the review meeting.

In his opening comments, Dr M A Hamid Miah stressed the need for renewing agricultural

research management and pursuing integrated approach to develop sustainable rice-based food production technologies and strengthening their rapid extension to ensure balance food security for the people.

He said, "our farmers get much less yield from the modern varieties of rice than their actual yield potential and we should work relentlessly at the grass-roots to reduce this gap."

He also stressed the need for introducing appropriate farm machinery to meet the shortage of agricultural labour force.

Among others, Dr S M Hasanuzzaman, former member, the Planning Commission

and former Director General (DG), BRRRI, Dr A J Mazzul Islam, former DG, BRRRI, Dr M A Majed, DG, the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Dr S I Bhuiyan, IRRRI representative in Bangladesh, Dr Iyuyomi Mizuochi, representative, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and Zhou Kunlu and Wu Xiaojin, hybrid rice specialists from China attended the session.

In total 26 reports on last year's research activities of 17 research divisions and nine regional stations will be presented for discussion and recommendations.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offering munajat after placing wreaths at the mazar of Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul Haq yesterday. — PID photo

US envoy meets Home Minister

US Ambassador to Bangladesh John C Holzman yesterday called on Home Minister Rafiqul Islam, Bir Uttam, at his office in the city, reports BSS.

They discussed matters of mutual and bilateral interest. During the meeting, Ambassador Holzman said the continued US assistance for the development of Bangladesh will be increased further in the future.

The Home Minister thanked the US envoy for continued assistance of his country for the people of Bangladesh.

Ershad shocked at death of Shazneen

Jatiya Party Chairman H M Ershad has expressed deep shock at the death of Shazneen, youngest daughter of industrialist Latifur Rahman, reports UNB.

In a condolence message yesterday, Ershad said anti-social activities have increased manifold in the society due to the failure of the administration to give the killers exemplary punishment.

"This killing is a true picture of insecurity of our social life," he added.

The Jatiya Party Chairman also conveyed his deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

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JP discussion on Sher-e-Bangla

Jatiya Party held a discussion meeting at its office yesterday marking the death anniversary of Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul Haq, reports UNB.

JP leaders Shah Rafiqul Bari Chowdhury, Taiyubur Rahman, Humayun Kabir Hiru and Sinha MA Sayeed addressed the meeting chaired by Mahbulul Haq Dolon.

Pak information minister meets Ershad

The visiting Pakistan Information and Media Development Minister Mushahid Hussain Sayed made a courtesy call on former President and Jatiya Party Chairman H M Ershad at his party office on Sunday night, reports UNB.

During the meeting the leaders exchanged views on various issues of mutual interests.

The minister invited Ershad to visit Pakistan.

Pakistan Ambassador in Dhaka Karam Elahi and other JP leaders were also present, said a press release.

Memorial meet on Liberation War martyrs Wednesday

A memorial meeting on the martyrs of liberation war and Shaheed Dr Shamsuddin memorial lecture will be held at the BIRDEM auditorium at 10 am on Wednesday, reports UNB.

The meeting and the lecture have been arranged in memory of the teachers, physicians and other employees and their relatives who embraced martyrdom at the old premises of Sylhet Medical College Hospital in 1971.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and State Minister for Health and Family Welfare M Amanullah will attend as chief and special guest respectively.

Vice-president of Bangladesh Medical Association Dr Delwar Rana will preside over the memorial function, while noted Surgeon Dr Mohammad Ali will deliver the memorial lecture, said a press release.

Dakhil examinee gives birth to a child near exam centre at Trishal

A female candidate, who came to take part in the Dakhil examination, gave birth to a child near the exam centre at Trishal in Mymensingh district yesterday, reports UNB.

Centre officials said the examinee, Hajera Akhter 17, suddenly experienced labour pain soon after she arrived at Trishal Alia Madrasah Centre.

Hajera was rushed to a nearby house, where she gave birth to a boy child. She is an inhabitant of village Khagati in Trishal thana.

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Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Faridpur

Notice of RHD Inviting Tenders

Sealed cover tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 for the following works.

- Tender Notice : FRD/50 of 1997-98.
- Name of work : Site improvement with carried earth and construction of barbed wire fencing for the proposed residence of the Superintending Engineer, Faridpur Road Circle under Road Division, Faridpur during 1997-98. (Ch. to 168 RBF).
- Estimated cost : Tk. 3,73,155/=
- Earnest money : Tk. 7,463/=
- Time allowed for completion of work : 30 (thirty) days.
- Eligibility of contractor : "A to E" general category.
- Name of offices of availability of tender documents : Office of the undersigned/all other Executive Engineers of RHD under Road Circle, Faridpur & Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Road Sub-Division No. II, Faridpur.
- Name of officers to received tender bids : Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Faridpur and the office of the undersigned.
- Last date for selling tender : 5-5-98 up to 5-00 PM.
- Last date of received of tender : 6-5-98 up to 12-30 PM.
- Date & time of opening of tender : 10-5-98 at 11:00 AM at the office of the undersigned.
- Date & time of lottery : 12-5-98 at 11:00 AM at the office of the undersigned.

Executive Engineer (RHD)
(Current Charge)
Road Division, Faridpur.

DFP-8742-22/4/98
G-878

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PWD Notice Inviting Tender

No-0/181 of 1997-98

- Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No-2911 are hereby invited from Special Class-I (one) enlisted contractors, Class-I (one) enlisted Building contractors under PWD, Class-II (two) enlisted building contractors under PWD Dhaka Zone, Dhaka and Class-III (three) enlisted Building contractors under Dhaka PWD Circle-I, Dhaka for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, Dhaka PWD Division-II/City PWD Division/Eden Bldg. PWD Division and the Executive Officer, Arboriculture PWD Division, Dhaka in their respective offices up to 12:00 Noon on 06/05/98 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the intending tenderers who like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it. No tender form will be sold after 05/05/98.
- Name of work : Construction of 6 (six) Nos semipermanent garage for Uttara, Pubali and Prantici Bldg. at Circuit House Road, Dhaka. Ch. to: Construction of Honourable Judges Residences of Supreme Court, Bangladesh.
- Estimated cost : Tk. 3,12,532/-
- Earnest money : Tk. 6,255/-
- Time allowed for completion of the work from the date of issue of work order 40 (forty) days.
- Contract documents consisting of Bangladesh Form No-2911, schedule of items, Addl. terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned and the office of the Executive Engineer, Dhaka, PWD Division-II/City PWD Division/Eden Bldg. PWD Division/the Executive Officer, Arboriculture PWD Division during office hours on all working days up to 05/05/98 on payment of Tk 400/- (non-refundable) only for the notice inviting tenders, schedule of items, special terms and conditions etc. (fixed) and a sum of Tk 25/- (non-refundable) per copy of Tender Form No-2911. The tender form may be purchased by the contractor himself or his representative to produce the authorised letter bearing the signature of the representative duly attested by the contractor. The tenderer must produce the VAT Registration certificate, the Registration book of enlistment & TIN certificate before purchasing tender schedule, failing which no tender schedule will be sold to them. The tenderer must enclose attested copy of the VAT registration & TIN certificate along with the tender.
- This tender has been invited as per technically approved estimated amount by competent authority.
- During execution of work the quantities of items of work may vary and even some items or all the items of work may not be executed for which no claim is acceptable.
- Payment for the work one will only be made after availability of required fund and no claim of contractor is acceptable for unavoidable delay in payment.
- In case more than one tenderer quote the same rate and stand lowest selection will be made by lottery on 13/05/98 at 12:00 Noon in the chamber of the Executive Engineer, PWD Divn-I, Dhaka in presence of the tenderer who like to remain present.

DFP-8721-22/4/98
G-877

Executive Engineer
Dhaka PWD Divn-I, Dhaka

What's on today . . .

Seminar: A seminar on 'Bangladesh - into the next millennium' jointly organised by the North South University (NSU) and American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh. will be held. Venue: Nirala Room, Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 2 pm.

Film show: As part of a 5-day session on Contemporary Indian films 'Sardari Begum' will be screened. Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society in collaboration with the cultural section of the High Commission of India, Dhaka. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Rd 2, Dhanmondi. Time: 6 pm.

Seminar: A seminar on 'the archaeological remains of Barobazar area, Jhenidah district,' organised by the International Centre for Study of Bengal Art (ICSBA) will be held. Venue: ICSBA Library Hall, House 32E, Rd 17/A, Banani. Time: 4:30 pm.

Talk: A talk on 'Human Rights and Gender' by Prof Jeremy Cooper, Dean, Faculty of Law, Southampton University, UK, will be held. Organiser: British Council. Venue: WVA auditorium. Time: 4:30 pm.

Film show: A 3-day film session on European films will be concluded with the screening of 'Straight into the Heart' and 'Fontane Effi Briest'. Organiser: Chaitritham Film Society in cooperation with the Goethe Institut. Venue: German Cultural Centre. Time: 4 and 6 pm respectively.

UCEP Rally: A colourful rally of students of UCEP-Bangladesh will be held as part of a week-long programme on Silver Jubilee celebration of its founding. Venue: The rally will begin at Shishu Academy premises and will be concluded at the National Press Club. Time: 9 am.

Painting exhibition: A week-long water colour painting exhibition by 'With Glass', a group of five young artists, will begin. Venue: Zainul Gallery, Fine Arts Institute, DU. Time: 4 pm. The exhibition will run till May 4 from 12 noon to 8 pm.

Workshop: A 2-day workshop on 'Arsenic crisis: in search of safe water options', organised by the Disaster Forum, in collaboration with Oxfam will begin. Venue: BRAC auditorium. Time: ?

Club meeting: The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Ramna will be held. Guest speaker: Dr Bruce Currey, consultant BARC, will speak on 'elimination of extreme poverty'. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5:30 pm.

Club meeting: The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka New City will be held. Venue: Santoor Restaurant, Rd 11, Dhanmondi. Time: 5:30 pm.

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia, Barisal, Noakhali and Comilla till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the period, according to the Met office.

Slight rise in day temperature is expected over the country, it added.

Country's highest temperature 35.6 degrees Celsius was recorded today (Monday) at Barisal and the lowest 20.0 degrees Celsius at Bogra.

The sun sets today at 6.26 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.26 am. Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday.

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.6	23.5	72	69
Chittagong	33.2	25.4	83	78
Rajshahi	34.4	21.6	72	55
Khulna	34.5	24.0	62	57
Barisal	35.6	24.8	71	64
Sylhet	31.0	22.3	97	71
Cox's Bazar	33.3	25.0	65	77

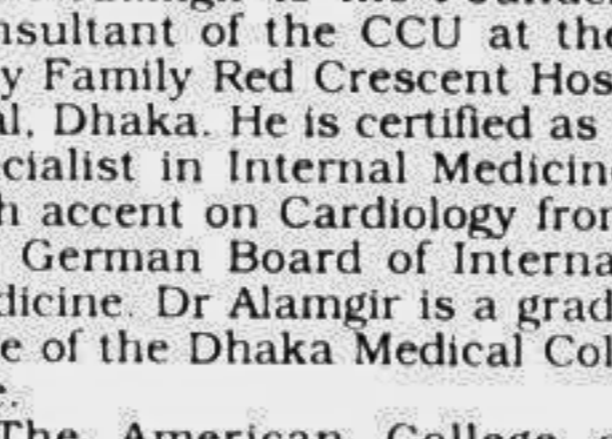
Govt plans to open training centres for farmers

The government has a plan to open training centres for farmers in 250 thanas to educate them in modernising farming, reports UNB.

Replying to Abdul Latif Mirza (AL), Agriculture Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury said establishment of the training centres are in process under the second phase of the agricultural support services.

In reply to a supplementary by M K Anwar (BNP), the minister said the government has also plan for crop diversification and cultivation of pulse and oil seeds has already started

Dr Alamgir awarded



The American College of Physicians in Philadelphia, USA has elected Dr M A Alamgir, a Fellow of American College of Physicians. Dr M A Alamgir is the Sr Consultant and Head Department of Cardiology in the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital, Dhaka, says a press release.

Dr Alamgir was elected an ACP Fellow in 1998 for achievements in Internal Medicine.

Dr Alamgir is the Founder Consultant of the CCU at the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital, Dhaka. He is certified as a specialist in Internal Medicine with accent on Cardiology from the German Board of Internal Medicine. Dr Alamgir is a graduate of the Dhaka Medical College.

The American College of Physicians with Membership of more than 100,000 specialists is the world's largest medical specialty organisation.

Qulqhwani

Akhতারুদ্দিন আহমেদ চৌধুরী, Managing Director of A A Choudhuri & Co Ltd died early hours of Sunday at Chittagong. He was 72. Choudhuri was the third son of late Siddique Ahmed Choudhuri of Kattali Nazirbari, says a press release.

Scholastica

The Management, Teachers and Students of Scholastica express their profound grief and shock at the tragic demise of Shazneen Tasnim Rahman, youngest daughter of Mr & Mrs Latifur Rahman, who was a beloved student of Scholastica, which follows so closely upon the loss of another beloved student Muslehuddin Saidee who was killed in a road accident a few weeks ago.

Shazneen was a brilliant student with a gentle and endearing personality. She was a very popular Prefect who carried out her responsibilities with sincerity. She was an enthusiastic participant in the extra curricular activities of the school and her contribution will always be treasured in our memories.

A well mannered and quiet girl, Shazneen was liked by her classmates and was admired by her teachers as well.

The Management, Teachers and Students of Scholastica deeply mourn her death and pray that Almighty Allah grants her innocent soul Everlasting Peace and Salvation. We join the bereaved parents and family in this time of grief. We pray that Allah grants the families and relatives of both the students the fortitude and the courage to bear the loss with Faith.

Ameen.

Mrs Yasmeen Murshed
Chairperson, Board of Management

C-307