

News



People from all walks of life have shown great enthusiasm in the ongoing World Cup. A rally of young supporters of the Brazilian team at Ahmed Bagh in the city yesterday.

For dev of water supply system Tk 18cr KCC project to be implemented this fiscal

KHULNA, July 11: A Taka 18.04 crore project will be implemented during the financial year 1998-99 for overall development of drinking water supply system of Khulna City Corporation (KCC), reports BSS. KCC sources today said the drinking water supply project of the corporation will be financed from its own resources as well as government grants. Work on the project will be undertaken at the end of the current year or at the beginning of the next year, the sources added. The project has been divided into twenty-five heads which include, inter alia, sinking of shallow and deep tube-wells — Taka nine crore, improvement in water supply system — Taka one crore fifty lakh, purchase of generator — Taka one crore, chlorine injector — Taka one crore, leakage detector — Taka one crore, regeneration of tube-wells — Taka one crore, procurement of water quality test equipment, electric panel board, electric motors, chlorine gas, switch bulb chamber, overhead tank and tractor etc. — Taka two crore and purchase of electric accessories and tools etc. — Taka one crore sixteen lakh. On completion of the drinking water supply project by the year 2000, KCC would be able to ensure necessary water supply for its about 15,00,000 city dwellers, the sources said.



Riot police guarding the approach to Bangabandhu Jamuna Bridge with barbed wire barricades near the venue of BNP's rally at Samsol, Tangail yesterday. — Star photo

HERE and THERE

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The special envoy of Prime Minister of Pakistan, Senator Akram Zaki, met Jatuya Party chairman H M Ershad at his office at Baridhara yesterday, reports UNB. They discussed bilateral and international issues, including nuclear explosion by India and Pakistan, and role of SAARC in the socio-economic development of people of this region. Ershad informed Zaki about present political situation in Bangladesh and the role of JLP.

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'Vote dacoit' BNP has experience of holding farcical polls: Zillur

Awami League General Secretary Zillur Rahman yesterday said BNP has started raving against government apprehending their defeat in the coming Barisal by-election, reports UNB. 'BNP has brought false and imaginary allegation against Awami League being afraid of their defeat,' he said in a statement refuting BNP's allegation. Protesting BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan's statement on the by-election of Barisal-5 constituency, the LGDR Minister said that 'vote dacoit' BNP has the experience of holding farcical election through vote rigging. He said BNP has the experience of making record in rigging votes by unleashing terrorism, blasting bombs, obstructing the voters from going to the polling centres and stuffing ballot boxes by capturing polling booths. Zillur accused BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia of violating the election code of conduct by abusing her post of Leader of the Opposition and availing herself of government facilities in Manikganj by-election. The minister said Awami League which is determined to protect the voting rights of the people has restored the lost glory of Bangladesh by holding free, fair and neutral election to Union Parishad. 'BNP is making such comments being envious of glorious and positive role of Awami League in holding free and fair elections,' he said. Zillur said the ruling party will fully cooperate with the Election Commission in holding an impartial and peaceful by-election in Barisal.

5000 BNP, JP workers in Gazipur join AL

GAZIPUR, July 11: Four union parishad (UP) chairmen and 23 members under sadartana and over five thousand workers of BNP and Jatuya Party joined the Awami League at a public meeting on July 8, reports BSS. The meeting was held at Rajbari Maidan with Gazipur Pourashada Chairman A K M Mozammel Haque in the chair. The new entrants ceremonially joined Awami League in presence of Awami League president members Amir Hossain Amu and Abdul Jalil, and Awami League leader Abdul Mannan and Ahasan Ullah Master MP. The four union parishad chairmen who joined Awami League along with others are Akhtaruzzaman Sukkur of Baria UP, Abdur Rashid of Gachha UP, Asad Ullah of Porabari UP and Kalim Uddin of Kashimpur UP.

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Foundation stone of new rly station laid in Sylhet

SYLHET, July 11: Speaker Humayun Rasheed Choudhury today laid the foundation stone of a modern railway station at south Surma area in the town here, reports BSS. The construction of new station under railway station re-modelling project is scheduled to be completed by the year 2000. It will provide VIP lounge, air conditioned lounges for the passengers, bank, post office, cafeteria with fast food shops, public telecommunication booth, fax service, tea stall, snack bar, commercial libraries, special tracks for incoming and departing trains. The Speaker at a function organised on the occasion said modern communication is the basic prerequisite for enhancing the pace of the development. 'The government has taken extensive measures for building modern communications network in the country,' he said. Choudhury said the government is sincere for developing the Sylhet region. The works of the 'Shahjalal Bridge (second)' has started over the Surma River and the authorities have also taken steps for the third Shahjalal Bridge over the river, he said. Urging the people to remain alert parliamentary affairs advisor to the prime minister Suranjit Sen Gupta said 'a vested quarter has been trying to create obstruction to foil the development endeavours of the government.'

4 tribal youths held in Rangamati

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Proposal to ban students politics rejected

By Staff Correspondent Speakers at a meeting yesterday rejected the proposal to impose a ban on student politics. The meeting of guardians, teachers, intellectuals, professionals, students and employees against the continuing terrorism and anarchy in the educational institutions was held at the TSC auditorium of the Dhaka University. The meeting was organised by Anti Fascism Democratic Committee (AFDC). The meeting was addressed, among others, by Badruddin Omar, Hazera Sultana, Dr Nasima Akhtar Hossain, Prokter Chakma, Hasibur Rahman, Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Dr Nayla Khan, Akhter Sobhan Masrur, Shawkat Ali and Tipu Biswas.

Pak education team visits BAU

MYMENSINGH, July 11: A five-member high level education team of Pakistan led by education secretary Dr Sabdar Mahmud visited the Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) yesterday, reports BSS. Other members of the team were Dr G A Miana, member, University Grants Commission of Pakistan, Dr Mohammad Tareq Siddiqui, Vice-Chancellor of Quid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Dr Parveen Shahid, joint education adviser, Ministry of Education, Islamabad and Dr Nazir Mughal, Vice-Chancellor of Sindh University. The members of the team met the Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University Professor Dr Muhammad Hussain and exchanged views on matters relating to higher education, research and training programme.

Second day of hartal observed in Khagrachhari

KHAGRACHHARI, July 11: The second day of hartal was observed today (Saturday) at Ramgarh here peacefully, reports UNB. No vehicles plied to and from the thana during the indefinite hartal, called by BNP-led Sarbadaliyo Oikkya Parishad demanding release of its arrested leaders and workers following Thursday night's incident. All the business establishments at the thana headquarters were closed. No untoward incident was reported today.

Bridge opens in Ctg

A 120-metre long bridge connecting the west Bashkhal area of Chittagong with the rest of the district has been opened, an official handout said yesterday, reports BSS. Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Engineer Mosharraf Hossain yesterday inaugurated the bridge built at a cost of Tk 81 lakh with Japanese assistance under the supervision of Local Government, Engineering Department (LGED). The bridge is expected to improve the socio-economic condition of the coastal area by facilitating the quick transportation of sea fish, shrimp and salt. Local officials and Awami League leaders, among others, attended the inaugural function.

Bridge over Ariakhan inaugurated

Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman yesterday inaugurated a newly constructed bridge over the river Ariakhan at Belabo of Narsingdi district, reports BSS. The 140-metre long bridge was completed at a cost of Taka 1.72 crore, fulfilling a long cherished demand of the local people. Speaking on the occasion, the minister said the government will complete the task of constructing link roads connecting unions and thanas with the district headquarters within next three years. Minister without portfolio Lt Gen (ret'd) Nooruddin Khan, Meher Afroz Chumki MP, president of Narsingdi district Awami League, Mahbubur Rahman, AL central committee member Nurul Majid Humayun and local AL leaders also spoke on the occasion.

Woman killed in accident in BJMB

SIRAJGANJ, July 11: A woman was killed today in a mishap on Bangabandhu Jamuna Bridge, reports UNB. The accident was the first on the bridge after 18 days of its inauguration. The victim was identified as Maniza Khatun (25), wife of Yakub Ali of village Khupir in Gabtali thana of Bogra. The accident occurred this morning as the victim, who came to see the bridge with her husband and daughter, was hit from behind by a microbus. She died on the spot.

JBFH signs MOU with Indian instt

The Japan-Bangladesh Friendship Hospital (JBFH), a private hospital in Bangladesh and Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre in New Delhi, have signed a memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a 250-bed multi speciality hospital in the city, reports BSS. Dr Sarder A Nayeem of JBFH and Dr Naresh Trehan of the Escorts signed the MOU on behalf of respective organisations Friday. The JBFH has planned for an expansion of its present hospital to a 250-bed specialised hospital in Gulshan in the city. The proposed hospital will be a multinational venture mainly with Japan, India and Singapore. The construction of the new hospital is expected to start by the end of this year. The proposed facilities to be provided by the New JBFH in Dhaka included services in areas of cardiology, cardiac surgery, gastroenterology, nephrology, urology, neurology, neuro surgery, pain clinic, radiology, pathology, obst and gynaecology, paediatric and others.

Suranjit refutes BNP allegations

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suranjit Sengupta yesterday refuted the BNP's allegations of conspiracy to influence results of Barisal by-election scheduled for July 20. 'It is absolutely baseless, motivated and misleading,' Suranjit told UNB reacting to the reported statement of BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan. He said BNP has lost confidence of the people and its popularity declined over the questions of Farakka, CHT peace accord, attack on the Speaker in Parliament, continuous abstention from Parliament and its internal chaos. 'They have now started dishing out falsehood and giving misleading statements as the Barisal by-election assumed a prestige issue for BNP in proving its popularity,' Suranjit said over telephone. Refuting Mannan Bhuiyan's allegations that ministers, chief whip and other government leaders were exerting influence violating the election rules, he said he has personally visited the constituency to carry out his organisational responsibility as president member of Awami League.

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