



Biswa Kalakendra organised a cultural competition at the TSC auditorium of the Dhaka University yesterday to mark its 6th founding anniversary. — Star photo

JS body discusses 16 audit objections

A meeting of the Public Accounts Committee of the Jatiya Sangsad was held at the Sangsad Bhavan yesterday with committee chairman SM Akram in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed 16 audit objections for the year 1997-98 of the Ministry of Water Resources, raised by Comptroller General of Audit and Accounts.

The objections involved Taka nine crore 15 lakh 64 thousands. The meeting took decisions to settle the objections.

Committee members MK Anwar, Abul Kalam Azad, Mostafizur Rahman, M Moshed Khan, Abdul Mannan and AH M Mostafa Kamal attended the meeting.

Indian theatre group to perform in city

Rangakarmee, an Indian theatre group, will stage three shows at the Osmani Memorial Hall from July 24 to 26, reports UNB.

Indian High Commission in Dhaka will organise the programme to mark the 50th anniversary of its independence.

Usha Ganguli will lead the team.

The show will start at 7 pm everyday, said a press release. The passes will be issued on a first-come-first-serve basis and it can be collected on any working day from the Indian High Commission.

'Upazila admn to be introduced soon'

JAMALPUR, July 16: The State Minister for Land Rashid Mosharrif said that Awami League government has launched a drive against terrorists and criminals to restore peace and make the country prosperous, reports BSS.

The state minister was speaking as the chief guest at a function arranged for distribution of old-age allowance among 720 men and women of Dewanganj thana on Saturday at Dewanganj public hall.

He said upazila administration would be introduced very soon to ensure local developments and economic activities. He also urged the social and

HERE and THERE

Rabindra Adhayan Chakra

Rabindra Adhayan Chakra arranged a recitation programme and cultural soiree at the Russian Cultural Centre in the city on the occasion of International Rabindra Poetry Recitation Day on Sunday, says a press release.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury attended the function as chief guest.

Mostafa Manowar delivered a lecture on Rabindranath and his paintings at the programme. Noted reciters of the country including Jayanta Chattopadhyaya, Sara Zaker, Ally Zaker, Asaduzzaman Noor, Frogga Laboni, Rupa Chakraborty, Reea Mahmud and Mrs Manju recited poems of Rabindranath.

Vocalist Shama Rahman rendered songs at the programme with Prof Anwara Begum in the chair.

A documentary on Rabindranath was also screened on the occasion.

NSU

The first study abroad programme organised by the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign (UIUC), USA at the North South University (NSU) concluded, says a press release.

The students, attended the Summer 1 semester at NSU and

35 houses, 120 shops gutted in Bandarban

BANDARBAN, July 16: Dozens of dwelling houses and shops were gutted in a devastating fire that broke out in the main market area in Ruma thana here late last night, reports BSS.

Police said at least 35 houses of both tribal and Bangal settlers and 120 shops were destroyed by the fire.

The blaze that started at around 3 am might have originated from the kitchen of a tribal house.

At least 60 families were seriously affected and the loss was estimated at around Taka one crore, police said.

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Reckitt & Colman official in city

Pranab Barua, Regional Director of South Asian region of Reckitt & Colman arrived in the city for a business trip, says a press release.

He is also the Managing Director of Reckitt & Colman India and the Chairman of Reckitt & Colman Bangladesh Ltd.

This is his first visit to Bangladesh. He will attend a board meeting in Dhaka and visit the head office of Reckitt & Colman Bangladesh in Chittagong.

Nat'l committee for peace expresses thanks to people

The National Committee for Peace and Friendship yesterday extended its thanks and gratitude to all those who attended the July 15 grand rally at the Pallabi Maidan braving incessant rains to make it a success, reports BSS.

Prof Kabir Chowdhury and Dr Harun-ur-Rashid, convenor and member-secretary respectively of the committee, in a statement said that the venue of the grand rally turned into an unprecedented gathering of the peace-loving people as the renowned intellectuals, diplomats, journalists, freedom

fighters, cultural activists, workers and men and women from all walks of life had spontaneously joined the rally.

They said that the joining of the people from all walks of life to the reception ceremony had proved that the whole nation had shown confidence in the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as well as to the CHT peace accord, national development and political stability.

Education Secretary Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmed inaugurated the workshop as chief guest while Director General of Technical Education Directorate Prof Ziaur Rahman and Chairman of Technical Education Board Prof M M R Siddiqui attended as special guests.

Education Secretary Kazi Rakibuddin said the government is actively considering to turn polytechnic education into four years course and to resolve the demands of polytechnic teachers.

He said that technical education should be job-oriented instead of its existing state of theory orientation.

Prof Ziaur Rahman said that the government has decided to open two more departments in each of the 20 Polytechnic Institutes.

Barisal by-polls

4000 members of law enforcing agencies to be deployed

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, July 16: Election Commissioner Abidur Rahman today exchanged views with law enforcing agencies, local administration, political leaders and local elite at the Circuit House on the July 20 by-election.

They discussed the steps for holding the by-polls in Barisal-5 constituency in a free and fair manner.

The Election Commissioner said the law enforcing agencies have been directed to take necessary steps to maintain security and safety of the voters and the polling centres.

He said that no opposition leader or worker will be held without any specific allegation during the period.

He also said that a total of 4,000 members of law enforcing agencies, including armed forces, would be deployed.

The Election Commissioner called upon all concerned, including political leaders and workers, to abide by the election codes of conduct.

Additional Secretary to the Election Commission Aziz Ahmed, Director of Election Commissioner Yahya Molla, Deputy Inspector General of Police Gazi Abdur Rouf and senior officials were present in the meeting.

BDRCS seeks int'l help for flood victims

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) yesterday made an appeal to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world to rush financial and material assistance to the flood-affected people of the country, reports BSS.

The appeal came from an emergency meeting of the Board of the society, held at its national headquarters here with Maj Gen (ret'd) Abdus Salam MP, Chairman of BDRCS, in the chair.

The meeting also asked the district units at the affected areas and the workers and volunteers to stand by the affected people with materials available at their disposal.

The society opened a control room at its headquarters to monitor the flood situation round the clock.

Workshop for polytechnic teachers begins

A three-day training workshop for the polytechnic teachers on 'The role of Polytechnic Teachers to Meet the Challenge of Emerging Needs of Human Resources Development for Poverty Alleviation' began at the Institute of Diploma Engineers in the city yesterday, says a press release.

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Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea Shin Sung-oh called on Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad at his office yesterday. — PID photo

Govt urged to take steps for import of 'Viagra'

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Associations of Urological Surgeons appealed to the government for taking necessary steps to import 'Viagra', a drug used to treat impotence.

In a press release yesterday the secretary of the association General Dr M A Salam said, 'The association members feel that Viagra will be an effective

appliance for the impotent patients. Those who will not be benefited by the drug are requested to attend urology centres of the country or consult urologists.'

The press release added that the drug, an outcome of research in the field of impotence management, may be useful to overcome problems relating to psychogenic or neurogenic types. The drug-sildenafil causes selective blood vessels to dilate in the external genitalia which in turn brings about increased blood flow resulting in enlargement and rigidity of the penis.

However, the press release warned that Viagra is not free from side effects like other drugs. Decrease in blood pressure particularly those suffering low blood pressure should be careful about the use of the drug.

Workshop on public relations today

A day-long training workshop on public relations will be held today at the Panda Garden Restaurant in the city, says a press release.

The workshop will be conducted by an eminent PR consultant and trainer Rita Bhimani from India. The workshop, organised by Rapport Bangladesh Ltd, DHL Bangladesh, Kung Keng Textiles Ltd, North South University, Al Baraka Bank Bangladesh Ltd, FTFF, Bangladesh Chamber of Industries, Sadharan Bima Corporation, Bangladesh Bank, BITOP Advertising, UNIVISION, Energypac Engineering Ltd, Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd, Cairn Energy, Enam-Omni Company and Khulna Power Co Ltd.

India denies plan to test-fire new version of 'Agni'

NEW DELHI, July 16: India denied today reports that it would test-fire a new version of a ballistic missile next month, reports AFP.

A defence ministry spokesman said there was 'no truth' in a front-page report in a leading newspaper which said India's 'Agni' missile would be tested in August after being upgraded.

The Asian Age, quoting unnamed defence officials, said the weapon's range has been increased by 500 kms to 2000 kms and that it could carry a 1000 kg nuclear warhead.

Malawi minister in city

Malawi Transport Minister Kamangadazi Chambata arrived in the city yesterday on a week long visit to Bangladesh at the invitation of LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, reports BSS.

Accompanied by two members of the Malawi Transport Department, Chambata will visit rural roads constructed by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) at Tangail, Bogra and Gazipur.

They will also inspect non-motorised traffic and water transport system.

The delegation will call on the LGRD and Cooperatives Minister and meet three leaders of Transport Owners' Association and Transport Workers' Union.

ROK Embassy opens its newly built chancery in city

South Korean Embassy in the city officially opened its newly constructed chancery and residence at Baridhara diplomatic enclave Thursday, reports UNB.

South Korean Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Shin Sung-oh was present on the occasion, said a press release.



State Minister for Relief Talukdar Abdul Khaleq presiding over an emergency meeting of the Inter-ministerial Disaster Management Coordination Committee in the city yesterday. — PID photo

The Daily Star TV Guide

Table with columns for Friday 17th July, Morning session, Evening session, and various channel listings.

Table with columns for CHANNEL V, STAR PLUS, STAR MOVIES, PTV, and ZEE INDIA TV.

Table with columns for DD 7, ZEE TV, and SONY ET.

Table with columns for STAR WAGON, ZEE CINEMA, and STAR SPORTS.

Table with columns for ESPN and various sports events.