

Hasina shocked at loss of lives in PNG

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has expressed profound shock and grief at the loss of hundreds of lives and damage of property by an earthquake and a tidal wave in north coast of Papua New Guinea, reports UNB.

Justice Zakir laid to rest

Justice Zakir Ahmed was laid to rest yesterday afternoon at the Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard at Mirpur, reports BSS.

A judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court, Justice Ahmed died of bone marrow cancer on Friday at a hospital in New Delhi. His body was flown in the city on Sunday.

Ministers, judges, politicians, lawyers, government officials and his friends and admirers attended the janaza.

The qulhwani of the deceased will be held today after Asr prayers at his official residence.

CSFD opinion poll shows Increased demand and govt inefficiency are causes of power crisis

The results of an opinion poll revealed that 58.6 per cent of city residents think that increased demand for power supply led to the power disruption while 36.4 per cent blamed the crisis on the government inefficiency, says a press release.

The poll also showed that only five per cent residents endorse the claim by the government that conspiracy is the main cause of power disruptions.

The Centre for Sustainable Development (CSFD) conducted from July 9 to July 11 to understand the use and need for public utilities and civic facilities in Dhaka city.

The 928 respondents covered by the poll from different areas of the city included people with all occupational groups and of both sexes. Sixty-five per cent of the respondents were male and 35 per cent were female. The respondents are aged from 18 and above.

increased corruption and most shops are open after 7 pm.

To determine whether a real threat of water borne epidemic exists in Dhaka, the poll further asked question on the quality of water. It found that only 28.8 per cent respondents boil their drinking water. The poll found that 93 per cent of the people of Rampura and Khilgaon areas do not boil their drinking water.

On city water supply, 68.8 per cent respondents said that water supply in Dhaka is reasonably good but it needs improvement while 31.2 per cent are dissatisfied with water supply situation. People of Azimpur, Lalbagh and Chowkbazar are among the most dissatisfied people in Dhaka (56.1 per cent).

The poll showed 80 per cent of city people do not go to parks, theatre or cinema even for once in a month. To the 20 per cent who manage to visit at least one place of entertainment, parks are the most favourite places (visited by 58.7 per cent people).

Dr AK Enamul Haque, Associate Professor of the North South University, supervised the poll using standard polling techniques.

LDF asks govt not to sign SOFA

Left Democratic Front and four other political parties demonstrated in the city yesterday in protest against the reported move of the government to sign the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) with the USA, reports UNB.

"It's a move to ensure the presence of American army in Bangladesh and establish their control over the country's oil and gas resources," according to a declaration of the LDF and the four parties read out at a pre-procession rally at Paltan Maidan.

They asked the government to stop its 'bid to sign the SOFA' and cancel the agreement allowing the activities of Peace Corp in the country.

The rally demanded immediate stoppage of leasing out oil and gas blocks.

They also urged the government not to raise the prices of electricity, gas and fertiliser.

LDF coordinator and convener of Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal Khalequzzaman read out the declaration at the rally. The rally was also addressed by Saiful Haq.

The rally and the procession was attended, among others, by Rashid Khan Menon, Mujahidul Islam Selim, Nirmal Sen, AFM Mahbulul Haq, Dilip Barua, Abdus Salam, Morsheed Ali, Bazlur Rashid Feroz and Kamrul Ahsan.

LDF and Gano Forum, Gano Azadee League, Ganotantree Party and Communist Kendra will observe a countrywide demonstration day on July 30 to press the demands.

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The Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting held on 16th July, 1998 has recommended a cash dividend of Tk.30 for every existing ordinary share at book closure. The Board further decided to hold the 37th Annual General Meeting of the Company on Wednesday, 9th September, 1998 at 3.30 p.m. at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka. The share transfer book of the Company will remain closed from 27th August to 9th September 1998, both days inclusive.
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নিম্নে বর্ণিত কাজসমূহ-এর জন্য ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের সকল শ্রেণীর তালিকাভুক্ত টিকাদারগণের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১ তে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে টেন্ডার আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।

Nirmul's memo to FM

Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Jatiya Samonnaya Committee yesterday submitted a memorandum to Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad protesting a recent comment by Senator Akram Zaki of Pakistan, reports UNB.

Senator Zaki, during his visit as a special envoy of Pakistani Prime Minister in Dhaka, has remarked that a woman surgeon separated Bangladesh from Pakistan by operation.

The Foreign Minister while receiving the memorandum from the leaders expressed his solidarity with the sentiment and feelings reflected in the memorandum.

Protesting the comment, the committee described it as totally false and distorted fact through which Akram Zaki tried to deny the destiny of the history of Liberation War.

The memorandum said the comment was not only insulting for an independent nation but also against the norms of foreign policy. Senator Akram Zaki had tried to conceal their barbarous and inhuman activities by instigating communalism, it added.

The committee also demanded immediate official protest to the Pakistan authority to keep them alert from giving such statement in future.

Among others, convener of Samannaya Committee Syed Hasan Imam, member secretary Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Kazi Arif Ahmed, Morsheed Ali, Golam Kuddus, Aminul Haq Montu, Moulana Ziaul Hasan and Kazi Mukul were present on the occasion.

More relief for flood victims

The Disaster Management and Relief Ministry yesterday sanctioned more relief materials and money for the flood-affected people of Munshiganj, Comilla, Habiganj and Mymensingh districts, reports UNB.

According to an official handout, Tk 50,000 and 25 metric tons of rice were sanctioned for each of Munshiganj and Comilla while Tk 25,000 and 25 metric tons of rice for Habiganj district.

For Mymensingh, six metric tons of rice was allotted to repair the damaged embankments.

With this, the ministry has so far sanctioned Tk 32 lakh and 2,150 metric tons of rice for the flood victims across the country.

Apart from this, 75,000 pieces of sarees, 14,000 lungis and 28,000 pieces of old clothes were allotted from the Prime Minister's relief fund yesterday for the flood affected people.

Malaysian envoy calls on Ershad

Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dato Zulkifly Bin Abdul Rahman made a courtesy call on Jatiya Party chairman H M Ershad at his office yesterday, reports UNB.

They discussed the existing bilateral relations between the two countries, international issues and the unity of Muslim Ummah.

Madrasah seeks financial help

The managing committee of Al Falah Deeni Madrasah of Alam Nagar in Rangpur requested all Muslims, including the Muslim diplomats based in Dhaka, to come forward with helping hands to save the institution, reports UNB.

The madrasah, imparting religious and general education to more than 300 poor and orphan stranded Pakistanis boys and girls, is facing closure due to shortage of fund, said a press release.

The committee appealed for moral and material support to enable it to run the madrasah smoothly.

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