

News

Programmes on birthday of Bangabandhu

A grateful nation will observe the 79th birthday of its founding father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman tomorrow with great enthusiasm and deep respects, reports BSS.

The legendary leader of the Bangladeshi Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was born in the respectable Sheikh family of Tungipara, Gopalganj, on this day in 1920.

The day will be a public holiday. It has been also declared the National Children's Day.

Awami League, its front organisations and various socio-cultural organisations have taken up elaborate programmes to observe the day in the capital, at the *mazar* of the Bangabandhu at Tungipara and all over the country.

Programmes of the day will begin with laying wreaths by the portrait of Bangabandhu in front of Bangabandhu Bhaban at Dhanmondi. It will also include *milad* and *doa* *mafil* at the *mazar* of Bangabandhu and discussion, cultural function and children and juvenile rally across the country.

As part of the observance of the day Awami League will hoist the national and party flags atop party offices early in the morning, place wreaths by the portrait of Bangabandhu and hold a gathering at Bangabandhu Bhaban. The party leaders will leave for Tungipara from there.

They will also participate in the day-long programmes taken up by the government to mark the birthday of father of the nation.

The programmes at Tungipara include placing wreaths at the *mazar* of the father of the

nation, *milad* *mafil*, offering *fateha* and *munajat* and discussion at the *mazar* premises.

The countrywide programme of the party will include hoisting the national and party flags, placing wreaths at the portraits of Bangabandhu, holding discussions and rallies, playing the recorded speeches of Bangabandhu and *doa* and *milad* seeking divine peace for all martyrs including the martyred family members of Bangabandhu.

Bangla Academy, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy, Bangladeshi National Museum, Nazrul Institute and Jatiya Granth Kendra will jointly hold a discussion and cultural function organised by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs at the Ramna Bataiul on the day.

As part of the two-day programme of the Islamic Foundation to observe the birthday of Bangabandhu, a discussion will be held at the academy auditorium today at 11 am. The academy will hold *milad* *mafil* and *Quran khawan* on March 17.

Joy Bangla Sangskritik Oikya Jote has held an art competition for child and juvenile at Shishu Academy on March 12.

Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television will present special programmes highlighting the significance of the day. National rallies will bring out special supplements on the life and works of the great leader.

Bangladesh Betar will broadcast live "antare chirodin," a programme for the children and juvenile, from Jatiya Betar Bhaban auditorium today.

Ershad greets newly-elected CBA leaders of AJM

Jatiya Party chairman HM Ershad yesterday congratulated the newly-elected CBA leaders of Adajee Jute Mills (AJM), report UNB.

In a message from Saudi Arabia, he also hailed workers of the largest jute mills in Asia for electing his party supported panel.

He said the election verdict proved that workers and people of the country didn't forget Jatiya Party's role while it was in power.

Jessore killing condemned

By DU Correspondent

"Teertha Sarathy," an educational, cultural and social welfare organisation yesterday condemned the killing of cultural activists of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi in Jessore on March 7.

The organisation brought out a silent procession on the Dhaka University campus and held a rally at the Aparajita Bangla in the morning.

At the rally the speakers said that the attack on the Udichi activists is nothing but an attempt to assault the Bangalee culture.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Weather may remain mainly dry across the country with temporary partly cloudy sky over Khulna, Chittagong and Barisal divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office said day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged throughout the country during the period.

The country's highest temperature 36 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 12 degrees at Srimangal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.08 pm and rises on Wednesday at 6.06 am.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage		
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.3	16.5	24	30
Chittagong	34.0	19.0	51	40
Rajshahi	33.4	13.7	42	41
Khulna	35.3	17.2	75	39
Barisal	33.6	16.5	61	56
Sylhet	33.1	16.4	44	33
Cox's Bazar	36.0	22.0	50	42

5 lawyers' call to keep bar assoc polls above politics

By Staff Correspondent

Five leading legal practitioners in a statement yesterday urged the lawyers to keep all the elections to Bar Associations above party politics.

The greater interest of the lawyer community is faced with uncertainty today as a section of lawyers have been divided in the line of political parties. The division is clearly evident as candidates are being nominated by the political parties ahead of Bar Association elections," the statement said.

The elections to Bar Associations should be kept above party interests if we want to forge a unity among the lawyers and clear up the allegations of mismanagement and corruption raised against the legal arena," it added.

The statement further said, "a united and strong leadership for the lawyer community is badly needed today when the society is dogged by terrorism, conflicts and corruption."

The statement was signed by S R Pal, Serajul Haq, Syed Ishaq Ahmed, Dr Kamal Hossain and Mohammad Amirul Islam.

Maize seeds production

BRAC signs accord with Australian company

An agreement between BRAC and Pacific Seeds of Australia was signed in the city yesterday for production of hybrid maize seeds in Bangladesh, says a press release.

Under the agreement, the Australian company will provide BRAC with modern technology for multiplication and production of new high breed maize in the country. M Aminul Alam, Deputy Executive Director, BRAC and Norman Daiv, Director, Pacific Seeds signed the agreement at BRAC Centre, Fazle Hasan Abed, Executive Director of BRAC was present.

BRAC has been involved for more than a decade in seed production programme with the members of its village organisations for the benefit of farmers, consumers and the environment. It has set up two seed processing plants and five production farms with over 200 agronomists.

BRAC has now undertaken a programme to increase maize production in the country which is an important component in poultry feed. The demand maize is increasing due to rapid expansion of poultry farms in the country.

The state minister for Planning Dr Mahiuddin Khan Alamgir yesterday said the Annual Development Programme (ADP) would be further expanded next year keeping in view the aims and objectives of the fifth five-year plan (FFYP), reports BSS.

Despite the worst floods this year, we did not reduce the size of the ADP but we are planning to expand it to carry out more development works side by side to redress the damage of floods during the next fiscal year," he said while replying to questions and supplementaries in the Jatiya Sangsads yesterday.

The state minister said the current fiscal's ADP amounting to Taka 13,600 crore was 10 per cent more than the amount of the last fiscal.

Earlier, replying to two questions from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Mohammad Fazlul Azim of BNP from Noakhali, Dr Mohiuddin said the government has undertaken a plan to conduct the fourth population census in March, 2001.

The supplementaries were raised by Prof Panna Kaiser of AL, Syed Wahidul Alam of BNP, Ruhul Qudus Talukder of BNP, Imdadul Huq of AL, Segupta Yasmeen of AL, Mashru Rahman of BNP and Sheikh Monhamad Nurul Huq of AL.

The state minister said the current fiscal's ADP amounting to Taka 13,600 crore was 10 per cent more than the amount of the last fiscal.

Earlier, replying to two questions from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said 239 projects are be-

ing implemented in Faridpur district during the current fiscal year.

Replies to question from Kazi Sirajul Islam of Awami League from Faridpur and Mizanur Rahman Choudhury of JFP from Nilphamari, the minister said 31 projects in Faridpur district and 23 projects in Nilphamari district were implemented during the last fiscal year under the ADP.

He said