

VGF programme  
Directive to  
distribute  
foodgrains  
before Eid

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the officials concerned to reach the foodgrains allocated under the special VGF card programme to the distressed people before Eid-Ul-Fitr, reports UNB.

The Prime Minister gave the directive at a high level meeting on distribution of foodgrains among the rural poor under the special VGF card programme.

Under the programme, some 4,29,29,000 metric tons of foodgrains will be distributed among poor families before the Eid. Each family will get 5 kg of rice and 5 kg of wheat.

Some 40,21,200 VGF cards will be distributed in 40,212 wards of the country's 64 districts while 123,600 in 135 municipalities.

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## Book launched on iodine deficiency United efforts needed to combat malnutrition

Speakers at a publication ceremony yesterday emphasised on united efforts to combat malnutrition at a time when some 700 children under six die daily in the country due to the scourge, reports UNB.

It is difficult for the government alone to combat the malnutrition problem that has been prevailing for a long time in the country, said Science and Technology Minister M Noor Uddin Khan.

He said it is not possible for the government alone to cope with the challenge posed by malnutrition. People of all strata and mass media will have to take the responsibility.

The minister was speaking as chief guest at the publication ceremony of "Iodine Deficiency Disorders" at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday morning.

Dr AMM Anisul Awal, National Consultant of Bangladesh Integrated Nutri-

## Outgoing Chief Justice calls on Shahabuddin

Chief Justice Mostafa Kamal made a farewell call on President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Justice Kamal, who retires on December 31 thanked the President for his keen interest in overall development of the judicial system of the country.

President Shahabuddin praised the long and eventful judicial career of Justice Kamal and said his thoughtful judgement would remain as precedents in the judicial record.

Presenting the keynote paper, author of the book Dr Awal said globally 33 per cent of the total population suffer from malnutrition. Of this, South East Asia covers 70 per cent.

Referring to various study reports, he said the prevalence of goitre remained the same at 40 per cent in Bangladesh in 1992, even after 30 years since 1962.

## DU convocation souvenirs on sale

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities have begun selling the ties, scarves and coat-pins which were prepared as souvenirs of its 40th convocation, said a press release.

The souvenirs are available at the Publication and Sales Centre of Public Relations Section (Room No. 214) at the Administrative Building, the release added.

## BCU demonstration today

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) will stage a sit-in front of the Text Book Board office today to protest the 'irregularities' in publishing the textbooks of secondary level, said a press release.

The BCU will bring out a procession from Muktangan in the city at 11:00 am and march towards the Text Book Board office.

## BCL condemns Sylhet incidents

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) student wing of the ruling party, yesterday condemned the terrorist activities of Jamaat-Sibh and BNP at Sylhet.

In a statement, Bahadur Bepary and Ajay Kar Khokan, president and general secretary of BCL respectively, protested the incidents and said, "In future we will resist such activities that harm the spirit of Liberation War."

## JU winter vacation from Jan 1

By DU Correspondent

The winter vacation of Jahangirnagar University begins on January 1, official sources said.

There will be no classes and examinations from January 1 to 14 while offices will remain closed from January 5 to 13.

The authorities reduced the 32-day vacation to 14 days as a step towards removing the session jam.

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**To**  
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