

News

What's on today....

IUBAT certificate awarding ceremony: The certificate awarding ceremony of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT)'s workshop on 'Economic Management' will be held. Venue: Auditorium of Bangladesh Meteorology Department, Agargaon. Time: 5.00 pm.

Film show: Liberation War Museum will screen 'Ithas Kanya,' a film based on the Liberation War. Venue: Museum auditorium. Time: 6.30 pm.

Discussion: A discussion on 'Development of IT Professionals in Bangladesh' will be held. Organiser: Bangladesh 2000 in association with ExecuTrain. Venue: House No 519, Rd No 1, Dhanmondi R/A.

Seminar: A seminar on Internet and e-commerce will be held. Organiser: New Horizons Computer Learning Centre. Venue: Academy for Planning and Development. Time: 6.30 pm.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Light rain or drizzle may occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and weather may remain mainly dry over the country with cloudy sky over Faridpur, Dhaka and Sylhet regions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, said met office.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 29.4 degree Celsius at Hatiya and the lowest 9.7 degree Celsius at Rangpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5.56 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.28 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and town yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Max	Min	Morning	Humidity in percent	Evening
Dhaka	26.2	13.2	43	37		
Chittagong	27.2	15.2	88	43		
Rajshahi	27.2	09.8	65	54		
Khulna	28.0	13.5	99	52		
Barisal	26.2	13.6	96	68		
Sylhet	25.8	13.5	77	50		
Cox's Bazar	28.5	16.5	73	61		

HERE and THERE

BHBCOP

By DU Correspondent
Bengali Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad (BHBCOP) yesterday organised a discussion at the seminar room of Teachers and Students Centre (TSC) of the Dhaka University marking February 21, the International Mother Language Day.

Speakers at the discussion said that the non-communal spirit upholds the Bangla language before world.

They also said that the movement from 1948 to 1972 was led by non-communal democratic leadership.

Mortality

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Equipment and facilities such as anaesthesia machine, labour table, operation theatre over head light, autoclave machine and surgical instruments are yet to be provided to the thana health complexes', one source said.

Specific devices were to be supplied to the health complexes so that the assigned EOC teams could start 'interventions', he added.

DAB concerned

By Staff Correspondent
Central convening committee of Doctors Association of Bangladesh (DAB) yesterday expressed deep concern over the incident of attack on Dr Maruf Ali, a doctor of Sylhet Medical College by miscreants, said a press release last night.

Demanding exemplary punishment of the culprits, DAB expressed its anguish saying that the law and order situation of the country has been deteriorating.

Directive

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It also strongly condemned filing of 'false' cases against opposition activists and alleged attacks on them by AL 'terrorists' and police. It demanded withdrawal of all cases.

UNB added that the meeting held at the official residence of the Leader of the Opposition, decided to extend the 151-member Convening Committee of Dhaka city APAC by including another 50 members.

Ekushey

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Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar will broadcast special programmes, while newspapers will bring out special supplements highlighting the significance of the day.

Different political, socio-cultural and professional organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes, which include placing of wreaths, cultural functions and discussion sessions. Similar programmes will also be held in the districts and thana headquarters.

Bangla Academy is already holding a month-long Ekushey Book Fair at its premises. The Academy will also hold a discussion session on the theme 'Language Movement and International Mother Language Day' at the Academy premises this afternoon.

Ministry of Cultural Affairs has taken up three-day programmes, beginning at the Ramma Bataam in the afternoon today.

A special exhibition of murals will be held at the Bangladesh Shilpakar Academy gallery at 3 pm today.

Among others, Bangladesh Workers Party, Doctors Association of Bangladesh (DAB) and Bangladesh Charu Shilpi Sangsads have also chalked out programmes in observance of the Amar Ekushey.

Condemned vehicles

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unless in emergency cases. But in districts, these are used almost regularly, other sources said.

As per law, a government vehicle is declared 'condemned and unfit' after eight year's use.

Compared to any other departments, police vehicles are overused and these lose effectiveness earlier. Police patrol cars remain in use almost round the clock and drivers are changed after duty hours, a source said.

Without mentioning the total number of police vehicles across the country, a source said, 'Police has to requisition private vehicles every month to cover up the deficiency'.

'Every month we pay at least Tk 10 lakh for requisitioning vehicles and whenever there is hartial, the amount goes up.'

2 DNC men

From page 1
quiry committee formed to investigate the Feni incident is expected to submit its report to its DG today, sources said.

Meanwhile, our correspondent from Feni reported that five more persons who fell sick after taking the adulterated liquor died last night. They are Manhub, 32, Anwar Hossain, 35, Abdul Kalam, Mahbub, 32, Gazi Mian.

A total of about 236 people died and many others have lost eyesight in different incidents of methanol poisoning during the last two years, the DNC officials said.

PSA to overburden

From page 1
would naturally be given priority over other cases. This will only add to the existing load,' he said.

'We would like to deliver the best with our limitations. Even if they (IOs) can cope with the volume of work, the quality of investigation may be affected,' he said.

The percentage of conviction in charged sheeted cases was 24.6 in 1980, which gradually declined to 6.13 in 1988. The figure would be no more than 5 per cent now,' he mentioned.

Speakers suggest recognition of ethnic language, culture

Speakers at a discussion in the city yesterday suggested recognition of language and culture of ethnic nationalities in Bangladesh in the interest of national existence, reports BSS.

They also suggested adoption of a universal language and cultural policy to support flourishing the ethnic languages and cultures.

Organized by Bangla Academy on the occasion of Amar Ekushey the discussion on 'Mother tongue and culture of ethnic nationalities in Bangladesh' was presided over by Professor Rafiqul Islam.

Subrata Chakma presented the paper while Prof Ranajit Sinha, Sangib Drang, Prashanta Kumar Tripathi and Mamunur Rashid were the discussants.

Prof Islam said after the

recognition of Bangla as the national language now it is our duty to recognize other mother tongues in the country and assist in flourishing those languages. He said this needs a specific language policy so that all languages and cultures get equal importance. To be alert about it to save the nation from such invasion.

Subrata Chakma depicted a comprehensive picture of language, culture, religion and social practices of the ethnic nationalities live in four geographical regions of the country.

Prof Ranajit Sinha said Manipuri Dance of the Manipuri's received world recognition with the cooperation of poet Rabindranath Tagore. Similarly, the cultures of other ethnic nationalities also could get such

recognition if cooperation was extended to them.

Sanjib Drang demanded constitutional provision for education of the ethnic nationalities in their mother tongues up to primary level. Prashanta Kumar Tripathi demanded constitutional recognition for saving the language and culture of the ethnic nationalities from extinction.

Mamunur Rashid said along with state patronage the people of a language themselves should take initiative to develop and flourish their own language. He said we want to see literatures of all languages including Chakma, Marmas and Garo.

The discussion was followed by the drama of Aranayak Nattayagosthi 'Joyjayanti' composed and directed by Mamunur Rashid.

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