

Hasina signs condolence book

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday signed the condolence book at the Japanese embassy here in memory of former Prime Minister of Japan Keizo Obuchi, reports UNB.

The Prime Minister wrote in the condolence book that political sagacity of the late Prime Minister is acknowledged by all.

Under his able leadership, Japan has been able to overcome the recent economic crisis and unrest efficiently, she said.

Hasina said the late premier was very conscious about the problems facing the developing countries. Particularly, she recalled with deep gratitude his love for Bangladesh.

"Through his death Japan lost a respectable leader while Bangladesh lost one of its best friends."

The Prime Minister expressed her profound shock at Obuchi's death and prayed for the peace of his departed soul.

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Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding release of its leaders and workers and resignation of the government. — Star photo

Dhaka seeks US help in deporting killers of Bangabandhu

WASHINGTON, May 18: Bangladesh Ambassador K M Shehabuddin has sought assistance of US officials and members of civil society to expedite the process of deportation of the convicted killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, reports BSS.

The killers have to be brought back home so that "justice is done and rule of law upheld," Ambassador Shehabuddin told a seminar here on May 16.

He gave details of the brutal killings of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members on August 15, 1975.

Foreign Secretary C M Shafi Sami, during his visit to the United States last week, held talks with senior administration officials and stressed the deportation of two convicted killers of Bangabandhu, now living in the USA. Talks were held on signing an extradition treaty between the two countries for bringing back the killers.

Speaking at a seminar jointly organised by Bangladesh Embassy in Washington and International Policy Institute (IPI), Ambassador Shehabuddin said Bangabandhu laid the foundation of Bangladesh's cooperation and friendship with the United States during his visit to the States in 1974. President Clinton's recent historic visit to Bangladesh has provided further momentum to the existing cooperation, he observed.

IPI president Prof Harley Hinrichs and Economic Minister of the Embassy Dr Quazi Mesbahuddin Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.

Senior officials from the State Department, Treasury Department as well as a good number of US businessmen, investors and researchers attended the seminar.

Outlining the government's policies and programme in the social sector, the ambassador informed the audience that Bangladesh has achieved a literacy rate of 60 per cent and population growth rate has been reduced to 1.6 per cent.

He advocated for 30 per cent quota increase in Bangladesh's RMG exports to the US in view of elimination of child labour from the sector and called upon US businessmen and investors to diversify their investments in Bangladesh in sectors like computer software, telecommunication and leather.

Dev committee to be formed in each ward: Ctg mayor

CHITTAGONG, May 18: Mayor of Chittagong ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury has said that an eleven-member Ward Development Committee comprising prominent citizens would be formed in each ward of the city to ensure accountability of the ward administration, reports BSS.

"The committee members will extend cooperation and make suggestions to the elected ward commissioner for overall development and welfare of the ward," the mayor said while inaugurating the activities of the newly elected commissioner's office of Gashaidanga ward yesterday.

The inaugural function, presided over by prominent citizen and vocalist Abdul Mannan Rana was addressed by newly elected ward commissioner Saiful Alam Chowdhury, female ward commissioner Nur Jahan Jahangir and Awami League leader Kurshed Alam Sultan.

The mayor said his administration does not believe merely in words. "Keeping this in view he has been relentlessly striving to present a healthy, terrorism-free and a welfare-oriented city," he said.

Referring to the civic amenities, Mahiuddin Chowdhury called upon the ward commissioners to complete the development works without further delay.

The mayor said the city corporation is mulling over a plan to set up deep tubewells in each ward to meet the acute scarcity of drinking water, he added.

Speaking about terrorism, Mohiuddin Chowdhury made a fervent appeal to the conscious citizens to submit the list of the identified terrorists to help him make the city terrorism-free.

3 alleged dacoits beaten up in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, May 18: Three alleged dacoits were injured as a mob beat up them at Latifhat in Chandgaon thana here last night, reports UNB.

Police said local people caught Forkan, 18, Arif alias Samrat, 19, and Nasiruddin, 22, while preparing to commit a dacoity in the area at midnight, and beat them mercilessly before handing them over to police.

Forkan was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital with serious injuries.

Meanwhile, police arrested a terrorist, Hanif alias Balaiya, 28, with an LG and a knife from a factory in Razakhali in the thana today.

Hanif had earlier telephoned the factory owner demanding toll and was arrested when he came to take the money. He was wanted by police in 10 cases.

Fattah calls on CHT affairs minister
UN Special Rapporteur on Question of Religious Intolerance Abdul Fattah now in Dhaka met with Kalpa Ranjan Chakma, the CHT Affairs Minister, at his office yesterday, reports UNB.

They discussed matters relating to CHT and the state of religious practices in the region, says a handout.

Acting Secretary of the ministry Mohammad Sakawat Hossain was present.

Raihanul Haque takes oath as MP

Mohammad Raihanul Haque, a former Awami League leader, who was elected to parliament from Rajshahi-5 constituency in the recent by-election, took oath as an MP at the Sangsad Bhavan yesterday, reports BSS.

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury administered the oath at a ceremony attended by Whip Abdus Shahid and Jatiya Sangsad Secretary Manjure Mawla.

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For further information contact Elizabeth Hayward
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Tel. 7710464-5
Dinno Ansarey Tel. 9885533 ext 152

British Council film show

British Council will screen three films at the Zia Memorial Hall in Chittagong on May 20 and 21, reports BSS.

The films are 'Fellow Traveller', 'Queen of Hearts' and 'Meeting Venues'.

'Fellow Traveller' will be screened at 4 pm on May 20 and 'Meeting Venues' on May 21 at the same time, while 'Queen of Hearts' will be screened on both days at 6:30 pm.

US student team meets JU VC

SAVAR, May 18: An American student delegation met with Jahangirnagar University Vice Chancellor Prof Abdul Bayes at his office today, reports UNB.

During the meeting, the delegation, led by Prof Edward C. Smith of Rayon University, New Jersey discussed with Prof Bayes the academic and research activities of the university.

Poetry Night at Alliance Francaise May 21

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka presents a Poetry Night on May 21 at 6:00 pm at its cafeteria, says a press release.

The programme is held to encourage participants to recite poetry of their choice, self-composed or otherwise. It also includes a discussion session.



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United Nations World Food Programme Dhaka, Bangladesh Roster enlisting announcement

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Bangladeshi nationals, especially women, for a roster of ad-hoc drivers.

- Title : Driver
Duration : Short Term (Contractual)
Duty station : Dhaka
Duties and responsibility : - Drive office vehicles
- Responsible for day to day maintenance of assigned vehicles
- Perform duties as assigned by the supervisor on a day to day basis.
- Qualifications : - Secondary education (at least in total 8 years of schooling)
- Good knowledge of driving and in possession of a valid driving licence
- Preferably 1 year of practical experience in any recognized NGO, international organization or multinational company or UN agency
- Working knowledge of both spoken and written English and Bengali are essential.
- Submission of application : Application should be addressed to Head, Human Resources Section, World Food Programme, 16th Floor, UN Offices, IDB Bhaban, 8/A Rokeya Sarani, Agargaon, Dhaka 1207 alongwith a Bio-Data to reach not later than 7 June 2000.

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