

What's on today....

Seminar: Institute of Public Health Nutrition in association with UNICEF will hold a seminar on Review and Perspective: Vitamin A Programme Beyond 2000...

BLAST roundtable: Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) organises a roundtable discussion on "Networking with NGOs Working for Protecting Women's Rights in Bangladesh"...

Abbas Kiarostami Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen three films - "The Bread and Alley", "The Traveller" and "Where is My Friend's Home"...

Workshop: A day-long workshop will be held on "Strategy for National Agricultural Development - Horizon 2010"...

..... and tomorrow

Abbas Kiarostami Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen three films - "The Chorus, And Life goes on and Through the Olive Trees" on the second day of the retrospective...

Discussion: Iranian Cultural Centre will hold a discussion on "Hafiz Shirazi and Nazrul Islam" in association with Nazrul Institute...

Weather

Temperature may rise

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty to squally wind is likely at many places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions with moderately heavy falls at places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB...

Members of the Bangladesh Army Battalion boarding a UN chartered aircraft at the Zia International Airport on Sunday night prior to their departure for Freetown. The Army Battalion joins the United Nations Assistance Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL).



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Newsman protest arrest

The delayed warrant was issued on the basis of a defamation case filed by DMP Commissioner Mattur Rahman. The commissioner failed to submit to the court permission of the home ministry, which is required when such a case is filed by a police official. Meanwhile, journalists demanded immediate removal of the DMP commissioner, accusing him of violating press freedom and fundamental rights...

Train derails at Barokhata

LALMONIRHAT, May 29: Train communication between Lalmonirhat and Burimari remained suspended following derailment of a passenger train at Barokhata in Hatibandha upazila today, reports UNB. Witnesses said three bogies of a Lalmonirhat-bound train from Burimari derailed at about 1.35 pm.



Members of the Crime Reporters Association of Bangladesh (CRAB) barricaded the road by lying down in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday demanding release of Aminur Rahman Taj, crime reporter of Aajker Kagoj who was detained without a warrant by the police yesterday.

Speakers say at discussion meeting

Zia was a man of vision

Speakers at a discussion yesterday recalled contributions of late President Ziaur Rahman and said the freedom fighter had introduced Bangladesh to the world community through his tireless efforts. They said Zia had united the nation and inspired the people to join in the War of Liberation through the proclamation of independence and alone led the nation as well as the war from March 26 till formation of the Mujibnagar government on April 17, 1971.

Matrichhaya School Vice Principal sent to jail

Joyal Abedin, the vice-principal of Matrichhaya Pre-graduate High School was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday. Joyal was produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court yesterday after completion of a ten-day police remand. He was arrested along with eight other accused in connection with the killing of a 12-year-old student named Abu Bayazid Mohammad Munit of the school on May 18. Later, he was taken to a police remand for 10 days.

Extension of tenure of women's reserved seats

Leaders of the Mahila Parishad said that during the Beijing Five Plus Conference which will be held in USA next month, the NGO group will discuss how barriers can be eliminated for empowerment of women in every sphere of development. The conference was attended by Hena Das, President and Ayesha Khanom General Secretary of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad.

Hosts succumb

Hosts got a decisive blow when newcomer Naimur Rahman ran himself out without facing a single delivery. It was indeed a disappointing day for Naimur, who dropped the vital catch of Aravinda and conceded 23 runs in four over with the leather. The victory for Sri Lanka, their sixth in as many encounters with minnows Bangladesh, was a perfect warm-up ahead of their meeting with India on Thursday.

WI clinch the series

Thanks to a couple of controversial decisions, West Indies won the spill-thrill third and decisive Test to clinch the series against Pakistan 1-0 at the Antigua Recreation Ground yesterday. Set to score 216 in the second innings to win the match - after the first Test at Guyana was rained out and the second at Bridgetown drawn, the Caribbean reached the target one and a half hours into the post-lunch session on the fifth and final day.

Inclusion of slum dwellers in voter list demanded

By Staff Correspondent. Coalition for the Urban Poor (CUP) submitted a memorandum yesterday to the Election Commission (EC) demanding inclusion of slum dwellers in the voter list, says a CUP press release. A delegation of the CUP, a platform of NGOs operating in Dhaka, submitted a memorandum to Md Shafuluddin, Acting Secretary and Additional Secretary of the Commission. Shafuluddin while receiving the memorandum said every citizen of the country aged 18 years or above irrespective of rich and poor must be included in the voter list.

CHT council

From page 1. meaning of the Constitution. He submitted that those are in fact regional governments parallel to the central government. Powers vested by the new acts to the so-called local governments are in some cases equivalent to those of the central government. Continuing, the council submitted that the functions of the local government have been abolished by the Acts violating the basic principle of the Constitution and weakening the sovereignty and executive powers of the Republic which are exercised by the Prime Minister.

Adarsha Market

From page 1. after 25 months, said Mohammad Alangir, owner of a shop. When payment of the charge was over, the DCC lease holders and market committee leaders went downstairs and with the help of a 'lock breaker', broke open the shops. The evicted shopkeepers had left behind the shops stacked with garments worth thousands of taka. 'We are confiscating all the items inside and keeping those in our custody. When the shopkeepers return to us, they can get back their merchandise after paying 25 months' rents, said Rafiquddin.

Swedish minister

From page 12. gramme. "It is very encouraging to see a lot of women working in the textile sector." Besides traditional sectors, Sweden is willing to assist Bangladesh in non-traditional sectors, even in preparing agriculture policy and training to build up democratic institutions. "We are playing after two and a half months and everybody bowled well. It was a disciplined performance," added the happy Sri Lankan captain. "I have opened a couple of innings in one-day about fourteen years ago. It's a new role for me and hopefully I will be able to carry on the good work," said Aravinda after receiving the Pepsi man of the match award of 1000 US dollars. He also received the Green Phone MVP award of 1000 dollars and Kitply super sixes award worth the same amount.

Zia's death anniversary

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will lead the mourners to lay wreath and offer Fatеха at the mazar of Ziaur Rahman at 9 a.m. The Jatiyatabadi Ulema Dal has arranged recitation of the holy Quran on the mazar premises from the morning and a Milad Mahfil at 9:30 a.m. Quankhawani and Milad Mahfil will also be held and special prayers will be offered at BNP central office and at all city wards. Khaleda Zia will distribute food among the destitute in different parts of the city. The speeches of Ziaur Rahman will be played in loud speakers in the city. National newspapers will bring out special supplements. BNP will hold a discussion meeting at the Engineers' Institution tomorrow to highlight life and works of Ziaur Rahman. Party chief Khaleda Zia will attend the meeting. Jatiyatabadi Krishak Dal will hold a discussion meeting on Ziaur Rahman on June 1. Jatiyatabadi Muktiyoddha Dal on June 2, Jatiyatabadi Chhittara Dal on June 4, Jatiyatabadi Samajik and Sanskritik Sangstha on June 5, Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal on June 6, Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal on June 7 and Jatiyatabadi Sechesebak Dal on June 9, a BNP press release said. Shaheed Zia Adarsha Bastobayan Parishad has arranged a voluntary blood donation programme at the mazar of Ziaur Rahman at 8:45 a.m. which will continue till noon today. Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the programme and the organisation will hold a discussion meeting at its central office at 5 p.m., according to a press release.

Dhaka for gas export

From page 1. serious problem of excess gas then, he said and suggested finding an 'alternative market' for the PSC gas. He noted that as regards gas pricing and production sharing, the contractual terms are not favourable for Petrobangla. But Petrobangla has to buy PSC gas to meet supply deficit. However, under the contractual provisions, Petrobangla would have to continue buying the costly gas. By the year 2005, PSC gas would be reaching almost 686 million cubic feet a day (mmcf) and the total gas availability would be 2100 mmcf. Thus there would be a serious problem of excess gas then, he said and suggested finding an 'alternative market' for the PSC gas. He noted that as regards gas pricing and production sharing, the contractual terms are not favourable for Petrobangla. But Petrobangla has to buy PSC gas to meet supply deficit. However, under the contractual provisions, Petrobangla would have to continue buying the costly gas. By the year 2005, PSC gas would be reaching almost 686 million cubic feet a day (mmcf) and the total gas availability would be 2100 mmcf. Thus there would be a serious problem of excess gas then, he said and suggested finding an 'alternative market' for the PSC gas.

4 citizens' team

From page 1. Anam delivered the concluding speech. The participants, divided into four groups, reviewed the recommendations made at last month's workshop and identified the government departments and agencies for their implementation. The workshop resolved that two issues should be resolved immediately, which will ease the traffic problem. These are: building five multistoried parking lots in Motijheel commercial area and taking legal action against those who are using car parking spaces of their buildings for other purposes, violating law. The workshop decided that in the first phase, the teams would ensure proper use of parking lots in buildings along the roads from New Market to Mohammadpur and from Science Laboratory crossing to Shahbagh crossing. Speaking at the workshop, RAJUK Chief Engineer Saidur Rahman acknowledged that out of five designated parking lots at Motijheel, illegal occupants occupied two. He also said that many owners have converted parking spaces of their buildings into commercial shops, violating rules. At this stage, other participants expressed astonishment at Rajuk's failure to stop the trend. Md Serazul Islam, Deputy Commissioner of DMP Traffic, Dhaka told the workshop that although it is prohibited, at least 800 inter-district buses ply through the main streets of the city every day. Vehicles are parked on roads even where there are parking space inside buildings along roads. This should be stopped, he said. The four teams are named White Team, Red Team, Amber Team and Green Team. White Team members include RAJUK Chief Engineer Syedur Rahman, businessman

Body formed for cremation of Mohathero

CHITTAGONG, May 29: A coordination meeting has unanimously formed a 151-member broad based committee for cremation of late Shilalankar Mohathero, the high-ranking religious leader of the Buddhist community in Bangladesh, reports BSS. The meeting held on Saturday at Mirzapur Shantidham Vihar under Hathajari thana decided to celebrate the cremation ceremony with national honour, a committee press release said yesterday.