

Speakers stress need for Peaceful use of N-energy

Speakers at a meeting yesterday underscored the need for peaceful use of nuclear energy in the fields of industry, health, agriculture, medicine, energy, environment and radiation protection.

They were speaking at the 23rd meeting of National Representatives of the Regional-Co-operative Agreement (RCA) which began at a city hotel yesterday.

Bangladesh became a member of the RCA in 1974. Addressing the meeting, the director of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Adnan Shahab Eldin emphasised the need for supporting member countries to strengthen and sustain the management of nuclear technology for development.

"The agency needs to move beyond its success in helping member states acquire the necessary basic nuclear infrastructure and apply it for solving selective development problems," he said.

In this regard he mentioned that the agency was working through a new regional project with interested member states to explore how best to carry out his challenging task.

Inaugurating the meeting, science and technology ministry secretary M Fazlur Rahman said Bangladesh attached great importance to the development of science and technology in order to derive maximum benefits from its limited resources and raise the quality of life.

"Efforts are being made to strengthen and diversify research and development activities in various fields including peaceful

applications of nuclear energy in agriculture, medicine industry and environment," he said. He said at the moment 13 development programmes in different areas of nuclear energy is in progress costing about 25 million US dollars.

The meeting was also addressed by Engr. Habibuddin, chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) and Dr N Choudhury, National RCA Co-ordinator Bangladesh and Abul Hossain, a director of BAEC.

Following the meeting there will be a consultative meeting with a number of important regional and interregional organisations at the same venue.

The representatives came from 17 East Asia and Pacific countries including Australia, China, Japan, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

Govt succeeded in releasing hostages: FM

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad said Saturday night it had been possible for the government to "arrange the release" of the three foreign hostages without any casualty, harm or payment of ransom.

Briefing newsmen at a hurriedly called press conference at 10 pm he said the three freed hostages were now receiving much needed medical attention at the Foreign Ministry.

"Once this process is over, and it is confirmed that they are in good health, and do not need any further medical attention, arrangements will be made for their early and safe return to their countries."

The foreign minister parried replies to several questions about the identity of the abductors, whether force was applied for their release, and if there was any difference of opinion between the government and the embassies of the countries whose nationals were held hostages.

Munshi Faiz Ahmed, Director General of the Foreign Ministry, was present at the press briefing.

Salimullah whined in different dailies including Purbedesh since the early 60s. Of late he was engaged in the Press Institute of Bangladesh.

He is survived by his wife, one son and a daughter and a host of friends and admirers to mourn his death.

Salimullah hailed from village Kalitara in Noakhali.



Canadian High Commissioner in Bangladesh David Preston receiving a crest from the president of Dhaka Reporters Unity M Anwarul Haq after presenting a talk on "Canada-Bangladesh Relations" at DRU office yesterday. DRU secretary general Motahar Hossain Masum is also seen.



Rotary Club of Dhaka sent its first batch of 10 needy patients to Kolkata, India for free heart surgery under their programme to help poor heart patients in the country. The patients were chosen on the basis of a heart camp organised by the club. They are being sent to Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences.



Quality Institute of America (QIA) organised a day-long training programme on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) at BRAC Centre in Mohakhali yesterday.

WEATHER TODAY

Thundershowers likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Khulna, Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions and the regions of Sylhet and Comilla in next 12 hours till 6 pm today.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 35.5 degree Celsius at Chaudaganj and the lowest 14.6 degree Celsius at Rangpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:09 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:03 am.

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

Table with columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

Missions abroad celebrate Bangabandhu's birthday

BSS, Dhaka Bangladesh missions abroad observed the 81st birth day of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with due solemnity.

According to messages received in the city yesterday, the day's programmes included discussion on the life of Bangabandhu, miltad mahfil and special prayers for eternal peace of the departed soul of Bangabandhu.

Messages of President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina were read out in all missions abroad. Head of missions and others taking part in the discussion on the great leader of the soil extravagantly praised Bangabandhu's extraordinary leadership, political strategy and prudence which led to emergence of Bangladesh as an independent state on the globe.

A message from London said the 81st birth anniversary of Bangabandhu was celebrated with due solemnity in the High Commission premises. The day started with hoisting of the National Flag by the Bangladesh High Commissioner to UK AH Mahmood Ali.

Later, the officers and staff of the mission joined a discussion meeting attended by the Ambassador, Minister (Press) Abu Musa Mohammed Hasan and other senior officials of the High Commission.

The Bangladesh Embassy in Hanoi also observed the day with festivity and due solemnity. At a discussion meeting, Ambassador Shamsur M Chowdhury read out excerpts from the various speeches and interventions that Bangabandhu had made on floor of the Pakistan National Assembly in 1956 highlighting the plight of the people of East Bengal because of the misrule of the then Pakistani ruling clique.

Meanwhile another message from the Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Calcutta said the mission also took elaborate programmes to celebrate the day.

DHAKA TOMORROW

CDD workshop Centre for Disability in Development will hold a workshop on "Orientation to Community Approaches to Handicap in Development". Venue: BIAM, 63 New Eskaton. Time: 8.30 am-10.30 am.

Launching ceremony Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and International Labour Organisation will hold the launching ceremony of the South Asian sub-regional Programme to Combat Trafficking in Children for Exploitative Employment (Bangladesh Chapter). Venue: Ballroom of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 9.30 am-2.00 pm.

Film show on Berlin Zahir Raihan Film Society in collaboration with Goethe-Institut Dhaka Inter Nationes has organised "Berlin: Anatomy of a City", a session of 3 feature and 5 documentary films. The Films "Berlin" and "Berlin? Berlin!" and "Wings of Desire" ("Sky over Berlin") by Wim Wenders will be screened on the first day of the show. Venue: German Cultural Centre, Road No. 9, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.30 pm and 7.00 pm respectively.

Film show on Berlin Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations will begin a 10-day long Contemporary Print Exhibition of India. Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 5.00 pm.

Film show on Berlin Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen "Murderers Are Among Us" by Wolfgang Staudt and Life is All you Get by Wolfgang Becker. Venue: Goethe Institut auditorium, Rd No 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5.30 pm and 7.00 pm.

Rally Sylhet Division Development Action Council will hold a rally to demand voting

Nationwide FF rallies Mar 26-30

Grand rallies of Freedom Fighters will be held in Dhaka, Savar, Chittagong, Comilla, Mymensingh, Bogra, Jessore and Rangpur in observance of the 30th anniversary of independence from March 26-30, an ISPR press release said yesterday.

Valiant freedom fighters including sector and sub-sector commanders will take part in the rallies in their respective areas. Colourful processions, visits to battlefields and other places commemorating the liberation war, seminars, memoirs, cultural presentations as well as drama, cinema and VDO shows based on the liberation war will highlight the programme of the rallies.

Arranged by the Bangladesh Army, the functions will be open to all.

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Journalist dead

UNB, Dhaka

Mohammad Salimullah, a senior journalist, died of cardiac arrest at 8-35 last night at his Paribagh residence. He was 67.

Salimullah worked in different dailies including Purbedesh since the early 60s. Of late he was engaged in the Press Institute of Bangladesh.

He is survived by his wife, one son and a daughter and a host of friends and admirers to mourn his death.

Salimullah hailed from village Kalitara in Noakhali.

STOCK

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES MARCH 18, 2001

Table of today's traded issues with columns for DSE, CSE, and Financial Performance. Includes sub-sections for BANK, INVESTMENT, ENGINEERING, FOOD & ALLIED, PHARMA & CHEM, PAPER & PACKAGING, MISCELLANEOUS, and INSURANCE.

Day's Market - March 18, 2001

Table of day's market with columns for Indicators, Turnover Leaders, Capital Gainers, Chittagong Stock Exchange, Capital Losers, Chittagong Stock Exchange, and Block Closer/AGM/Dividend/IPO.

Non Traded Issues

Table of non-traded issues with columns for Company, DSE, CSE, and Financial Performance. Includes sub-sections for BANK, INVESTMENT, ENGINEERING, FOOD & ALLIED, PHARMA & CHEM, PAPER & PACKAGING, MISCELLANEOUS, and SERVICE.