

Post offices closed March 26

BSS, Dhaka
All post offices of the country will remain closed on March 26 to mark the Independence and National Day, an official press release said.

But GEP and EMS services will continue in the post offices having those facilities, the release added.

DU SM Hall reunion Apr 7

BSS, Dhaka
The "Millennium Gathering" of the members of the S.M. Hall old students association will be held at the Officers Club on April 7.

Registration for the event can be done from its temporary office at House no. 9, Road no. 4 at Dhanmondi residential area.

Hemayet Uddin new envoy to Thailand

BSS, Dhaka
The government has appointed Hemayet Uddin, director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the country's ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.
Uddin did his MA from Dhaka University in 1970.

Mitigation plans urged to face climatic changes

World Meteorology Day observed

BSS, Dhaka
Speakers at an international seminar yesterday called on politicians and policymakers for taking effective defensive measures and plans against unpredictable weather phenomena and climate changes to protect lives and livelihoods of millions of people of Bangladesh and other developing vulnerable countries.

The Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) and the World Water Forum of Journalists (WWFJ) organised the seminar on "Weather, Climate and Volunteers for Water" marking the World Meteorology Day at the Jatiya Press Club here.

Presided over by FEJB Chairman and WWFJ Secretary General Quamrul Islam Chowdhury, it was addressed by WWFJ member and Chairman of Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists Mangal Man Shakya, FEJB General Secretary Mofizur Rahman, FEJB Joint Secretary Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan and WWFJ member Sharif Shahabuddin.

Mangal blamed politicians and policymakers for not taking any pragmatic action plan to face this catastrophic problem of national, regional and global dimension.

"True, we cannot stop unpredictable behaviour of weather and changes in climatic conditions. But, we can stop wrong weather forecast. If meteorologists give wrong rain forecast or incorrect cold wave, then people would lose faith in those forecasts," he said, adding that environment and

water journalists should be doubly cautious about running those forecast in print and electronic media.

Quamrul emphasised the need for global and regional cooperation to help improve weather forecasts, predict accurately climate changes, upgrade water quality and augment dry season water quantity for the welfare of people. He said because of climate

changes and consequent sea-level rises, Bangladesh will be hit hard as one of the most vulnerable countries and may up to lose 17.5 per cent of its territory in the sea, making 20 million people environmental refugees and submerging the world's largest mangrove forest, the Sunderbans and affecting adversely agriculture, fisheries, livestock and biodiversity of the country.

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BFUJ election today

BSS, Dhaka
Elections to the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), the first ever direct elections, will be held today.

Voting will be held at Dhaka, Chittagong, Mymensingh, Bogra, Dinajpur, Rajshahi, Jessore and Khulna, simultaneously, says a press release.

Two candidates - Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury (The Observer) and Shahjahan Mia (BSS) - are contesting for the posts of BFUJ president as another contender, Habibur Rahman Milon, (The Ittefaq) has withdrawn from the race.

Akhtar Ahmed Khan and Azizul Islam Bhuiyan (BSS) are contesting for the post of secretary general of BFUJ.

In Dhaka, voting will also be held for election to 11 posts of members of Executive Committee in Dhaka Union of Journalists at the same time.

RU classes resume today

BSS, Rajshahi
The classes of Rajshahi University (RU) resume today after 35 days of closure following a clash between students and neighbouring villagers. The authorities suspended the classes and asked the students to vacate their dormitories after the clash on February 16.

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