



(Left) Mymensingh Sahitya Sangsad brought out a colourful procession in the Mymensingh town yesterday on the occasion of Mymensingh Sahitya Sammelan, 2002 (Literary Conference). (Right) The participants at a seminar organised on the same occasion. From left are Dr Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Abul Kashem Fazlul Haque, Jatin Sarker and Zulfiker Rafique.



PHOTO STAR

TIB awards 4 journalists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday awarded four journalists for their excellence in investigative reporting.

Mustafiz Shafi, staff reporter of Prothom Alo, and Shafiqul Alam Raza of Jugantor, shared the first prize of 'Investigative Journalism Award-2001' while Sagar Sagor of Mukrankantha and Julfikar Ali Manik of Channel-I won the second and third prizes respectively.

The first prize carries Tk 50,000, a crest and certificate. The second and third prize winners received crests and certificates.

Certificate forgery 5 CU officials, employees chargesheeted in three cases

CU CORRESPONDENT

After a long-drawn-out investigation, charge sheets were submitted Thursday against five officials and employees including the examination controller of the Chittagong University (CU) for their alleged involvement in a forgery involving grade sheets and certificates of the university.

Three cases were filed against them at Hathazari thana in 1997 on charges of counterfeiting grade sheets and certificates of the university.

The charge-sheeted persons are ex-examination controller of the university GM Latif Khan, Kazi Mahbubur Rahman, Mohammed Nasir Uddin, SM Nasir Uddin and Reva Rani Pal.

Court sources said the five issued certificates to over two hundred CU students by forging number sheets and showing them as 'pass'.

French navy ship arrives in Ctg

BSS, Dhaka

A French navy ship, Commandant Ducuing, arrived in Chittagong yesterday on a three-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh, an ISPR press release said.

The French Ambassador in Bangladesh Michel Lummaux and senior officers of the Bangladesh Navy accorded welcome to the visiting ship on its arrival at the Chittagong port.

Prof Muzaffar Ahmed, member of the TIB Trustee Board, gave away the awards at a ceremony at the National Press Club yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Muzaffar Ahmed said the journalists can help check corruption through their investigative reporting as it projects irregularities in the society.

He said, "We have enough technology and manpower to fight corruption and young reporters could show us the way."

He expressed the hope that the TIB award would inspire the journalists to fight the corruption.

Among others, journalist ABM Musa, Mrs. SR Gajanabi, member of TIB Trustee Board, Barrister Monjur Hasan and Talea Rahman of Democracy Watch were present at the ceremony.

Two car thieves arrested in city

UNB, Dhaka

Two members of an organised gang of inter-district car thieves were arrested along with three private cars from city's Avoiydas Lane area yesterday.

On information, CID police raided the area in the morning and nabbed Abul Hossain and Shahjahan with the three new cars.

Police also recovered huge foreign-made electronic goods worth about Tk 12 lakh from the residence of Abul Hossain at Khilgaon in the city.

Jubo Dal activist shot dead in Feni

OUR CORRESPONDENT, FENI

A Jubo Dal activist was shot dead by unidentified gunman at Mojimdar Bazar under Sadar upazila on Wednesday night.

The victim was identified as Anwar Hossain, 23, son of Sanwar Hossain of village Uttar Kazirbagh in Sadar upazila.

Witnesses said the assailant swooped on Anwar in front of a shop at about 8-30 pm and shot him point blank. He died on the spot.

Police recovered the body yesterday morning and sent it to Feni Sadar hospital for autopsy.

No case was filed in connection with the murder till 6 pm yesterday.

District Jubo Dal president Syed Mizanur Rahman and secretary Jahangir Alam condemned the killing and demanded immediate arrest of the killers.

Pregnancy-related complications claim 20,000 a year

Lack of access to health service blamed

UNB, Dhaka

Some 20,000 women die in the country every year due to pregnancy and childbirth-related complications, indicating that the government needs to do more to reduce the high maternal mortality rate.

Postpartum haemorrhage sends 28 per cent women to early death while abortion 21 per cent, eclampsia 16 per cent, puerperal sepsis 11 per cent, obstructed labour 8 per cent and other obstetric complications 18 per cent.

Experts disclosed the shocking figures at a workshop titled "Emergency Obstetric Care (EOC) and Safe Delivery". Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) in collaboration with UNICEF and the government organised the workshop for the media personnel.

They attributed the high rate of maternal mortality rate to lack of access to health service and awareness of patients and their families.

Most women in Bangladesh do not have timely access to EOC, they said, regretting that the maternal mortality and morbidity rate is unexpectedly very high in Bangladesh. The maternal mortal-

ity ratio was reported as 300 per one lakh live births in the country in 1998.

According to UNICEF reports, the maternal mortality rate in Bangladesh still stands at 440 per one lakh live births while 410 in neighbouring India.

A total of 60 million women in the developing world give birth to children each year without skilled help - cared by traditional birth attendants (TBAs).

They laid emphasis on skilled care during childbirth because millions of women and newborns develop serious complications during or immediately after childbirth.

Skilled attendants and health professionals such as doctors or skilled midwives can recognise these complications and treat them or can refer to health centres or hospitals immediately if more advanced care is needed.

Prof Sultana Jahan, head of the Dept of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the DMCH and Prof Anowara Begum, vice-president of OGSB, also spoke at the workshop.

Bomb found near Daily Star office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A bomb was found in the passage between the buildings of The Daily Star and Pragati Insurance at Karwan Bazar in the city yesterday evening.

The explosive, that panicked people of the area, was first detected by the security guards of the Premier Bank, Karwan Bazar branch, located at the Pragati Insurance building, at about 5:30pm.

When the guards informed The Daily Star about the finding, some newsmen went to the spot and found the bomb there.

Being informed, Teigaon police rushed to the spot and took away the bomb.



Obituary

Zeenat Aziz, wife of late Abdul Aziz, an ex-law secretary, died at BIRDEM Hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 85, says a press release.

She left behind six sons, seven daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn her death.

Her namaj-e-janaza will be held at Masjidul Takwa, Road-12, Dhanmondi, after Juma prayers today.



Ali Mehedi Khan, a retired DSP, died at his Kalyanpur residence in the city on Wednesday at the age of 82, says a press release.

Ali Mehedi hailed from Kanakpur under Moulvibazar district. He is survived by his wife, five sons, three daughters and a number of grandchildren.

His qulhwani will be held today after Asr prayers at his residence at 52/2 Kalyanpur.



PHOTO STAR

Leader of the Opposition and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina addressing the annual general meeting of the Dhaka Union of Journalists at the National Press Club yesterday.

British plastic surgeon arrives today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

British plastic surgeon Dr Ronald William Hiles arrives in the city today to perform free plastic surgeries on acid survivors.

Dr Hiles is coming at the invitation of the Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF).

During his 4-week stay, he will operate with local surgeons on poor acid survivors at Dhaka Medical College Hospital and the Centre for Rehabilitation of Paralysis (CRP) at Savar.

With this, it will be his 12th visit to Bangladesh to transfer technology of reconstructive surgery.

Meanwhile, another well-known plastic surgeon Prof Andrew Burd from Chinese University of Hong Kong will also arrive in the city on Saturday.

Prof Burd will also perform similar plastic surgeries on poor acid survivors free of cost. His visit is also sponsored by ASF and he will stay in the country for two weeks.

Both the surgeons are expected to deal with on difficult acid burn cases along with local plastic surgeon.

CU JCD leaders' appeal to PM

CU CORRESPONDENT

Sixteen top leaders of the ruling BNP's student wing Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) of Chittagong University (CU) have made an appeal to Prime minister Khaleda Zia to appoint a competent person as the VC who will be able to run the university smoothly.

In a statement issued here yesterday, the leaders of the CU unit of JCD made the appeal and also named three teachers - Professor Yusuf Sharif Ahmed Khan, Professor ANM Monir Ahmed Chowdhury and Professor Badrul Alam, the ex-pro-VC of the university - as eligible for the post.

They hoped that appointment of any of the three persons as VC would help end the prevailing deadlock at the university as they have credibility among all student organisations.

Observing that some unqualified individuals were lobbying some ministers of Chittagong for the post of VC, the student leaders sought PM's intervention in this regard for the sake of the 16,000 CU students whose future now hangs in the balance due to the ongoing stalemate.

AL to go for alternative arrangement to air Hasina's address

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League is going ahead with an alternative arrangement to broadcast home and abroad the "address to the Nation" by the past Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on January 26.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Political Secretary to the Awami League chief, said if they don't get access to the terrestrial and satellite options available within Bangladesh, they would do everything so people could watch and hear the speech.

The recording of the speech would be completed today (Friday), Saber said, giving a wide signal of completing the alternative arrangement to transmit the audio-video of the address of Hasina and also publish the text of the speech in newspapers.

The state-owned BTV and Bangladesh Betar that have sent the AL request to the higher authorities for airing the opposition leader's speech were yet to receive any response.

DHAKA TODAY

DU English Dept alumni reunion

The English Department Alumni Society of Dhaka University will hold its annual Alumni Reunion 2001. Venue: Teacher-Student Centre. Time: 3:00pm.

University will be held. Venue: Ramna Green Chinese Restaurant. Time: 3:00pm.

Blood donation camp

Sristy Samabay Samity will organise a voluntary Blood Donation Camp. Venue: Sristy Coaching Academy, 1795 East Badda. Time: 12:00 noon.

Painting exhibition

The solo painting exhibition of Sujon Dey will begin with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Selima Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Alliance Francaise gallery. Time: 5:00pm. The exhibition will remain open from 9:00am to 12:00 noon (except Saturday) and from 5:00pm to 8:00pm daily till February 3.

Annual conference

The 5th annual general conference-2001 of Human Development Council will be held. Venue: Motijheel Government Boys' High School auditorium. Time: 8:30am.

FEJB general meeting

The 9th biennial general meeting of the Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) will be held with Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Sadeque Hossain Khoka as chief guest. Venue: Jaliya Press Club. Time: 9:30am.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Fair of substitutes for polybags

A week-long fair of substitutes for polybags will be inaugurated by Environment and Forest Minister Shahjahan Siraj. Venue: Defence Museum, Bijoy Sarani. Time: 4:30pm.

Convention

The third National Convention of Bangladesh Society of Radiation Oncologists will be held with Industries Minister Abdullah Al Noman as chief guest. Venue: Sheraton Hotel.

Discussion meeting

Bangladesh Manobadhihar Sangbadik Forum will organise a discussion meeting to exchange views on 'HIV/AIDS and Mass-media'. Venue: Ramna Chinese Restaurant. Time: 10:30am.

Alumni reunion

Old Laboratorians Association organises an alumni reunion to mark the 40th founding anniversary of the Government Laboratory High School with Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: Government Laboratory High School. Time: 9:00am.

Education conference

To mark the National Education Week-2002, a conference on education will be held. DU Vice Chancellor Prof. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury will deliver a key speech on 'Education to meet the challenges of globalisation'. Venue: Teacher-Student Centre. Time: 10:00am.

Film show

Alliance Francaise will screen two films 'Western and 'Meilleur espoir feminine'. Venue: Alliance Francaise. Time: 10:30am and 6:00pm respectively.

Orientation ceremony

The Second Orientation Ceremony (Spring 2002) of Viganarunia University will be held. Venue: University auditorium. Time: 9:30am.

Eid reunion

The Eid reunion 2002 of the SM Hall Old Students Association of Dhaka

Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Company Ltd (BAPEX)
 (A Company of Petrobangla)
 Material Control Division
 Shahjalal Tower (7th Floor), 80/A-B
 Siddeshwari Circular Road, Dhaka-1217

গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ
 এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।

Tender Notice

Tender No: 123.53.15/2001 Dated: 16-01-2002
 Sealed quotations are hereby invited from the bonafide suppliers/manufacturers/distributors on prescribed schedule for supply of tyre tube.
 Tender schedule containing terms and conditions will be available at our Accounts & Finance Division (2nd Floor), Shahjalal Tower, 80/A-B Siddeshwari Circular Road, Dhaka-1217 during office hours from 03-02-2002 at a cost of Tk 500.00 only per schedule (non-refundable). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.
 Tender in separate sealed covered superscribing the case number and description of goods may be dropped in the tender box kept at Material Control Division, Shahjalal Tower (7th Floor), 80/A-B Siddeshwari Circular Road, Dhaka-1217 at 11:00 hours on 11-02-2002 which will be opened on the same day at 11:15 hours in presence of the tenderers (if any).
 BAPEX reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders and increase/decrease the quantity of the item without assigning any reason whatsoever.
 DFP-1480-20 1-02
 G-207 General Manager (MCD)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 Office of the Executive Engineer
 Public Works E/M Division-6
 2nd 12-Storey Govt Office Building
 Segunbagicha, Dhaka

Memo No 14-4/1597 Dt: 12.01.02/29.9.1408 BS

Tender Invitation Notice

No 91 (2001-2002)

Tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 under sealed cover are invited from Public Works Directorate enlisted special class/1st class (combined)/E/M 1st/2nd class contractors having valid ABC/BC class contractors & supervisor's licence (uptodate renewed). Tenders will be received in tender box kept at Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6 & Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka during office hours up to 12:00 Noon of 03.02.2002 and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence (if any) of the interested tenderers or their nominated representatives. Tender schedule, form and terms & conditions etc. can be purchased from Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6 & Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka on usual payment of Tk 425/- (four hundred twenty-five) only (non-refundable) during office hours latest up to 02.02.2002. Earnest Money at the rate 2% (two per cent) on the estimated cost must be deposited with each tender in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank approved by Bangladesh Bank in favour of Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-6, Dhaka. This office authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason. Contractor himself or his authorised letter bearer representative can purchase tender from on production of registration book with requisite papers. Participants in the tender must submit TIN certificate & original copy of tender purchase money receipt with the tender.

Serial No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Approved time
1.	Supply & installation of PFI plant for 100 KVA pole mounted transformer installed for power supply to 85 HP submersible pump motor of pump House No 8 of Central Cattle Breeding & Dairy Farm at Savar.	Tk 1,82,133/-	Tk 3,643/-	15 (fifteen) days.

Md Harun-ar-Rashid
 Executive Engineer
 Public Works E/M Division-6
 Dhaka
 DFP-1190-16/1
 G-186

WEATHER

TODAY

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain or drizzling is likely at one or two places over southern part of Chittagong division and weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country in next 12 hours till 6 pm yesterday.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins and coastal belt and light fog may occur elsewhere over the country during early morning, Met office said.

Mild cold wave is likely to sweep over northern part over the country during next 48 hours and night temperature may fall by 1-3 degree Celsius over the country, it added.

Country's highest temperature 27.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 11.4 degree at Sayerdupur.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:40 pm today and rises at 6:42 am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	24.0	17.6	79	46
Chittagong	25.5	18.2	76	81
Rajshahi	23.4	13.3	83	68
Khulna	23.7	17.2	96	69
Barisal	25.2	17.5	94	87
Sylhet	24.0	17.7	90	64
Cox's Bazar	27.2	20.5	94	87