

Reopening of ETV demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different organisations yesterday protested the closure of Ekushey Television (ETV) and demanded of the government to allow the private TV channel to broadcast its programmes.

The organisations also demanded immediate steps to relaunch ETV transmission as thousands of people across the country want to watch ETV programmes.

Bangladesh Workers Party in a statement said the closure of ETV has thwarted the freedom of mass media and deprived the people of their right to get the objective information.

Jatiya Sramik League in a joint statement criticised the government for closing the ETV and said the closure of the popular TV channel has exposed the 'fascist' nature of the government.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Jote in a statement has also demanded immediate reopening of the ETV.

Our Pabna correspondent adds: the television viewers of different villages in the district yesterday took out procession demanding relaunching of the ETV transmission.

Bashar's death anniversary observed

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Air Force yesterday observed the 26th death anniversary of former Chief of the Air Staff Air Vice Marshal M Khademul Bashar Bir Uttam with due solemnity.

On September 1 in 1976, Air Vice Marshal Bashar died in a tragic plane crash.

Marking his death anniversary, a milad mahfil was arranged at the BAF central mosque at Kurmitola after Asr prayers while fateha was offered at his grave.

Chief of the Air Staff Air Vice Marshal Fakhrul Azam, other senior BAF officers and a large number of airmen were present at the milad I, said an ISPR press release.



The BNP organised a colourful procession of horse-drawn carriages in the city yesterday to mark its 24th founding anniversary.

Musharraf to discuss Kashmir issue with Bush this month

PTI, Islamabad

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf plans to discuss ways to resolve the Kashmir issue with his US counterpart George W Bush in New York later this month which would include recognition of LoC as a permanent border and resumption of trade relations with India, media reports here said.

The package of solutions, being considered by Musharraf in the run up to his visit later this month to New York to attend the UN General Assembly (UNGA), included regularisation of LoC as international border in "exchange to withdrawal of Indian claims on Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Northern Areas", and normalisation of trade relations between the two nations, Pakistani daily The News said.

Also if an understanding was worked out, Islamabad would "make it clear" to Kashmiri groups that the elections to the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly would be an internal affair of India.

Musharraf's Kashmir package would include providing facilities for US to set an airbase at Skardu in Pakistan's Northern Areas to conduct long term military operations against Al-Qaida and Taliban, the paper said. While Pakistani officials were not available for comment, Chairman of Paki-

stan's National Kashmir Committee, Abdul Qayyum Khan, told PTI that the news item made an "incredible" reading but sounds "irrelevant and far-fetched".

The paper said the package, expected to invite a barrage of criticism from parties and groups in Pakistan, was being given top-level consideration in Washington against the backdrop of certain developments including US Marines-led chase of Al-Qaida and Taliban remnants in tribal areas along Durand Line.

More Qayyum, former president and prime minister of PoK, said Musharraf, who would be leaving for US in the second week of this month, certainly worked on a strategy to prepare for his crucial visit to US to attend the UN General Assembly.

"But I wonder whether there would any compromise on basic positions. He said during his meeting with Musharraf two days ago, the President did not discuss any such "solutions" listed by the

paper. "It is incredible, if you read the story, you cannot but wonder why the two countries were fighting for long," he said. "I am not part of the Government but I do not think that such wider compromises were on the cards during the visit," he said.

Qayyum said the issue of solutions to Kashmir problem has figured prominently in his talks with Lisa Curtis, Special Adviser to US Assistant Secretary of state Christina Rocca.

Qayyum said the most important thing he suggested to Curtis on Saturday in their talks here was that US should step up its efforts to arrange a meeting between Prime Minister A B Vajpayee and President Pervez Musharraf during their stay in New York.

Musharraf was scheduled to address the UNGA on September 12 followed by Vajpayee on September 13. Both were scheduled to have separate meetings with Bush but officials from both sides have so far maintained that no Vajpayee-Musharraf meeting was contemplated for the time being.

Urs Mubarak

BSS, Dhaka

Urs Mubarak of Hazrat Allama MM Kamal Shah Quaderi will be held tomorrow on the occasion of his 10<sup>th</sup> death anniversary at Amrullah Sharif Shahi Pak Darbar at Bandarampur in Daudkandi, Comilla.

Khatme Quran, Khatme Khajegan, milad mahfil, zikir and special prayers will be held on the occasion, a press release of the Darbar Sharif said here yesterday.

One held with revolver at Barisal

BSS, Barisal

A young man was arrested at Gournadi upazila here with a revolver on Saturday.

Police said Hazarat Ali alias Kalu, 25, was arrested from Dumuria village under Barisal district. Police seized a revolver from his possession. A case was lodged with Gournadi police in this connection.

Meanwhile, people of Fakirbari Road of the city caught a heroin trader Shaheen, 30, Saturday night and handed over him to the police. He was mercilessly beaten. Shaheen is a professional heroin trader, police said.

Anti-dengue programme in city

Mohammadpur Government High School Scout Group and Sebrati Mukto Scout Group jointly took up a day-long dengue prevention programme in the city on Aug 30, says a press release.

Dr Syedul Islam Mallik, deputy commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts, inaugurated the programme. It was participated by national and regional leaders of Bangladesh Scouts.

The highlights of the programme were a colourful procession participated by scouts, rovers, guardians and local elite, distribution of posters and leaf-lets and cleanliness drive.

Enlistment of the names of voluntary blood donors was another highlight of the programme and 212 persons enlisted their names for voluntary blood donation.

The entire programme was conducted by Rehana Khanam, headmistress of Mohammadpur Government High School.



Mohammadpur Government High School Scout Group and Sebrati Mukto Scout Group jointly organised a day-long anti-dengue programme in the city recently.

JU English Week begins tomorrow

JU CORRESPONDENT

The 'English Week 2002', organised by the English Association (TEA) of Jahangirnagar University (JU), begins tomorrow.

The programme of the week includes poetry and play reading session, recitation, essay writing and set-speech competition, indoor games, blood-donation and river cruise at Ashulia.

On the first day, Valerie A Taylor of CRP, Savar will deliver a lecture at Arts Faculty premises (New).

JU Vice Chancellor Prof Jasim Uddin Ahmad will formally inaugurate the programme on Tuesday.

The week-long programme will be rounded off with a reception to office bearers of TEA, cultural function and prize-giving ceremony.

The week has been dedicated to the memory of Kawsar Hossain, an associate professor of JU who died in a tragic road accident at the University Dairy Farmgate on Dhaka-Aricha highway on February 1.

Air chief returns

Chief of the Air Staff Air Vice Marshal Fakhrul Azam returned home on Friday night after a week-long official visit to China, says an ISPR.

He was accompanied by a three-member delegation of the Bangladesh Air Force.

During his visit, Air Vice Marshal Azam called on the Minister of Defence, Armed Forces Chief of General Staff and the Chief of the Air Staff of the People's Liberation Army, China and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Obituary

Golam Sattar, a retired deputy director general, Commercial Audit, died of old-age complications at BIRDEM Hospital yesterday at the age of 85, says a press release.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives.

His 'hamaz-e-janazal' will be held at Gulbagh Mosque at Elephant Road after Zohr prayers today.

M A Mannan

MA Mannan, a freedom fighter, died of old-age complications at Suhrawardy Hospital in the city on August 30 at the age of 75, says a press release.

Mannan, son of late Jainul Abedin Mridha, is survived by his wife, two daughters and two sons. He hailed from village Chhagla of Borhanuddin thana under Bhola district.

He was buried at Azimpur graveyard with state honour the same day.

Hotel owner sent to jail for conducting sex trade

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Owner of a residential hotel in the resort town was yesterday sent to jail on charge of conducting sex trade in the hotel.

Kabir Ahmed, owner of 'Hotel Sea Queen' and president of District Hotel Owners Association, was sent to jail after a court rejected his bail petition.

Police filed a case against him after they arrested 27 prostitutes and rescued five teenage girls from the luxurious hotel on August 24.

The five girls in their statement to the magistrate said Kabir and the hotel manager along with some brokers forced them to engage in this profession.

Qulkhwani

BSS, Dhaka

Qulkhwani of Mostafa Tariqul Alam, a senior journalist of the Financial Express, will be held on September 6 at his village home at Mahmudabad under Rugganj thana of Narayanganj district.

Alam died of renal failure on Thursday at the age of 65.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani, a press release said.

A milad mahfil will also be held after Asr prayers today at the Fakirerpool Jame Mosque.

Six identified criminals held

BSS, Dhaka

Police recovered 10 firearms and 21 bullets during their ongoing countrywide drive in the last 24 hours till 6 am yesterday.

Police also arrested 1,223 people, including six identified criminals during the period, a police headquarters press release said.

Of the arrested, 519 were police wanted and 690 accused in different under-investigation cases.

Eight persons were arrested in connection with the arms seizure and police filed seven cases against them under the Arms Act.

Of the firearms, Satkhira District Police recovered two and other district police seized the rest eight.

The arrested identified criminals are Mohammed Kalu of Khulna, Jahangir Biswas, Farhad and Milan of Narail, Tuhin of Kushtia, Rashidul and Mahfuz of Dhaka city.

Two constables closed in Sherpur

UNB, Sherpur

Two constables were closed to local police lines for negligence to duties after a dacoit managed to escape from Sadar Hospital here on Saturday.

A one-member inquiry committee with ASP (Circle) Alim Mahbub was formed to find out how the arrested robber, Rafiqul Islam alias Shahid, fled dodging the policemen on duty.

Police said Shahid in handcuff fled from the hospital Saturday evening when constable Latif was out of the hospital and constable Tofazzal was saying Magreb prayers.

Shahid was caught by a mob and handed over to police after mass beating on Wednesday.

WEATHER TODAY logo with sun and cloud icons.

No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Khulna and Barisal divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

Country's highest temperature yesterday was 34.7 degree Celsius and the lowest 23.0 degree Celsius recorded at Srimangol.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:16 pm today and rises at 5:41 am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest 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.

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice. Includes details about sealed tenders, project description (Sewerage System Extension & Rehabilitation Project), and a table of items for tender.

DHAKA TODAY section listing various events: Film show, DUJ meeting, Fair, IP meeting, A Bondage of Partnership, Discussion, Seminar, and Prize distribution.

জীবন বীমা কর্পোরেশন (Life Insurance Corporation) advertisement. Includes details about policy benefits, premium rates, and contact information.

Tender Notice. Details regarding the Brood Bank Establishment Project, including eligibility criteria, terms and conditions, and contact information for Md. Shawkat Ali.