

Indian sarees worth Tk 55 lakh seized

BSS, Dhaka
 Department of Customs Intelligence seized 7,000 Indian sarees worth Tk 55 lakh from a rice-laden truck near Ashulia on the outskirts of the capital on Thursday evening.
 Acting on a tip-off, a special team of the department recovered the sarees from the truck in the bypass area of the Dhaka-Tangail highway at about 6 pm.
 The truck, bound for Dhaka from Chapainawabganj, remained



Customs officials recovered 7000 smuggled Indian sarees from a truck at Ashulia on Thursday night.



(From right) Selina Hossain, Faye Ahmed and Khaleda Edib Chowdhury were awarded 'M Noorul Quader Foundation Shishu Sahitya Puraskar' at a ceremony in the city yesterday.



The Bangladesh Matsya Peshajibi Oikya Parishad held a press conference in the city yesterday to press for its 6-point demand.

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Abul Khair Moslehuddin passes away

BSS, Dhaka
 Abul Khair Moslehuddin, former additional inspector general of police and noted litterateur, died of heart attack at the National Heart Foundation in the city yesterday.
 He was 72, family sources said. He left behind his wife and three daughters.
 Moslehuddin was an author of more than 100 books of short stories, novels, poems and rhymes. Three of his most acclaimed novels are 'Ferari', 'Preyasi' and 'Jharna Jhare Je'.
 The first namaj-e-janaza of Moslehuddin was held at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque premises after Juma prayers in which a large number of admirers and former colleagues, including Inspector General of Police (IGP) Modabber Hossain Chowdhury took part.
 After the namaj-e-janaza, the body was taken to his 22/18 Kilji Road residence at Mohammadpur.
 Later, the body of Moslehuddin, was taken to his village home at Fenua in Laksham upazila and he was laid to rest after Asr prayers at his ancestral graveyard.

Three receive Shishu Sahitya awards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Selina Hossain, Faye Ahmed and Khaleda Edib Chowdhury were awarded the 'M Noorul Quader Foundation Shishu Sahitya Puraskar 2002' yesterday, says a press release.
 The award giving ceremony was held at the Shawkat Osman Auditorium in the city yesterday with the foundation's chairperson Rokeya Quader in the chair.
 Selina Hossain received the award for prose, Faye Ahmed for poem and Khaleda Edib Chowdhury for her book on 'Liberation War'. The awards carry Tk 10,000 each.

Prof Hayat Mamud was present as chief guest while poet Asad Chowdhury as special guest in the function.
 The foundation also gave away prizes to the winners of books, reading, photography and drawing competitions. A total of 162 children and juveniles received the prizes.
 At the function, students of Bangladesh International Tutorial performed dance and staged a drama.
 Also, paintings and photographs of the children's competition were put on display at the function.

Formulate action plan to face climate change

BSS, Dhaka
 Participants of a UN sponsored workshop yesterday called for formulation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPA) in least developed countries (LDCs) to face the adverse impacts of climate change, which would affect progress towards poverty reduction and economic development.
 They were participating in a three-day LDC Expert Group Workshop on NAPA here organised by Ministry of Environment and Forest in collaboration with United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and supported by UNDP, CIDA, DFID, France and UNITAR.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia on Thursday inaugurated the workshop now being participated by 150 delegates from 41 different LDCs.
 Referring to the current international consensus that human-induced climate change is occurring, the participants said, the climate change would impact on an LDC's ability to achieve its development objectives.
 They said climate change is an internationally accepted problem that is being addressed through a global process and UNFCCC recognises the special needs of LDCs in terms of their vulnerability and requirements for adaptation.
 The Workshop participants said NAPAs were initiated by the LDCs and are designed to help build the capacity of LDCs to address their urgent and immediate adaptation needs.
 "The challenge ahead is to move from plan to implementation," said Mama Konate of Mali who is chair of LDC on Climate Change, adding that adaptation efforts can reduce vulnerability and increase the livelihood of successfully achieving development objectives.
 Dr Dechen Tsering of Bhutan emphasised the need for building a multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral and multi-institutional team to formulate NAPA harnessing the political will for its subsequent successful implementation.



(From left) Awami League MP Suranjit Sengupta, former chief Justice Mustafa Kamal, Law Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Barrister Mainul Hossain, Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelly and Prof Aftab Ahmed attended a seminar on 'Challenges of Democracy and Working of the Parliament System in Bangladesh' organised by the DU Political Science Alumni Association at TSC on the Dhaka University campus yesterday.

Develop working relationship for democracy

Speakers urge ruling party, opposition at DUPSA discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Speakers at a seminar in the city yesterday emphasised the need for developing a working relationship between the ruling party and the opposition to institutionalise democracy in the country.
 The accountability of the government would have been improved, had the opposition parties attended the parliament session regularly during the democratic regime, the speakers observed.
 They called upon the political parties to come forward to give democracy a firm footing, saying that there is no alternative to parliamentary democracy.
 The Dhaka University Political Science Alumni Association

(DUPSA) organised the seminar at the DU ISC auditorium on the occasion of its first national congress.
 Deputy Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Akhtar Hamid Siddiqui inaugurated the programme in the morning. The inaugural session was also addressed by Barrister Moinul Hossain and Prof M Asaduzzaman, Acting DU Vice-Chancellor Prof AEM Yusuf Haider presided.
 Later at the seminar session, Prof M Nazrul Islam, chairman of the Political Science department, DU, and president of DUPSA, presented the keynote paper on 'Challenges of Democracy and Working of the Parliamentary System in Bangladesh'.

Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Moudud Ahmed was present as chief guest at the seminar while former chief Justice Mustafa Kamal presided.
 Suranjit Sengupta MP, Barrister Moinul Hossain, Prof Mizanur Rahman Shelly, Prof Aftab Ahmed and Prof Ataur Rahman also took part in the seminar.
 In his paper, Prof Nazrul Islam focussed on the constitutional developments, return of parliamentary democracy, governments of Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia, different parliamentary committees and economic fronts and challenges.
 In his speech, Barrister Moudud Ahmed said that the existing problems of the country's democracy are transient and can be solved promptly once the country achieves considerable development in economy.

3 killed in Ctg incidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
 Three people were killed in separate incidents in the city in last two days.
 Police recovered a beheaded body from Shershab Colony adjacent to Nagark Housing Society area Thursday morning.
 The victim was identified as Rahat, 22, a worker of Sheems Fashion Limited, a garments factory in Bayezid Bostami area.
 Rahat had been abducted by some miscreants while he was returning home from the garments factory on Wednesday night.
 Police arrested his fellow worker, Jahangir, for his alleged involvement in the murder.
 In another incident, a young man was beaten to death by armed hoodlum on Thursday.
 Abu Muslim, a resident of Reazuddin Bazar Lane, was returning home from BRFC bus station after arriving in Chittagong from Dhaka when an armed gang attacked him in Chahtanyaguli area, leaving him dead.
 The gang also took away all the valuables from the victim.
 In the third incident, a mentally deranged person identified as Md Badsha Mia, 30, died when some people tied him up and poured water into his nose in the name of treatment at Khaza Road in the city on Wednesday night.
 But Badsha became unconscious soon and died on way to hospital, sources said.
 A case was filed against three people in this connection.
 Police arrested all the three.



US Ambassador Mary Ann Peters and Chittagong Chamber President Amir Humayun Mahmud Chowdhury jointly inaugurated the American Catalogue exhibition series at Hotel Agrabad in Chittagong on September 18.

Two murdered in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
 Two murders were committed in a span of one hour in the city on Thursday night.
 One of the victims is 58-year-old Nazem Sarder, a former labour leader. He was gunned down at Gabtala area under Khalishpur thana at around 8.30 pm.
 An armed gang of six unidentified people fired a shot into his head at point blank range at a tea stall, leaving him dead. The gang then went away after exploding about ten bombs, witnesses said.
 A listed criminal and accused in five murder cases, Nazem Sarder became a leader of Boyra CSD Godown Handling Workers' Union in 1980. In course of time, he formed an organised gang of armed cadres to retain his leadership. Nazem had been elected president of the union four times since 1984.
 His main rivals were Ershad Shikder and Awami League leader Moslemuddin Khan. Both Ershad and Moslem fought gunbattles with Nazem over leadership of CSD handling workers' union.
 The prime accused in Moslem murder case in 1995, Nazem was arrested and sentenced to life term. Early this year, he came out of jail on bail. He had survived two attempts on his life since then.
 The slain labour leader also contested the April 25 election as a candidate of a faction of BNP for the post of KCC commissioner from ward no. 14. But he lost to his rival belonging to the other faction of the ruling party.
 Recently, Nazem filed two general diaries with Khalishpur thana seeking security of his life, police said.
 In another incident, an electrician identified as Shaheen Golder, 30, was hacked to death at around 9.30 pm in Nirala residential area under Khulna thana.
 According to police, four unidentified men attacked the electrician and hacked him to death.
 A woman was arrested in connection with the murder. Police suspected that she might have hired the goons to kill Shaheen.

WEATHER TODAY

Temperature may fall

UNB, Dhaka
 Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy falls at places during the next 12 hours till 6pm today.
 Day temperature may fall slightly over the country. Met Office said. Yesterday's highest temperature of 36.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Srimongal and the lowest of 24.5 degree Celsius at Comilla.
 The sun sets in the capital at 5:56 pm today and rises at 5:47 am tomorrow.
 The 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	35.0	26.5	70	75
Chittagong	35.2	26.5	70	63
Rajshahi	35.3	26.8	75	74
36.0	25.8	78	92	
Barisal	34.4	27.0	81	95
Sylhet	36.0	26.2	73	66
Cox's Bazar	34.3	26.2	70	93

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