



The Islamic Shashantantra Andolon stages a sit-in on the Johnson Road in the old part of the city yesterday, causing a massive traffic congestion in the area. It also submitted a memorandum to the office of the deputy commissioner there to press for its demand.

## Falling masonry injures 3 workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Falling masonry of an under-construction hospital building injured three workers of an auto-mechanic workshop on Green Road in Dhanmondi yesterday.

Witnesses said Kamal Hossain, 25, Shahidul, 38, and Helal, 33, who worked for W Autos, were wounded when a chunk of bricks fell from the fifth floor scaffolding of the building, busting the workshop's tin roof at about 10:30am.

Kamal was admitted to nearby South Asian Hospital with head injuries and the others were given first-aid treatment.

Dhanmondi police arrested guard Nazimuddin Chowdhury at the construction site, but the contractor and workers of the 10-storey building fled.

Locals alleged that the under-construction building did not have any caution sign around it for public safety.



The tin roof of an auto-mechanic workshop was damaged severely when a chunk of bricks fell on it from the scaffold at the fifth floor of an adjacent under-construction building in Green Road area of the city yesterday.

## 12 parliament seats for disabled demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Physically challenged people yesterday demanded reservation of 12 seats in parliament so that they can participate in the country's law-making process.

They said as the ruling four-party-alliance government has decided to expand parliament by adding 150 seats, there should not be any difficulty to meet their demand.

The speakers made the demand at a press conference organised jointly by Trinomul Protibandhi Janogoshthi (TRJ) (Disabled people at grassroots level) and Action on Disability and Development (ADD), two non-government organisations working for the disabled.

We are demanding reservation of seats because the country's election system requires huge financial involvement which is beyond our means, they added.

The speakers demanded one male and one female representative from each of the six divisions.

"Physically challenged people have no representative in parliament to raise their issues and this is one of the major reasons for our deprivation from many facilities we deserve," said visually challenged Supreme Court lawyer Mosharraf Hossain Talukder.

He said 80 handicapped people participated in the immediate-past union parishad (UP) elections and of them, 16 were elected. They are now working in their respective

parishads.

Mosharraf said the disabled are not burden, rather they could be resources of the country if proper training and opportunity are provided to them.

According to World Health Organisation, 13 million people are physically challenged in Bangladesh representing nearly 10 percent of the country's total population.

ADD Country Representative Mosharaf Hossain read out a written paper at the press conference attended by TRJ representative Rafiqul Islam, Yousuf Ali and Fazlul Azim.

## Housewife commits suicide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife allegedly committed suicide at her residence in Mirpur on Tuesday evening after her father rebuked her for slapping her child.

Police found the body of Ripa Akhter hanging from the ceiling. Ripa, 25, wife of Mosharraf Hossain, slapped her child in the afternoon for being disobedient, prompting her father Abdul Hakim to rebuke her, saying, "How dare you slap my grandchild."

She hanged herself with a sari at her Lalkuthi residence at around 5:30pm, family sources said.



British Minister for International Development Gareth Thomas visited the HIV Programme of Care Bangladesh at Tangail yesterday.

# WEATHER

## TODAY

### No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country with chances of rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna and Sylhet divisions during the next 12 hours till 6.00pm today.

Moderate to thick fog may occur over the country in the morning. Met office said, adding that night temperature may remain nearly unchanged.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 28.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Chittagong and the lowest of 11.6 degree at Ishwardi.

**The sun sets in the capital at 5:37 pm today and rises at 6:43 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	26.1	15.0	99	47
Chittagong	28.8	18.0	84	57
Rajshahi	21.6	13.2	100	90
Khulna	25.7	16.2	92	74
Barisal	26.8	14.3	96	83
Sylhet	26.2	13.0	83	66
Cox's Bazar	27.4	19.0	97	82



The eighth convocation of Dhaka campus of the Exterior-Interiors, an interior design institute, was held at Sheraton Hotel in the city recently. Vice-chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. SMA Faiz attended the programme as chief guest.

### Drama festival

Dhaka Theatre Mancha organises a week-long drama festival to mark its 15th founding anniversary. On the inaugural day, Gharjamai will be staged. Venue: Mohila Samity auditorium. Time: 4.30pm.

### CD launch

The launching ceremony of a CD titled 'Shimuler Gaan', organised by World Music, will be held with poet Shamsur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segun Bagicha. Time: 3.00pm.

### Recitation

Kanthakalam, a literary organisation, will hold a session of recitation of poems on peace and humanity. Venue: Seminar room of the Central Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 4.00pm.

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen three films titled 'Mississippi Masala' 'Omen 4 the Awakening' and 'After Sex'. Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm, 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

### Fair

Thai Embassy in collaboration with Mina Bazar Bangladesh organises a week-long fair of diversified products with Ambassador Pithak Phrombutpha as chief guest. Venue: Mina Bazar premises, Satmasjid Road. Time: 11.00am.

### Prize giving ceremony

The annual prize giving ceremony and cultural function of South Point School and College will be held. Venue: T & T field, Mohakhali. Time: 9.30am.

### Ananda mela

The opening ceremony of a two-day Ananda Mela, organised by Officers' Club, Dhaka will be held with Women and Children Affairs Minister Begum Khurshid Jahan as chief guest. Venue: Club premises, Bailey Road. Time: 10.00am.

### ICT conference

An international conference on 'Applications of ICT in government, education and healthcare systems' will be held with Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: NEC auditorium, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 10.30am.

## Kanchan, Harun elected CRAB president, secy

UNB, Dhaka

Fakhru Alam Kanchan of the daily Jugantor and Harun-ur-Rashid of the daily Sangbad have been elected president and general secretary of Crime Reporters' Association of Bangladesh (CRAB) for a two-year term.

The election was held at Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) auditorium yesterday. A total of 131 voters, out of 136, cast their votes.

The other elected office-bearers are Abul Khair - vice-president; Akhteruzzaman Lavlu - joint secretary; Isarat Hossain Esa - treasurer; Abu Saleh Akon - organising secretary; Dev Dulal Mitra - office secretary; Russell Akhter - sports and cultural secretary; Sarwar Alam - information and research secretary; Mohammad Momin Hossain - social welfare secretary; and Tomal Mehedi - publicity and publication secretary.

The executive members are Osman Gani Babul, Ehsan Pervez Tuhin, Shamsus Salehin and SM Abul Hossain.

However, Mizan Malik and Abdul Latif Rana who vied for member post were tied at 61 votes each.

DRU President Alamgir Hossain, DUJ (Saju-Shaheed) President Elahi Newaz Saju, DUJ (Jalil-Farook) President Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, DRU Organising Secretary Mahmudur Rahman Khokon and Shahiduzzaman of the New Age conducted the election as election commission.

## Public Admin Assoc formed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new organisation styled 'Bangladesh Public Administration Association (BPAA)' has been floated by the former students of public administration department of different universities.

The association has also formed a 45-member executive committee for a two-year term unanimously.

Director General of Local Government Division Sharful Alam and Director of BCS Administration Academy Dr Zakirul Islam have been made president and general secretary says a press release.

Mahmudul Haq, Kabiruzzaman, Alamgir Hossain, Waliullah, Lutfor Rahman, Ataur Rahman and Shahidul Islam have been made vice-presidents.

ANM Bazlur Rahman, Fazlul Haq, Nurul Kabir Siddiqui, Abu Zafar Badrul Hasan and Allama Siddiqui have been made joint-secretaries.

Other office-bearers are Abdul Awal- finance secretary, Sirajul Islam- office and publicity secretary, Golam Shafiuddin- publication and literary secretary, Parveen Azad- cultural secretary, Ahmedur Rahman Bablu- sports secretary, Rashed Chowdhury- international affairs secretary and Aftab Pramanik- seminar affairs secretary.

Executive members are Dr Moslehuddin Tareq, Khoda Box Chowdhury, Golam Mostafa, Dr Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah, Dr Akhter Hossain, Badrul Chowdhury, Jahanara Begum Lina, Rehana Parveen Hasi, Kabir Mohammad, Ashraf Alam, Mahfuzul Haq, Mashiur Rahman, Rashed Sarwar, Mahbub Hossain, Anwarul Karim, Tariqul Islam, Rafiqul Islam, Shammi Akhter, Saleh Shibly, Abdul Qader, Billah Hossain, Abdul Malek, Abdul Bari, Roushan Ara and Dr Parveen Banu.