

# PM for objectivity in journalism

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday urged journalists to perform their professional duties objectively to help the nation march towards progress.

Exchanging views with the newly elected officer-bearers of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) at the Prime Minister's office, Khaleda observed that misleading writings and negative publicity could not yield good results for the country.

Leaders of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), Chittagong Metropolitan Union of Journal-

ists (CMUJ), Khulna Metropolitan Union of Journalists (KMUJ), Bogra Union of Journalists (BUJ), Jessore Union of Journalists (JUJ) and Rajshahi Union of Journalists (RUJ) were present.

The prime minister said the government has been continuing its socio-economic development programmes for the welfare of the people and sought cooperation of all quarters including the journalists in this regard.

The BFUJ leaders submitted a number of demands to the prime minister. The demand include formation of the sixth

wage board, a welfare fund for the journalists, formulation

of policy guidelines for newspapers, resumption of the publication of the Dainik Bangla, the Bangladesh Times, the Bichitra, the Anada Bichitra and the Dainik Barta, and solution to housing problems for newspersons.

They said 10 journalists were killed and 130 others injured during the past Awami League government that also carried out repression on them (journalists).

The leaders said journalists are being killed in a planned

way to serve political motive of a particular quarter. They urged the government to take steps to stop information terrorism.

BFUJ President Gias Kamal Chowdhury and Secretary General Ruhul Amin Gazi, DUJ President Elahi Newaz Khan and General Secretary Abdus Shahid, BFUJ Assistant Secretaries General Rezaul Karim Raju, Kazim Reza and Shaheen Chowdhury, Treasurer Nurul Amin Rakan, Organising Secretary M Modabber Hossain and members Mizanur Rahman Tota, Helal Humayun, Kamar Farid and Asaduzzaman Asad, CMUJ President Ishkander Ali

Chowdhury and General Secretary Kashem Mahmud, KMUJ President Sheikh Belaluddin, BUJ President Mir Sajjad Ali and General Secretary F. Shahjahan, JUJ President Anwarul Kabir Nantu and RUJ President Abdus Sabur were present.

Information Minister M Tariqul Islam, Prime Minister's Political Secretaries Harris Chowdhury and Mosaddek Ali, Principal Information Officer Khandaker Monirul Alam and Prime Minister's Press Secretary Tajul Islam and Deputy Press Secretary Maruf Kamal Khan were present.

## Tk 43.66 lakh Japanese grant for AID-Comilla

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Japan will provide about Tk 43.66 lakh to the Association for Integrated Development-Comilla, an NGO, under its Grassroots Grant Assistance Programme.

A contract to this effect was signed by Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Matsushiro Horiguchi

and Director of AID-Comilla Rokeya Begum Safali on Tuesday, said a press release.

The AID-Comilla will utilise the grant to construct a two-storied building to be used as training and resource development centre.

The infrastructure will facilitate AID-Comilla and other local NGOs to carry out quality training programmes among the grassroots beneficiaries on agriculture, poultry, livestock, gender equality, awareness building and sanitation.

The building will also serve as a training centre for staff and leadership development.

Japan has been granting financial aid through non-government organisations for grassroots level development in Bangladesh since 1989.

Ninety NGOs have so far received US \$ 7.1 million under the scheme.

### Qulkhwani

BSS, Dhaka

Qulkhwani of M Mamun, a veteran freedom fighter and the news editor of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra and former Director Monitoring Services of Bangladesh Betar, will be held today after Asr prayers at his 215, Elephant Road residence here.

The widow of Mamun Syeda FatemaTuz-Zohra has requested colleagues, admirers and relations to attend the qulkhwani.



PHOTO: STAR

Police intercept a procession of freedom fighters at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city during hartal hours yesterday.

## New strategy to control iron deficiency developed

A home-based new strategy has been developed to control iron deficiency anemia among the infants and the young children.

This was disclosed at a daylong workshop on 'Home Fortification of Weaning Food with Sprinkles: A New Strategy to Control Iron Deficiency Anemia among Infants and Young Children' held at the BRAC Centre in the city on February 11, says a press release.

The workshop reviewed the interventions for controlling iron deficiency anemia among the children, shared experiences of the ongoing sprinkles project, and formulated a strategy of home fortification to improve iron and other micronutrient contents of weaning foods in Bangladesh.

Director General of Health Services Prof Mizanur Rahman, Joint

Secretary of the World Health Organisation Dr Salina Ahsan, and Head of the Department of GI/Nutrition at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada Prof Stanley Zlotkin attended the workshop as special guests.

Prof Zlotkin, in his keynote speech, gave an informative presentation on the new sprinkles strategy.

BRAC Chairperson Fazle Hossain Abed chaired the first session of the workshop.

He suggested immediate social mobilisation for dissemination of the strategy.

Abed also requested Prof Zlotkin to develop a similar home-based iron deficiency remedy for women of reproductive age.

The workshop was organised

jointly by the BRAC and the Institute of Public Health Nutrition (IPHN) under the sponsorship of the Micronutrient Initiative Bangladesh and the Hospital for Sick Children.

### Obituary



MA Awal, regional chairman of the Lion District-315-B-1, died from heart failure on Wednesday at

the age of 54, says a press release.

Awal, also general manager of the Boraq Travels (Pvt) Ltd and GSA Aeroflot and Asian Airlines, is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters.

His qulkhwani will be held at his residence at House No-14, Road No-6, Dhanmondi after Asr prayers today.

His relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

### Md Abdus Selim

Md Abdus Selim, a computer businessman, died of a cardiac arrest at Shikder Medical College Hospital at 11.30 pm on Wednesday at the age of 47, says a press release.

Selim left behind his wife Shahnaz Begum, staff reporter of the Independent, two sons, mother, one brother and one sister.

He was laid to rest at Azimpur Graveyard yesterday after a namaz-e-janaza at Kalabagan Lake Circus Mosque.

His qulkhwani will be held at his residence at 143 Kalabagan Lake Circus (Abed Ali Dhali Road) after Asr prayers tomorrow.

### Nazmul Haque



Md Nazmul Haque, former additional director general of the Railway Division of the Communications Ministry, died on

Wednesday at the age of 70, says a press release.

He is survived by his wife and two sons.

His qulkhwani will be held at his residence at 19 Eskaton Garden after Asr prayers today.



### Dr Md Maksud Ali

Dr Md Maksud Ali, principal scientific officer, BCSIR Laboratories Rajshahi, died from heart failure at his

Hetem Khan residence on Wednesday at the age of 50, says a press release.

He left behind his father, three sons, one daughter, two brothers and one sister.

### Death anniversary of Abdus Salam today



Today is the 26th death anniversary of Abdus Salam, former editor of The Bangladesh Observer, says a press release.

Founding director general of the Press Institute of Bangladesh, he also took part in the language movement.

A milad mahfil will be held at his residence at House # 671/A, Road # 32, Dhanmondi after Asr prayers.

The Spriha, a socio-cultural organisation, will hold a discussion in the city today.

Abdus Salam Foundation will also hold a memorial meeting at Cirdap Auditorium at 4.00pm on February 20, with Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar as chief guest.

## DHAKA TODAY

### Art exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of a solo art exhibition titled 'EPIC', the journey of life, by Asma Sultana Mita will be held with Russian Minister-Counselor Andrey A. Starkov as chief guest. Venue: Zainul Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts. Time: 6.00pm. The exhibition will remain open till February 21 from 11.00am to 8.00pm daily.

### Art collector

The opening ceremony Art Collector, a contemporary art gallery, will be held with Artist Rafiqun Nabi as chief guest. Venue: BNS Centre Shop: A-7, Plot-87, Sector-7, Uttara. Time: 5.30pm.

### Drama

PALAKAR will present a drama titled 'Project Hundred Plus'. Venue: 46, Dilu Road. Time: 11.00am and 6.00pm.

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen a French film titled 'Love In The Afternoon' (1972), and a Spanish film titled 'Mad Love' (2002). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

### French film show

Alliance Francaise will screen a film titled 'Le Placard' directed by Francis Veber (2001). Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 10.30am and 6.00pm.

### Movie show

Bishwasahitya Kendra will screen a movie titled 'Children of Heaven' directed by Majid Majidi. Venue: Bishwasahitya Kendra auditorium, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 5.00pm.

### Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of a book, titled 'Consolidating Asian Democracy' by Dr M Nazrul Islam, will be held with Speaker Muhammad Jamiruddin Sircar as chief guest. Venue: TSC of Dhaka University. Time: 3.00pm.

### Discussion

Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad organises a discussion and cultural function to celebrate its 32nd founding anniversary. Venue: 393, New Eskaton. Time: 4.00pm.

### Garments discussion

The Institute of Textile Engineers and Technologists, Bangladesh will hold a discussion on Readymade garments and globalisation. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 3.30pm.

### Garments exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of the 3rd International Apparel and Textile Technology exhibition will be held with Commerce Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 10.30am.

### Health seminar

Health and Hope organises a seminar on 'Private health service: People's expectation and reality'. Venue: Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh. Time: 10.00am.

### DHAKA TOMORROW

The fifth reunion of Ratanpur Parishad, Dhaka will be held with Water Resources Minister Hafiz Uddin Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum. Time: 4.00pm.

### Net meeting

A meeting of the executive committee of Management Net will be held. Venue: 262/F, Elephant Road. Time: 6.00pm.

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an Indian film titled 'Kal Ho Naa Ho' (2003), and three American films titled 'Bonnie and Clyde' (1967), 'Romeo and Juliet' (1997) and 'Henry and June' (1990). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 12.00 noon, 3.30pm and 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

### Musical evening



## Light fog may occur

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country till 6pm today.

Light fog may occur over the river basins of the country during early morning, Met Office said predicting slight rise in the night temperature.

Highest temperature 32.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and the lowest 10.6 degree at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:52pm today and rises at 6:33am 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	29.5	14.8	59	26
Chittagong	32.4	15.0	62	39
Rajshahi	29.6	12.4	70	40
Khulna	29.2	14.2	71	47
Barisal	29.3	13.6	80	50
Sylhet	31.1	15.4	58	35
Cox's Bazar	32.0	16.5	67	51