

Qulkhwani of Zafar Imam today



Qulkhwani of Zafar Imam, secretary general of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) and renowned sports organiser, will be held at Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

He died of a heart attack at Suhrawardy Hospital in the city on May 20 at the age of 65.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Provide Internet access to all

Experts tell int'l workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts at an international workshop yesterday called for providing Internet access to all citizens to boost economic growth aimed at reducing poverty.

They also underscored that the Internet access should be provided even before the country get connected to the information superhighway through submarine cable.

Easier Internet access will help promote the use of e-government services, farmers can have access to market information and the youths can explore educational experience and employment generating activities, they said.

The three-day workshop on 'Nationwide Internet access & online applications' began in the city under the auspices of Alexandria Research Institute (ARI).

The workshop aims to find out ways to provide sustainable and affordable Internet access to the people of Bangladesh and other developing countries at a large scale.

Experts from home and other countries, including Canada, India, Nepal, Singapore, Thailand and the United States, are taking part in the workshop sponsored by the US National Science Foundation, the UNDP, BRAC University, Grameen Cyber Society and Jobs, a USAID project.

Keynote speaker Prof. Saifur Rahman of ARI said, "About 90 percent people of the country could be served with as few as 25 towers with multiple base stations using Wireless Local Loop or 802.16 technology."

The 802.16 technology delivers true broadband speed wireless connection.

Posts and Telecommunications Secretary Faruq Ahmad Siddiqi said the government is committed to providing Internet access to all citizens.

Larry Maramis, deputy resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), McDonald C. Homer of USAID and Ghulam Mohiuddin of Grammen Cyber Society also spoke.

Appeal to CJ to direct govt to make public Mol with US

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Writer and columnist Syed Abul Maksud has appealed to the chief justice to take steps to make public the details of the Memorandum of Intent (MoI) signed between Bangladesh and the USA on May 19.

In an application yesterday, he also urged the chief justice to direct the government to explain why the MoI should not be cancelled.

Maksud, accompanied by Advocate Subrata Chowdhury and General Secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh Muzahidul Islam Selim, submitted the application to the registrar of the Supreme Court as the court was closed.

According to the MoI, the government will protect American interests in the country and extend full cooperation to the US in identifying individuals or groups suspected of working against US interests.

In his application, Maksud alleged that the MoI violates several articles of the Constitution and it goes against Bangladesh's national interest and sovereignty.

Terming the deal a 'naked US intervention in domestic politics', he feared that the MoI could be used to harass the demonstrators who hold different opinions.

DHAKA TODAY

German film show

In the weeklong session of German HEIMAT-film of 1950's, Zahir Raihan Film Society, in collaboration with Goethe Institut, will screen two films titled 'Black Forest Girl (1950) by Hans Deppe, and 'Roses Bloom on the Grave in the Meadow' (1952) by Hans H. Konig. Venue: Goethe Institut, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm and 7.00pm.

Academy film show

Academy Film Society will screen an American film titled 'Secretary' (2002). Venue: Society auditorium, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Nazrul song

Muldhara International Centre organises an evening of Nazrul song to mark the birth anniversary of the national poet. Venue: Zakia Alam Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.30pm.

Solo musical evening

Chihayanaut organises a solo musical evening of Ferdous Ara, a noted Nazrul song exponent, to raise fund for its own building. Venue: Shaheed Zia Auditorium, National Museum. Time: 6.00pm.

Discussion

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote will hold a discussion titled 'Bangabandhu, the greatest Bangalee of all times.' Venue: Bishwasahitya Kendra auditorium, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 4.00pm.

Conference

The Japan Study Centre of Dhaka University in co-operation with Japan Embassy organises a conference on 'Thirty years of Japan-Bangladesh relations: Performance, impact and direction' with Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10.00am.

Seminar

A seminar on 'Social action plan in Bangladesh-UK Friendship Bridge project: Lessons learned. Venue: Seminar room of Sarak Bhaban, Ramna. Time: 9.30am.

FICCI meeting

Regular monthly meeting of Foreign Investor's Chamber of Commerce and Industry will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 12.30pm.