



Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad took out a procession in the city yesterday demanding reopening of closed mills and factories.

Bangladesh a model for developing states

Speakers tell dialogue

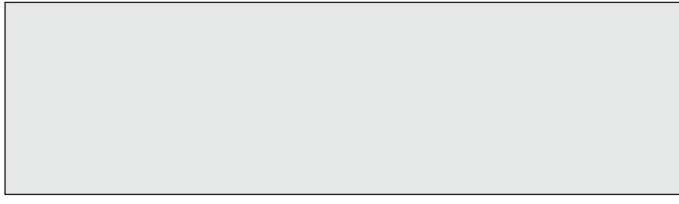
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a dialogue yesterday said Bangladesh's accomplishments in transforming its devastated agricultural sector into one of the most productive farm economies in South Asia is a major success story.

Standard Chartered marks Aids Day

The Standard Chartered Bank has marked its own Aids Day in 56 countries across the globe on June 24, says a press release.

The bank employees shared information and relevant facts on HIV to shatter myths and help break down the social stigma of Aids.



Shahjahan, Chaitanya CRA president, secy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shahjahan Khan of The Daily Ittefaq and Chaitanya Chandra Halder of The Daily Star were elected president and general secretary of Court Reporters' Association (CRA) yesterday for 2004-2005.

Shahjahan got 21 votes while his rival Shahidullah Khan of UNB five votes. Chaitanya Chandra Halder bagged 17 votes and his rival Mahbulul Haq of Sangbad nine votes.

Arrest of Balu's killers demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different socio-political organisations yesterday condemned the killing of Dainik Janmabhum Editor and Khulna Press Club President Humayun Kabir Balu.

Gono Forum President Dr. Kamal Hossain expressed his deep concern at the killing of journalist Balu and demanded exemplary punishment to the killers.

Dr. Kamal said that the killing of Balu proved that the law and order situation is yet to be improved as the criminals get political shelter.

Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association President Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud and Secretary Bashir Ahmed also condemned the killing of Balu and demanded immediate punishment to the killers.

Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) President Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique and General Secretary Akhteruzzaman demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to the killers of Balu.

Media Awards

Media Awards will be presented at a three-day conference beginning in the capital on July 27, says a press release.

Awards will be given in three categories: reports on media in daily or weekly, original book on media, and research book on media published in 2003.

Those interested are requested to send five copies of their write-ups to media conference office at the Centre for Development Communication, 66 Outer Circular Road, Maghbazar, Dhaka, (Telephone: 933 4656) by June 30.



Science fair begins June 30

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day annual science fair organised by the St. Joseph High School and College begins on the school premises in the city on June 30, says a press release.

Ten renowned schools of Dhaka city will take part in the fair, with 230 projects on display. Scrapbook display, art competition and inter-school quiz competition will also be held during the fair.

The Bangladesh Astronomical Society is going to organise a show on astronomy on the first day.

The fair is open to all from the June 30 to July 2.

French film show

Zahir Raihan Film Society, in association with the Alliance Francaise, will screen two films directed by famous French filmmakers Etienne Chatiliez and Mathieu Kassovitz. These are 'The Crimson Rivers' (2000) and 'Gothika' (2003). Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium, Mirpur Road. Time: 5.00pm and 7.00pm.

Credible election a must for HR protection: Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Credible parliamentary election is a prerequisite for protection of human rights, said eminent lawyer Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday.

"No peace or prosperity can exist in the society unless human rights are recognised and respected," he said at the inaugural ceremony of a training programme on 'Human Rights Awareness Raising'.

Bangladesh Bar Council organised the training programme on the Supreme Court premises.

Raising awareness among the

citizens and self-criticism are also imperative for the protection of human rights, Dr Kamal said.

Supreme Court Bar Association President Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud said human rights are disregarded in everyday life.

"It is violated frequently not only by the government agencies but also by individuals and other quarters," he added.

Acting Australian High Commissioner Dr Michele Forster said good governance and human rights are complimentary to each other.

She said there are good laws in

Bangladesh but those alone do not guarantee the rule of law.

"Human rights are best guaranteed when the government is accountable to the people and the rule of law," Forster said.

Chief Justice Sayed JR Mudasser Husain laid emphasis on separation and independence of the judiciary to promote human rights.

A free and independent judiciary can check the human rights violation by the executive, he said as chief guest.

Bar Council Vice-President Barrister Amir-ul Islam presided over the ceremony.

Hasina goes to Turkey on July 1 for D8 meet

UNB, Dhaka

Leader of the Opposition in parliament and President of Awami League Sheikh Hasina leaves for Istanbul on July 1 to attend a meeting of the founder members of the Developing 8 (D8) bloc.

The two-day assembly begins on July 2 to mark the forum's seventh founding anniversary.

Hasina, ex-Bangladeshi premier and one of the founders of the platform, will deliver a speech on the occasion. She is expected to return home on July 6.

Former Malaysian prime minister Mahathir Mohammad is also

likely to attend the programme in the Turkish city.

The D8, which includes Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey, is an arrangement for development cooperation among member countries. The platform also adds a new dimension to socio-economic spectrum of the partners in development.

The forum's objectives are to improve the economy of member countries, diversify and create new opportunities in trade relations and enhance participation in decision making at international level.

SHAMPA MURDER CASE Prime suspect held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police yesterday arrested Ekramul Habib Ahsan alias Liton, the prime suspect in the Shampa murder case, in a raid on a house at Ramu in Cox's Bazar.

Ismat Ara Chowdhury alias Shampa, 24, a student of Haji Mohammad Mohsin College, was killed at Baraipara in Chittagong on May 27 only days before her wedding.

The victim's family accused Liton, reportedly a JCD cadre, of murder. Earlier, the family turned down his proposal to marry Shampa.

JU budget today

JU CORRESPONDENT

The budget of Jahangirnagar University (JU) for 2004-05 fiscal year will be placed at the senate meeting today, official sources said.

Treasurer Prof A B M Enayet Hossain will place the budget while Vice-Chancellor Prof Khandaker Mustahidur Rahman will be in the chair.

A Tk 31.01 crore revenue budget has been proposed with a deficit of Tk 2.38 crore.

Of the total amount, the University Grants Commission (UGC) will provide Tk 27.50 crore while the university expects to earn Tk 2.27 crore from its own sources.

About 73 percent of the total budget will be spent for the salary of teachers, officers and employees.

Only 4.54 percent of the budget has been allocated for scholarship and fellowship, research and publication and library.

Liton had been at large since the murder.

Tipped off, police raided the house of Bedarul Alam, brother-in-law of Liton, at Mondalpara village in the early hours of yesterday.

Police said Liton had been staying there for the last one week.

As police brought him to the city from Cox's Bazar yesterday noon, local people and students of Hazeratun Nessa Degree College and Haji Mohammad Mohsin College gathered in front of the Chandgaon Police Station and demanded exemplary punishment to the accused.

Shampa sat master's examination in accounting this year.

Following the murder, police arrested Liton's father, Nesad Ahmed, two brothers, Rumi and Jewel, and domestic help Khadiza and interrogated them.

The Investigating Officer of the case Sub-Inspector Sirajul Islam said that they would produce Liton before the court today with a prayer for a 10-day remand.

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Jalalabad Assoc Dhaka election on July 30

Election to the executive committee of Jalalabad Association Dhaka will be held on July 30 instead of July 23, says a press release.

Date of the election for the year 2004-2005 was rescheduled due to unavoidable circumstances.

Members and voters of the Association are requested to contact the office. Phone: 9140431 for details.

Prof Ameen dead

BSS, Dhaka

Prof Mahmudul Ameen, former teacher of Geology Department of Dhaka University, died of cardiac arrest at his Siddeshwari Road residence in the early hours of yesterday at the age of 68.

Prof Ameen, also former vice-chancellor of the State University of Bangladesh, is survived by his wife Prof. Jubaida Gulshan Ara, Chairman of Bangladesh Shishu Academy and two daughters.

President Iajuddin Ahmed expressed his deep shock at the death of Prof Ameen.

Earlier, Women and Children Affairs Minister Begum Kurshid Jahan Haque, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Selima Rahman and former Education Advisor of the caretaker government A S M Shahjahan, visited his residence to pay their last respect.

His namaz-e-janaza was held at Dhaka University central mosque after Zohr prayers. He was buried at Banani graveyard.

His qulqhwani will be held at his residence at 46, Eastern Flower, Siddeshwari Road on July 2 after Jumma prayers.

Death anniversary

Today is the sixth death anniversary of eminent social worker, freedom fighter and organiser Abdul Latif of Debar, Comilla, says a press release.

On the occasion, a memorial meeting will be held at his residence at 14, East Bashabo in the city today.

Latif was the vice-president of Bangladesh Human Rights Council, adviser to anti-smoking organisation Adhunik and controller of Pubali Bank.

Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the meeting.

Haji Md Abdul Wajed Babul

Today is the fourth death anniversary of Haji Md Abdul Wajed Babul, director of the A n a n d Confectionary, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be arranged at his residence after Maghrib prayers.



Mahila Gono Forum stages a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding direct election to the parliamentary seats reserved for women and an end to all forms of violence against women.

102 cadets pass out of BMA

ISPR, Bhatiary

A total of 102 cadets passed out of the Bangladesh Military Academy (BMA) at a glittering ceremony at Bhatiary, Chittagong yesterday.

Among them 98 cadets including 13 lady cadets were from 50th BMA Long Course and 4 cadets belong to the 21st Special Course.

To mark the occasion the President's Parade was held at the parade ground of the Academy yesterday morning.

Chief of the Air Staff Air Vice Marshal Fakhru Azam reviewed the parade and took salute at the march past as chief guest. He also distributed prizes among the cadets who demonstrated excellent performance during the training.

Battalion Senior Under Officer (BSUO) Md Akhtaruzzaman Faisal was adjudged the best all round cadet in the 50th BMA Long Course and awarded the coveted 'Sword of Honour'.

Besides, Company Sergeant Major (CSM) Mirza Md Lutful Habib received the 'Osmani Gold Medal' for his feat in academic subjects and Company Senior Under Officer (CSUO) Md Mamunur Rahman Siddiqui received 'Chief of Army Staff's (CAS) Gold Medal' for his outstanding performance in military subjects.

Meanwhile, Jahangir Company

received the BMA Colour for the Summer Term on the basis of different inter-company competitions. The cadets took oath and were adorned with the rank badges by their respective parents and guardians.

Adjutant of the BMA Major Md Shaheedul Islam commanded the spectacular parade.

In his address to the officer-designates, the air chief said, "You will always have to be ready and vigilant to shoulder the sacred responsibility of safeguarding the independence, sovereignty and security of the country even at the cost of the last drop of your blood."

He called upon the young officers to uphold the glorious image of the Bangladesh Army by dint of honesty, professional competence, patriotism and selfless service to the nation.

Fakhru Azam congratulated the women officers of the fourth batch and urged them "To prove by hard work, competence and performance in professional life that the contributions of the women officers in Bangladesh Army are no less important."

Foreign diplomats, including Sri Lankan High Commissioner Gamini Sarath Muna Singhe and Ambassador of Bhutan Dasho Jigme Tshultrim, high civil and military officials and guardians of the cadets witnessed the ceremony.



Air Chief Air Vice Marshal Fakhru Azam gives away the 'Sword of Honour' to Battalion Senior Under Officer Md Akhtaruzzaman Faisal for the best all-round performance at the President's Parade at the Bangladesh Military Academy (BMA) parade ground at Bhatiary yesterday.

DHAKA TODAY advertisement with various event listings including French film show, Lions meeting, Seminar, Academy film show, Documentary film show, Roundtable, Meeting, and Muldhara meeting.