



Dirai Association, Dhaka forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday demanding steps to mitigate the suffering of flood-affected people in Sunamganj.

DIRECTIVE TO RAJSHAHI DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER Take legal action against those disrupting BRTC bus service

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

District and police administrations in Rajshahi division have been asked to take legal action against 'influential' private transport owners and workers who were creating obstacles to the state-owned bus service.

Shafiqul Islam, secretary of the communications ministry, in an official order dated July 10 asked the divisional commissioner to take action. Copies of the order have already been sent to the police commissioner, deputy commissioners and superintendents of police in all 16 districts of Rajshahi division.

The order said different private bus owners' associations and workers' unions were creating impediments to movement of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) buses, causing harassment and financial loss to passengers in recent times.

Meanwhile, private bus owners and workers claimed that the government had signed an agreement with them not to operate BRTC buses by leasing those.

Quoting the communications ministry order, sources said there was no such provision for embargo on the movement of BRTC buses in the agreement.

In a meeting with Rajshahi divisional administration on June 29, private bus owners forced the authorities to suspend BRTC bus service under lease on 25 northern

routes.

On July 9, private bus workers forced the authorities to suspend some scheduled BRTC buses bound for Naogaon by damaging the vehicles.

BRTC Rajshahi Depot Manager Shahidul Azam said the private bus owners and workers were now trying to stop operation of BRTC buses on self-arrangement.

Authorities at Rangpur and Dinajpur were also forced to suspend BRTC buses bound for Rajshahi last week following pressure from local bus owners.

But people of Rajshahi, Bogra, Rangpur and Chapainawabganj have been demanding resumption of BRTC buses.

Dhaka seeks greater int'l support to fight Aids

BSS, Bangkok

Bangladesh parliamentary delegation yesterday sought greater international and regional supports to check spread of Aids in the country.

Although the number of HIV cases in Bangladesh is very low, the country is at higher risk of epidemic due to its geographic location and high risk behaviour by the sex workers and intravenous drug users (IDUs), they said at a special session of the 15th International Aids Conference.

The delegation urged the developed nations and the global fund to help ensure treatment facilities and cheap drugs for the HIV/Aids patients.

"We are in a vulnerable stage because of HIV epidemic in neighbouring India, Myanmar and Nepal," said Zahuruddin Swapan, who is representing the deputy speaker of the parliament in the conference.

Swapan, also the secretary general

of the Parliamentary Caucus on HIV/Aids and Trafficking, said the geographic location along with human movement through a long porous borders of over 4,000 km with India and around 288 km with Myanmar has posed a serious threat for HIV epidemic in conservative Bangladesh.

"The present situation demands massive awareness and preventive programmes because of high risk behaviour by the sex workers, truckers and IDUs," he said.

The government, he said, has taken some steps to prevent HIV, but the resource constraints and illiteracy have emerged as major obstacles to doing so.

Opposition Whip Faruque Khan said there was a report of 363 HIV positive cases in Bangladesh, but unofficially the number would be around 13,000. "So there is no room for complacency. It is time to act, and save hundreds from the catastrophe."

GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS Gates Foundation to contribute additional \$ 50m

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will contribute an additional US \$ 50 million to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria, raising its total contributions to US\$ 150 million.

The Foundation announced this at the International Aids Conference in Bangkok yesterday, according to a press release sent to The Daily Star.

The Global Fund welcomes this generous contribution as a reaffirmation of the Gates Foundation's continued close relationship with the Global Fund.

"The fight against the world's most devastating diseases cannot be waged successfully without adequate resources," said Richard Feachem, executive director of the Global Fund.

The total two-year commitments for funding now stand at US \$ 3 billion in 128 countries.

Established in 2002, the Global Fund is a unique global public-private partnership dedicated to attracting and disbursing additional resources to prevent and treat Aids, tuberculosis and malaria.

Death anniversary

The seventh death anniversary of economist Dr Abdullah Faruk, former teacher of marketing department at Dhaka University, will be observed tomorrow, says a press release.

He died at his home in Uttara in 1997.

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

Award giving ceremony

The award giving ceremony of Halima Sharfuddin Science Writers Award, conducted by Bangla Academy, will be held. Venue: Seminar room of the academy. Time: 11.00am.

Memorial meeting

A meeting will be held in memory of Honorary Captain Ohab Bir Bikram. Venue: Bishwasahitya Kendra Auditorium, Bangla Motor. Time: 5.00pm.

Rotary meeting

Regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30pm.

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen a Mexican film titled 'Like Water for Chocolate' (1991). Venue: Society Auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Govt plans to launch massive post-flood rehabilitation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday said the government will launch a massive post-flood rehabilitation programme immediately after the recession of waters from the affected areas.

Seeds and other agricultural inputs will be provided to the farmers while house building loans will be given to those whose houses have been damaged by floods, he added.

Saifur said the Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) programme would also be expanded to help the flood-hit people in rural areas.

He said the government is fully aware of the havoc of current floods that hit greater Sylhet and other regions of the country.

The finance minister was speaking as chief guest at the inaugural function of the newly built terminal building of Sylhet Railway Station.

Earlier, he formally inaugurated the new terminal which was completed at a cost of Tk 24 crore.

Saifur said the government has laid emphasis on the development of railway sector as most people still depend on railway communications.

He said the government has been implementing a major development programme in the railway sector for last few years.

Under the programme, railway signalling system is being modernised while locomotives and engines are to be procured to make the railway more attractive to the passengers.

Completion of Akhaura Bypass on Dhaka-Sylhet section would reduce the distance between the two cities to a great extent, he added.

The minister also spoke about the new national budget and hoped that it would bring a major change in the life of the people.

Speaking on the occasion as guest of honour, Communications Minister Nazmul Huda said the railway was in a precarious condition during the past regime.

"But we have brought it on the right track by launching different development programmes," he added.

Huda said an air-conditioned train will be pressed into service on Dhaka-Sylhet route. He also announced that work on a hanging bridge, in place of the existing age-old Keane Bridge over the river Surma, will begin in November.

Huda said after the recession of flood water damaged roads will be repaired.

Communications Secretary Shafiqul Islam also spoke on the occasion.

Moulana Fariduddin Chowdhury MP and M Ilias Ali MP attended the inaugural function chaired by Director General of Railway M Abdullah.

Earlier, the finance minister visited some flood-hit villages at Hathkola and Jalalabad unions under sadar upazila.

Over 1,900 held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,911 people, including a listed criminal, on various charges during their countrywide drive in last 24 hours till 6.00am yesterday.

They also recovered 11 firearms and 45 rounds of bullet and filed seven cases against 24 people under the Arms Act, said a police headquarters press release.



Clare Rosenfeld, an 18-year-old student from the United States, speaks on diabetes at a press conference at Birdem Hospital yesterday while Prof AK Azad Khan looks on. A type-1 diabetic patient herself, she arrived in the city on Tuesday to create awareness about the disease.

WEATHER T O D A Y

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over the country with moderately heavy falls at a few places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions during the next 12 hours till 6.00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period, Met office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 32.5 degree Celsius was recorded at Ranganmati and the lowest of 24 degrees at Dhaka.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:48pm today and rises at 5:22am 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 | 31.5 | 24.0 | 85 | 82 |
| Chittagong | 31.6 | 26.0 | 87 | 78 |
| Rajshahi | 31.6 | 26.8 | 82 | 84 |
| Khulna | 31.8 | 26.5 | 96 | 85 |
| Barisal | 31.6 | 25.5 | 82 | 80 |
| Sylhet | 28.0 | 25.2 | 93 | 97 |
| Cox's Bazar | 29.8 | 25.2 | 85 | 89 |



Bangladesh Jubo Union took out a colourful procession in the city yesterday to mark the eighth council of its Dhaka city unit.



The National Garments Workers' Federation stages a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding repeal of the Trade Association and Industrial Relations Bill, 2004.

Repeal trade association bill Demand garments workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Garments Workers' Federation yesterday demanded repeal of the Trade Association and Industrial Relations Bill, 2004, saying that the bill is not consistent with the existing labour laws.

The Jatiya Sangsad recently passed the bill allowing limited trade unionism in the export processing zones (EPZs) from November 1, 2006.

The law has made it mandatory to obtain the permission of owners before forming trade unions in the EPZs -- which is inconsistent with the labour law as well as International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention, said the federation leaders at a rally at Muktangan in the city.

The ILO convention has guaranteed the right to form unions for collective bargaining, they added.

The leaders also protested another provision of the law prohibiting formation of more than one federation in an area.

Altaf Hossain Golondaj sent to jail hajaj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Awami League lawmaker Altaf Hossain Golondaj, who was arrested on July 15 from Nakhla MP Hostel in Dhaka, was sent to jail hajaj yesterday after a magistrate's court here rejected his bail prayer.

The lawmaker was produced before the court of Magistrate Rezaul Islam who fixed July 17 as the next date for hearing.

The lawmaker was arrested after his wife and daughter-in-law filed two cases against him with Gafargaon Police Station accusing him of torturing them for dowry.

Body recovered in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a rickshaw-van puller from Mirpur Road in the city yesterday morning.

Unknown criminals dumped the body of Mohammad Sumon, 24, after stabbing him to death somewhere else, police said.

The body was found lying at the eastern end of Dhanmondi Road No. 27. It was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Sumon, who hailed from Dashed village of Kalkini upazila, Madaripur, came to Dhaka a couple of months ago to earn a living. He resided at a mess in Sukrabad.

Two students drown in Ghagot

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Two students of Rangpur Zila School drowned in the river Ghagot at Nishbetganj on Thursday.

The victims were identified as Abdullah-al Chhabhi, a student of class nine, and Asif Ibne Tajul, a student of class eight.

They drowned while swimming in the river along with their friends. Local people rushed to the spot and began to search for them but failed to rescue them.

An army team from Rangpur cantonment also searched for the victims but in vain.

The bodies were reportedly carried away by the strong current of the river.

A group of eight students of the school went to Nishbetganj to celebrate the birthday of Abdullah-al Chhabhi.

National Curriculum & Text Book Board

69-70 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000

Notice No. 92/52 TB/Editing-12/2001 (1st part) Dated: 11.7.2004

Notice

Inviting Manuscripts for 2005-2006 Higher Secondary Level According to Revised Curriculum

As per government order, new text books, prepared according to revised curriculum & syllabus for higher secondary level have been introduced from 1998 academic year. The process of approving text books on different subjects of higher secondary level being remaining continuous, manuscripts on the undermentioned subjects are invited from interested writers/publishers according to the changed curriculum & syllabus for introducing in 2005-2006 academic year.

A text book shall be approved for 3 (three) years. On expiry of approval time limit, interested writers/publishers may deposit manuscript with evaluation fee to the Board for re-approval. The terms & conditions of the meeting of National Curriculum Coordination Committee held on 20.5.1997 & 12.1.1999 shall be applicable in case of the approved books also. Interested publisher/writer may collect the terms & conditions, if necessary, from chief editor of the Board. Writers/publishers of books approval limit of which shall expire at 3 (three) years on 30.6.2005 must submit manuscript with evaluation fee to the Board for obtaining re-approval. On approval of manuscript approval fee at prescribed rate should be deposited. Interested writer/publisher shall have to deposit evaluation fee for each 100 marks text book or part thereof of Tk 20,000/- (twenty thousand) only & for each 200 marks text book Tk 40,000 (forty thousand) only through Pay-Order in case of Dhaka & Bank Draft in case of outside Dhaka, in favour of "Chairman, National Curriculum & Text Book Board, Dhaka." It may be noted that on approval of manuscript, approval fee at prescribed rate should be deposited.

| Subject | |
|---|--|
| 1. Physics (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 2. Chemistry (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 3. Biology (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 4. Mathematics (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 5. Computer Education (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 6. Statistics (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 7. Agriculture Studies (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 8. Economics (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 9. Civics (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 10. Social Science (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 11. Social Welfare (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 12. History (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 13. Islamic History (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 14. Logic (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 15. Geography (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 16. Psychology (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 17. Islamic Studies (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 18. Accountancy (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 19. Business Policy & Application (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 20. Economics & Commercial Geography (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 21. Entrepreneurship & Applied Management (1st paper) | 22. Income Generation and Production & Marketing (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 23. Secretarial Science & Office Management (1 st & 2 nd paper) | 24. Strategy (1 st & 2 nd paper) |
| 25. Applied Art and Textile & Garment Industry (2 nd paper) | |

Terms & conditions:

- Manuscript should be computer composed and deposited.
- Prescribed size of manuscript should be 1/4, DC (double crown).
- Content area should be 8-1/2"x5-3/4".
- 12 point (Sabrena tonny) type face should be used.
- 4 (four) copies of manuscript for each paper should be submitted.
- 30 to 32 lines should be printed on each page.
- In case of a publisher depositing manuscript for approval, the text book writer's letter of consent should also be deposited along with. The last date of submitting manuscript is 31.12.2004. No further extension of time limit will be made. Revised curriculum & syllabus for the above mentioned subjects shall be available from Assistant Editor of the Board Mr. Md. Abdul Wadud Chowdhury, manuscript should be submitted to the Chief Editor.

Md. Yusuf Faruk

Member (Text Book)

National Curriculum &

Text Book Board, Dhaka

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