

Standard Chartered donates Tk 51 lakh

Standard Chartered Bank donated Tk51 lakh to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for relief and rehabilitation of the flood victims, says a press release.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia received the cheque at her office from SAA Masrur, acting chief executive officer of the bank on Sunday. Earlier, Standard Chartered Bank donated Tk10 lakh to Care Bangladesh for food and medicine for the flood victims.

The bank has undertaken relief and rehabilitation initiatives for over Tk 1 crore to help the flood-stricken people.

Tk 1.30cr Hindu Trust budget

BSS, Dhaka

A meeting of Hindu Religion Welfare Trust (HRWT) yesterday approved the budget of Tk 1,29,82,000 for the 2004-05 financial year.

It also approved the revised budget of Tk 1,25,96,000 for the fiscal 2003-04, an official handout said.

The approvals were given at a meeting in the city with its chairman and State Minister for Religious Affairs Mosharef Hossain Shahjahan in the chair.



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia receives a cheque for Tk 51 lakh from SAA Masrur, acting chief executive officer of Bangladesh Standard Chartered Bank, at her office on Sunday.

BANGABANDHU MURDER CASE Execution of verdict demanded

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the opposition Awami League (AL), yesterday formed a human chain on the Dhaka University campus demanding immediate execution of the verdict of Bangabandhu Murder Case.

AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil was present at the programme as chief guest.

He asked the BCL leaders and activists to continue the agitation until the verdict is executed.

AL Joint Secretary Obaidul Kader said the killers of Bangabandhu have been trying to distort the history of the liberation war.

"The students community will have to come forward to resist the distortion," he added.

AL leader Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, BCL President Liaqat Sikder, General Secretary Nazrul Islam Babu, Marufa Akter Popy, Rafiqul Islam Kotowal, Baloram Podder and Anisur Rahman also took part in the human chain.



Awami Swachchhasebak League, a front organisation of the opposition Awami League, forms a human chain in front of the High Court yesterday demanding execution of the verdict in the Bangabandhu Murder Case.

Six British passports looted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Armed miscreants looted six British passports, six return air tickets and cash worth Tk one lakh from a travel agency manager in the city on Sunday.

Police and witnesses said Ajit Paul, manager of Crescent Overseas Centre of Bishwanath upazila, was intercepted by 4 people on 2 motorbikes in front of the Surma Market and asked him to hand over his bag containing the passports and other travel documents.

As Ajit refused to oblige them, the miscreants beat him and took away the bag.

They also brandished their arms and fled the spot when the locals tried to come forward in aid of the victim.

Ajit said there were six British passports, six air tickets on Sylhet-London route, cash worth Tk one lakh and a mobile phone.

He filed a case with Sylhet Kotwali Police Station in this connection.

Progress of 'Zia Film City' discussed

BSS, Dhaka

A meeting of the Bangladesh Films Development Corporation (BFDC) yesterday discussed the progress of "Zia Film City" project at Kabirpur and implementation of the 'Introduction of Digital Technology' and strengthening of security of BFDC.

With additional secretary of the Information Ministry and managing director of BFDC, Mohammad Sirajul Islam in the chair, the meeting was held at the corporation.

'Gazipur-2 by-election fair, peaceful'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

By-election to Gazipur-2 constituency was fair and peaceful except a few minor stray incidents.

According to Fair Election Monitoring Agency (FEMA), the election commission made excellent arrangements for holding the by-polls.

The turn out of the voters was, however, comparatively low, said a FEMA press release.

It said the activists of four-party alliance candidate hindered the entry of the voters of minority community in some polling centres.

In between 9:30am and 11:00am, they obstructed the entry of some minority voters at Vanua Government Primary School Centre.

The voters, however, could exercise their franchise at the intervention of the members of the law-enforcing agency.

FEMA report mentioned that there were also attempts to cast fake votes in almost every centres. Two fake voters were caught in the Agricultural Research High School Centre and the mobile court fined them Tk 1000 each on charge of impersonation.

National Election Observation Council (NEOC) and Bangladesh Manobadhikar Samannoy Parishad (BMSP) have also said the by-election was largely fair and peaceful.

Out of the total 195 polling centres, BMSP observed 18 centres while NEOC 180 centres.

At a joint press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity office yesterday, NEOC Chairman Prof Nazmul Ahsan Kalimulla said it was remarkable that

the defeated candidate accepted the result which is not normally practised in our political culture.

He said under the existing system, the election commission is not actually independent.

He also suggested heavy punishment for fake voters.

BMSP Chairman AHM Nouman also attended the conference.

Directive to begin repair of roads in dry season

UNB, Dhaka

Communications Minister Nazmul Huda yesterday directed the engineers of Roads and Highways Department to take all preparations to implement the repair and maintenance works of roads at the beginning of the coming dry season.

He gave the directives at a meeting on post-flood road communication infrastructure repair and maintenance at his ministry.

The meeting decided to establish a monitoring cell, comprising experts and engineers, at the ministry to ensure transparency and accountability of repair and maintenance works of various roads, highways and bridges.

Communications Secretary M Shafiqul Islam, Chief Engineer of R&H Department Sheikh Rabiul Islam and officials concerned were present at the meeting.

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