



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Garment Sramik Mukti Andolon formed a human chain at Muktangon in the city yesterday demanding salary and bonus before the Eid.

## 'Raise voice to save Buriganga from encroachers'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday called upon the people living on the bank of the Buriganga to come forward to save the river from illegal encroachers.

The seminar on the 'Role of local inhabitants in retrieving Buriganga' was organised by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) and Batikram Manob Kolyan Sangstha at Maulavibazar Community Centre in the city.

Speaking as chief guest at the seminar, Bapa President Prof Muzaffar Ahmed said the voice of the local people must be raised to revive the tradition and heritage of the river.

He said different environmental and development organisations including members of the civil society have been trying for long to save the Buriganga.

The government also took some measures to demolish more than 700 illegal structures on the riverbanks, but these have failed to yield the desired results. Many of them have again returned to their previous places, he added.

Prof Muzaffar said the taskforce of the land ministry has also failed to prepare original map of the

Buriganga even two years after its formation.

Unless the local people are aware of their problems, the movement to 'Save Buriganga' would not be successful, said Engineer Masrurul Huq of Bapa.

Eight lawmakers of Dhaka should be the key persons to save the river, but in contrast, some of them are allegedly encroaching the riverbank and constructing buildings there, he said.

As a result, others are also encouraged to re-encroach the riverbank, he added.

Prof Dr Rezwan Hasan Bhuiyan said hundreds of buildings and shopping complexes were built along the bank of the river due to tremendous pressure of population.

So it is not possible to revive the river today according to the original map, we should make practical demands to the government, he noted.

Prof Hasan of Dhaka University said the rivers and canals flowing in and around the capital must be saved and their navigability will have to be ensured through proper dredging to protect its environment.

Poet Asad Chowdhury in his speech reminisced his boyhood with the Buriganga and assured that

he would take part in any movement to save the river.

The seminar resolved that the local people would form a committee to create continuous pressure on the government to take necessary measures to save the river and the environment of the capital.

## DTCB to provide 52 motorcycles for police officers

UNB, Dhaka

Dhaka Transport Coordination Board (DTCB) will provide 52 motorcycles for the police officers to help ease traffic jam in the capital city and gear up working capacity of the police officers.

The motor cycle distribution ceremony will be held at the Nagor Bhaban Auditorium today.

Chairman of DTCB and Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Sadeque Hossain Khokha will distribute the motorcycles.

State Minister for Home Lutfuzzaman Babar will be present.

## CU brings changes to admission process

BSS, Chittagong

The Chittagong University (CU) has opened two new departments and modified the admission procedures for the session 2004-05.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the CU General Admission Committee on Thursday, with Vice Chancellor Prof AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury in the chair, CU sources said.

According to the decision, the admission forms, each priced at Tk 250, will be available at the Agrani Bank CU branch, Kapashgola of Chawkbazar and New Market branches from November 28 to December 26.

The two new departments are international relations and genetic

engineering with 10 seats each.

Students who passed the HSC examination in 2003 and 2004 are eligible for admission.

Students having a minimum GPA of 2.5 in both SSC and HSC examinations may apply for admission. Every GPA point will earn two marks in SSC examination and three marks in HSC examination.

These marks will be added with the marks of admission tests which will start on February 5 next year.

The CU authority has cancelled the 'Player Quota' from the admission test from this year, the sources said.

## Teachers demand early payment of festival allowance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Front of Teachers and Employees, Bangladesh yesterday called upon the government to pay festival allowance to non-government teachers seven days before the holy Eid-ul-Fitr.

Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club, the front leaders threatened to bring out silent procession at upazila and district levels across the country on November 10 if the government fails to pay the allowance within the stipulated time.

They urged the prime minister to remove the education minister for his alleged corruption.

The leaders also reiterated their 8-point demand including introduction of a new curriculum from primary to higher secondary level suiting the need of the time and formation of a permanent pay commission for non-government teachers.

They said if the demands are not met before their scheduled grand rally in December, they will launch tougher agitation programmes against the government.

Details of the programmes will be chalked out after a meeting of their representatives from thana and district levels on November 26, they added.

"There will be no compromise with the government until our demands are met and we will join any organisations which will come forward to support our demands," said Prof Quazi Faruque Ahmed, chief convenor and coordinator of the front.

Front convenors Azizul Islam, Mohammad Shajahan, Abdur Rashid, Asadul Haq and MA Sattar, and Joint Convenors Khan Mosharaf Hossain, Ali Chowdhury, Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Mahbub-ul Alam Talukdar, Azizur Rahman, Marzu and Mohosin Reza were present at the press conference.

## Death anniversary



Iqbal, popularly known as Henry, was the vice-president of students' union at Jagannath College and Dhaka College. He also took part in the language movement.

He played a pioneering role in establishing the Drama Circle, a theatre group.

Iqbal Ansari was also the district governor of Rotary International District-3280.

He authored three books -- two of which are 'The Third Eye' and 'The Babri Mosque', and the third one is a book of jokes.

To mark the day, Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will present vocational awards in his memory to five persons at its weekly meeting at 23 Green Road at 4.30pm.



PHOTO: STAR

Traffic snarls up due to illegal parking of cars on the road in front of the New Market in the city yesterday, causing suffering to pedestrians and commuters.

## Khulna University student abducted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A gang of armed miscreants abducted a student of Khulna University from Bagmara in the city on Wednesday night, but police failed to rescue him till yesterday.

The victim Kankan Sarker is a third year student at forestry and wood technology department.

His classmates said Kankan, also a director of Ambition Coaching

Centre, was abducted at around 11.00pm as he refused to pay them toll.

The incident has created a panic among the students of the university.

Proctor Obaidullah Hannan has appealed to the Rapid Action Battalion and Khulna Metropolitan Police to rescue the student and arrest the abductors.

A general diary was filed with Khulna thana on Thursday night.

## Congratulations



Rajib Kumar Paul has been awarded Ph.D. degree in pharmaceutical sciences by the University of Tokyo, Japan, recently, says a

press release. The topic of his thesis was 'Identification and expression pattern analysis of mushroom body-selective genes from the honeybee brains'.

Rajib is the only son of Aruna Bala Paul and Chitta Ranjan Paul, headmaster, Gilatala High School, Bagerhat.



Osman Morad, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank, hands over a cheque for US \$ 10,000 to Md Jahangir, executive director of FAVH, in the city recently while Mohammad Badrul Ahsan, head of Corporate Affairs of the bank, left, looks on.

## StanChart donates \$ 10,000 for Braille edn

Standard Chartered Bank has donated US \$ 10,000 to the Fellowship for the Advancement of Visually Handicapped (FAVH) to support its Braille learning centre, says a press release.

The FAVH is an organisation dedicated to facilitate education, Braille transcription and library services projects for visually handicapped students and readers.

Osman Morad, chief executive officer of the bank handed over the cheque to Md Jahangir, executive director of FAVH, in the city on October 27. Mohammad Badrul Ahsan, head of Corporate Affairs of the bank, and Selina Alam of FAVH were also present.

The amount will be used to produce reading materials and maintain a library for the visually handicapped readers. FAVH will transcribe textbooks, fictions, magazines and other reading materials in the Braille format as well as produce audio materials.

Support to FAVH came from the Middle East and South Asia Community Fund of Standard Chartered Bank. The bank has set up a modern Operation Theatre and Children's Ward at Islamia Eye Hospital to restore eyesight to at least 12,000 people every year.

The bank is committed to restoring eyesight to one million people over next three years all over the world in partnership with Sight Savers International and Vision 20/20.

## No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain or drizzle is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Jessore and Kushtia during the next 12 hours till 6.00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period, Met Office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Hatiya and the lowest of 18 degrees at Srimangol.

**The sun sets in the capital at 5:21pm today and rises at 6.04am 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	22.4	65	58
Chittagong	33.5	21.4	70	70
Rajshahi	29.0	20.6	91	90
Khulna	31.5	22.3	55	74
Barisal	31.4	21.5	80	91
Sylhet	31.0	20.4	65	77
Cox's Bazar	32.4	23.5	84	77

## DHAKA TODAY

**Fashion show**

Anannya, a fortnightly magazine for women, organises a prize giving ceremony and fashion show with Australian Ambassador Lorraine Barker as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 3.30pm.

**Discussion**

Bangabandhu Parishad will hold a discussion titled 'The role of cultural activists in the present perspective of the country'. Venue: 25, Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 3.00pm.

**Seminar**

Gender in MEDIA forum, in association with Bangladesh Centre for Development, Journalism and Communications, organises a seminar on 'The use of gender-unconscious words and pictures in mass media and our duty'. Venue: BCDJC seminar room. Time: 10.00am.

**Inauguration**

The inaugural ceremony of National Press Club-Citycell Media Centre will be held with Science and ICT Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan as chief guest. Venue: National Press Club, Tophkhana Road. Time: 11.00am.

**Founding ceremony**

The 9th founding ceremony of Dhaka University Tourist Society will be held with Vice-chancellor Prof S M A Faiz as chief guest. Venue: Teachers Students Centre. Time: 2.00pm.

**Rotary meeting**

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: 23, Green Road. Time: 4.30pm.

**Mehendi festival**

A three-day mehendi festival begins. Venue: Shahrookh Collections, House-79/C, Road-4, Kamal Ataturk Avenue,

Banani. Time: 10.00am to 8.00pm daily.

**Wasa discussion**

Dhaka Wasa Jatiyatbadi Employees Union will hold a discussion with LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan as chief guest. Venue: Wasa Bhaban, Karwan Bazar. Time: 4.00pm.

**Orientation ceremony**

An orientation ceremony of Northern University will be held with Speaker Muhammad Jamiruddin Sircar as chief guest. Venue: Osmani Memorial Auditorium. Time: 11.00am.

**Rally**

Alliance Against World Bank Immunity organises a citizens' rally to protest the World Bank and IMF Immunity Bill to be placed at the current session of the Jatiya Sangsad. Venue: Shahbagh Crossing. Time: 2.00pm.

## DHAKA TOMORROW

**Dress exhibition**

The opening ceremony of Citycell Young Designer Exhibition-2004 will be held. Dresses designed by 16 young designers will be on display. Venue: WVA Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00pm.