

MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT Standards for colour-coding of waste bins finalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Environment and Forestry and several NGOs finalised the standards for colour-coding of hospital waste bins at a seminar in the city yesterday.

The colour-coding project, initiated by the environment ministry with the help of UNDP funding, will help protect those who handle medical waste from primary hazards such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV infections.

Among the beneficiaries are hospital cleaners, nurses and medical assistants.

Separation of medical waste at the hospital site is the first step in proper disposal of hazardous substances, according to Prism Bangladesh, a pioneering NGO in the area of medical waste management.

By colour-coding the products, medical waste can be separated

into general and hazardous waste categories, allowing workers to take proper precautionary measures with regard to the kind of waste being handled.

Prism Bangladesh is currently exploring a number of options for collection and disposal — the next step in the medical waste management process.

The standards that have been set are: black for general waste, yellow for hazardous waste, red for needle and other sharp instruments, green for recyclable products and blue for liquid waste.

Prism, Brac, Waste Concern and the Health Directorate were among the decision-makers at the seminar held at the IPSU (Institution and Policy Support Unit), a wing of the environment ministry.



President of Gono Forum Dr Kamal Hossain speaks at a condolence meeting in memory of former finance minister Shah AMS Kibria at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. Sonar Bangla Jubo Parishad and Bangabandhu Lalitkala Academy organised the meeting.

91 US Peace Corps men work in Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 91 Peace Corps volunteers from the USA are working in Bangladesh for gathering experience as well as helping Bangladesh in various fields like community development, English teaching and environmental awareness.

This was disclosed at an opening ceremony of a new office of the Peace Corps Bangladesh at Gulshan-2 in the city yesterday.

US Ambassador in Bangladesh Harry K Thomas formally opened the

office.

The US Peace Corps started working in the region since 1960. It withdrew all its volunteers in 1970 due to the Liberation War. It resumed the operation again in 1998 with the Primary Training Institutes.

Peace Corps volunteers are now working in as many as 54 districts under the Ministry of Youth and Sports and Ministry of Education. They will also work in technical training centres under the Ministry of Labour and Employment as well as with Bangladesh Marine Academy Seamen Training Centre under Ministry of Shipping in the future.

Around 60 volunteers from the States arrive every year and stay here for a period of two years.

GB admission test tomorrow

The admission test of Gono Bishwabidyalay (GB) for the academic year 2005-06 will be held on its campus, Mirzanagar, Savar, at 10:00am tomorrow, says a press release.

The courses include MBBS, BSc (honours) in Pharmacy, Microbiology and Biotechnology, Physiotherapy, Computer Science and Engineering, Medical Technology, BA (honours) in English, BSS (honours) in Politics and Governance, Sociology and Social Work.

Over 700 candidates will appear at the admission test.

Canadian Int'l School to start academic session in August

The Canadian International School (CIS) Dhaka will start its first academic session in August, with enrolments in Early Childhood, Junior Kindergarten, Kindergarten, Grade I, II & III.

Chairman of the school Mohammad Kamal Uddin said this while speaking at the ground breaking ceremony of the school on Wednesday, says a press release.

Antoine Landry, mayor of Caraquet, New Brunswick, Canada, was present as chief guest at the ceremony held on the school premises at Banani.

Clifford Kennedy and Arshad Husain, the Canadian partners of the joint venture, were also present.

Obituary

HM Abdur Rob, principal of Faridpur Government Ainuddin College, passed away due to a cardiac arrest yesterday at the age of 60, says a press release.

He left behind his wife and three daughters.

Minister for Food and Disaster Management Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf in a message yesterday condoled the death of Abdur Rob.

Death anniversary



Today is the 14th death anniversary of Principal Abul Kasem, a Language Movement veteran and founder of Bangla College and Tamaddun

Majlish, says a press release.

President Iajuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Leader of the Opposition in parliament Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the occasion.

Different organisations will organise various programmes, including a discussion and cultural function on the Central Shaheed Minar premises in the city at 4:00pm today, to mark the day.

Qulkhwani



Qulkhwani of Alhaj Altaf Ali Ahmed, father of the director of Rangs Electronics Ltd., Sabur Ahmed, will be held at his village home at Joypurpara in Bogra district after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

Altaf Ali died of old-age complications at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Medical University Hospital in the city on March 8 at the age of 86.

He was buried at his family graveyard in Bogra.

Kislu Chowdhury



Qulkhwani of Kislu Chowdhury, a businessman of Faridpur, will be held at his residence at Goalchamat village after Asr prayers

today.

Kislu died in a road accident at Sharsha upazila while he and his friend Mezbaul Karim Tutul were going to India by car through Benapole recently.

Tutul remained uninjured while Kislu died on the spot.

Wasa drive against encroachers next week

BSS, Dhaka

The Dhaka Water and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) will launch its drive to evict encroachers on the city's canals next week as part of a government plan to restore the capitals' natural drainage system.

"We shall start the operation from one canal initially," ANH Akhter Hossain, Managing Director of Dhaka Wasa said. But he declined

to disclose on which canal the operation will commence to prevent unwanted opposition.

The canals, some 26 of them are recognisable as they had been the city's fabled water ways to carry the extra load of the monsoon rains. However, only 19 of them are still in operation but are strained under the burden of encroachers.

Theatre festival

The inaugural ceremony of National Children's Theatre Festival 2005, organised by the People's Theatre Association, will be held. Venue: Shawkat Osman Memorial Hall, Central Public Library. Time: 10.00am. On the inaugural day, six plays will be staged.

Drama

Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela will hold a discussion and stage a drama titled 'Emperor's New Clothes' by Hans Christian Anderson to mark his 200th birth anniversary with Danish Ambassador Niels Severin Munk as chief guest. Venue: Kachi-Kancha Bhavan, Segun Bagicha. Time: 11.00am.

Seerat Academy

Seerat Academy will host a reception to mark the completion of its 50 years with Law Minister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: VIP Lounge of the National Press Club. Time: 3.00pm.

Reunion

The reunion of Accounting Alumni Association of Dhaka University will be held with Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz as chief guest. Venue: Teachers Students Centre. Time: 9.30am.

Jamalpur Samity

A meeting of Jamalpur Samity, Dhaka will be held. Venue: United House, 10 Gulshan-1. Time: 4.00pm.

Lawyers' meet

A meeting of the executive council of Democratic Lawyers' Association of Bangladesh will be held. Venue: Supreme Court Bar Association Building. Time: 11.00am.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of two books titled 'Jai Bolley Haina Jao' and 'Sukher Moton Asukhi' by Ali Idris, a member of the advisory council of Vision Theatre. Venue: Institute of Diploma Engineers, Kakrail. Time: 4.00pm.

Prize giving ceremony

The prize giving ceremony of Bangladesh Medical College will be held. Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh.

Dog show

Bangladesh Kennel Club organises a dog show. Venue: Opposite Korean School, Basundhara, Baridhara. Time: 8.00am.



The ground breaking ceremony of Canadian International School Dhaka was held on the school premises at Banani in the city on Wednesday.



Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia and Comilla till 6.00pm today.

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

Highest temperature 36.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and lowest 18.6 degree Celsius at Srimongal and Sayedpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:06pm today and rises at 6:10am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.4	23.3	71	40
Chittagong	31.5	24.0	76	75
Rajshahi	34.8	18.9	42	40
Khulna	33.2	22.4	92	68
Barisal	32.4	23.0	91	76
Sylhet	32.2	20.5	70	51
Cox's Bazar	31.5	23.0	74	85