

BNP prepares to rig next election: Hasina

UNB, Dhaka
 Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday accused the ruling BNP of making all arrangements to rig the next general election, "perceiving that people will not vote for them."
 "Rab was formed not to curb crime, but to eliminate Awami League members and to rig the vote," she said at a meeting with the office-bearers of Habiganj and Noakhali Bar Associations.
 Hasina said the new army chief was appointed by superceding nine Generals, as the Prime Minister has no confidence in any one.
 On reform proposals, Hasina said she sought the reforms of caretaker government and the

Election Commission so that the people could get their desired election results.
 She said the alliance government has "ruined the country and its politics and belittled the nation's image through corruption and extra-judicial killings."
 The country has reached the "last stage of destruction and people wants to get rid of this misrule," she said.
 Hasina, also Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, alleged that popular leaders and prospective candidates of Awami League were being killed by Rab in a planned way. "Extra-judicial killing by Rab is damaging the country's image. The PM's son is tarnishing image of the nation, the entire

country has been plagued by corruption," she said.
 Being the Prime Minister, how could she criticise the opposition in a foreign country, Hasina asked.
 On the investigation of grenade blasts, she said that within five days of the London bomb blasts, the accused were tracked down, but this government could not investigate the August 21 grenade attack after nearly one year because the government is "not sincere about it."
 Noakhali Bar Association President Chitta Roy Chowdhury and Secretary KM Mohibullah and Habiganj Bar Association President Fazole Ali and former secretary Sirajul Huq Chowdhury also spoke at the meeting.

JICA masterplan for waste management for Dhaka

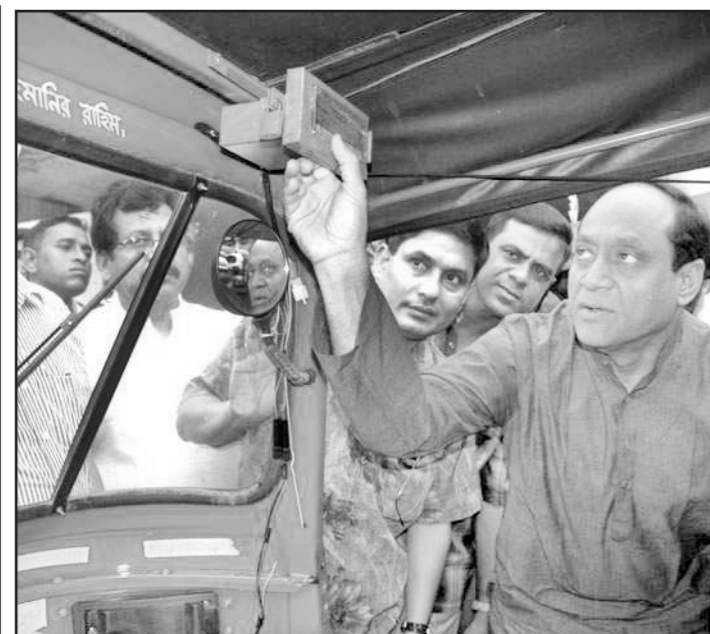
BSS, Dhaka
 Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has formulated a 10-year masterplan for solid waste management (SWM) in Dhaka city through technology transfer.
 The masterplan has one-decade timelimit with the target of 2015 and will need Tk 965.30 crore to strengthen the capacity of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) for disposal of daily 3,909 tonnes of domestic waste up to 2010 and 4,624 tonnes of waste till 2015.
 Resident Representative of JICA Akio Arai said the masterplan has been prepared for only domestic waste on the basis of a study that covered three types of solid waste--domestic waste, industrial waste and medical waste.
 With regard to industrial waste and medical waste, a survey will be conducted to identify the problems



Shun-Nga Group, a dance troupe from Chiang Mai, Thailand, performs at the National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy in the city yesterday. The event was part of the 11-day Thailand Festival-2005 that began in the city on Thursday. The Royal Thai Embassy in collaboration with Thai Airways International and Sonargaon Hotel organised the festival.

Robbers loot two tons of iron rods

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 A gang of robbers looted two metric tons of iron rods from an underconstruction building at Bangla Motor in the city in the early hours of yesterday.
 About 15 robbers came to the construction site in an empty truck at around 4:00am and tied up security guard Akkas Ali and two other workers, said the victims and police.
 Later, the gang sped away with the iron rods.
 A case was lodged with the Ramna Thana yesterday but no-one has been arrested.
 In another incident, Ramna police arrested four robbers on Thursday when they were preparing to commit a robbery at Mohakhal in the city.
 Acting on a tip-off, a team of police raided a house where the four were staying and caught Shahid Hossain Shahid, 23, Kabir Akter Hossain, 26, Jalil Mia, 18, and Saiful Islam, 15.
 Police also recovered a revolver with six bullets and two machetes.



Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman inaugurates the meter system for CNG autorickshaw in Chittagong yesterday.

Indian timber seized in Sylhet

UNB, Sylhet
 Members of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) in separate drives seized Indian timbers worth about Tk 15 lakh from different places of the district on Wednesday.
 BDR sources said they recovered Indian 900 cft Segun, Sandhi and Jarul timbers worth about Tk, 10 lakh from Lalakhal frontier of Jointapur upazila.
 In another drive, they seized Indian timbers worth about Tk 5 lakh at Ulma frontier in Companyganj upazila.
 Another report from Satkhira adds: Police recovered 135 gas cylinders worth about Tk 5 lakh at Nawabeky bus stand area in Shyamagar upazila on Thursday.
 Acting on a tip-off, police raided the area and recovered the cylinders while being carried to the border area to smuggle out to India.

Two killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT
 At least two people were killed five others injured in road accidents in Narayanganj and Khulna yesterday.
 BSS from Narayanganj adds: One person was killed and five others were injured in a collision between a bus and a tempo at Malibag on the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway under Bandar police station yesterday.
 The identity of the dead aged about 60 could not be known immediately.
 Police said the accident occurred when the Raiganj-bound bus from Dhaka collided with the Kanchpur-bound tempo at Malibag at about 12 noon.
 The tempo, which was carrying six passengers from Langalbandh, was badly damaged and the old man died on the spot.
 The body was sent to General Hospital for autopsy.
 The injured were sent to a local clinic.
 Police seized the bus and tempo, but their drivers managed to escape.
 Staff Correspondent from Khulna reports: A young girl was killed in a road accident near Horticulture office in the Khulna city yesterday.
 The victim was identified as Ila Dutta, 25, daughter of Prafulla Kumar Dutta of Banikpara.
 The accident occurred when a passenger bus hit her while she was crossing the road.

Rejoinder

Dr Mohammad Nazrul Islam, a newly appointed professor at the Department of Law, Dhaka University (DU), has sent a rejoinder to a report headlined 'DU recruits 3 law professors ignoring 'better' candidates' published in The Daily Star on July 8.
 In the rejoinder, Dr Nazrul said he was given fresh appointment, not promotion as mentioned in the report.
 He also said his appointment has been made according to the existing rules of the university, not depriving any 'better' candidate.
Our reply: The DU authorities did not appoint Prof Mohammad Shah Alam, another candidate, who is a senior Fulbright fellow, founder dean of the law faculty of Chittagong University (CU), have four first classes, Ph.D. degree, 21 publications and three books, and 23 years' teaching experiences at the department of law at CU.
 On the other hand, Dr Nazrul Islam, who has been appointed, has three first classes, Ph.D. degree, 11 publications and 14 years' teaching experiences at the law department at DU.
 Although Dr Nazrul claimed that he was a fully qualified internal candidate, the advertisement for appointment did not mention that the internal candidates would get preference.
 However, we regret that the report mentioned the appointment as promotion.
 We stand by our report.

Sylhet Council submits memo to PM tomorrow

BDNEWS, Dhaka
 Sylhet Division Development Action Council will stage a black-flag demonstration in front of the Prime Minister's office tomorrow to press home its five-point demand, including compensation for Tengralia blowout.
 The Action Council will also submit a memorandum to the Prime Minister and hold a rally at Mukhtangan in the city at 4:00pm.
 The demands include cancellation of agreement with Niko, protection of Osmanli Udyan and preservation of country's natural resources.

Shamsur Rahman's anniversary of death today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore
 Today is the fifth death anniversary of journalist Shamsur Rahman, special correspondent of the daily Janakantha and Jessore correspondent of the BBC.
 He was shot dead by a gang of assassins at his office in Jessore.
 The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has submitted a charge sheet against 17 people in connection with the murder of Shamsur Rahman. And the charges were pressed against 16 people on June 15 this year.
 A two-day long programme marking the death anniversary began here yesterday.
 The Jessore Press Club held a memorial meeting and doa mahfil in the morning.
 Presided over by Press Club President Fakir Shaikat, the meeting was addressed by Press Club Secretary Zahid Hasan, Mobinul Islam Mobin, Mohiuddin Ahmed, Aminur Rahman, Nur Islam, Ruhul Kuddus and Saiful Islam.

Indian crocodiles main attraction at Dhaka zoo

BDNEWS, Dhaka
 A good number of visitors through the Dhaka zoo everyday to see five crocodiles of fresh water, imported from India.
 The attraction of crocodiles among people helped the contractor increase of gate-money.
 The Dhaka zoo authorities said visitors in the zoo have been increasing day by day after bringing in five crocodiles from India. These imported crocodiles have become the focal point of attraction at the zoo.
 A total of 40 crocodiles have been imported from the Crocodile Bank of Madras, India as this animal sect was almost vanished from Bangladesh. Of them, 29 crocodiles have been kept in 29 Dula Hazra Safari parks, six in the lake of Khan Jahan Ali Mazar in Khulna and five at the northern side in Dhaka zoo near a big pond of Gorial.
 The Dhaka zoo witnessed a mad-rush of visitors on Friday the weekly holiday. Apart from this, the Dhaka Zoo draws a huge crowd in other days of the week.
 Bachchu Mia, 30, of Dholakhal area came to visit the Dhaka zoo with his newly married wife. He said they had heard about the imported crocodiles from a newspaper report.
 Rafsan and his five friends of Mirpur Shaheed Police Smriti School were exhilarated to see the crocodiles at the Dhaka zoo. They were inquisitive about how crocodiles have been brought by an aircraft.
 The Dhaka zoo curator Mofizur Rahman said "Crocodiles are safe here, instead they have been kept in cramped manner in Madras." Proper care is being taken for the imported crocodiles in the Dhaka zoo, he said.
 They provide two kg beef, shoal fish, small fishes of lake, calcium, vitamin and mineral everyday.
 Crocodiles, aged between 15 and 16 years, have the capacity of reproduction. Of the five crocodiles, four are of female type and one is male. After few days, crocodiles will be shifted to crocodile shed.

Sultan Ahmed

Today is the 35th death anniversary of Sultan Ahmed, secretary to the then East Pakistan Government and secretary to the then East Pakistan Red Cross Society, says a press release.
 On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at his residence at 32 Purana Pallan in the city after Maghrib prayers today.
 Friends, relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the milad and doa mahfil.

Advocate Abul Khair

Today is the fifth death anniversary of Advocate Abul Khair, a veteran freedom fighter and former Assistant Attorney General, says a press release.
 On the occasion, a doa mahfil and Qurankhwan will be held at different mosques and orphanages at Magura Sadar after Asr prayers today.
 Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the doa mahfil.

Shaheed Gazi Alauddin

Today is the 33rd death anniversary of Shaheed Gazi Alauddin, a freedom fighter and founder general secretary of Keraniganj Awami League, says a press release.
 Gazi Alauddin, an English teacher of Narayanganj High School, was killed by the indentified miscreants on this day in 1972.
 On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held and foods will be distributed among the destitute at his son's residence at Narayanganj.
 Besides, Shaheed Gazi Alauddin Smriti Parishad will arrange a milad mahfil and discussion at his village Nutan Bakht Char in Keraniganj.

WEATHER TODAY

Moderately heavy falls likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country till 6:00pm today.
 Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also expected at places over the country during the period. Met Office said.
 Highest temperature 32.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Teknaf and lowest 23.8 degree Celsius at Rangamati, Chittagong and Khepupara.
 The sun sets in the capital at 6:49pm today and rises at 5:21am tomorrow.
 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	26.7	24.4	93	89
Chittagong	26.5	23.8	97	81
Rajshahi	30.7	24.6	95	87
Khulna	28.5	24.0	98	89
Barisal	27.4	24.0	100	95
Sylhet	28.0	24.5	95	87
Cox's Bazar	32.0	26.0	82	85



The achievers of GPA-5 in this year's SSC examinations from Ispahani School and College pose for photograph with their teachers.

Foreign diplomats visit 'unlisted' Rohingya refugees, offer aid

BSS, Cox's Bazar
 Western diplomats yesterday offered humanitarian assistance for "unlisted" Rohingya refugees living in makeshift and illegally developed camps in this sea resort region.
 They also urged the government to shift them to provide better shelters to end their miseries.
 They said their countries and organisations were ready to extend hands for their rehabilitation to a better place along with other assistance for food and sanitation facilities provided the government of Bangladesh agreed to the proposal.
 The call came when diplomats of the United States, Italy, Norway, Australia, European Commission and United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) visited a camp at Dandamdia.
 According to officials and UNHCR the diplomats stayed for nearly one hour at the camp where "unlisted" 10,000 Rohingyas live without any sanitation and other civic facilities.
 More than 2.5 lakh Rohingyas fled their country to evade the alleged repression by Myanmar's military junta in early 1990s and most of them took refuge at two camps at Kutupalang and Nayara area under the supervision of UNHCR.
 But a huge number of refugees spread across the region forcing the government to declare them as economic burden and urging Myanmar to take them back.
 Under a Dhaka-Yangon treaty in 1994, Myanmar authorities agreed to take back the Rohingyas under UNHCR

BNP factions clash in Tanore: 25 injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi
 Some 25 people were injured as two factions of BNP were locked in a clash over a trivial issue at Tanore upazila yesterday.
 Of the injured, Abdur Rashid and Mozahar were admitted to Tanore Hospital.
 The clash erupted after hundreds of villagers of Gubirpara led by local BNP leaders protested an assault on a BNP adherent Anwar Hossain Anu by Tanore BNP workers.
 The feuding groups exchanged brickbats and hurled stones at each other.
 Later, police brought the situation under control using baton.
 Tanore Municipal Chairman Emran Ali Mollah and ASP Muzammel Haque visited the scene.

Graduation ceremony

The Aga Khan School, Dhaka (AKS, D) held its fifth graduation ceremony for the teachers who had attended the Certificate in Education: Primary Education (CE:PE) programme at the Brac Centre Auditorium in Mohakhali with the support and certification from the Aga Khan University-Institute for Educational Development (AKU-IED), says a press release.
 The participants included teachers from several English medium schools including AKS, D, Australian School, Hurdco International School, International School Dhaka, Manarat International College, Scholastica, Sir John Wilson, government sector schools and an NGO Brac.
 The graduation ceremony included a presentation by the teachers reflecting their different experiences and learning from the programme, and speeches by the Class Valdictorian, the Head of the Professional Development, and the Principal of AKS, D and the Chairman of Aga Khan Education Service, Bangladesh.

DHAKA TODAY

DHAKA TOMORROW



The participants of Aga Khan School graduation ceremony pose for photograph at the Brac Centre auditorium in the city recently.