

Shantu Larma meets Natwar

Parbatta Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity President Jyotirindra Bodipriyo alias Shantu Larma paid a courtesy call on Indian External Affairs Minister K Natwar Singh.

Nat'l Commission on Gas, Oil, Coal formed

National Commission on Gas, Oil and Coal (NCGOC) was formed yesterday with Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA) President Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman as convener and BEA General Secretary Prof Abul Barakat as member secretary.

The meeting also formed an advisory board headed by eminent lawyer Dr Kamal Hossain.

Former chief of Planning Commission Rafidul Islam Khan, former chairman of Power Development Board Nuruddin Mahmud Kamal, Justice Golam Rabbani and former chairman of Petrobangla Dr SK Abdullah will head the sub-committees.

RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS

RU ignores committee objections

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University authorities are going to appoint eight teachers at three departments, ignoring strong objections from the departments' planning committee members.

The recruitment will be unnecessary as many of the existing teachers of the departments hardly get the chance of taking a single class in a month because of excess number of teachers.

Husband stabs wife to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A husband stabbed his pregnant wife to death in the city yesterday. Locals said Md Manik, a rickshawpuller, and Romiza Begum had a quarrel in their rented house at Thakur Das Lane under Sutrapur Police Station.

Rehabilitate Rohingyas in their homeland

Huda urges int'l community

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Communications Minister Nazmul Huda yesterday appealed to the international community to help rehabilitate the Rohingyas in their homeland.



Communications Minister Nazmul Huda speaks at a seminar on human rights issue at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. Sitting from left in the first row are Netherlands Ambassador Kees Beemsterboer, Asif Nazrul of Dhaka University and UNHCR Representative Christopher BC Lee.

Centre for Development Studies (CDC), Bandhujona Lawyers' Association (BLA) and Human Rights Forum (HRF) organised the discussion at the National Press Club in the city.

The minister said the government is trying to solve the problem in its own way.

He however urged the leaders of European Union to give them shelter in their countries if they are genuinely concerned.

Christopher BC Lee said the European Commission (EC) assured Bangladesh of providing emergency humanitarian assistance once the group is moved to safer ground, but the government consider them illegal migrants.

About 6000 Rohingyas in Teknaf are extremely vulnerable to seasonal high tides, flooding and cyclones during the monsoon that leads to serious health hazards, he added.

Redesign education system

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The education system should be redesigned by incorporating capacity building and professional orientation programmes in order to produce good citizens, speakers at a seminar said yesterday.

They also called for maintaining the standard of education throughout the academic career of the students starting from the primary level, they said.

The Conference and Exhibition Management Service (CEMS) organised the seminar on 'Quality of education in Bangladesh: Challenges at the Bashundhara Expo Centre in the city.

to making the students prepare for the competitive international job market and promoting good governance," said Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk as the chief guest.

He also called for introducing a ranking system for the public or private universities.

resentation committee has to be set up in order to inform the students about the facilities of a university and the quality of its education.



Communist Party of Bangladesh stages a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding measures to bring down the prices of essentials.

SPGRC threatens to lay siege to Pak HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Stranded Pakistanis General Repatriation Committee (SPGRC) yesterday threatened to lay siege to Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka on August 14 if Pakistan fails to admit Alhaj M Nasim Khan with highest civil award before Independence Day.

Jabbar Khan in his written statement said "Pakistan government traditionally decorates notable personalities with highest civil and military award on the National and Independence Day, so we demand the government to decorate him with the award considering his remarkable services for Pakistan".

He appealed to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia to arrange treatment for their ailing leader.

HC asks BTW to launch anti-drug programme

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday ordered the state-run Bangladesh Television (BTW) to telecast a 30-minute programme against use of drugs for creating mass awareness.

Disposing a public interest litigation (PIL) writ, a Division Bench, comprising justices Nazrul Islam Chowdhury and Farah Mahbub, passed the order asking BTW to telecast such programme twice-a-week.

Drug peddlers, mugger held in Chittagong

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) in separate raids arrested five criminals and seized arms and contraband phensidyde in the city on Sunday and yesterday.

In another drive, Halishahar thana police in a raid at Abbaspara area rounded up Md Shafi, a drug peddler, on Sunday night. They also recovered 242 bottles of phensidyde and the private car used by the drug peddler, sources said.

Obituary

M Shariful Islam, an accounts officer of human rights watchdog Odhakar, passed away due to cardiac arrest at a private clinic in the city on Sunday at the age of 41, says a press release.



Supreme Court Bar Association takes out a procession from the High Court premises yesterday protesting the presidential amnesty for Mohiuddin Ahmed Jhinto, a BNP leader convicted of murder.

THIRD PHASE OF TELETALK LOTTERY DRAW HELD 'Bangladeshi subscribers pay high call charge'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 1,20,694 applicants across the country have won Teletalk SIM (Subscriber's Identification Module) cards through lottery under different categories.

Teletalk Bangladesh Ltd, the state-owned mobile phone operator, held its third phase lottery draw for SIM (Subscriber's Identification Module) distribution at a city hotel yesterday.

BUS-TEMPO WORKERS CLASH IN BARISAL 48 tempos, 4 buses damaged: 13 injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A series of clashes between the bus and tempo workers in Barisal city left 13 people, including two journalists, injured and 48 tempos and four buses damaged.

The court also asked the BTW to consider resuming its programme Muktirpathe.

Robbers loot shops at city market, take away Tk 5 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Burglars looted around Tk 5 lakh in cash and kind from business houses in the Ladies Park Hawkers' Market near Sadarghat in Old Dhaka sometime between Sunday night and yesterday morning.

2 construction labourers killed

DMCH CORRESPONDENT

Two construction labourers were killed at Banani and New Eskatan in the city yesterday.



Garments Sramik Trade Union Kendra forms a human chain at Muktangin in the city yesterday protesting repression of garments workers.

WEATHER TODAY Light to moderate rain likely UNB, Dhaka

CU PALI DEPTT Student strike continues for 7th day CU CORRESPONDENT

Table with columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

The students of the Department of Oriental Language (Pali) of Chittagong University (CU) continued the strike for the seventh day demanding the publication of their result.