

Pry teachers to lay siege to Prodhnantri Bhaban on Eid day

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Non-government Primary Teachers' Association will lay siege to the Prodhnantri Bhaban and stage a sit-in on the day of Eid-ul-Fitr to press home its demand for nationalisation of their service.

The association leaders said they will stage the demonstration after the Eid congregation at Mukhtangan at 11:00am.

The association is now circulating posters with a photograph showing the then opposition leader Khaleda Zia, HM Ershad, Golam Azam and Maulana Azizul Haque at a rally at Osmani Udyan on September 10 in 2000 where they supported the demand of the teachers.

The poster also features the pledge of four-party alliance to nationalise the jobs of teachers in their election manifesto in 2001.

Association President Akkas Ali told the BDNEWS that the alliance government has turned a blind eye to its pledges. This government has done nothing for them, he added.

Replying to a query, he said that no action programme will be declared soon in view of the Saarc summit and school final examinations.

A total of 75,782 teachers are working at 37,000 primary schools across the country.

At present, the non-government schoolteachers receive 90 percent of their salaries from the government.

One beaten to death in Mymensingh

UNB, Mymensingh

Misceants beat a man to death at Fulbaria upazila in Mymensingh early yesterday.

He was identified as Sekandar Ali, 40.

Police said Ali was injured in a scuffle with his neighbours Chanu and Shahid over a game of Ludo a few days ago and was admitted to Fulbaria Health Complex for treatment.

Hearing of his returning home on Monday after recovery from injury, Sekandar's rivals attacked his house at about 6:00am yesterday and beat him to death.

Police later recovered the body from the spot and arrested four persons -- attacker Shahid's wife Anwara, 22, Abu Hanifa, 25, Dudu Miah, 30 and Abul Hossain, 40.

Relief collection for monga-hit people continues

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Collection of relief for monga-affected people of northwestern region of the country continued in different parts of the city yesterday.

The drive was launched by Gonomukti and Jatiya Sampad Rokkha Sammilito Andolon on Sunday.

Yesterday's drive started from National Museum premises at Shahbagh and people from all walks of life including commuters, shopkeepers and hawkers contributed spontaneously to the fund.

The drive was led by Comrade Abdullah Sarkar of Gonomukti, Saiful Haque of Workers' Party, Bazur Rashid Firoz of BSD, Tahera Begum Joly and Shahana Begum.

The leaders thanked people for their generous contribution.

They will collect relief from Farmgate and other areas in the city today.

The leaders have urged people to participate in the campaign.

FM greets new Japanese counterpart

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan greeted newly appointed Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Aso and hoped that they would be able to work together to strengthen the existing excellent bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Japan.

In a message to Taro Aso, Morshed Khan said, "Your appointment to this exalted position is a reflection of the trust and confidence reposed upon you by the government and the people of Japan".

He said: "The fraternal bonds of friendship, cooperation and understanding between our two countries have grown steadily over the years since early years of our independence, and assumed new dimensions following the recent historic visit of our Prime Minister to Japan."

Khan also wished the new Japanese Foreign Minister good health, happiness and success.

SAARC SUMMIT

Security blanket thrown over s-western region

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A security blanket has been thrown over the entire south-western region of the country directing the law enforcers

and intelligence agencies to remain on high alert ahead of the ensuing Saarc summit in Dhaka.

All border districts under Khulna

BSF push-in bid foiled

BSS, Joypruhar

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) thwarted an attempt to push-in Bangla-speaking Indian nationals by the Border Security Force (BSF) of India through Uchna border in Panchbibi upazila yesterday.

Troops of Potiram 172 BSF Battalion brought 15 Bangla-speaking Indian Muslims, including women and children, to the zero line near village Uchna to push them into Bangladesh territory at gunpoint yesterday afternoon.

As the victims raised an alarm, patrolling BDR jawans and frontier villagers rushed to the area and put up resistance. The BSF than had no alternative to taking them back to the

India. After the incident, Dinajpur Sector Commander of BDR Colonel Kazi Kaiser Uddin asked all his battalions to intensify patrol along the border to foil such push-in attempts, the sources said.

According to information trickling in from across the border, BSF was assembling an unknown number of similar Indian nationals on the other side of the porous border to push them into Bangladesh.

BSF always tries to push the Indian Muslims into Bangladesh every year during the Ramadan.

To thwart any such attempts, BDR is conducting alerted patrol along the 1,400-km common border from Kurigram to Rajshahi, the sources said.

The source further said special attention has been attached to Benapole border in Jessore and Bhomra border in Satkhira where huge number of plainclothes forces have been deployed to check any suspected man or woman.



PHOTO: STAR

With Eid only a few days away, people are busy buying clothes from makeshift stalls at footpaths in Gulistan yesterday.

Ten camel jockeys handed over to parents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ten children who were used as camel jockeys in the United Arab Emirate (UAE), were handed over to their parents on Monday bringing the total number to 95.

They are Rony, Amirul and Sadequl from Mymensingh, Shameem and Sohagh from Dhaka, Azad Alam from Noakhali, Abu Bakar and Ali from Comilla and Rony and Jony from Kushtia.

The parents received their children from the officials of Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA) in their respective areas in presence of upazila nirbahi officers (UNO) or ward commissioners or union parishad chairmen.

BNWLA officials also filed general diaries (GD) with the respective police stations in this regard.

A total of 125 children were so far repatriated and more than 100 are still waiting their return, said BNWLA officials.

The repatriated children were sheltered at the homes of BNWLA and Dhaka Ahsania Mission in Dhaka on their return from the UAE in different phases beginning from August 11 this year following an agreement between the governments of Bangladesh and the UAE.

A Community Care Committee (CCC) comprising a UP member, local leaders and school teachers has been formed at thana level to supervise the rehabilitation programme for former camel jockeys.

A monitoring committee comprising officials of home ministry, Unicef, International Organisation for Migration, BNWLA and some other NGOs will supervise the rehabilitation process.

"We tried to hand over all the repatriated children to their parents so that they could share the joy of Eid-ul-Fitre after staying a long time abroad, but could not do it as all the genuine parents could not be properly identified yet," said BNWLA Executive Director Advocate Salma Ali.

Rehab donation for Pak quake victims

Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh (Rehab) donated money for the earthquake-affected people of Pakistan, says a press release.

Md Abdul Awal, president (acting) of Rehab, handed over a check of Tk five lakh to Alamgir Babar, Pakistan high commissioner to Bangladesh, on Sunday.

S M Anwar Hossain, vice-president of, Mahmudul Hasan, general secretary of, M Saiful Islam, treasurer of, Tanvirul Haque Probal, joint secretary of Rehab and Sultana Shaheda Islam, chairman of Social Welfare Committee were also present on the occasion.

Obituary

Sufia Sultana, wife of late Mirza Motiar Rahman of 'Sufiana' M M Ali Road, Chittagong passed away due to old age complications on the night of Shab-E-Qadr (October 31) at the age of 73, says a press release.

She left behind her three sons and two daughters to mourn her death.

Her Qulkhwan will be held at 80, Shahid Mainul Road, Dhaka Cantonment in the city at 2:30pm tomorrow (Thursday).

Mir Moydul Haque



Mir Moydul Haque (Murad), general manager of an arsenic mitigation project of Sidco Limited, passed away due to cancer yesterday at the age of 60, says a press release.

He was also an organiser of environment movement and a Gregorian.

He left behind his wife, one daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

He was buried at Azimpur graveyard.

His qulkhwan will be held at his residence at House # 35, Road # 27 (old), 16 (new), Dhanmondi at 3:00pm on November 3.

Radha Rani Karmakar



Radha Rani Karmakar, mother of artist Kalidash Karmakar, passed away due to jaundice and kidney liver diseases at her New Eskaton residence in the city at the age of 79, says a press release.

She left behind her four sons and four daughters to mourn her death.

Her body will be cremated in Faridpur.



PHOTO: STAR

On behalf of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, ministers place a wreath on the coffin of Ambassador MM Rezaul Karim at the Gulshan Azad Mosque in the city yesterday. Karim, who was the ambassador to Egypt and a freedom fighter, died of a heart attack in Cairo on October 29.

CORRUPTION IN SPORTS, CULTURAL SECTORS

AL to publish white paper

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Awami League (AL) will publish white paper on corruption and irregularities of the BNP-Jamaat alliance government in the sports and cultural arena during its four-year rule.

AL joint general secretary and former state minister for sports and culture Obaidul Kader said this at a press conference at a city hotel yesterday.

Reiterating his pledge to introduce a sustainable 'Long Term National Sports Policy' on the basis of suggestions and opinions of all concerned with the sports he said, "To this end we will start work very soon."

Kader said the alliance government has failed to run the country in every sector, including sports and culture.

The sports and cultural sectors are also jeopardised under the alliance government and all potentials are shrinking day by day, he added.

He said since the government assumed the power it has been relentlessly trying to gag the voices of pro-

gressive cultural activists, writers and freethinking people resorting to the path of oppression.

14-party starts relief work in Monga-hit areas

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The 14-party alliance, including the main opposition Awami League, 11 Party and JSD, is now conducting relief operation in the Monga-hit northern district of the country.

A relief team led by Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain left Dhaka yesterday to distribute relief in different areas of greater Rangpur district.

The team members include Suranjit Sengupta, KN Ashiqur Rahman, Prof Nazma rahman, Asaduzzaman Noor MP, Hasanul Huq Inu, Mostafa Mohsin Montu and Fazle Hossain Badsha.

Memorial meet on Rezaul Karim today

Council for National Agenda (CNA) will hold a memorial meeting and a special doa mahfil at Hotel Sundarban in the city at 4:15pm in memory of Ambassador MM Rezaul Karim, says a press release.

Karim, Bangladesh ambassador to Egypt, passed away due to a massive heart attack in Cairo on October 29.

CNA Chairman Justice Mohammad Abdur Rouf will preside over the memorial meeting while Syed Murad Ullah Ahmad, pir saheb of Narinda, will conduct the doa mahfil. Late ambassador's colleagues and friends will discuss his life, work and contributions.

Goods train derails

UNB, Chuadanga

Two bogies of a goods train derailed near Uthali station at Jibannagar upazila at 1:00pm yesterday disrupting train services.

Railway officials said relief train did not reach the spot till 8:00pm to salvage the bogies and clear the line. All train services on Chuadanga-Khulna-Gaulunda were either stranded or cancelled causing immense difficulties to the passengers.



PHOTO: STAR

Prof Sardar Fazlul Karim, a recipient of Alakta Literary Award, speaks at the award giving ceremony at the Bishwa Sahitya Kendra in the city yesterday.

Stomach 'can reveal who is lying'

BBC ONLINE

US scientists believe they may be able to develop a more reliable lie-detector test - by listening to liars' stomachs.

Conventional polygraph tests, which are 80 to 90 percent accurate, use changes such as increased heart rates and sweating.

But people who are telling the truth can show similar changes merely because they are anxious about being tested and others learn how to "cheat" the tests.

A University of Texas study involving 16 people found looking for gut pattern changes was a more reliable test.

Dr Pankaj Pasricha and colleagues told an annual meeting of the American College of Gastroenterology how their test, called an electrogastragram (EGG), could clearly spot when someone was telling a fib.

They asked 16 volunteers to simultaneously undergo EGG tests and standard electrocardiogram (ECG) - a

test to measure heart rate which makes up part of standard polygraph testing.

Like an ECG, an EGG is recorded by attaching painless electrode stickers to the skin.

Gut reaction
The researchers found that both lying and telling the truth affected the ECG recordings compared to baseline measurements when the volunteers were asked simply to rest.

In comparison, the EGG showed obvious changes only when the individual was telling a lie - there was a big decrease in the percentage of normal gastric slow waves.

"Further research in real-life situations and using larger numbers is necessary to validate these results," cautioned the authors.

However, they said their findings suggested: "The addition of the EGG to standard polygraph methods has clear value in improving the accuracy of current lie detectors."

Professor Richard Wiseman, a

psychologist at the University of Hertfordshire, said: "It is an interesting idea."

"However, like the conventional lie detector, the technique seems to rely on the notion that people become more stressed when they lie."

"People who do not feel guilty about lying or have rehearsed the lie many times may not show such anxiety and thus pass the test."

Professor Don Grubin, professor of forensic psychiatry at Newcastle University, said: "There's no reason to believe that this would not work."

"The stomach is controlled by the same bit of the non-voluntary nervous system that controls breathing and heart rate and sweating. So we would expect to see changes."

"But a lot more work is needed to determine whether these changes do provide added value."

He said that conventional lie detectors were between 80 and 90 percent accurate and that, as yet, there was nothing available to beat that.

WEATHER TODAY Drizzle likely
Temporary rain or drizzle accompanied by gusty wind is likely at one or two places over the country till 6:00pm today.
Night temperature may rise slightly during the period, Met Office said.
Highest temperature 32.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sandwip and lowest 18.5 degree Celsius at Mymensingh and Srimongal.
The sun sets in the capital at 5:19pm today and rises at 6:06am 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	29.5	21.0	54	70
Chittagong	30.7	24.2	81	82
Rajshahi	27.4	20.4	88	91
Khulna	29.6	22.0	67	79
Barisal	29.2	21.6	75	87
Sylhet	30.2	20.3	94	66
Cox's Bazar	29.1	23.2	78	95

EXTORTION N'ganj criminal arrested with arms

BDNEWS, Narayanganj

The Rab members caught a criminal during his attempt to collect toll from a garment factory owner at DIT road area in Narayanganj yesterday.

The arrested was identified as Abdul Ahad, 28.

The law enforcers also recovered a pistol and 42 rounds of bullet from his possession.

Rab and police said Ahad is a notorious criminal of the area and accused of over a dozen criminal cases, including murder.

"Ahad is a member of notorious Zakir Bahini," police said.

On receipt of information, Rab members raided a garment factory and caught Ahad red handed while trying to collect Tk five lakh from the owner of the factory.