

# Khaleda resorts to falsehood: Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Describing the BNP-Jamaat government as "enemy of the people", Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the anti-liberation forces have already destroyed the country's image abroad and Khaleda's "falsehood" in her Time Magazine interview has proved again that this regime wants to make Bangladesh a fanatic state.

"What a big liar the Prime Minister is! On what basis the PM says that she came to know about militancy in Bangladesh after Aug 17, 2005 when her government itself banned several Islamic outfits in February of the same year? Who were behind the grenade attacks on Aug 21, 2004 in which dozens of AL leaders and activists were killed? Were the attackers directed by the government?" Hasina raised the questions at a discussion on the premises of Bangabandhu Bhaban marking the World Health Day.

She said the real culprits behind the Aug 21 grenade attack could not be brought to book due to government's reluctance to fully investigate the savage attack.



Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain speaks at a seminar organised by Journalists' Forum Against Repression at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

## Experts for use of granule urea to boost crop production

BSS, Dhaka

Agriculture experts underscored the need for ensuring large-scale use of Guti Urea (granule urea) instead of the generally available urea fertilisers in their farmlands to raise crop production in the country.

They said in the face of increased prices of common urea fertilisers, the framers can easily go for massive use of granule urea as it is environment-friendly and also boosts crop production.

They made the observations while addressing a press conference on "Urea deep placement (UDP) as an option to save urea and increased yields" on Thursday in the city.

International Fertiliser Development Corporation (IFDC), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Bangladesh Fertiliser Association (BFA) jointly organised the press conference.

They said the farmers scatter generally available urea fertilisers over the crop lands, making them

more susceptible of being washed away by waters and mixing its nitrogen gas into air bringing havoc to environment.

On the other hand, they said the Guti urea invented by the Bangladeshi scientists and used in the croplands through deep placing of the soil, ensures full benefit in terms of increased crop production and protection of environment from any sort of degradation.

The reason is, they further said Guti urea does not wash away by the water currents or its gas cannot mix into the air.

While referring to the country's annual requirement, Vice Chairman of BFA Kamruzzaman Ashraf said Bangladesh needs 28,000 lakh tonnes of fertilisers a year but this amount can be reduced to half by ensuring use of Guti fertilisers. This will also help save huge foreign currency, he added.

Agriculture specialist M Mofidul Islam said if Guti urea is used, crops and its hay can consume 42 percent and 23 percent ingredients respectively of the total elements resulting in high yielding of crops.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Thundershowers 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 Jessor, Kushtia, Noakhali and Comilla in the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said in a forecast.

It said that day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 36.6 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessor and lowest of 19.0 degrees at Sayedpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:17pm today and rises at 5:43am 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	33.1	22.0	53	60
Chittagong	32.5	25.0	78	71
Rajshahi	35.2	22.6	68	75
Khulna	35.0	25.0	77	58
Barisal	34.0	24.4	86	72
Sylhet	30.8	20.6	74	68
Cox's Bazar	33.1	24.9	66	71

## 52 students win language competition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The final round of the second nationwide Bangla Language Competition titled 'Bhasha Protijog' ended in the city with a vow to promote the mother language.

The speaker said one cannot be a true patriot without loving one's own language.

They called on the students to foster love and affection for the language.

HSBC Bank and the Prothom Alo, a leading Bangla daily, jointly organised the competition at the Residential Model School and College (RMS) in the city.

About 400 students, who earlier competed at district levels, were qualified for the final competition. They sat for Multiple Choice Questions test on Bangla grammar and language. Among them, 52 students in four categories won prizes in the final round.

Md Nuruzzaman of Rangpur Government School secured first position at higher secondary level while Iftekhar Alam Khan of Mymensingh Zila School stood first at the secondary school level. Sheikh Rahat Rahman of Rangpur Zila School grabbed the top position at the lower secondary and Rafin Rahman Turja of Government Laboratory School came first at primary school level.

Eminent writer Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and writer Bashir Al Helal distributed prizes among the winners.

Addressing the students, Prof Iqbal said you people are lucky, as you got a chance to learn your language at this tender age, which is very important and difficult at the same time.

Earlier, Prof Nurun Nahar Begum, principal of the RMSC, along with Prof Anisuzzaman of Dhaka University, inaugurated the function by hoisting the national flag.

Prof Zaman said you need to love your mother tongue first if you want to be a good human being.

Anisul Haque, assistant editor of the Prothom Alo, and Arun Basu conducted the programme.

Bishwajit Ghosh, professor of Dhaka University, Dr Vishwadev Chowdhury, Sazzad Sharif, assistant editor of the Prothom Alo, Mostafizur Rahman and Mamun Mahmud Shah of HSBC Bank, and ABM Jalaluddin, vice principal of the RMSC also spoke.

The Close-up stars Abid, Mahadi and Rumi performed on the occasion.

## Obituary

UNB, Dhaka

Abul Hashem Master, former general secretary of Purbadhalia Upazila Awami League, passed away due to a cardiac arrest yesterday at the age of 58.

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

Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina expressed profound shock at the death of Abul Hashem Master.

## Nasima Alam

BONEWS, Dhaka

Nasima Alam, mother of Sabiha Alam, a sub-editor of BONEWS, passed away due to lung cancer yesterday at the age of 53.

She is survived by her husband, two sons and a daughter. She was buried at Mirpur Graveyard.

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## Death anniversary



a press release.

Dr Benazir, wife of Md Zakaria Khan, editor of the Banglazoor, was also a director of the newspaper. She died of cancer in 1998.

Doa and milad mahfil will be held at her residence at Gulshan after Magrib prayers today.

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