

MOBILE COURT CONTINUES DRIVES

More illegal structures demolished in Dhaka, Ctg

STAR REPORT

Mobile courts in fresh drives demolished illegal truck terminal in Chittagong and roadside shops and structures in Dhaka.

Our staff correspondent in Chittagong reports: A mobile court in Chittagong yesterday demolished an illegal truck terminal and few other structures to recover 6.22 acre (around 376 katha) land of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) from the encroachers.

The court led by CPA Magistrate Md Munir Chowdhury conducted the drive on the terminal located in-between TSP Complex and Chittagong Cement Clinker Factory at Patenga.

Some influential people had

recently built the truck terminal, a garage, a workshop and some tin-shed houses on the land.

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) and CPA's Estate and Mechanical Departments assisted the court in the drive. A team of ansars were deployed there for the protection of the recovered land.

The same court in another drive later in the day recovered another 1,000-sq.ft land at Saltgola, Patenga and EPZ from encroachers and realised Tk one lakh as fines from M/S WMS, a dredging firm.

Our staff correspondent in Dhaka adds: Meanwhile in the capital, Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) yesterday demolished 12 shops at Nilkhet

while Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) evicted roadside illegal structures in Mirpur.

Dhaka Wasa yesterday conducted a drive in Bakushah Market in Nilkhet and demolished 12 semi-concrete shops. The shops were built some 12 years back surrounding a water pump owned by Wasa in Nilkhet area.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police led by Magistrate Akhlakur Rahman in presence of high officials of Wasa demolished the illegal shops.

In another drive led by Zone Executive Officer Mosharraf Hossain at Kalshi Road from the stretch of Mirpur 10 to Mirpur 12) demolished encroachment along the road.

CA'S DIRECTIVE

Golejan Bewa gets pension after 29 years

UNB, Dhaka

Golejan Bewa, widow of a government employee, finally received the pension benefits after long 29 years of the death of her husband following an order of Chief Adviser Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed.

Golejan, 70, wife of late Mosharraf Hossain, a former assistant tahsildar of Kapasiapara Tahsil Office in Paba thana of Rajshahi district, had applied properly for family pension fulfilling all terms and submitting necessary documents.

But she did not succeed in her long struggle to get the entitled government benefit as she failed to grease the palm of a greedy clerk of Deputy Commissioner's office.

As the matter came to the notice of the chief adviser through a report published in an English national daily on March 2, Dr Ahmed acted promptly to resolve the widow's problem, according to a source at the CA's office.

The chief adviser directed the concerned authority for taking immediate step to provide the pension money to the septuagenarian widow.

Finally, the widow received the pension fund on March 4 and won her battle of rights.

Golejan's husband Mosharraf died of heart attack on February 11 in 1977 after faithfully serving the government for 21 years.

Indo-Bangla dialogue on media & culture begins today

A three-day 'Indo-Bangladesh Dialogue on Media and Culture' begins at Brac Centre Inn Auditorium in the city today, says a press release.

A high-level Indian delegation comprising parliamentarians, academics, diplomats, editors, artists and media personalities will take part in the dialogue organised by Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) in collaboration with the India International Centre (IIC).

Law Adviser Barrister Mainul Hossain will be present at the inaugural session today as the chief guest while Foreign Affairs Adviser Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury will attend the closing ceremony on March 8 as the chief guest.

CPB to hold meeting with ECs today

Leaders of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) will hold a meeting with Election Commissioners today, says a press release.

The CPB delegation would place their 53-point reform proposal before the election commissioners and will urge them to make the upcoming elections free from any sort of manipulation and influence of black money.

worth around Tk 19 crore from five cargo vessels and from a warehouse at Aliganj on the night of January 29. Abul Khair Group imported the wheat.

Later while filing case, the accused police officers demanded Tk 30 lakh from Abul Khair Group to drop the name of its managing director, the joint forces sources said.

The two officials of the Abul Khair Group were held by the joint forces when they came out of the police station after handing over the bribe money.

President, CA greet Ghana's president

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Chief Adviser Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed have greeted the President of Ghana on the occasion of the Independence Day of that country.

In separate messages to the President John Agyekum Kufuor of Ghana, they expressed their confidence that the excellent relations that so happily exist between the two countries would be further expanded and consolidated in the days ahead.

They also wished him good health and happiness and continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Ghana.



Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 31.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Teknaf and lowest 13.8 degree Celsius at Rangamati.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:03pm today and rises at 6:16am tomorrow.

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

City/Town	Temperature In Celsiuspercentage		Humidity in	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.3	16.0	48	43
Chittagong	31.0	18.0	54	38
Rajshahi	28.5	14.2	71	61
Khulna	28.5	15.5	80	51
Barisal	29.5	14.0	63	51
Sylhet	29.7	15.7	71	43
Cox's Bazar	30.8	19.1	57	56



PHOTO: PID

Chief Adviser to the caretaker government Fakhruddin Ahmed presides over a meeting of the council of advisers at his office in the city yesterday.

WATER PILFERAGE

Ctg Wasa realises Tk 1cr, cuts 1,000 connections

BSS, Chittagong

Chittagong Wasa has realised over Tk one crore as fine and disconnected about 1,000 illegal connections during the last two and half months from December 22.

LG recovered, 8 arrested in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police yesterday arrested eight suspected criminals with an LG from a business establishment of a Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) ward commissioner.

Sources said a team of Chandgaon Police Station raided Diamond Decorators, owned by Chandgaon Ward Commissioner Mahbulul Alam in Farider Para area, yesterday morning and arrested the miscreants.

Police were interrogating the arrestees till filing of this report.

KCC project to improve living conditions of slum dwellers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna City Corporation (KCC) has undertaken a project with the financial assistance from the government and Unicef to improve the living conditions of slum dwellers through providing better healthcare and sanitation facilities and drinking water supply.

Some 9,404 families living in slums in 20 wards, out of 31, will benefit from the project, Mayor Shaikh Tayebur Rahman said at a rally of teenage girls from the slums at Zia Hall auditorium in the city yesterday.

He said ideal mothers can build an ideal nation. Today's teenage girls would be ideal mothers in future. So, they must be aware of issues concerning health, education and culture.

Chairman of KCC Slum Development Standing Committee Moniruzzaman presided over the rally.

Later, a cultural function was also held.

President goes to Hiron Point today

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed, on a daylong official tour, goes to Hiron Point today to visit naval installations in the vicinities of the maritime mangrove-forest Sundarbans.

He is expected to return to the capital in the afternoon, said a Bangabhaban release.



Andrew L. Fawthrop, president and managing director of Chevron Bangladesh, hands over scholarships to one of the meritorious students of Inatganj and Dighalbak unions of Bibiyana at a ceremony recently. Chevron awarded scholarships to 230 students from six schools, one madrasa and one college. Each student received prize bonds worth Tk 6000.

Bridge to be built over Banani lake

BSS, Dhaka

A 90-metre long bridge between Banani and Gulshan will be built over Banani Lake as part of the plan to reduce the pressure of traffic in the city's posh area.

The proposed four-lane bridge project will be implemented by Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) at a cost of Tk 15 crore, Adviser for LGRD and Cooperatives Mohammad Anwarul Iqbal told a press briefing at the conference room of the local government division at the secretariat here yesterday.

The bridge will connect road no-11 of Banani in the west and road no-41 of Gulshan in the east to lessen the pressure of vehicular traffic in the most important area of the city, he said.

The adviser said finalisation of the design of the bridge through tender and other formalities have already been completed.

JMB suspect arrested in Sherpur

BSS, Sherpur

A team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-11 led by Major Hamid arrested an alleged JMB member in a pre-dawn swoop on Chaitankhila village under Sadar upazila of the district yesterday.

On information, the Rab team raided the village and held the JMB suspect, identified as Mushtaque, 28, son of one Haji Hazarat Ali, sources said. He returned here yesterday from Gabtali in Dhaka city.

Earlier, Rab members raided many places in the district including the residence of Dr Awal in the town to apprehend the outlawed militant, but all their attempts went in vain, the sources said.

Obituary



Hamida Khatun, wife of late A b d u r Razzaque of Jessore, passed away on Thursday due to old-age complications at the age of 80, says

a press release.

She is survived by her three sons and five daughters. She was laid to rest at Jessore Karbala graveyard.

Death anniversary



Today is the second death anniversary of Farida Sarkar, wife of former power and energy minister Z i a u d d i n Ahmed Bablu,

says a press release. Farida, a former newscaster of Voice of America and a teacher of the North South University, passed away due to cancer at the age of 48 on this day in 2005.

On the occasion, prayers will be offered at the orphanage and foods will be distributed among the orphans.

Friends, relatives and admirers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Annual shraddha

The annual shraddha of Indu Prava Bhumik, mother of Barun Bhumik Nayan, executive member of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), will be held today, says a press release.

The two-day long programmes include prayers sessions and Prashad distribution at Sadarpur village in Savar.

Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the programmes.

Indu Prava passed away last year at the age of 99.

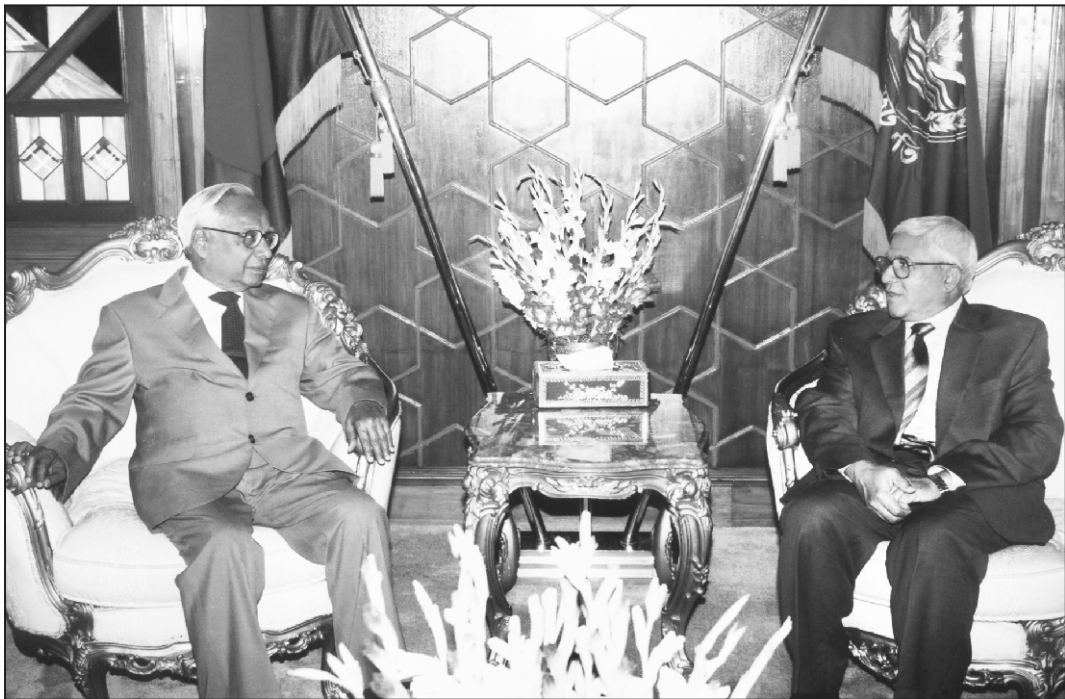


PHOTO: PID

Newly appointed Chief Justice M Ruhul Amin made a courtesy call on President Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday.

CJ calls on president

UNB, Dhaka

Newly appointed Chief Justice M Ruhul Amin yesterday made a courtesy call on President Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban and apprised him of different issues concerning the judiciary.

Wishing him all the best, President Iajuddin called on the chief justice to work for "establishing the rule of law and upholding the dignity of the judiciary".

The chief justice apprised the president of different issues of the Supreme Court.

He also pledged that he would be resolutely working towards "establishing the rule of law and upholding the supreme image of the Supreme Court and the lower judiciary."

President's Military Secretary Maj Gen M Aminul Karim and Secretary M Sirajul Islam were present during the meeting.

Khaleda exchanges greetings on Int'l Women's Day

UNB, Dhaka

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia will exchange greetings on the occasion of the International Women's Day on March 8 at 4:00pm at the Lakeshore Hotel in the city.

The immediate-past ruling party has already invited leading women professionals to join the programme, according to BNP sources.

Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



A father has appealed for financial assistance for the treatment of his eight-month-old daughter Morsheda Khanam who

was diagnosed as having two holes in her heart.

Morsheda hails from village West Kaludanga in Ulipur, Kurigram.

According to doctors, the girl needs to undergo open heart surgery immediately, which involves about Tk 4.5 lakh.

But her father Md Rabiul Amin, a low-paid employee at a private company in the city, cannot afford such an expensive treatment.

He has appealed to generous people to extend a helping hand to save his daughter's life.

Contributions can be sent to Md Rabiul Amin, Savings Account No: 02134001031, Bank Asia, Dhanmondi Branch, Dhaka.

Interested persons can also contact him at Cynthia Packaging Ltd, 267 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka. (Phone: 01911345746)