

Preserve local species of fish: President

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday called upon the people for launching a "social movement" for preservation and development of local species of fish.

The president made the remark while addressing a function marking the release of fish fry at the 'Singha' pond of Bangabhaban.

Fisheries and Livestock Adviser CS Karim, Military Secretary to the President Maj Gen Aminul Karim, Secretary to the President's Office M Sirajul Islam, and Fisheries and Livestock Secretary Syed Ataur Rahman were present on the occasion.

Iajuddin regretted that habitats of fish and their movement and breeding places are gradually shrinking due to overpopulation and decrease of natural water bodies.

He also attributed the dwindling

of fish resources to increased use of water bodies for crop cultivation, use of water for irrigation, of fertiliser and insecticide in agricultural production, and ignorance of people.

"None of us want such a situation," he said, calling for immediate initiatives and effective steps for protecting the traditional local fishes.

He called upon all the beneficiaries and other government and non-government organisations involved in the fish sector to play "more responsible role" for preservation, expansion and development of the sector having huge potential.

Iajuddin said people should be further encouraged to cultivate and preserve the local species of small fishes alongside farming commercially profitable fishes for protecting the country's water environment and bio-diversity.

He said the government has already taken various steps for the preservation of local species of fishes. All out cooperation of people and mass awareness are needed to derive full benefit out of these steps.

The president hoped that the campaign to preserve and increase the local varieties of fish would generate massive awareness among the people and help enhance their output.

He also hoped that Bangladesh would be made prosperous through the preservation and development of the local species of fishes.

Iajuddin welcomed the initiative to release fish fry at the pond of Bangabhaban marking the 'campaign for preservation and expansion of local species of fish-2007'.

CS Karim and Director General of Fisheries Directorate M Nazrul Islam also spoke on the occasion.

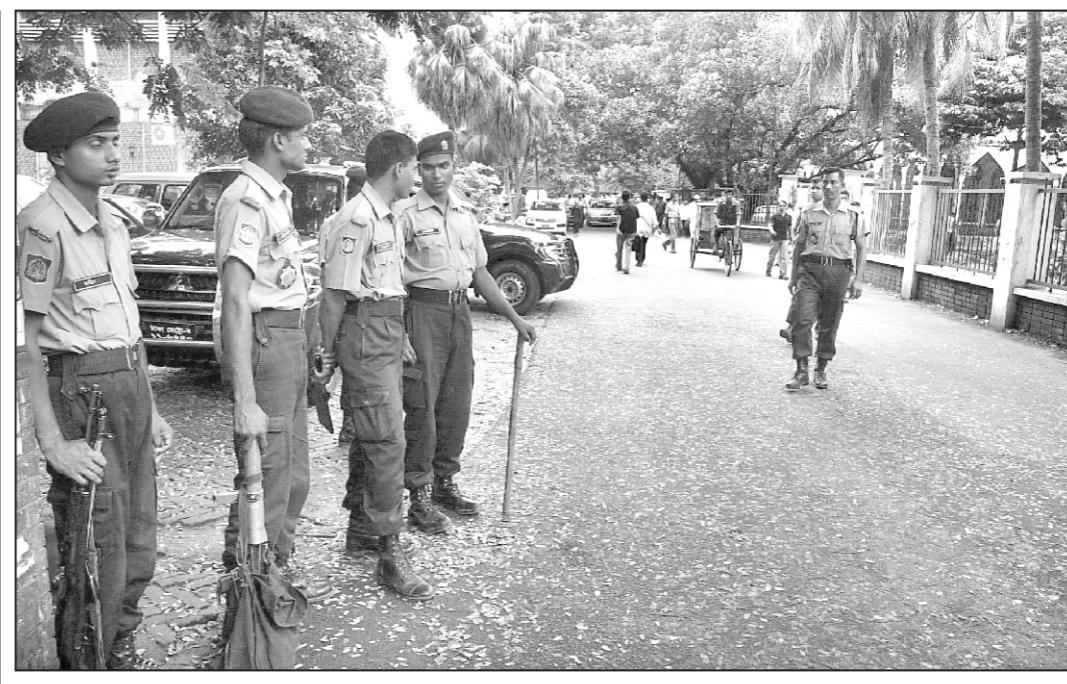


PHOTO: STAR

Policemen stand guard on Dhaka University campus yesterday as security has been beefed up in the wake of protests against the arrest of Awami League President Sheikh Hasina.

Dismissed BSS journos urge CA to reinstate them

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eighteen dismissed journalists and employees of the state-owned news agency Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) have sought intervention of the chief adviser and the information adviser to reinstate them as per directives of the High Court.

The High Court on May 21 declared the dismissal of 18 BSS journalists and staffs illegal. It also instructed the government to reinstate them within two months as the then BSS management dismissed them without showing any reasons.

The dismissed journalists said they submitted joining report to the chief editor and managing director of BSS on May 26 after the High Court verdict. "But still we are not allowed to work," one of them said.

In a letter to the chief adviser, they said the BSS authorities had "inhumanely" dismissed 27 journalists and several staffs from the news agency after 2001 general elections.

Ctg CA student found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Police recovered the body of a young man at Mehedibagh in the port city yesterday.

The victim was identified as Fasir Rahman Shaon, 27, son of Sajidur Rahman of House No#14/A, Road No#2 at Karnaphuli Residential Area at Halishahar in the port city.

Police quoting local people said Fasir was found dead on Badsha Mia Road at Mehedibagh at around 11:45am. His neck was tied with a cloth, police said.

Family sources said Fasir went to Surf CA Firm near GEC intersection for coaching on Tuesday afternoon and he was missing since then.

Victim's nephew Khalilur Rahman filed a case with Kotwali Police Station in this connection.

Two missing after falling into Karnaphuli

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

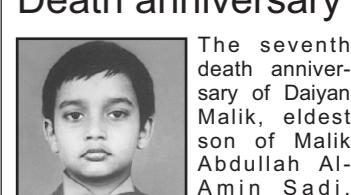
Two workers of a ship at Chittagong port went missing after they fell in the river Karnaphuli while painting the ship yesterday morning.

Port sources said the incident occurred at around 11:00am at the CUFL (Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Company Ltd) jetty of the port.

The two workers, identified as Nizam and Sohel, were engaged in painting Banglar Kollol, a ship of Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), with two other fellowworkers.

Rescuers couldn't trace the missing workers till filing of this report at 5:45pm yesterday.

Death anniversary



The seventh death anniversary of Dayan Malik, eldest son of Malik Abdullah Al-Amin Sadi, divisional special judge, Dhaka, will be observed today, says a press release.

Dayan Malik died of dengue fever on this day in 2000 at the age of only nine years and nine months.

On the occasion, miliad hifil will be held in orphanage and madrasa. Relatives, friends and admirers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Annual Urs

Annual Urs of Hazrat Shah Syed Azizul Bari (Rh) Shah Saheb of Paribagh will be held on Paribagh Mazar premises tomorrow, says a press release.

The munajat will be offered at about 11:00am.



PHOTO: STAR

Recipients of 'Uro Child Literature Award 2006 and 2007' pose with the guests at the award giving ceremony at Liberation War Museum auditorium in the city yesterday.

5 litterateurs get 'Uro Child Literature Award'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five litterateurs were awarded 'Uro Child Literature Award 2006 and 2007' yesterday for their outstanding contribution to child literature.

Late poet Shamsur Rahman, writer and academician Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and writer and columnist Anisul Huq received the award for 2006 while novelist Rabeya Khatun and Ekhlasuddin Ahmed received the award for 2007.

The award carries a crest, a certificate and a cheque for Tk 20,000. The award giving ceremony organised by Bangladesh Shishu Sahitya Sangstha was held at the Liberation War Museum in the city.

Shamsur Rahman was awarded for his book titled 'Hirar Pakhir Gan', Zafar Iqbal for his book, 'Doshshi Kojon', and Anisul Huq for his book, 'Boka Goyenda', Rabeya Khatun for her book, 'Chhotoder Upahar', and Ekhlasuddin Ahmed for his book, 'Onno Ek Apu'.

Dramatist Mamta Zuddin Ahmed, language movement veteran Mahbub Ul Alam Chowdhury and Khairul Anam, director, Sales and Marketing of Globe Soft Drinks Ltd, gave away the awards to the recipients.

The wife of Shamsur Rahman and the wife of Zafar Iqbal received the awards on behalf of their husbands.

Speaking as the chief guest, Mahbub Ul Alam Chowdhury said the quality of education has deteriorated to such an extent that a child cannot understand literature properly.

"Stem action should be taken against the 'corrupt people' who destroyed the education system by appointing teachers in exchange of money over the years," he said and urged all to work hard to put the education system back on right track.

Amirul Islam, general secretary of Bangladesh Shishu Sahitya Sangstha, said good child literature can help children grow up mentally.

Poet Asad Chowdhury and litterateur Ali Imam also spoke.

Clinker vessel sinks in Bay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

A clinker vessel sunk due to strong wave on the Bay of Bengal at Sandwip channel early morning yesterday.

All the 12 crews of the ship were, however, rescued by some fishing trawlers, sources said.

The vessel MV Tiran loaded with 1,350 MT clinker of Holcim Cement Factory left Chittagong port for Meghna Ghat at around 2.00am.

Port sources said the vessel sank at around 6:00am but some nearby fishing trawlers rescued the crews.

Road accidents kill 3

STAR REPORT

At least three people were killed in separate road accidents in Pabna and Rajshahi yesterday.

Our correspondent from Pabna reports: Two people, including a schoolboy, were killed in separate road accidents in Pabna yesterday.

The dead are Lamia Khatun, 7, a primary school student of Ratanpur village in Chatmohar upazila and Ezbir Mondol, 60, of Razapur village in Pabna Sadar upazila.

Police and the locals said the accident occurred when a Chapainawabganj-bound bus hit Lamia while she was crossing the road at Sonadighi at around 11:00am, leaving her dead on the spot.

BSF returns 3 trafficked children to BDR

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) returned three children, who were trafficked to India, to Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) at the Benapole check post yesterday.

The trafficked children were identified as Nivel Mandal and 14, Rintu Hossain, 12, of Kushtia and Shahidul Islam, 9, of Rajshahi.

They had been trafficked to Kolkata two years ago by an organised gang.

Police detained all three at Shildra Rail Station and sent them to Alipur Jail on charges of infiltration.

Projok, a Kolkata-based NGO, rescued them and kept at their shelter home.

BDR has handed over the children to Rekha Bishwas, a representative of Bangladesh Mahila Ainjibi Samity.

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over Chittagong, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Barisal and Khulna divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy rainfalls are also likely at places over Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions, Met office said in a forecast.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Highest temperature 32.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and lowest 23.7 degree Celsius at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:45pm today and rises at 5:25am tomorrow.

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.9	24.0	88	88
Chittagong	28.8	25.0	85	97
Rajshahi	32.0	24.7	97	91
Khulna	31.3	26.8	83	88
Barisal	29.5	26.3	85	96
Sylhet	27.8	23.7	98	92
Cox's Bazar	29.8	24.0	88	81

Results of 23rd BCS (Special) Exam published

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Public Service Commission yesterday published the results of 23rd BCS (Special) Examination held in 2000, says a press release.

Seventy candidates have been provisionally selected.

They will be called soon for medical test and verification of their certificates.

The selection of any candidate will be cancelled if he or she cannot pass the medical test.

Nowshin's father asked to resubmit application for fresh autopsy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The general recording officer of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court yesterday asked the father of Sadia Nowshin Priyanka, a college student found dead at her home at Moghbazar in the capital, to resubmit the application regarding fresh autopsy of his daughter.

Nowshin's father Sultan Faruque submitted an application with Ramna Police Station on Tuesday demanding a second autopsy of his daughter and the Ramna police forwarded it to the court for further instruction.

But the General Recording Officer MA Haque said the forwarding report was "not written accurately" and lacks "proper recommendations". So, proper action could not be taken on the basis of the report, he said and advised Nowshin's father to resubmit the application.

Meanwhile, Nowshin's parents are also planning to file a general diary as they fear that their son Rownak Shihab Jim might come under attack by her uncle Zahidul Haque Rintu, the main accused of Nowshin Murder Case.

They also refrained from sending their son to school fearing attack by Rintu.

According to family sources, General Recording Officer MA Haque told Nowshin's father that the forwarding report should have specific recommendations such as "second autopsy of Nowshin is needed for the investigation" or "a committee should be formed to conduct the autopsy report".

"In the forwarding report, the police only recommended taking 'necessary steps', Nowshin's father said.

He now suspects that the police inquest report was also not made "accurately".

When contacted, Kazi Didarul Alam, sub-inspector of Ramna police station and investigation officer of the case, said, "I do not know what was written in the forwarding report. I will correct the report if the court gives such direction. But it is not our duty to make such recommendations."

Nowshin, a brilliant student of Vidyarunnisa Noon School and College, was found strangled on July 18. Her father filed a murder case accusing his brother-in-law Rintu and security guard of the building.

BNP reformists to form bodies

FROM PAGE 1

The leaders admitted they now cannot contact the party chairperson to discuss various related issues due to some obstacles. Even they have no chance to talk with her over phone unless she contacts them.

"Definitely we will try to keep her in a respected position but the final decision in this regard will rest with the councillors," former state minister and pro-reform leader Shah Abdul Hossain said replying to questions from reporters yesterday.

Asked about speculations that Khaleda might expel from the party some pro-reform leaders including Mannan Bhuiyan, he said, "We will take decisions according to the party constitution if she does so. But I believe she spoke against some of the party leaders due to her resentment."

On Khaleda's comments during a recent teleconference with Australia chapter of BNP, Abul Hossain said, "It is not acceptable that the party chairperson terms

some leaders as betrayers."

Responding to a question, he said preparations for the party council are going on.