

Constructive role of army in nation building to expand further

Hopes president

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed hoped that the innovative ideas and constructive role of the members of the Armed Forces in nation building activities would be expanded further in the days ahead.

He noted that apart from discharging the noble responsibility of protecting sovereignty, the members of the Armed Forces are making significant contributions standing beside the people at the time of need.

The president, also the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, made the remarks while addressing the certificate-awarding ceremony of the graduating officers of Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) at its auditorium yesterday.

At the beginning of his speech, the president paid his deep respects to the unfading memory of those fearless and brave language martyrs who made supreme sacrifices for achieving the right to mother tongue in 1952.

Terming the Armed Forces as the symbol of independence and sovereignty, he said, "The nation is truly proud of them."

He expressed his great satisfaction as the members of the Armed Forces have earned fame and acclaim in the outside world by performing their duties with dedication, sincerity, honesty and efficiency through their assignments in UN peacekeeping missions.

"I believe the image of Bangladesh has been brightened all over the world through the achievements earned by the mem-

bers of the Armed Forces," he told the function.

The president congratulated the commandant and faculty members of the Staff College on their collective endeavours for successful completion of the course and also wished them continued success.

He also expressed satisfaction as 564 officers from the Armed Forces of 31 friendly countries have obtained PSC degree from this institution and are holding important position in the defence struc-

ture of their respective countries.

He expressed his belief that the positive impressions, which they have gathered about the people and culture of this land while staying here, would be tuned in their mind after leaving this country.

"As the goodwill ambassadors, I hope, you would convey the good wishes of our simple and hospitable people to your countrymen as well as the government."

A total of 154 students of different ranks received the certificate.

Of them, 80 were from

Bangladesh Army, 26 from Bangladesh Navy, 18 from Bangladesh Air Force and 30 from 13 foreign countries, including Bahrain, China, Egypt, India, Jordan, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Turkey.

Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed, Navy Chief Vice-Admiral Sarwar Jahan Nizam and PSO of Armed Forces Division Lt Gen Masud Uddin Chowdhury and Defence Secretary Kamrul Hasan also attended the function.



President Iajuddin Ahmed gives away certificates to the graduating officers at the graduation ceremony of Defence Services Command and Staff College 'DSCSC 2007-2008' course at Mirpur Cantonment in the city yesterday.

Three killed in road crashes

STAR REPORT

At least three people were killed and 12 others injured in separate road accidents in Rajshahi and Sirajganj yesterday.

RU correspondent reports: A minor boy and a woman were killed in two separate road accidents in the district yesterday.

Sources said the boy identified as Ruhana, 7, son of Abdus Salam of Mirganj village, was knocked down by a speeding van loaded with Unilever goods on Bhaga-Rajshahi highway.

The accident occurred when Ruhana was crossing the road for going to his school at Mirganj Bhanuca area.

He died on the spot.

Ruhana was a class two student of Bhanuca primary school.

Bhaga police seized the van and its driver Reza.

The woman, identified as Rahima Khatun, wife of Hamidul Islam of Kandra village, was killed in a road accident on Puthia-Rajshahi highway.

Sources said the accident occurred when a goods-loaded van coming from Jalmolia hit her while she was crossing the road.

She died on the spot.

Puthia Police rushed to the spot and seized the van.

They recovered the body and sent it to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital for autopsy.

An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with Puthia Police Station in this connection.

Our correspondent from Sirajganj adds: An unidentified man aged about 32 was killed and 12 others were injured, two of them critically, in a road accident in the district yesterday.

The injured were admitted to Sirajganj Sadar hospital and other clinics in the town.

Police and witnesses said the accident took place at around 10:30am when a Bonpara-bound bus from Sirajganj town hit a standing pick-up van on Hatikumrul-Bonpara highway at Vengri from behind killing the man on the spot and injuring 12 others.

Identity of the deceased could not be known immediately.

Police rushed to the spot and rescued the injured.

They sent the body to Sirajganj sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

A case was lodged with Hatikumrul Highway Police Station in this connection.



TIB Chairman Prof Muzaffer Ahmad unveils the cover of a book titled "Nirbachita Sankolon" by Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed, third from left, at Kurmitola Golf Club in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

Six to die for murder in Madaripur

UNB, Dhaka

Six people were sentenced to death in a murder case at Rajoir bazar in Madaripur two years ago.

The divisional speedy tribunal judge Anwar Hossain handed down the death penalty to Pintu Laskar alias Liakat Ali, 30, and Saidul Islam, 32, in the dock. They

were apparently unperturbed on hearing the verdict.

Four others tried in absentia and sentenced to death are Sumon Munshi alias Sumon Newaz, Jhantu Sikder, Obaidul Sikder and Helal Akand.

They remained fugitive since committing the murder.

Two other accused Tayeb Ali

Sikder, 27, and Sujan Munshi, 28, were sentenced to imprisonment for life.

The accused were convicted for killing Shawkat Ali, 35, at Rajoir Bazar of Madaripur district on June 16, 2005, out of enmity.

The court examined 30 witnesses before pronouncing the verdict in a crowded court.

'Increase taxes on tobacco products'

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Anti-Tobacco Alliance (BATA) yesterday urged the government to increase taxes on the tobacco products in the coming budget to check the massive use of tobacco in the country.

"Taxes on all tobacco products including dried tobacco leaves, 'gul' and 'zarda' have to be increased for effectively controlling the use of tobacco," said Consumer's Association of Bangladesh (CAB) General Secretary Kazi Faruk at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club.

He said an increase in prices of tobacco products will have the greatest effect on the important target groups like poor and youths.

"Some 10 percent increase in price reduces consumption by four percent in developed countries and eight percent in a country like Bangladesh."

Referring to a survey by 'Work for a Better Bangladesh (WBB)' and 'Mental and Health Bridge', Kazi Faruk said, Most of the people in the country supported the increase of taxes and prices on tobacco and tobacco products.

"Some 73.2 percent respondents opined in favour of increasing taxes on tobacco while some 60.1 percent agreed to cut down on the use of tobacco with high price of tobacco products."

The survey was conducted on some 1,015 people, including government officials, farmers and university students.

The organisers quoting a paper of the Health and Family Welfare Ministry and the World Health Organisation (WHO) said some 36.8 percent people over 15 years in Bangladesh use tobacco in one form or other.

BATA Coordinator Saifuddin Ahmed, MANABIK President Rafiqul Islam Milon and Dhaka Ahsania Mission Programme Officer Iqbal Masud also spoke.

2 female students injured in CU dormitory fire

CU CORRESPONDENT

Two students were injured in a fire incident at a female dormitory of Chittagong University (CU) yesterday evening.

The injured are Minati Chakma and Zinnat Ara, fourth year students of Department of Political Science. They were injured while trying to put out the fire.

The fire originated from a candle light at around 6:15pm, said CU Proctor Prof Jasim Uddin.

The fire gutted reading table, plank along with bed, books, he said.

Inmates of the room and dormitory staffs extinguished the fire that created panic among the resident students.

The injured were treated at CU Medical Centre.

ATTACK ON JU LEADER Action against JCD cadres demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra Union yesterday condemned the attack on its leader by Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal at a hall of Jahangirnagar University.

It also demanded exemplary punishment to the persons involved in the attack.

Kolloi Banik, convenor of Chhatra Union, Jahangirnagar University unit, was injured seriously when the JCD cadres beat him up at Maulana Bhashani Hall at around 11:00pm on February 19.

In a statement, Chhatra Union President Shamsul Alam Sajjan and General Secretary Khan Asaduzzaman Masum said that although the JCD cadres are carrying out criminal activities regularly, the university authorities have turned a blind eye.

শ্রমের চেতনায়
মমত্ব হোক
আমাদের ভবিষ্যৎ

www.baydevelopments.com

Bay THE ART OF BUILDING

আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবসে ভাষা শহীদদের প্রতি শ্রদ্ধা নিবেদন



আজকের চারাগাছ আগামী দিনের সম্পদ
বৃক্ষায়নে বিনিয়োগ করুন, আর্থিকভাবে লাভবান হউন।

প্রজেক্ট সমূহ

- * ছোট কাঞ্চনপুর, হাটহাজারী, চট্টগ্রাম।
- * দক্ষিণ মাদারশী, সাতকানিয়া, চট্টগ্রাম।
- * ফাইতং, বানিয়ারছড়া, লামা, বান্দরবান।
- * ফাঁসিয়াখালি-প্রকল্পঃ ১, লামা, বান্দরবান।
- * ফাঁসিয়াখালি-প্রকল্পঃ ২, (কুমারী ব্লক), লামা রোড, বান্দরবান।
- * বান্দরবান সদর, (কোলাকং)।

চলতি বছর বৃক্ষ রোপণের লক্ষ্যমাত্রা : এক কোটি

২০১২ সালের মধ্যে বৃক্ষ রোপণের লক্ষ্যমাত্রা : ছয় কোটি

Destiny Tree Plantation Ltd.
Shaon Tower (10th floor), 2/C, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000, Ph: 880-02-9553279,
E-mail: info@destinytree.com, web site: www.destinytree.com

মায়ের ভাষায়
কথা বলুন
অবিরাম ...

টেলিবর্তা
আধুনিক ফোন

From Bangladesh to the world

MGH salutes the spirit of the Language Movement of 21st February which originated in Bangladesh and is now celebrated across the world.

21st February International Mother Language Day

U.S. POSTAGE 41

MGH