

Release Khaleda before Independence Day

Demand pro-Khaleda BNP leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior leaders and some former lawmakers of pro-Khaleda faction of BNP and top leaders of party's front organisations in a joint meeting yesterday demanded release of party Chairperson Khaleda Zia and her two sons before the Independence Day.

Standing committee members did not address the meeting, which apparently turned into a show-down among the pro-Khaleda faction leaders.

party's vocal leader Hannan Shah will attend the meeting that began at 5:00pm. Later they welcomed Hannan by giving claps when he reached the meeting venue at about 6:00pm.

BBC Bangla on FM radio in six more districts soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BBC Bangla service programmes will be available on FM radio in six more districts soon in addition to Dhaka.

Bangladesh Betar will relay the programmes in Chittagong, Khulna Rajshahi, Sylhet, Rangpur and Comilla four times a day -- from 6:30am to 7:00am; 7:30am to 8:00am; 7:30pm to 8:00pm and 10:30pm to 11:00pm.



DFID Affairs Secretary Douglas Alexander calls on Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his hotel suite in London on Tuesday.

DRAFT POLICE ACT 2007

Some sections 'not pro-people' Speakers tell workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a workshop in the port city yesterday underscored the need for an act that would help policemen discharge their duty with further accountability and become a public-friendly force ensuring democratic rights and best service to the people.

police perform without the interference of any quarter and help the separation of judiciary become more successful.

legal action against any police officer and only keeps provision of accepting written report describing the incident relating crime alleged against a police officer.

Bangladesh army receives six horses from Indian army

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Indian army formally handed over six horses to the Bangladesh army at a ceremony at Benapole in Jessore yesterday.



Bangladesh army officials receive six horses from Indian army officials at a ceremony at Ali Kadar Warehouse at Benapole in Jessore yesterday.

Call to scrap Official Secrets Act

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday called on the caretaker government to bring major changes to the draft of the Right to Information Act and to scrap the Official Secrets Act 1923 that contradicts the RTI Act.

understand it. Former Awami League lawmaker Lt Col (ret'd) Faruk Khan, former BNP lawmaker Lt Gen (ret'd) Mahubur Rahman, General Secretary of CFSDF Mahfuz Ullah, Workers Party leader Saiful Haq, Deputy Editor of the daily Somokal Mozammel Haq and Barrister Tania Amir also spoke.



Pavel wins Award of Excellence

Pavel Rahman, a Bangladesh photojournalist of the Associated Press (AP), has won the Award of Excellence in the 65th Annual Picture of the Year International (POYI) competition judged at the Missouri School of Journalism in Columbia, says a press release.

ROAD ACCIDENT IN KISHOREGANJ Death of schoolgirl sparks violent protests

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Death of a schoolgirl in a road accident triggered violent protests in the town yesterday.

rickshawpuller Makbul injured. The injured were admitted to Kishoreganj Sadar Adhunik Hospital.

Ministry will organise meet on new SSC question pattern

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education ministry will organise several meetings with students, guardians and teachers on newly introduced question pattern for SSC examinations.

TFI members to interrogate Emon, Ishaq

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dreaded criminal Sanjiddul Islam Emon and smuggling ring member Ishaq Ali were taken to the custody of Taskforce for Intelligence (TFI) from the custody of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday.

WEATHER TODAY. No change in temperature likely. Includes a table with temperature and humidity data for Dhaka and other cities.

40 DU students get Japanese scholarship

A total of 40 students including 10 first year students of the academic year 2002-03 and 30 students of 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 academic year of Dhaka University (DU) received scholarship of Japan yesterday, says a press release.

Exemption should be specific

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public offices, any company, corporation, trust, firm, society, cooperative society, NGOs, private organisations, associations and organisations registered under any law of the land.

"Vague description is subject to misuse." Asked if defence budget is accessible to people, he said, "Anything that can be disclosed before parliament can be open for people."

secretary at the information ministry who headed the eight-member RTI ordinance drafting committee, said, "We agree that there are some critical areas that require further improvement and, for that, we are closely monitoring the initiatives to gather public opinions on the draft."

PSI firm's contract cancelled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) yesterday cancelled appointment of Cotecna Inspection SA, a pre-shipment inspection (PSI) company, on charge of violating laws and regulations.

Taslima leaves India for Europe

Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasreen has left India for Europe after being hounded into hiding by death threats from Islamic militants, her publisher and friends told AFP yesterday.

Malaysian trade fair begins today

A three-day Malaysian trade fair, 'Showcase Malaysia-2008', will begin today at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel to facilitate interactions between the businessmen of the two countries.

Appeal for help

Sadia Islam Meem, a student of class eight at Safuddin Sarkar Academy has been suffering from liver cell cancer, says a press release.

DHAKA TODAY. Roundtable, Conference, Media award, Rotary Grater Dhaka.