

Nation pays homage to Liberation War martyrs



Political and socio-cultural organisations and individuals place wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar yesterday to pay homage to the martyrs of the War of Liberation on the occasion of Independence Day. 1) Family members of Bir Sreshthas; 2) Awami League; 3) Leaders of a faction of BNP; 4) Sector Commanders Forum; 5) Leaders of another faction of BNP; 6) War-maimed freedom fighters; 7) Gono Forum; 8) Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh; 9) Vice chancellor of Dhaka University; 10) Liberal Democratic Party; 11) Communist Party of Bangladesh; 12) Supreme Court Bar Association and 13) Bangladesh Mahila Parishad.



Obituary

Mohammad Nurul Iman Khan, former director of Desh Group of Companies, passed away due to old age complications on March 24 at the age of 92, says a press release. On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at his residence at Jikatola after Asr prayers tomorrow. Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the mahfil and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

**Gulshan Ara Begum**  
Gulshan Ara Begum, coordinator of Worldwide Family Love Movement and wife of Dr Mustafizur Rahman, passed away at her Rajarbagh residence in the city on Tuesday at the age of 67, says a press release. Members of the Movement expressed deep shock at her death.

**Geeta Das**  
Geeta Das, mother of Babul Das, joint secretary of Dhaka unit of Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Khristan Oikya Parishad, passed away due to old age complications yesterday at the age of 85, says a press release. She has left behind one son, three daughters and a host of admirers to mourn her death. Three presidents of the parishad Maj Gen (ret'd.) CR Dutta (Bir Uttam), Advocate Siril Sikdar and Ushatan Talukdar and General Secretary Prof Nim Chandra Bhoomik expressed deep shock at her death and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

CA's support for two ailing freedom fighters

BSS, Chuadanga

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed donated Tk one lakh to two critically ill freedom fighters of Chuadanga district for their treatment.

The ill freedom fighters are: Kazi Kamal of Alamdanga Sadar Upazila and Mirza Shahabuddin of Darsana under Damurhuda Upazila.

Of the amount, Tk sixty thousand was donated to Kazi Kamal and Tk forty thousand to Mirza Shahabuddin.

Deputy Commissioner of Chuadanga Moklesur Rahman on behalf of the chief adviser handed over the cheques to Kazi Chandan, the son of Kazi Kamal, and Mirza Shahabuddin at a simple function held at the office of deputy commissioner on Tuesday noon.

It may be noted that the deputy commissioner earlier appealed to the chief adviser for financial help for their treatment. In response the chief adviser donated the amount for the freedom fighters.

CA starts CHT visit today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Chief Adviser (CA) of the caretaker government Fakhruddin Ahmed will start a two-day visit in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) today.

District administration sources said the CA will address a view exchange meeting at the auditorium of Rangamati Tribal Culture Institute (TCI) at 11:15am today.

Public representatives, civil society leaders, professionals and traditional leaders (headmen and karbanies), high officials from three hill districts and local journalists will attend the meeting.

CHT Regional Council Chairman Santu Larma and chairmen of three hill district councils will attend the meeting.

After addressing the view exchange meeting at Rangamati, the CA will leave for Bandarban and stay at Nilgiri Tourist Resort there.

He will leave Bandarban for Dhaka tomorrow after visiting hilly indigenous villages of Keoradong, Tajindong and Borthalpara and Boga Lake in Bandarban.

**WEATHER TODAY**

Rise in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is also likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said, predicting slight rise in day temperature.

Highest temperature 35.4 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Ishwardi and lowest 19.4 degrees Celsius at Syedpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:13pm today and rises at 5:55am tomorrow.

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	31.8	23.2	78	62
Chittagong	31.2	22.8	72	72
Rajshahi	34.8	22.7	82	40
Khulna	32.7	22.8	83	59
Barisal	33.2	21.5	85	69
Sylhet	31.5	20.3	79	66
Cox's Bazar	32.7	22.9	70	71

Try war criminals Demands DUJ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) at an Independence Day discussion yesterday urged the government to initiate the process of trial of the war criminals immediately, says a press release.

Trial of the war criminals is a must to advance the country with the spirit of the liberation war, said the journalist leaders.

DUJ President Altaf Mahmud presided over the discussion while former leaders of the National Press Club and DUJ spoke.

Bangladesh Chhatra League at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) in a separate programme yesterday also demanded formation of special tribunal to try the war criminals.



President Iajuddin Ahmed exchanges greetings with Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at a reception hosted by the president at Bangabhaban yesterday on the occasion of the Independence Day.

NEW 7 WONDERS OF NATURE Call to vote for Cox's Bazar, Sundarbans

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

People formed a human chain at different points from Chittagong to Cox's Bazar yesterday with a call to vote for Cox's Bazar and Sundarbans to put them on the list of New 7 Wonders of Nature.

The new seven wonders will be selected through online voting. Online voters can choose from 77 official nominees and the voting will end on December 31, 2008.

Samridhho Bangladesh, an NGO, organised the 15-minute programme at around 11:30am. The programme was inaugurated at Pahartali Badhyabumi (killing ground).

Human chains were also formed in GEC intersection and Bahaddarhat areas. Eminent writer Prof Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Mili Rahman, wife of Bir Srestha Matiar Rahman, Nurul Kabir, editor of The New Age, Munir Hasan, general secretary of Math Olympiad Committee, joined the programme. Talking to The Daily Star, Dr Zafar Iqbal hoped that the people would be aware of the online voting and vote for Cox's Bazar and Sundarbans. However, some participants alleged that there was a lack of coordination in organising the human chain.

Prepaid meter project work begins in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

West Zone Power Distribution Company Limited (WZPDCL) has started implementation of Prepaid Meter Project in Khulna city.

Under the project, 10 single-phase prepaid meters and 10 three-phase prepaid meters have been installed on experimental basis at Natun Bazar Power Sub-Station.

If these prepaid meters function properly then all other substations under WZPDCL in the city will be brought under this system.

WZPDCL Superintending Engineer Abul Kalam Azad said a Chinese firm named Hexing Electrical Company is implementing the project.

The prepaid meter system will help contain system loss and pilferage of electricity.

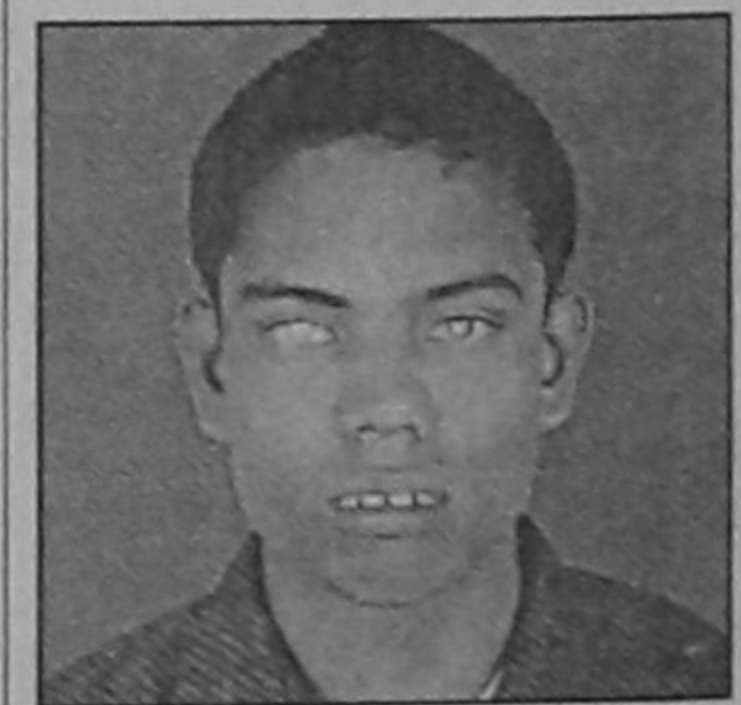
DHAKA TODAY

View exchange

University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh organises a view exchange meeting on proposed private university ordinance 2008. Venue: UGC auditorium. Time: 3:00pm.

Conference

The three-day 15th biennial national conference of Bangladesh History Association will begin. Venue: TSC, DU. Time: 9:00am.



Appeal for help

Abdur Rahim, a young man with visual impairment, has appealed for financial assistance for his eye treatment, says a press release.

Rahim, who hails from Rajnagar village in Sirajdikhan, Munshiganj, has been suffering from corneal opacity with potential complications.

Doctors have advised him to go to Chennai, India for advanced treatment, which involves Tk 3 lakh. But his family cannot afford such an expensive treatment.

He has appealed to generous people and organisations to extend a helping hand to restore his eyesight.

Contributions can be sent to Abdur Rahim, Savings Account No.-3615, Sonali Bank, Balurchar branch, Sirajdikhan, Munshiganj. Interested persons can also call at 01726223461 to contact him.