Study Nazrul's works to build knowledge-based society: CA

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed Nazrul's works for building a knowledge-based society.

The head of the caretaker government made the call while inaugurating the national-level celebration of the 109th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, organised by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the city.

Dr M Abdul Qayyum gave the commemorative speech on Nazrul at the function, chaired by Education and Commerce Adviser of the nation imbued with pro-Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, also in charge of Cultural Affairs Ministry.

Khilkhil Kazi, a granddaughter of poet Nazrul, and Cultural Affairs

Nazrul's birth

The 109th birth anniversary of

national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam

was celebrated across the country

President Iajuddin Ahmed and

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed

issued special messages on the

occasion, paying tribute to the

Zillur Rahman, family members of

the poet and members of different

organisations placed wreaths to

nel, organised a daylong Nazrul

Fair at its office. Veteran Nazrul

artiste Sohrab Hossain was hon-

oured with lifetime achievement

Department of World Religion of

Dhaka University organised a

discussion titled "Kazi Nazrul Islam

and inter-religion harmony" at the

Anniversary Observance Council

also organised a discussion at its

Samity, Garments Sramik Kendra,

Mehendiganj Unnayan Sangram

National Nazrul Birth

Dakkhin Bangla Jubo Kallyan

TSC auditorium to mark the day.

office in the city yesterday.

Obituary

Channel i, a satellite TV chan-

the grave in the morning.

award at the programme.

Education Adviser Hossain

anniversary

celebrated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

yesterday.

great poet.

spoke on the occasion.

yesterday called for research on Ahmed, Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar, advisers, special assistants to the chief adviser, poets, litterateurs, academics, cultural activists and distinguished personalities were present at the function.

A cultural programme, based on Nazrul's songs and poems, was staged on the occasion.

The chief adviser called upon the country's poets, litterateurs, intellectuals and cultural activists to play their role spontaneously to face and win any tough challenges gressive, reformist, noncommunal and pro-people spirit of poet Nazrul.

He said Nazrul became an

Secretary M Sharful Alam also endless source of inspiration in added. the nation's great struggle for the Chief Adviser's wife Neena creation of independent Bangladesh, in the efforts for socioeconomic emancipation and in getting rid of the bondage of dependence by breaking the

> shackles of British imperialism. Fakhruddin spoke highly of Nazrul's participation and support in all movements for independence and freedom during his time, saying that his firm commitment to free the people from any sort of bondage was uncompro-

"Nazrul always took a stand against imperialism, hatred, oppression and injustice. He stood for ending all sorts of discrimination and had dreamt of the victory of universal humanity," he

The chief adviser said Nazrul was the "pioneer of our national awakening and had opened a new era in the world of our language and literature".

METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Referring to various research and works on the life and works of Nazrul at both home and abroad, he said till today the wonderful and multifarious talents of Nazrul have not been fully discovered. "We can take lessons from his works and music to guide us on social and political issues."

The Cultural Affairs Ministry also celebrated Nazrul's birth anniversary at Trishal in Mymensingh, Daulatpur in Comilla and Chittagong simulta-

SC to publish annual report for the first time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) is going to publish its annual report on May 31 for the first time in its history.

SC Registrar Ikteder Ahmed told a press briefing at his office yesterday that the outgoing Chief Justice (CJ) Md Ruhul Amin will unveil the cover of the annual report at a ceremony at Hotel Sonargaon on the day.

"The SC annual report will contain various aspects including formation, power and function of the judiciary, its ongoing reforms and development activities, supervision and control over activities of the subordinate courts under the SC, revenue income and budget through courts, important judgments of Appellate Division and profiles of judges of both Appellate and High Court divisions of the SC," he said.

Ikteder said when the incumbent CJ assumed office on March 1, 2007, the number of pending cases with the Appellate Division was 9,119 while at present the number stands at 6, 761.

Around 2.69 lakh cases of different natures are pending before the HCdivision, he added.

Sources said the report will be published with the financial assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB) under its good governance programme.

Two Huji men placed on 3-day remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed two operatives of the banned militant organisation Harkatul Jihad Al Islami (Huji) on a three-day remand for interrogation in connection with the CPB rally bomb attack case.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Ehsanul Haque passed the order after the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) produced Maulana Idris Ali and Maulana Monir Hossain before the court with a prayer for 10-day remand.

The blast at the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) rally at Paltan Maidan killed five people and injured many others on January 20 in 2001.

Idris and Monir are also accused in a number of grenade and bomb attack cases, including the cases filed in connection with the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally and the April 14 bombing of the Pahela Baishakh celebrations at Ramna Batamul. Idris and Monir are relatives.

In the forwarding report placed before the court, CID Inspector Delwar Hossain, the investigation officer of the case, said the two were involved in the attack.

He said the agency would be able to make a significant breakthrough in the case and identify and arrest others involved in the attack if the two were allowed to be quizzed in remand.

Several other Huji leaders and activists, including the outfit's detained top leader Mufti Hannan, have so far been shown arrested in the

CAB executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Borhan Ahmed and Kazi Faruq have been elected president and general secretary of Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) for a two-year term.

They were elected at the annual general meeting (AGM) of the association at its conference hall at Segunbagicha in the city on

Saturday. Other elected office-bearers are Prof HKM Yousuf -- vice-president, advocate Humayun Kabir Bhuiyan treasurer, and Khalilur Rahman Sajal, Prof Zahanara Begum, Tapan Khan, Dilip Mukharjee and AAK Mahamudul Hasan Dara -- members.



Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed holds talks with the leaders of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal led by Hasanul Haq Inu at the CA's office in the city yesterday.

2 domestic helps jump from rooftop to escape torture

Employer arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two domestic helps were injured as they jumped from the six-storey building to the rooftop of a nearby building at Mohammadpur in the city yesterday in a desperate bid to escape from alleged torture and sexual abuse by their employer.

The girls, one is 14 years old and the other is 15 years old, are now undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Mohammadpur police arrested the employer, Nasiruddin Mamun, after the victims, one is 14 years old and the other is 15 years old, described their agonising ordeals

The mother of the 14-year-old of Mamun's two wives on the third them to the DMCH.

Mohammadpur Police Station under the Women and Children Mohammadpur. Repression Prevention Act.

Centre (OCC) of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) said the girl had an abortion earlier.

wives of Mamun, denied all the allegations against her husband, and said the girl had an abortion a few months back following illicit relations with one of the guards of their house.

She said they sacked the guard after they came to know about the

The two victims told The Daily

girl filed a case with and fourth floors of the building adjacent to Krishi Market at

Surya Rani, one of the victims, Sources at One-stop Crisis alleged that Mamun used to beat her, and his families never allowed her and the other girl to go out of the building since they were Alia Parveen Ira, one of the two employed a few months back.

She said the guards used to keep all gates under lock and key at the instruction of Mamun who owns the house.

She also said that in a bid to escape, they started climbing down drain pipes at around 7:30am and then jumped to the rooftop of a nearby three-storey building.

Local people rescued the girls Star that they work at the two flats and informed the police who sent

CU classes UCB DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP resume

shuttle trains will also start plying

"The trains are running in on trial basis from yesterday and the railway authority assured us of plying the trains as usual from tomorrow," he said.

CU syndicate in an emergency Sholoshahar Railway Station.

Meanwhile, the probe committee of railway formed to investigate the Thursday's train accident also submitted its report yesterday.

Manager Ibrahim Khalil told The Daily Star that the railway staffs, guards or loco-master of the train was not responsible for the accident as no negligence in duties by them was found in the investigation.

the accident, fell off the rooftop of the running train and was crushed by it, he said.

The three-member committee, headed by Divisional Commercial Manager SM Shahnewaj, prepared the report after taking depositions from the concerned railway staffs and government railway police (GRP), he informed.

3rd year student of Accounting Department, was crushed under the wheels of a CU-bound train at the Sholoshahar Station on Thursday morning.

DAY

Seminar

Institute of Microfinance organises a

Convocation The second convocation of Daffodil International University will be held.

Workshop Bangladesh Association for Social Advancement (BASA) and Intermediate Technology Development Group jointly organise a workshop on

Discussion

Jatio Nari Sramik Trade Union Kendra Time: 3:00pm.

Motijheel Ideal School, Siddeshwari Girls' College clinch titles

DU CORRESPONDENT

Motijheel Ideal School and College and Siddeshwari Girls' College emerged as champions at the UCB Second Inter School and College Debate Championship 2008 in the school and college categories

Ahmad Rashik Faiyad of Ideal School was adjudged the best debater at school level while Sabrina Binte Ashraf of Siddeshwari Girls' College became the best debater at college level. Dhaka University Debating

Society (DUDS) organised the three-day event to mark its 25th founding anniversary at the university's Business Studies Faculty auditorium.

Motijheel Government Boys' High School and Adamjee

became runner-ups in the school and college categories respectively. A total of 22 schools and eight colleges participated in the compe-

Cantonment Board College

tition where all debates were held in parliamentary debate format. DU Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof

AFM Yusuf Haider distributed the prizes among the winners as the chief guest while Editor of the daily Shamokal Abed Khan, Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam and Executive Vice President of United Commercial Bank Ltd Mirza Mahmud Rafigul Islam were also present at the closing ceremony.

The Daily Star, the Shamokal and Radio Today were the media partners of the event.

DUDS also brought out its annual publication titled 'Pratibad' (Protest) on the occasion.

'Develop skilled workers for overseas employment'

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury yesterday said it is possible to expand the country's employment opportunities abroad by developing skilled manpower. He said this while inaugurating

a daylong workshop on "Skill Development and Overseas Employment" organised by Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) in the city. The foreign adviser, who is also

in-charge of the Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment, said syllabuses of the country's technical training centres (TTCs) have been prepared suiting the requirements of overseas manpower market.

He called on the TTC principals to impart training to our people in the light of the syllabuses to help build skilled manpower.

Presided over by BMET Director General Abdul Malek, the workshop was also addressed by Secretary of expatriate welfare and overseas employment ministry Abdul Matin Chowdhury.

Iftekhar said a total of 8.32 lakh people got employment abroad in 2007, which was 118 percent higher than the previous year.

current year, 3.32 lakh people got overseas employment. If the current trend continues, the country will be able to send 9 lakh people this year, he added. He further said our people have next two days.

been working in over 100 countries. Recently workers were sent to Russia and Romania. Our trained manpower will start leaving for Korea from June 2.

Iftekhar said this time the slogan should be "It is not quantity but quality". He stressed the need for

improving both skill and quality o our manpower simultaneously with increasing the number.

He said the remittance received in the first three months of the current year was \$3.0 billion and it the trend continues, it will cross \$9.0 billion.

Social Welfare Instt teachers to take classes from today

DU CORRESPONDENT

Teachers of the Institute of Social Welfare and Research at Dhaka University (DU) finally took decision to start taking classes of master's students after getting assurance from the vice chancellor of appointing a new director at the institute.

The agitated students of the institute confined some teachers to the institute building for two hours on Saturday as they disagreed to take classes on scheduled date under incumbent Director Prof In the first four months of the Syeda Firoza Begum accusing her unfit to run the institute.

> taken decision to take classes from today as the VC assured them of | tion witnesses during trial. solving the problem within the

A syndicate meeting has been called today to resolve the problems at the institute, sources said.

Master's classes are yet to start due to internal conflicts among the institute teachers even after one year of their honours' final examinations.

Shotgun snatched from police recovered

UNB, Gazipur

The police yesterday recovered the shotgun that was snatched from two police constables in Konabari Bazaar area in Joydevpur on Thursday night.

On Friday and Saturday, the police arrested three criminals --Abu Zafar, Monir and Habib. Acting on their confessional statement, police recovered the shotgun from a bush at Ambagh Pashchimpara at Konabari yesterday morning.

A gang of about 12 criminals took away the shotgun after stabbing police constables Nayeb and Mosharref when they were on patrol duty.

7 engineers

engineers of RHD Mozammel Huq (Dhaka division), Mominul Huq (Comilla division), Md Rafigul Islam (planning, Comilla division) and Abdullahel Kafi (Rangpur), Executive Engineer Md Ali Masud Haider, superintendent engineers AHM Mainul Islam Chowdhury and Tapas Kumar Paul, and Project Coordinator of Reza Construction Mamtaz Uddin.

ACC Deputy Director Mohammad Safigur Rahman Bhuiyan, the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the FRT, clearing the eight engineers of the

In the probe report, the IO prayed for relieving the accused from bribery charges as the charges against the accused were not proved. Moreover, complainant Mahbub Kabir, director of Reza Construction, had earlier submitted an affidavit to the IO saying that he was forced to put his signature on

the first information report (FIR). Members of the task force arrested the eight with Tk 13,99,000 from a coffee shop in the city on January 10 while they were allegedly distributing the bribe among themselves.

Acting on information provided by Reza Construction Director Mahbub Kabir, the task force members caught the RHD officials redhanded at around midnight, sources said.

Reza Construction is the lessee of toll collection rights at Rupsha Bridge and Mahbub offered bribes to the RHD officials for extending the period of the lease.

According to the sources, after the RHD officials demanded Tk 14 lakh from Reza Construction for the lease extension, officials of the firm informed the task force of the matter and asked the RHD engineers to meet at Coffee World and collect the bribe.

Khulna mayor FROM PAGE 1

Khulna special tribunal judge Shirin Kabita Akhter pronounced the verdict in presence of the detained KCC mayor.

The other convict Sarder Abu Taher has been absconding since filing of the case. The court acquitted six other

accused in the case. They are KCC

Executive Engineer Mashiuzzaman Khan, BNP leader Tarikul Islam Jahir, Managing Director of Unique Ice and Foods Ltd Kazi Saiful Islam Babu, Kamrul Islam, Mohammod Anam and Bulu. Fish trader Abu Abdullah Elin of Rupsha filed the case with Khulna

Police Station on November 3 last year against eight people including the KCC mayor on charges of extortion. The complainant said the

accused took Tk 450,000 from him to provide his two nephews with jobs at the KCC.

But they neither gave the two jobs nor return him the money. Sub-inspector Tipu Sultan of Khulna Police Station, the investigation officer of the case, submit-

ted the charge sheet to the court on February 24 this year. Charges were framed against The teachers said they have the accused on March 3. The court recorded statements of 11 prosecu-

Police arrested Tayebur from his Dhaka residence on November 2 last year. He has been accused in ten other cases on different charges including extortion and

misappropriation. The verdict of the first extortion case filed with Khulna Police Station on November 2 last year against the KCC mayor and PRO

Abu Taher will be delivered today

Parishad, Dakkhin Bangla Chhatra Kallyan Samity, Jatiya Ganatantrik League, Bangladesh Nari Mukti Andolon, Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Shamajtantrik Chhatra Front and Kabi Nazrul Sharkari College also organised discussions and cultural programmes.

Alhai Md Abul Kashem, a former messenger of public relations section of Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB), passed

away at his residence in the city on Saturday at the age of 54, says a press release. He left behind his wife, five sons

and relatives to mourn his death. He was buried at a graveyard at Mirpur-11 in the city yesterday. Death anniversary

Today is the 16th death anniversary of Dr MA Sattar, former secretary and founder of Bangladesh Association for Community Education (BACE).

On the occasion, discussion and

milad mahfil will be held at 3:00pm

BSS, Dhaka

at the BACE office (House-12/1, Segunbagicha) in the city, says a press release. Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the discussion and milad mahfil.

11 Biman, customs staffers detained on graft charges STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of the joint forces yesterday detained 11 officials and employees of Customs Department and Bangladesh Biman at Zia International Airport

(ZIA) on charges of irregularities

Family members of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam place wreaths at the grave of the poet beside the central mosque

of Dhaka University on the occasion of his 109th birth anniversary yesterday.

and corruption. Sources said the joint forces conducted the drive in the cargo village area of ZIA from 5:00pm and caught the staffers red-handed while they were sending fabric machinery, garment accessories, electronic items and mobile phone accessories worth Tk 6 crore out of

the airport without realising taxes

The sources said the detained staffers had long been engaged in such corruption through misdeclaration of the shipments.

Among the detainees, two are the Biman employees --Mohammad Mahiuddin and Shahen Shah -- and the rest nine are inspectors of air freight section of customs department. The customs staffers are

Kafiluddin Ahmed, Mahbubur

Rahman, Purnima Roy, Mejbah-ul-

Hakim, Abdur Rashid, Abdul Hakim, Zahurul Huq, Anwar Hossain and AKM Harun. The arrested staffers were sending the goods through the gate-1 of cargo village to the importers' men,



Apollo Hospitals Dhaka organised a healthcare awareness programme for the members of Women's Voluntary Association at its auditorium in the city recently. Cardiologist Dr Syed Sakib Nazir of the hospital conducted the



Rain likely

City/Town

UNB, Dhaka Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over all the six

divisions in the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also expected at places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions during the period, Met Office said, predicting that day temperature mat remain nearly unchanged.

recorded at Bogra and the lowest of 21.6 degrees at Dinajpur. The sun sets in the capital at 6:39pm today and rises at 5:11am tomorrow. The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in

Celsius

Yesterday's highest temperature of 37.0 degree Celsius was

Humidityin

percentage

Morning Min Evening Max 26.2 65 31.4 Dhaka 77 Chittagong 26.5 31.5 81 23.2 32.8 Rajshahi 84 23.5 35.5 Khulna 95 82 33.2 23.8 Barisal 72 24.4 33.9 Sylhet 76 33.5 Cox's Bazar

to the police.

tomorrow

CU CORRESPONDENT

Classes at Chittagong University (CU) will resume tomorrow after a three-day unscheduled suspension. CU Proctor Prof Jasim Uddin said classes will resume on Tuesday and

according to the pre-scheduled times.

meeting on Friday suspended all academic classes following inability of the railway authorities to ply trains without repairing the damaged equipment and signals of

Railway East Zone Divisional

The student, who was killed in

Mahmudul Hasan Mamun, a

DHAKA

seminar on The wretched of the earth: A look into the dimensions of poverty in island chars on northern Bangladesh Venue: PKSF auditorium. Time: 3:00pm.

Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. Time: 11:00am.

Integrated support for sustainable urban environment'. Venue: LGED Bhaban seminar room. Time: 9:00am.

organises a discussion on allocation for women in upcoming national budget Venue: National Press Club.