METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Dhaka proposes

5-point strategy

security concerns

As climate change posed a new

challenge to humanity, Dhaka has

proposed a five-point strategy to

address looming security concerns

from such non-traditional factors

"Non-traditional security con-

cerns such as those incurred by

poverty, disease, climate change

and food scarcity are often over-

looked and need to be stressed

more," Foreign Adviser Iftekhar

Ahmed Chowdhury said while

proposing the strategy at a confer-

The two-day conference on

'security and environment' is being

attended by foreign and defense

ministers of the region as well as

The foreign adviser elaborated

on the five imperatives: a balanced

approach to climate-change

debate emphasising both mitiga-

tion and adaptation aspects;

'depoliticising' the climate-change

discussions and rewarding those

who pollute less or not at all; the

in the Asia-Pacific region.

ence here yesterday.

from the UK and the USA.

to address

UNB, Singapore

Form Haor Development Corporation

Speakers urge govt at roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday urged the government to form an autonomous Haor Development communications. Corporation for the overall development of haors and the people living in adjoining areas.

cultivable land in haors remains unused every year due to lack of government's sustainable development policy.

If this land could be utilised properly, the country would not have to face food scarcity, they

jointly by Nagorik Sanghati and Weekly Britter Baire at the National Press Club in the capital.

The speakers said there are haors in 48 upazilas of seven districts and one-fifth of the total production of Aman and one-third of Boro come from these areas.

labour due to draught, flood and waterlogging, they said, adding even the seeds and fertilisers are not always available due to bad

The speakers stressed the need for coordinated efforts for the development of haor areas by They said a huge amount of declaring it as 'special zone' and allocating adequate budget for disaster management.

Former minister Dr M Osman Farooq said short and long-term actions should be taken to develop the haor areas.

He said agricultural assistance should be provided to yield maxi-The roundtable was organised mum quantity from the existing varieties of crops.

> Besides, modern technologies should be used for preservation and marketing of fishes, while solar power and windmill could be established in those areas for power generation, he added.

Dr Farooq also suggested for- and Awami League leader Nurul But the farmers in these areas mation of an autonomous Haor Islam Nahid also spoke on the cannot harvest the fruit of their Development Corporation as the occasion.

US Ambassador James F Moriarty speaks at a national conference on 'Democracy, Development and Security:

Bangladesh Perspective' at a city hotel yesterday. On his left are Prof Ataur Rahman, Justice Mostafa Kamal and Prof

Tobacco to kill 5 million

The annual cost of tobacco-

related illnesses in Bangladesh

attributable to tobacco usage was

estimated at Tk 50.9 billion, includ-

ing Tk 5.8 billion for second-hand

smoking, according to a study of

World Health Organisation (WHO)

Tk 24.8 billion from tax revenue

The cost of tobacco usage to the

country thus exceeds its benefits by

(WHO) in 1987, World No Tobacco

Day is observed annually on May

31 to raise awareness around the

globe about the dangers of

tobacco, the single largest prevent-

Dr Sinad Jones, director of the

Union, highlighted the importance

of banning tobacco promotion in

every country and said every day

some 100,000 young people try

tobacco for the first time.

tomorrow.

City/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Dhaka

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

able cause of disability and death.

lent to 442 million US dollars.

and wages in tobacco production.

Emajuddin Ahmed. Bangladesh Political Science Association organised the event.

people in 2008

The report published on World the tobacco sector was estimated at

The burden is growing fastest in Tk 26.1 billion per annum equiva-

billion young people aged between of the World Health Organisation

It said the younger children start tobacco control department of The

Says Union report

Tobacco will kill more than five

million people, mostly youths,

globally this year superceding the

death tolls from tuberculosis,

HIV/AIDS and malaria, according a

report of The Union, a France-

No Tobacco Day' said the death toll

would rise to eight million each

year by 2030. This year's theme of

low and middle-income countries

Tobacco use among young

people is a major challenge, said

the International Union Against

Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases

(IUATLD), which is called The

to smoke or use tobacco and more

likely they are to become regular

consumers and the less likely to quit.

ing ban on tobacco promotion,

imposing more taxes, and intro-

In Bangladesh, smoking preva-

lence was found to be 50 percent

among men and 3 percent among

women. In addition, 22 percent of

men and 39 percent of women use

ducing graphic warning.

The Union suggested for impos-

where 85 percent of world's 1.8

the day is 'Tobacco and Youth'.

10 and 24 live in, it said.

Union in brief.

BSS, Dhaka

based charity.

present Haor Development Board is not working at all.

"Most of our plans lie unimplemented due to lack of coordination, said economist Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, suggesting a coordinated haor development policy alongside the national development planning on priority basis.

The speakers also placed specific recommendations for the development of infrastructure, agriculture, livestock, biodiversity, land and water management, education, health and sanitation of the people living in haor areas.

M Taher Uddin read out the keynote paper at the roundtable.

Nagorik Sanghati President Prof ASM Atikur Rahman of Dhaka University, former secretary Syed Abdul Muktadir, Weekly Britter Baire Editor Abu Rayhan

"For tobacco manufacturers,

children and young people are

future customers," he said adding

each year the global tobacco indus-

try spends tens of billions of dollars

to glamorise and market deadly

forms of tobacco promotion, he

tor of The Union, said tobacco is set

to kill more than one billion people

in the 21st century, so warning and

informing people of the dangers of

curb threats to lung health, he said

adding much has been achieved to

curb the epidemic, but govern-

ments must still do more, espe-

cially in low and middle-income

countries, where tobacco use is

becoming a leading cause of death.

tional voluntary scientific organi-

sation with partners in all regions

providing a neutral platform to

fight TB, HIV, asthma, tobacco and

Humidityin

percentage

Evening

88

73

Morning

76

80

79

73

lung disease.

The Union is the only interna-

The Union works to prevent and

Dr Nils E Billo, executive direc-

Governments must protect

products.

observed

The total annual benefit from their young people by banning all

Initiated by the member states smoking is a must.



Swasthoseba Hospital opens at Bogra

The Bogra Swasthoseba Hospital under the Health Care Development Project of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (DAB) opened in Bogra yesterday with a view to bringing the health care services to the doorsteps of the people in the northern region, says a press release.

Health Adviser AMM Shawkat | NGO. Ali inaugurated the hospital while Dutch Ambassador Bea M ten Tusscher and Vice-President of National Council of DAB Maj Gen. (Retd) Prof AR Khan were present as special guests.

Mohammad Sayef Uddin, secretary general of DAB, was present as a main speaker. The programme was presided by Amjad Hossain Tajma, president of Diabetic Association of Bogra.

The Health Care Development Project, taken by DAB in association with the Netherlands, has been working to provide health care facilities to diabetic as well as non-diabetic patients.

Construction work of more hospitals in Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Pabna and Sirajganj under the project are nearing completion.

Film Censor Board publishes citizen's charter

UNB, Dhaka

programme.

Bangladesh Film Censor Board has published a citizen's charter with detailed description of its services.

The charter contains the details of its board activities, service providing system, film review system, common policy for film review, rate of film review and screening fee, film club-related activities, summary of rules and regulations relating to activities taken for filmrelated irregularities, movie house inspection and mass awareness

People can avail of better services of the organisation if steps are taken as per the instructions, said an information ministry handout.

They may also have information about the services over telephone (9330218) from the helpdesk of the board.

All information about the censor board could be known through its website: www.feb-bd.org http://www.feb-bd.org. The email address is: info@feb-bd.org <mailto:info@feb-bd.org>.

TRIAL OF WAR CRIMES Expats in US to meet June 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expatriates for the Trial of 1971 War Crimes (ETWC), a USA-based organisation, will hold its first general meeting at Raleigh in North Carolina on June 7.

The mission of ETWC is to raise awareness about the war crimes and to promote a campaign to document the atrocities and geno-

cide during the Liberation War. Air Vice Marshal (retd) AK Khandker, Lt Gen (retd) Harun-ur Rashid and Maj Gen (retd) Jamil

will attend the meeting. The meeting will be followed by

a cultural programme.



Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain visits ailing Binod Bihari Chowdhury, an anti-British movement veteran, at Chittagong Medical College Hospital yesterday morning.

SUPERVISION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS

NGO to implement only the pilot project: Adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Primary and Mass Education Adviser Rasheda K Choudhury yesterday said a non-government organisation (NGO) has been given permission to supervise all primary schools in 20 upazilas across the country through a pilot programme for improving the standard of primary education.

"We need supports from all stakeholders including NGOs for improving the quality of education in primary level. With this end in view, we gave an NGO the responsibility of monitoring all the primary schools in 20 upazilas across the country. It is an experimental programme, not a permanent one," the adviser said this at a publication ceremony.

She further also said ministry and directorate of primary education will monitor the pilot project and make a report after completion of mid-term and final supervision evaluating the performance of the

pilot project if the NGO fails to reach its target," she mentioned and also total academic activities.

west to belong on their res more

CHARLES AND ASSESSED AND ASSESSED.

व मुक्ति संस्थान राजाता समीत केवले

ড. এ এম এম শুভকত বালী

শুক্ত উদ্বোধন

while addressing at the publication ceremony of 'Haalkhata-2008', the annual report on primary education by private research organisation Power and Partnership Research Centre (PPRC) at Agargaon LGED Bhaban in the city.

Earlier on May 23, the government took the decision to hand over the project to Brac for superupazilas. But the teachers of primary schools strongly criticised the decision, saying it is an initial process to privatise the primary education.

The adviser denied the allegation, saying that the monitoring programme of the government on primary education has not been given to any NGOs.

issue clearly so that misunder- Sayeed, Prof Ahmed Kamal and Dr standing among the teachers and Atiur Rahman also addressed the countrymen can be eliminated," sheadded.

Rasheda said the Brac training programme will run on holidays without interrupting the ongoing "The ministry will cancel the regular training programme of directorate of primary education

"The pilot programme of Brac will assist the government's second phase of Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-II)," the adviser added.

Education Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman said the government's different policies on education will be relaxed in the practical field.

"We take decision sitting in the vising the primary schools in 20 secretariat, but the decision may not be adjusted in the field level. Now we decided that the government policy will be relaxed evaluating the field-level observation. Otherwise, the target of ensuring quality education for all will not be achieved," he added.

Primary and Mass Education Secretary Mosharaf Hossain Bhuiyan, Prof Wahiduddin "I ask the media to disclose this Mahmud, Prof Abdullah Abu function.

In a press release yesterday, Bangladesh Primary teachers' Association said it will observe work abstention for two hours in all primary schools on June 14 and 15 demanding the withdrawal of the government decision.

Dr Kamal visits ailing Binod Bihari Chy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain visited ailing Binod Bihari Chowdhury, an anti-British movement veteran, at the Cardiac Care Unit (CCU) of Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) yesterday morning.

"You are the source of our inspiration. We all should try to protect the glorious achievement we had earned through the Liberation War in 1971," Dr Kamal told the veteran leader during the meeting.

"You would inspire the present generation so that they could protect the achievements," he

added. Talking to DR Kamal, Binod Bihari called on the young generation to be imbued with patriotic spirit and united to fight against all

kinds of inhuman activities. "Our homeland is now passing through a crucial period and we have to protect the country," he

Dr Kamal also enquired about

Binod Bihari was admitted to the hospital with age-old complication on Wednesday.

Separate dev authority demanded for DND area

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a view exchange meeting demanded a development authority for Dhaka Narayanganj Demra (DND) area and effective measures for welfare of its resi-

They also demanded to declare the area as a residential area.

DND Development Forum organised the meeting at a community centre at Narayangani vesterday. Vice-president of the forum

Sheikh Md Nuruzzaman presided over the meeting while president of the forum and also a socioeconomic specialist Dr MA Nasir spoke in the meeting as the chief

Nasir said unplanned residential area developed in DND area and industrial waste and waterlogging causing suffering of the people of the area.

Around five hundred local people attended the programme.

BCF forms central committee

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra Federation (BCF), a left-leaning student body, has formed its 15-member central committee, says a press release.

Ariful Islam and Mahbub Imran have been selected president and general secretary in the committee at a two-day indoor conference of the federation.

Educationalist Prof Sirajul Islam Chowdhury inaugurated the conference in the city on May 29 and 30.

MJ Ferdous has been selected vice president, while Mohammad Mahiuddin and Helal Uddin have been selected joint secretary and organising secretary in its 9th central committee.

Obituary

BSS, Dhaka

Founder chairman of Rural Electrification Board (REB) Brig Gen (Retd) Shabihuddin Ahmed died in Maryland, USA on Thursday.

He was buried at George Washington Mount Lebanon Graveyard after a namaz-e-janaza at a local mosque, according to a message received yesterday.

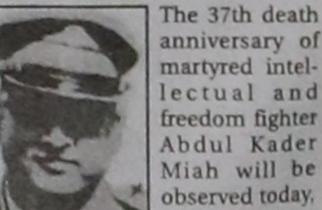
Ahmed left behind his wife, two

daughters and a host of grandchildren and admirers to mourn his

His qulkhwani will be held after Asr prayers at Gulshan Azad Mosque on June 6.

Death anniversary

DU CORRESPONDENT



lectual and freedom fighter Abdul Kader Miah will be observed today, says a press On the occasion, milad mahfil

release.

will be held at his home at Jamirata village in Shahjadpur, Sirajganj and at Debiganj Jame Mosque in Panchgarh. During the Liberation War,

Abdul Kader Miah, then officer-incharge of Debiganj Police Station, hoisted the Bangladesh flag at the police station on March 27.

The government published a commemorative stamp in his honour on November 15 in 1999.



NAJMUL ALAM NOBIN, back from Tangail

Two union parishads -- Daptiar and Dhuburia -- at Nagarpur upazila in Tangail have set an example by achieving hundred percent sanitation in their respective areas.

Families of the unions, who used open space as latrines, are now using hygienic toilets and have become health conscious as they know they should drink safe water and wash their hands after coming from toilets.

programme to bring the entire population of the country under hundred percent sanitation coverage by 2010, the two unions have done the commendable job. Local people participated enthusiastically to implement a sanitation project.

The project titled 'Community Lead Hygiene Sanitation Project was financially supported by 'Wateraid' and another NGO 'Unnayan Shahojogi Team (UST)' has assisted the union parishads by giving technical support and monitored the project.

Daptiar union declared the hundred percent sanitation in the area on March 25 and Dhuburia union declared in April 30.

As the most backward places in the country, Daptiar and Dhuburia are frequently affected by floods. People in the monsoon have to communicate one place to another only by boats and in the dry season water and become a bit health they use canals as roads. The two conscious.

models for other unions. While visiting Daptiar and

Dhuburia unions, it was found that most of the people of the areas are not financially solvent. Total population of the two unions is 45,372 and total number of families is 8.906. Of them, 3,064 families belong to Dhuburia union of which 1,230 families are hardcore poor families and 848 are poor ones. Of the 5,842 families in Daptiar

union, a total of 1,836 are hardcore poor families and 1,950 are poor As part of the government ones, 1,096 families are middleclass and the rest can be classified as core poor to install those. Hardcore higher middle-class families. But the entire families are using the newly installed hygienic latrines and fetching water from tubewells

set up by the union parishad.

Talking to the families it was learned that diseases in the area have decreased in numbers. Mehendi Begum, a housewife from Tati Nishchintopur village of the union told The Daily Star that "We used open places as latrines but we did not know that the same urines and stools were coming to

our meals in other forms. Now we use hygienic latrines and the rate of being affected by diseases has come Dapitar UP Chairman M Firoz

Siddique, who led the project at his union, said the treatment facilities in the union is very poor and he just wanted to make sure the people of the area use hygienic latrines, safe

Dhuburia were using hygienic

toilets when the project was started. Mohammad Abul Kamal said, "The

main feature of the project was to ensure the participation of people in solving their problems which eventually ensured hundred percent latrinisation in the area."

"The project will continue and we are now looking forward to ensure access to safe water for all in this area," he added.

the entire union into 66 clusters and

each of the clusters helped us com-

pleting the work by informing where

safe drinking water and hygienic

task to make people aware that they

need hygienic latrines, but once we

succeeded the people of all walks of

life in the area participated in the

financially capable families to

install hygienic latrines by their own

expenses and supported the hard-

poor had to pay only five to 10 per-

The hundred percent

latrinisation has been completed in

the two unions. Now they want to

make sure access to safe water for

all. The union parishads would set

up a tubewell for every five families

that only 16 percent families at

Daptiar and 21 percent families of

The UST in its research found

UST Executive Director Shah

cent of the total cost of installation,'

said the UP chairman.

in achieving the goal.

"We have motivated the rich and

project."

He said, "Firstly it was an uphill

latrines were needed," Firoz said.

No change in temperature UNB, Dhaka

Yesterday's highest temperature of 37.8 degree Celsius was

The sun sets in the capital at 6:42pm today and rises at 5:11am

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in

Min

25.2

24.0

22.5

26.5

27.6

22.7

20.2

recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 20.2 degrees at Cox's Bazar.

some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperaturein

Celsius

35.0

30.7

36.4

35.5

35.0

31.4

31.5

rary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Chittagong division and at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today. pick-up plunge Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said in a forecast.

in Bandarban

pick-up van fell into a hilly ravine at Farook para on Bandarban-Chimbuk road yesterday.

Army sources said the accident occurred in the afternoon as the driver of the Ruma Garrison-bound pick-up, carrying the army personnel, lost control of the steering.

Moslem, Shahin and Mosleh were admitted to the Military Hospital.

smokeless tobacco in chewable form. Altogether, 62 percent of men and 41 percent of women either smoked or chewed tobacco products. Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by tempo-

Five army men injured in

UNB, Bandarban

Five army men were injured when a

Injured Corporals Shafiullah and Shah Alam and soldiers