

KHULNA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

Pro-AL contractors prevent others to drop tenders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A syndicate of contractors aligned with Awami League has prevented others from dropping tenders for the work of a water supply project under Khulna City Corporation (KCC).

tractors alleged. Sources said that 16 tender schedules were sold for pipe fitting and 10 tender schedules for pipe supply work from the offices of Khulna Metropolitan Police, Public Health and Engineering and accounts section of Khulna City Corporation.

tenders were dropped, although 26 tender schedules were sold. "However, I did not get any complaints that the contractors were prevented from dropping their tenders," he added.

Women MPs to ensure development of women

Hope rights activists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As more women were elected to parliament this year, they would help create more opportunities for the development of women, rights activists said at a daylong workshop yesterday.

Rahman Shelly, its Executive Director Alena Khan said, "Any legal bar to women can be eliminated now, because the grand alliance has formed the government with two-third majority."

orientation is the vital factor to determine social attitude towards man and woman with a call to get rid of the discriminatory attitude towards a girl and a boy.

Artistes demands steps to restore discipline at Bafa

BSS, Dhaka

A group of cultural activists yesterday called on the government to take necessary steps to restore discipline at Bulbul Lalitkala Academy of Fine Arts (Bafa).

BCL, Chhatra Moitree clash at Rajshahi Polytech

RU CORRESPONDENT

At least 10 people were injured in a string of clashes between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Chhatra Moitree on Rajshahi Polytechnic Institute (RPI) campus on Friday night.

As women are working successfully at different sectors nowadays, TV actress Rokeya Prachi called on the media to highlight the strong and positive personality of women besides highlighting their pathos.

Programmes to mark Zia's birth anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its associate organisations have drawn up a weeklong programme to mark the 73rd birth anniversary of late president Ziaur Rahman.

Rajshahi Collegiate School founding anniversary

UNB, Dhaka

Rajshahi Collegiate School, one of the oldest schools in the subcontinent, will celebrate its 180th anniversary on January 23 and 24.



A huge contingent of police was deployed on the Jagannath University campus following a clash between two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League yesterday. (Story on Page 16)

700 juveniles involved in crimes in city

Says DMP commissioner

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Naim Ahmed yesterday said around 700 juvenile criminals are involved in different crimes in the city and a social initiative should be launched to get rid of the problem.

pistols and five round of bullets from their possession in separate drives in the last two days. Most of the arrestees were juvenile criminals, they added.

Farid, Emran, Russell, Masum, Arif, Sabuj and Mofiz of Badda area and seized two pistols and five round bullets from Arif and Emran's possession.

Canadian cops open probe

FROM PAGE 1

The company also enjoyed unusual favours from Mosharraf who forced Petrobranga to pay Niko resources US\$ 4 million illegally to Niko till April 2005 for purchase of gas from Feni marginal field, and without fixing a price or any purchase agreement.

The bid for the JVA with Niko - a company disqualified in the government's evaluation during the second round block bidding in 1997 - began in 1999 during the Awami League (AL) government's tenure which okayed a framework of understanding (FoU) between Bapex and Niko in the year.

Niko's faulty drilling in the Tengratilla area under Chhatra east led to the first blow-out in January 2005. The government formed three committees after this chapter and investigators told The Daily Star that Niko did not take proper safety measures.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Syeduzzaman Chowdhury, a retired member of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR), died of a brain stroke at Square Hospital in the capital on January 10 at the age of 75.

Industrial pollution chokes people

FROM PAGE 1

Locals told The Daily Star that crops, trees, poultry, livestock and fish in the adjacent Kandarpapa, Tarakandi, Charpara and Dhuriarbhita villages have been dying due to the emissions of the factory.

Death anniversary

METRO DESK

Today is the first death anniversary of Fazlul Haque, a former director at the health ministry, says a press release. On the occasion, doa mahfil will be held at his residence at Dhaka after Jhor prayers and at Saheb Bazar Bara Masjid Complex and Pachani Eidgah Jame Masjid in Rajshahi after Asr prayers.



Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique takes charge of vice chancellor of Dhaka University form outgoing Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz at a simple ceremony at his office yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

WEATHER TODAY. Dry weather likely. UNB, Dhaka. Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country having chances of light rain or drizzle at one or two places over the regions of Noakhali, Comilla and Sylhet in next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Obituary

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Sehrun Nesa

Sehrun Nesa, wife of late leader Alhaj M Nasim Khan of Stranded Pakistanis General Repatriation Committee (SPGRC), passed away at Islami Bank Community Hospital in Rangpur yesterday at the age of 69, says a press release.

DHAKA TODAY. Discussion: White Ribbon Alliance, Bangladesh organises a discussion on 'Addressing the inequalities of accessing mental health'. Human chain: Retrenched employees of Grameenphone will form a human chain demanding reinstatement in their jobs.

15 injured as boiler explodes in N'ganj factory

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Fifteen workers were injured as a boiler exploded at an export-oriented garment factory at Uttar Masdair at Fatullah in the district. The injured were sent to different hospitals.

Ensure healthcare for the poor: Health minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health Minister Dr AFM Ruhul Haque yesterday called on medical professionals to perform their duties sincerely to ensure healthcare services for the poor.

Having access to proper healthcare is a right of the poor, he said while visiting Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH).

Ensuring better treatment facilities in rural areas would help reduce pressure on the specialised hospitals, thereby improving the quality of treatment in those hospitals, he added.

The minister also said that the people have trust in DMCH. So, the hospital would face continuous pressure, he said and called on the authorities to ensure proper treatment of the patients.

Health Secretary AMM Nasiruddin, Director General of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) Prof M Abul Faiz, Director of the hospital Brig Gen Abdus Shaheed Khan and Principal Prof Deen Mohammad were also present.

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