

JS PASSES RESOLUTION

Recognise Bangla as an official language of UN

The Jatiya Sangsad last night unanimously passed a resolution calling on the United Nations to recognise Bangla as an official language of the UN.

Participating in the general discussion on the motion, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Hasan Mahmud said all necessary steps will be taken under the dynamic leadership of the prime minister to obtain the recognition of Bangla as an official language of the UN.

Badal placed the resolution while Chief Whip Abdus Shahid brought amendment to the motion, which was passed.

Bangladeshis in the United Kingdom and calls upon the government to give its support to this proposal.

WORLD HEALTH DAY TODAY

Call for emergency services to disaster-hit people

Bangladesh celebrates the World Health Day today with the slogan 'Save lives: Make hospitals safe in emergencies' along with the other United Nations member countries.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in his statement said collaboration between different United Nations entities and other international actors is crucial for countries to prepare their health systems for emergencies.

said that bureaucratic bottleneck holds back the recruitment of doctors, while the Nursing Act 1997 needs to be amended for removing the barrier of recruitment of the nurses to ensure better health services for the people.

Bus strike in Bogra

Bus communications in eight northern districts came to a halt as bus owners and workers of the district began an indefinite strike in Bogra Sadar, demanding punishment to the people involved in assaulting transport workers and protesting hike in transport toll.

Obituary

Nilufer Kaiser, wife of Awami League president member Ataur Rahman Khan (Kaiser) and daughter of Khan Bahadur Faizur Rahman, passed away due to prolonged illness at Apollo Hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 65.



Indian High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office in the city yesterday.

Body to formulate edn policy soon: Nahid

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday said the government is going to form a committee soon to review the report of Shamsul Haque Education Committee-1997 in order to formulate the national education policy in line with the Qudrat-e-Khuda Education Commission-1974 report.

before their Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations, the minister said, adding that the main reason behind the drop-out is poverty and lack of opportunity.

of the Liberation War in the textbooks so that children can know about the glorious history of the country.

The governing council of IPU unanimously adopted a resolution to restore the membership of Bangladesh parliament, said a press release of the Jatiya Sangsad Secretariat yesterday.

The minister said only 2.23 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) has been spent on the education sector, although the amount should be double.

The government will also try to increase the salary for the teachers, he said and called on the teachers to improve the quality of education.

Withdrawing remarks or face movement

BNP, JCD warn PM

Opposition BNP yesterday threatened to wage a movement if Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina does not withdraw her recent statement in parliament about chairperson Khaleda Zia's cantonment residence.

KHALEDA'S RESIDENCE

Withdraw remarks or face movement

BNP Joint Secretary General Mirza Abbas said, "Please withdraw your remarks and protect your own dignity. You'll only disrespect yourself by disrespecting Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and his wife Khaleda Zia."

TRIAL IN ABSENTIA

Special HC bench to hear bail petitions Apr 22

A special bench of the High Court (HC) will hear on April 22 the bail petitions filed by some persons who were earlier sentenced to imprisonment in absentia in different cases.

Following the HC's split verdict on the issue, the Chief Justice last month constituted the one-member HC bench to settle the question.

Chinese military chief passes busy day

He laid wreaths at Shikha Anirban to pay tributes to the memory of the members of the armed forces martyred during the War of Liberation in 1971.

Weather Today

Thundershowers likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Dhaka, Sylhet and Rajshahi divisions and at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions in next 12 hours as 6:00pm today.

Dr M Alim Biswas

Dr M Alim Biswas, former director of Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR), passed away at Birdem Hospital on April 4 at the age of 82.

Alhaj Syed Abdur Rashid

Alhaj Syed Abdur Rashid, father of Abdus Salam, treasurer of Chittagong city unit Awami League and a noted industrialist, passed away at his Chittagong residence yesterday at the age of 97, says a press release.

IPU membership restored

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) membership of Bangladesh has been restored unanimously at the governing council meeting of the IPU, the international organisation of Parliaments of sovereign States, held at Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa yesterday.

Death anniversary

Today is the 20th death anniversary of Mohammad Hussain, news editor of the Daily Azad, the Daily Gono Kontho, The Daily Janapad and the Daily Sangram, and vice-president of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), says a press release.

BCL urges Hasina to reconsider decision

Leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday urged Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina to reconsider her decision to resign as the student body's organisational chief.

Wall collapse kills one, injures eight

A worker was killed and eight others were injured as a wall collapsed on them while they were digging a drain to set up a water pipeline in the city's Jatrabari yesterday.

along the 25 feet long and seven feet high wall, it suddenly collapsed on them, leaving one dead on the spot and eight others injured.

Award giving ceremony

HSBC and the Kall O Kalam will hand over the Torun Kobi O Lekhak Purashkar to the winners. Venue: National Museum auditorium. Time: 6:30pm.

World Health Day

The inaugural ceremony of the programmes to mark World Health Day will be held. Venue: Osmani Memorial Auditorium. Time: 10:00am.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of 'Chimney r mukhe shono shonk' by Prof Mesbah Kamal and Jannat-e-Ferdousi will be held. Venue: Asiatic Society auditorium. Time: 4:00pm.

Convocation

The 8th Convocation of East West University will be held. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. Time: 11:00am.

Roundtable

Improved Capacity for Energy Access (ICEA), a project of USAID, organises a roundtable on 'Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) Committed to improving the lives of all Bangladeshis: One light bulb matters'. Venue: Brac Centre Inn. Time: 10:00am.

Prize giving ceremony

The prize giving ceremony of annual sports and cultural competition of Dhaka Commerce College will be held. Venue: College auditorium. Time: 4:00pm.

Workshop

The inaugural ceremony of the 'Sixth Training Course on Oceanography: Principles and Applications' will be held. Venue: Atomic Energy Centre auditorium. Time: 10:00am.

Workshop

The inaugural ceremony of the two-day UNESCO Book Fair 2008 will be held. Venue: Public Library. Time: 10:30am.

Workshop

The orientation for the freshers of Dhaka International University will be held. Venue: Engineers' Institution. Time: 2:30pm.

Workshop

The inaugural ceremony of the workshop. Venue: IDB Bhaban. Time: 9:00am.

Workshop

Ministry of Industries, SME Foundation and Bangladesh Engineering Shipa Malk Samity will organise a workshop on light engineering industries. Venue: Sanai Community Centre. Time: 10:30am.

Workshop

Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) will launch 'KFC Bucket a bucket full of good times'. Venue: Gulshan outlet of KFC. Time: 11:30am.

Human chain

Campaign for Good Governance will form a human chain to mark World Health Day. Venue: In front of National Museum. Time: 10:30am.

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Hunt on for world-class actor to play Bangabandhu

Red Rose Films Limited, a London-based film production house, looks for a world-class actor to play the main role in its English movie being made based on the life of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury, noted columnist and chairperson of the production house, told reporters at a press conference here yesterday that they are trying to cast a world-class actor to play the role of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the movie titled 'A Poet of Politics'.

He said, "We've even talked to Indian legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan and film director Shyam Benegal about the movie."

Quoting Amitabh, Gaffar Chowdhury said the Bollywood superstar, now in his mid 60s, does not have any schedule for the next five years.

Razzaq withdraws 3 petitions against govt

Jamaat-e-Islami leader barrister Abdur Razzaq yesterday withdrew three contempt and writ petitions filed with the High Court (HC) against government after the attorney general assured the HC that government would not restrict Razzaq from going abroad.

Workshop

The court was to pass orders on the two contempt petitions yesterday while the writ petition remained pending.

Workshop

Meanwhile, the government also withdrew its petition filed with the Supreme Court (SC) against the HC order that directed the government to allow Razzaq to go abroad for treatment.

Workshop

The petitioner's counsel barrister Azmalul Hossain agreed to withdraw the petitions following the submission of the attorney general.

Workshop

At his office, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star yesterday that the government has decided not to restrain Abdur Razzaq from leaving the country at this moment since the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) had already interrogated him for his alleged link to the Palkhona carnage.

Razzaq on March 19 and March 22 filed two separate contempt of court petitions against the government since it did not allow him to leave the country for treatment though he had HC's order.