



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presides over a cabinet meeting at the Secretariat in the city yesterday.

Sunamganj-4 declared vacant

BSS, Dhaka

The Sunamganj-4 constituency has been declared vacant from April 17 afternoon due to death of elected member of the parliament Begum Momtaj Iqbal, said a circular issued by Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat yesterday.

JMB operative held in Naogaon

UNB, Naogaon

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) police in a drive on Sunday arrested an alleged JMB operative at Ukilpara Mahalla in the district town.

CID Inspector Shahidul Islam arrested Abdul Gaffer, a close accomplice of Bangla Bhai, of Bashbaria village at Ramnagar upazila.

Later, the JMB militant was sent to the court.

Police said Gaffer established a torture camp at his house at the behest of Bangla Bhai in 2004. He used to torture innocent people in the name of punishing terrorists.

In another incident, police in a drive arrested a fugitive convict from Pirojpur area of the town on Saturday midnight.

The arrestee was identified as Asad, 50, of the area and leader of inter-district robber gang.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of the law enforcers arrested him while he was returning home from his hideout.

Police said he was wanted in 12 robbery and killing cases, adding that he was convicted and sentenced to two years by a court five years ago.

300 DU students fall sick a day due to heatwave

DU CORRESPONDENT

Over 300 Dhaka University (DU) students are falling sick every day due to ongoing scorching heat.

According to sources at university medical centre, over 300 students, attacked by viral fever, cough, throat and chest pain, diarrhoea and skin diseases, are taking treatment from the centre daily.

They said the present number of patient is almost double than the normal time.

From April 19 to 25, a total of 2001 students took treatment at the allopathic section of the centre whereas this number was 1220 during a period from March 19 to 25.

Sources at the allopathic section said around 40 students who do not have health card are also taking treatment without registration from them daily whereas around 50 stu-

dents are receiving treatment from the homeopathic section everyday.

"Majority of the students are attacked by viral fever, cough and throat pain while some are attacked by diarrhoea and skin diseases due to extreme hot weather," said Chief Medical Officer Dr AKM Abdur Rahman while talking to The Daily Star.

"These diseases are contagious too. General students should remain aloof from the affected students who should avoid unhygienic food and stop roaming under the sun," he added.

Prof Sagarmoy Barua, director of the Institute of Food and Nutrition, told The Daily Star that food at DU canteens should be prepared in hygienic way cautioning that unhygienic food may aggravate the situation.

Some canteens of university dormitories were fined by mobile courts last year for preparing food in unhygienic manner.

More ADB support for Padma Bridge assured

BSS, Dhaka

The Asian Development Bank (ADB), in addition to its earlier commitments, is considering more funds for the construction of the Padma Bridge.

The assurance came during a meeting between Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain and an eight-member ADB delegation led by Director of South Asian Transport and Communications (SATC) Kazuhio Higuchi and Country Director BRM Paul J Hey Ten at the secretariat in the city.

Secretary of Rail Division M Abdul Karim, Secretary of Roads and Highways Department ASM Ali Kabir, Chief Engineer of Roads and Highways Munshi Mustafizur Rahman were present at the meeting.

Referring to the construc-

tion work of the bridge beginning next year, the minister said the government has taken all necessary steps to complete the work within the tenure of the present government.

Consultants have already been appointed to prepare the design for the bridge, he said.

The minister also said development partners have also assured Dhaka of providing about US\$ 1,200 million, out of total 1,800 million dollars.

He thanked the ADB delegation for increasing the financial support.

The meeting also discussed the progress of ADB-assisted various development projects in the communications sector.

The minister also sought ADB support for installation of rail lines on both sides of the Padma Bridge, construc-

tion of the rail-cum-road at Kalurghat in Chittagong, and development of Nabinagar-Chandra-Bangabandhu Bridge-Hatikamrul Road and Dhaka-Mawa-Bhanga Road.

Tribute paid to Sher-e-Bangla Fazlul Huq

DU CORRESPONDENT

The 47th death anniversary of veteran politician and social worker Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq was observed with due solemnity yesterday.

Paying tribute to the great leader Sher-e-Bangla Jatiya Smriti Sangsad, Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote, Jatiya Party and Jatiya Ganatantrik League placed wreaths at his graveyard on Dhaka University campus and prayed for his departed soul.

In a message, BNP Chairperson also the opposition leader of the parliament Khaleda Zia expressed rich tribute to this great leader. She said Sher-e-Bangla will remain in minds of people for his contribution to realise democratic rights of people.

Barisal Division Samity, Bangladesh Nari Mukti Andolan, Dakkhin Bangla Jubo Kalyan Samity, Jatiya Ganatantrik League organised separate discussions in the city to mark the day.

Sher-e-Bangla Jatiya Smriti Sangsad in association with Bangladesh Jatiya Bektitto Gobeshona Kendro and Bissho Bangalee Sammelon also organised a discussion.

The speakers at the discussion urged younger generation to build their lives being encouraged by the ideology of Sher-e-Bangla.

Pro-BNP-Jamaat teachers suggest reopening RU on June 1

RU CORRESPONDENT

Pro-BNP and Jamaat teachers of Rajshahi University yesterday suggested RU Vice Chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan to curtail the summer vacation by 15 days.

They suggested reopening the university on June 1 and residential halls on May 25.

According to the academic calendar, the university is scheduled to have a summer vacation from May 1 to June 15.

The teachers criticised the RU authorities for removing many BNP-Jamaat loyal teachers from hall provosts and others administrative posts.

Social science faculty Dean Prof Sadekul Islam, former VC of Kushtia University Prof Rafiqul Islam and Prof Azhar Ali were present.

The VC said that we would consider their suggestion to this end.

UK sets world's first carbon budgets

UNB, Dhaka

The UK became first country in the world to bind itself into an ambitious long-term framework to limit its greenhouse gas emissions, as global warming wrought havoc on the environment and triggered an outcry.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling on April 22 announced the legally binding carbon budgets for the first three five-year periods- 2008-12, 2013-17 and 2018-22, said a British High Commission release in Dhaka on Sunday.

The release also said a revised target has been fixed to reduce emission to at least 34 percent below 1990 levels emissions by 2018-22.

Aiming to meet the carbon budgets through domestic action alone, they set a zero limit in the non-traded sector on offsetting through international credits for the first budget period.

There is a commitment to tighten the budget after Copenhagen this December, once a global climate-change agreement is in place.

Announcing the UK's first three 'carbon budgets' alongside his fiscal budget, the Chancellor also set out new measures designed to help low-carbon industries capitalise on the opportunities presented by the UK's legally binding target to cut greenhouse gas emissions to at least 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

British Energy and Climate Change Secretary Ed Miliband said: "Meeting carbon budgets will require emission

reductions across the whole UK economy. We are on course to meet the first carbon budget, a 22 percent cut by the end of 2012 compared to 1990."

He added: "The package of measures set out by the Chancellor today is good for the environment, good for jobs and good for energy consumers, helping ensure that Britain's recovery and long-term future is low carbon and secure."

FREQUENT LOAD SHEDDING

Mob vandalises power sub-station in Pirojpur

UNB, Pirojpur

Power-hungry people vandalised a power sub-station in Bhandaria upazila in Pirojpur yesterday protesting frequent load shedding that also gripped the whole country.

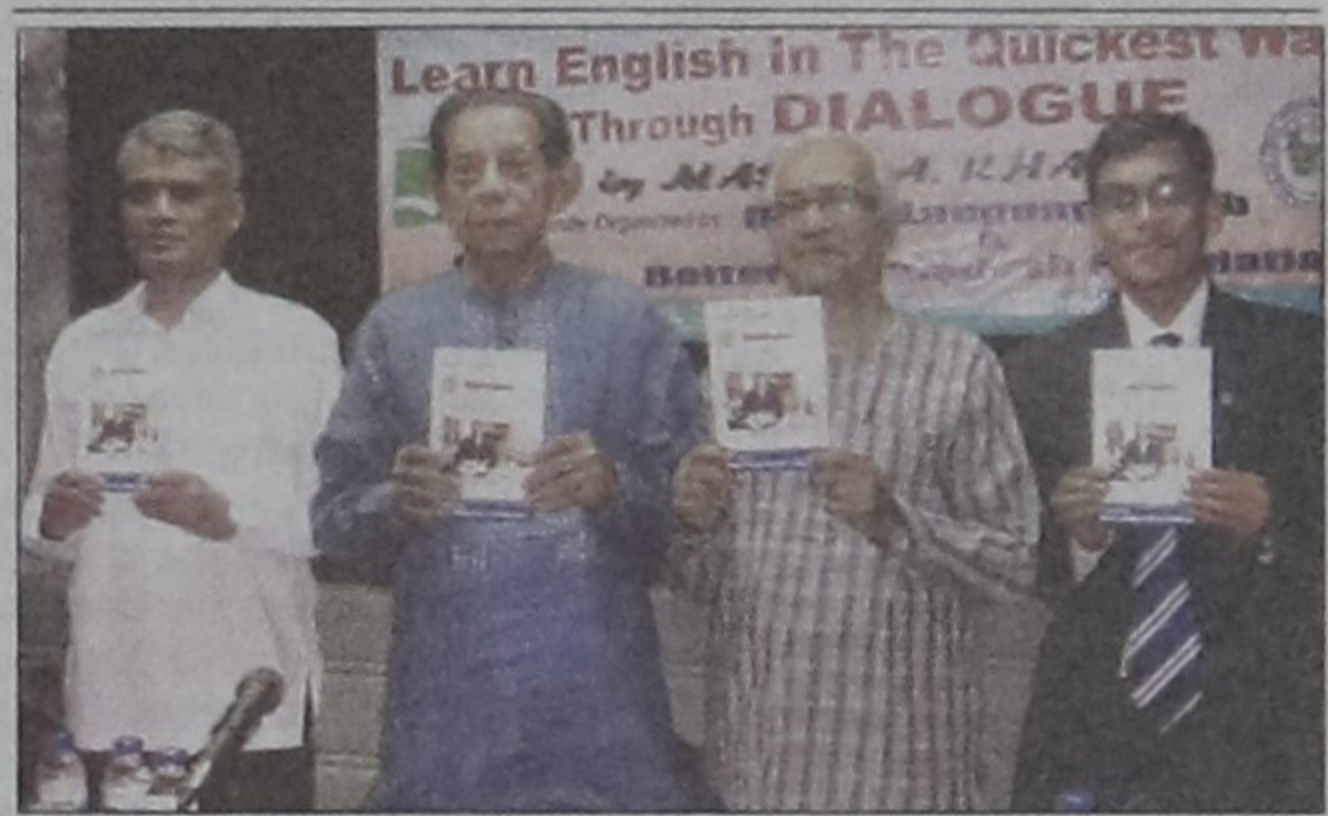
Police said the agitated people attacked the 133kb power sub-station on Bhandari-Kathalia road at about 12:35pm and damaged the furniture and windowpanes of the office.

Engineers Jasimuddin, Ziko Hossain and Mejbahuddin were injured in the attack. They were admitted to the Upazila Health Complex.

On information, police rushed to the spot and charged baton on the mob to disperse them.

The law enforcers also detained two people from the scene for launching the attack.

Additional police were deployed in the area to avert further trouble.



Guests hold copies of a book titled 'Learn English in the Quickest Way Through Dialogue' by Masud A Khan at a publication ceremony at the National Press Club in the city on Sunday.

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Bricks and logs left by Wasa workers on the road in the city's Faridabad area hinder smooth movement of vehicles. The picture was taken yesterday.

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