

# Form industrial police to protect RMG sector

## Textile engineers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Institution of Textile Engineers and Technologists (ITET) at a seminar yesterday demanded setting up of an industrial police besides ensuring due facilities to the garment workers without any delay to protect the country's readymade garment (RMG) industry.

It also demanded immediate identification and punishment of the people involved in the recent garment unrest and development of law and order, reducing bank interest rate by 10 percent for export-oriented RMG and ensuring supply of gas and electricity as required.

ITET members said this at the seminar organised at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium in the morning.

They demanded steps to turn College of Textile Engineering and Technology into Textile University to ensure higher education, research and training to the textile engineers, the main operating power of textile and jute industry.

"Setting industry on fire or killing workers in violence cannot be accepted anyhow. There is no option to consider the incidents as conflict in industry, but a sign of conspiracy to destroy the industry," said engineer Masudur Rahman, president of ITET.

Expressing concern over the recent unrest, ITET members said the recent unrest caused cancellation of orders worth several crore dollars and a loss of several hundred crore, exposing about 15,000

workers to loss their jobs at any moment.

They also emphasised keeping Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) men on high alert in industrial area to check unrest in future.

"The government assumed power with the pledge of creating employment and it has taken initiatives to create employment in the industry sector. So, the initiatives would be hampered if the unrest in the sector cannot be checked and hundreds of thousands of garment workers will become jobless," said Masud.

Secretary General of ITET Enayet Hossain, Executive Member Asif Md Sami and Publication Secretary Abu Hossain Hilu were also present.

## Siamese twins die

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Siamese twins born with unusual congenital defects died baffling the pediatric surgeons' efforts at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) yesterday.

Doctors of CMCH Pediatric Department operated on the twins joined below a common navel and on Sunday.

The twins were lacked of excretory organs.

The doctors made two anuses and one urethral opening for the babies through three-hours operation they performed since 11:30am on that day.

"International pediatric surgeons, we contacted in last two days, had a doubt about their survival and so had we," said Professor Dr Tahmina Banu, also the head of CMCH Pediatric Department.

The parents donated the bodies to the department for research and education, she informed.

The twins of Merry Das, 21, and Mintu Das, 27, a couple of north Kolaian under Lohagara upazila in the district, were born at Lohagara Health Complex at 7:00am on Saturday.

ZIA ORPHANAGE TRUST

## Khaleda's bail extended for six months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday extended for six months its earlier order granting bail to BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia in the "Zia Orphanage Trust" fund embezzlement case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

The HC bench of Justice Md Muzammel Hossain and Justice Md Bazlur Rahman passed the order upon a prayer moved by her (Khaleda) lawyer Advocate Zahirul Haque.

On August 26 last year, the HC first granted a four-month bail to Khaleda in the case.

The court then extended the order after expiry of its tenure.

ACC Deputy Assistant Director Harun-ur-Rashid filed the "Zia Orphanage Trust" fund embezzlement case with Ramna police station against Khaleda, her son Tarique Rahman and five others on July 3 last year.

## PHULTALA WATER PROJECT

## HC asks KCC to obtain EIA report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday asked the Khulna City Corporation (KCC) authorities to obtain the environmental impact assessment (EIA) report from the Department of Environment before implementation of the Phultala Water Supply Project.

The court also asked the government to assess the environmental impacts of the project as early as possible and the KCC authorities to inform about the EIA report to it within a month.

The HC bench of Justice ABM Khairul Haque and Justice M Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed fixed the date for delivering the judgment on completion of hearing on the petition yesterday.

Freedom fighters Maj Gen (Retd) KM Safiullah Bir Uttam and Prof Muntasir Mamun have jointly filed the petition as public interest litigation (PIL).

They sought directions from the HC upon the government to take steps for protecting and maintaining the historic places at Suhrawardy Udyan where Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman delivered his historic speech on March 7 in 1971 and Pakistani army surrendered to the Joint Command Forces of the Mukti Bahini (freedom fighters) on December 16, 1971.

The HC bench yesterday heard statements from the petitioners. Safiullah and Prof Muntasir told the court that the places where Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had delivered the historic speech and Pakistani army had surrendered are historically important as the great liberation war started and the independence and victory achieved from those places.

The places, which involve the sentiment and emotion of Bangladesh, are the part and parcel of the history of the War of Liberation, they said, adding that no steps have been taken so far to protect the places.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam argued before the court, supporting the writ petition.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attends the first phase meeting of Army Headquarters Selection Board-2009 at the Army Headquarters Conference Room in Dhaka yesterday.

## EC starts examining returns of election expenditures

UNB, Dhaka

The Election Commission has started examining the returns of election expenditures submitted by both the candidates and the political parties who contested the ninth parliamentary elections held in December last year, and it would move for legal action against anyone who submitted false information.

Talking to reporters yesterday, Election Commissioner M Sohel Hussain said the commission is probing the candidates' returns of election expenditures to ascertain whether these are real or not. "Statements submitted by the political parties will also be

examined," he said.

The Election Commissioner said the commission had earlier directed the returning officers concerned to file cases against those parliamentary candidates who failed to submit their wealth statement.

Meanwhile, Dhaka Divisional Commissioner Dr Khandaker Shawkat Hossain has already lodged cases with Ramna Police Station against 19 candidates who failed to submit their wealth statements.

When his attention was drawn, Sohel Hussain said according to the new laws the candidates would have to apprise the returning officers

of their detailed wealth account within 30 days of announcement of the election results. "Otherwise the candidates will have to face tough punishment for not submitting the statements," he said.

Replying to a question on withdrawal of cases, he said the government could withdraw the cases if the government authorities felt the necessity.

He urged the people to abide by the law with a view to changing the political culture in the country.

"If necessary, the commission may appoint chartered accountants to look into the statements," the commissioner added.



PHOTO: STAR

WaterAid Bangladesh forms a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday ahead of the G8 Summit in Italy with a call to developed countries to ensure access for underprivileged people to pure drinking water and sanitary facilities.

DOCTOR'S NEGLIGENCE

## Body formed to probe death of patient

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A probe body was formed yesterday to investigate the cause of death of a patient, who died due to alleged negligence on the part of a doctor at Narayanganj 200-bed Hospital at Khanpur in the town on Monday.

The three-member committee headed by Senior Consultant Dr Shafiqul Azam has been asked to submit the report within seven days.

The other members of the committee are Senior Consultant Dr Mahbub Alam and Resident Physician Dr Nasirul Islam.

Hospital staffs alleged that the relatives of the patient attacked them after the patient died.

However, the relatives of the patient claimed that the patient died because of negligence of the doctor.

The doctor concerned, Dr Khaled Haider, returned home in April after staying for long in Japan and Australia. He joined the hospital as an honorary doctor.

## Death anniversary

METRO DESK



Today is the sixteenth death anniversary of AZ Syed Ahmed Chowdhury, a social worker and politician in Feni, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held on Friday at Sonagazi in Feni.

He passed away at Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital in the city in 1993 at the age of 79.

Syed Ahmed Chowdhury was a life member of Feni Sports Association. He also contributed in the field of education and culture in Feni.

## Alhaj Abdur Rashid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the eighth death anniversary of Alhaj Abdur Rashid alias Rashid Ullah, a former government official in Moulvibazar, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at his residence at 59, Forest Road in Moulvibazar.

## SECRET DEAL

## BCL leaders to help new JCD leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Top leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League have allegedly reached a secret understanding with the new leadership of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal that the BCL will help defuse the ongoing protest by a faction of JCD on the Dhaka University campus against its 'aged central committee'.

According to sources at both the student organisations, two top JCD leaders met the top BCL leaders and a former leader of Zahurul Haque Hall BCL unit at a city restaurant to reach a deal involving money to this end.

The top BCL leaders assured JCD leaders of non-cooperation with the JCD's rebel faction and giving support to the new committee in order to defuse the protest, the sources added.

On July 1, BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia has appointed Sultan Salahuddin Tuku and Amirul Islam Khan Alim as president and general secretary of JCD. But a section of JCD leaders and activists has rejected the committee and started staging demonstrations on the DU campus.

saying that the committee comprises aged and non-student leaders and they have links with militancy.

A leader of the JCD's rebel faction said, "The new leadership of JCD wants support from BCL, as they are not in a comfortable position following protests by a large number of JCD leaders and activists."

A JCD activist loyal to the new leadership said, "Negotiations between our leaders and BCL leaders have taken place. Such negotiations are part of politics. Both the student organisations don't want any chaos on the campus and that's why they have sat across the table."

But the news of negotiations provoked disappointment and anger among the rank and file of BCL.

A central BCL leader, wishing anonymity, said it would be really unfortunate if BCL leaders got involved in such negotiations with JCD leaders.

In 2004, Sultan Salahuddin Tuku, the present JCD president, had beaten the then BCL president Liakat Sikder on the DU campus.



## Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over all the six divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely to occur at places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions, Met Office said predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 7:50pm today and rises at 6:18am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 33.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 25.0 degrees at Chittagong.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.9	26.6	83	79
Chittagong	26.8	25.0	97	93
Rajshahi	33.5	27.2	81	81
Khulna	30.2	26.8	87	84
Barisal	29.5	26.5	89	86
Sylhet	33.4	26.2	70	76
Cox's Bazar	30.5	25.5	92	88

## Army Hqs Selection Board meets

METRO DESK

The first phase meeting of Army Headquarters Selection Board-2009 was held at the Army Headquarters Conference Room yesterday, says an ISPR release.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the meeting. Chief of Army Staff General Md Abdul Mubeen, Defence Secretary and all Lieutenant Generals and Major Generals were present in the meeting as members of Selection Board.

Defence Adviser to the Prime Minister Maj Gen (ret'd) Tarique Ahmad Siddique, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Md Abdul Karim and Press Secretary to the Prime Minister Abul Kalam Azad were also present.

## Celebrating Life Festival in Khulna July 20-25

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Celebrating Life Festival, jointly organised by The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank, will be held in Khulna from July 20 to 25.

The programmes include concert at the Zia Hall on July 20 and photography exhibition and film show from July 20 to 25 at the Khulna Press Club auditorium.

Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam is expected to join a roundtable on July 20.

Earlier on Saturday, Coordinator of The Daily Star Readers' Club Rafi Hossain exchanged views with local journalists at a local hotel in the city.

Shahjahan Mallik, customer service manager of Khulna branch of Standard Chartered Bank, was also present.

## Nahid visits dilapidated primary school

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid visited Prasanna Poddar Government Primary School at Tantiabazar in Old Dhaka yesterday where seven students got injured when a chunk of roof-plaster fell down on them inside a classroom on Monday.

He also visited Rubina, one of the students who got injured, at her residence.

The minister inspected the rooms of the building established in 1967 and expressed concern over taking classes in such a dilapidated building.

He also asked Deputy Secretary Shahidul Islam to investigate into the incident and submit the report within the next three days.

Joint Secretary of primary and mass education ministry ATM Mohiuddin Ahmed was also present at the time.

The minister also expressed concern over a similar accident at Gouranadi Dhandoba Government Primary School in Barisal.

He directed the deputy commissioner of Barisal to take necessary steps and ordered the district education officer to visit the school in person.

He also ordered the authorities concerned to visit the dilapidated and risky school buildings.

## Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Engineer Syed Md Muntasir Yusuf, son of Syed Akhter Yusuf, former chief reporter of the daily Ittefaq and senior vice president of National Press Club, passed away at Square Hospital in the city on Monday at the age of 24, says a press release.

He left behind his father, mother, brother and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

## Md Mukul Hossain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Md Mukul Hossain, father of Zakir Hossain Rokon, joint secretary of Dhaka unit of Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sanskritik Sangstha (Jasas), passed away at his Gendaria residence in the city yesterday at the age of 60, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, six sons and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

Communist Party of Bangladesh brings out a procession from Muktangan in the city yesterday with a call to resist the international conspiracy to plunder the country's mineral resources as well as to use natural gas and coal to generate electricity to meet the growing demand for power.

HISTORIC PLACES

## HC verdict today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) will deliver verdict today on the writ petition seeking to protect and maintain historic places related to the War of Liberation.

The HC bench of Justice ABM Khairul Haque and Justice M Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed fixed the date for delivering the judgment on completion of hearing on the petition yesterday.

Freedom fighters Maj Gen (Retd) KM Safiullah Bir Uttam and Prof Muntasir Mamun have jointly filed the petition as public interest litigation (PIL).

They sought directions from the HC upon the government to take steps for protecting and maintaining the historic places at Suhrawardy Udyan where Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman delivered his historic speech on March 7 in 1971 and Pakistani army surrendered to the Joint Command Forces of the Mukti Bahini (freedom fighters) on December 16, 1971.

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Attorney General Mahbubey Alam argued before the court, supporting the writ petition.

HC VERDICT ON PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE

## Acknowledge real history

SCBA urges critics

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) leaders yesterday urged the critics of the High Court (HC) judgment regarding proclamation of the country's independence to acknowledge the real history of the nation by accepting the HC verdict.

Terming the HC verdict 'historic and legal acknowledgement of universal truth', SCBA President AFM Mesbahuddin and Secretary SM Rezaul Karim in a joint statement said the countrymen would identify the distorters of history as collaborators of the anti-liberation forces who failed in the liberation war.

They said the HC in its verdict declared distortion of the history illegal and established the universal truth with giving legal acknowledgment.

"Some identified persons outside the judiciary are willingly trying to disobey and ignore this verdict by criticising it, which is, on the one hand, similar to

contempt of court and, on the other hand, a serious offence of distortion of the country's history and nation," they said.

The statement said the history of the nation has heinous been distorted by mentioning Ziaur Rahman as proclaimer of independence in place of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the name of reprinting of the books on 'Liberation War of Bangladesh and Documents' in June 2004.

The HC on June 21 this year in the judgment ruled that it was Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, not Ziaur Rahman, who proclaimed the republic's independence on March 26, 1971.

The court also asked the authorities to confiscate the books containing distorted history and to stop printing and sale of those books.

## GoCooH launches info portal site

METRO DESK

Japan-based GoCooH Corporation announced the release of the Bangladesh Information Portal Site, GoCooH.com Beta Version' (<http://www.gocooH.com>) yesterday, says a press release.

GoCooH has been conducting business transactions support between the two countries.

GoCooH.com has made it possible for the users to search information related to Bangladesh on the web efficiently, and expects to have many internet users for this site within and outside of Bangladesh.

In order to expand the transactions of companies, especially between Bangladesh and Japan, GoCooH will also launch a Japanese version of the site along with the English version.

Furthermore, GoCooH has a plan to establish a Dhaka branch by this year, and hire around 100 people within three years.



## Workshop

BDPC and United Nations Centre for Regional Development, Japan jointly organise a workshop on 'Strengthening of safe drinking water management for disaster risk reduction in Dhaka city: Challenges and the way forward'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:00am.

## Int'l conclave

RDC in association with ActionAid Bangladesh organises an international conclave on 'Discrimination, exclusion and marginalisation: Diversity perspective'. Venue: Biam Foundation. Time: 9:30am.

## Human chain

Rickshaw-Van Samik Union will form a human chain in protest of making few city roads off-limit for rickshaws. Venue: Muktangan. Time: 5:00pm.