

Dr Nawajesh laid to rest

DU CORRESPONDENT

Internationally renowned agriculture scientist and photographer Dr Nawajesh Ahmed was laid to rest with state honour at his family graveyard at Paril Nawadha village in Manikganj yesterday afternoon.

Earlier, people from all walks of life paid their last respects to Dr Nawajesh in the morning when his coffin was kept at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city.

Dr Nawajesh, 80, died of a cardiac arrest while returning home after attending the award ceremony of 'Celebrating Life', a programme jointly organised by The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre on Tuesday night.

His body was brought to the Shaheed Minar at 11:00am. Leaders of different socio-political organisations, teachers, students, journalists and cultural activists placed wreaths and bouquets on his coffin.

Lawmaker Asaduzzaman Noor, Awami League presidium member Obaidul Kader, CPB General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim, UGC Chairman Prof Nazrul Islam, and cultural personalities Aly Zaker, Ramendu Majumdar, M Hamid and Hasan Imam paid their last respects to Dr Nawajesh at the Shaheed Minar.

Photographers paid tributes to him by keeping their cameras beside his coffin.

At around 12:15pm, his body was taken to his village home where thousands of people paid their last respects to him.

His namaz-e-janaza was held at Paril playground after Asr prayers, our Manikganj correspondent reports.

Local lawmaker SM Abdul Mannan, Singair Upazila Parishad Chairman Mushfiqur Rahman Khan Hannan and freedom fighter Tobarak Hossain Ludo attended the janaza.

Qulkhani of Dr Nawazesh will be held at House # 166 at Green Road in the city tomorrow. Relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the qulkhani.

Meanwhile, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal and Revolutionary Workers' Party of Bangladesh, in separate messages, expressed deep shock at the death of Dr Nawajesh.



People from all walks of life pay their last respects to Dr Nawajesh Ahmed at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

BNP condemns 'torture' on Salam Pintu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday condemned the 'torture' on party leader Abdus Salam Pintu in the name of remand.

"The government is torturing Abdus Salam Pintu on his remands with an ill motive to implicate BNP's top leaders in the August 21 bomb explosion case," he said in a statement issued yesterday signed by party's office secretary Ruhul Kabir Rizvi.

He said despite having court order Pintu is being deprived from proper treatment though he is seriously sick due to immense torture. Delwar demanded the government stop torture on Pintu and release him unconditionally without further delay.

In another statement on Tuesday, Delwar condemned the incident of vandalism and looting by 'Awami terrorists' in BNP office at Ramna in the city.

CITY GOVT SCHOOLS Sale of admission forms from Dec 5

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sale of admission forms for 24 government schools in the capital is scheduled to begin on December 5.

The admission forms will be sold till December 17 while the authorities expect to hold the exams from December 24, said sources at the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE).

The final decision will be taken after the Eid-ul-Azha, they added.

Admission forms can be collected from respective schools on the working days from 10:00am to 4:00pm. The price of a form has been fixed at Tk 100.

Students who want to get admitted in class one will have to take a 50-mark written test on Bangla, English and Mathematics while those who want to get admitted in class

two to class nine will have to take a 100-mark written test on the same subjects, said the sources.

Like previous years the schools have been divided into three groups -- A, B and C -- based on the geographic location of the school.

Guardians apprehend a tough battle for admission this year.

Meanwhile, admission forms of some private schools in the city have already been distributed.

The admission test for Bangla medium students at Viharunisa Noon School will be held on December 19 while the test for English medium will be held on December 26.

The admission tests of Rajuk Uttara Model School and Motijheel Ideal School will begin on December 18 and December 22 respectively.

Mob beats two snatchers, sets fire to motorbike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mob beat up two alleged snatchers mercilessly and set fire to their motorbike at Dainik Bangla intersection at Motijheel in the city yesterday.

The injured identified as Mohammad Mohsin and Altaf Hossain were sent to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH).

Officer in-charge (OC) of Motijheel Police Station Tofazzel Hossain said the snatchers riding a motorbike intercepted a rickshaw at around 7:30am at Dainik Bangla intersection and tried to mug valuables from the passengers while they were going to their village home to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha.

Locals chased and caught the snatchers as the rickshaw passengers raised an alarm.

Local people said a gang of snatchers riding a private car took away valuables from rickshaw passengers and pedestrians at around 7:00am.

NATIONAL DISABLED DEV FOUNDATION

Take services to upazila level: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina directed the authorities concerned to take services of the National Disabled Development Foundation up to upazila level for the best care and development of millions of people debilitated by disabilities across the country.

She gave the order while presiding over the maiden meeting of the patrons of the foundation at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday that discussed comprehensive measures for the welfare of the disabled.

The prime minister in the meeting also felt the necessity of updating the present rules and regulations of the Disabled Foundation for streamlining its activities.

"If necessary, we have to amend the existing rules and regulations of the foundation to bring more discipline and

dynamism in its activities in greater interest of the country's disabled people," she said.

Mentioning her government's various measures for development of the physically and mentally challenged people, she said the disabled people also can make huge contributions to various development sectors if they are given their congenial atmosphere and logistic supports.

Briefing newsmen after the meeting, Prime Minister's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad said that the PM referred to the success of Bangladesh's disabled persons at the Special Olympic during the tenure of past Awami League government.

Sheikh Hasina noted that although her previous government (1996-2001) formed the National Disabled Development Foundation, operations of the foundation remained suspended during

the tenure of the past BNP-Jamaat alliance government.

Citing government's "Patho Shishu Prokalpa (Street Urchin Project)" in Tungipara, Gopalganj, she said her government has a plan to replicate the scheme across the country for the welfare of street children.

The prime minister also asked the authorities concerned to protect the government lands under the ministry of social welfare.

Patrons of the foundation and Finance Minister AMA Muhith, Home Minister Advocate Sahara Khatun, Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad, Social Welfare Minister Enamul Huq Mostafa Shaheed, State Minister for Youth and Sports Ahad Ali Sarkar and Prime Minister's Advisers HT Imam and Prof Dr Syed Modasser Ali attended the meeting.

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