



Three newlywed couples pose with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the wedding ceremony at Gano Bhaban in the city yesterday. On her left are Asma and Alamgir and on her right are Jamil, Runa, Sumon and Ratna. (Story on Page 1)

BNP trying to make CCC polls an issue: Mohiuddin

Help develop Ctg as planned city, Manjur tells voters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Ruling Awami League-backed mayoral candidate ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury yesterday criticised the opposition BNP leaders, saying that they were trying to make the Chittagong City Corporation election an issue for an anti-government movement.

He made the comment as the BNP leaders have been warning that they would launch an anti-government movement if the election is rigged.

Addressing a press conference at the Nagar Committee office at Nandankanon, Mohiuddin urged all to foil any conspiracy against a free and fair election.

Meanwhile, local leaders of the Jatiya Party carried out campaign for Mohiuddin at Amin Jute Mills area.

At a street rally, the speakers urged the people to cast vote for Mohiuddin to ensure planned development of the port city.

Former JP lawmakers Majharul Hoque Shah Chowdhury, Sirajul Islam Chowdhury and Nazrul Islam spoke at the rally.

Two AL lawmakers Engineer Mosharrar Hossain and ABM Fazle Karim Chowdhury also conducted mass contact in support of

Mohiuddin in different city areas, including Sadarghat, Madarbari, Banglabazar, Majhirghat, Firingibazar, Alkaran and Laldighi.

Mohiuddin's wife Hasina Mohiuddin conducted a campaign at Bakalia ward.

On the other hand, BNP-backed mayoral candidate Mohammad Manjur Alam Manju carried out a campaign in ten wards, including Alkaran, Firingee Bazar, Patharghata, Asadganj and Anderkilla.

He urged the people to vote for him to help develop Chittagong as a planned city and make Chittagong City Corporation free from corruption and nepotism.

BNP vice-chairman Abdullah Al Noman carried out mass contact and campaign for Manjur in Kazir Dighi, Sagorika Road, Murgi Farm, Pathanpara, Alonker intersection and other areas under South Kattoli Ward.

Addressing a street rally, Noman said Chittagong can be developed as a modern city under the leadership of an honest and competent candidate like Manjur.

BNP standing committee member Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury and Chittagong city BNP president Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, also conducted mass contact for Manjur.

CANTONMENT HOUSE

Hearing adjourned till July 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday adjourned till July 6 the hearing on the writ petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia challenging the legality of a government notice concerning the cantonment house.

The bench of Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif fixed July 6 for further hearing on the matter, following a time prayer moved by Advocate TH Khan, a counsel for Khaleda Zia.

TH Khan prayed to the court to adjourn the hearing since this court will go for a three-week vacation from next week.

The bench began hearing on the petition on June 6.

On May 27 last year, the HC stayed the government notice asking Khaleda to vacate the cantonment house and issued a rule upon the government to explain why its notice should not be declared illegal.

JMB MAN KILLING

Maulana Saidur shown arrested, remanded

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Maulana Saidur Rahman, current chief of banned Islamist outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), was shown arrested and remanded yesterday in a case filed for his alleged involvement with killing of a JMB activist in the city's Uttara area in February.

JMB activist Rashidul Islam was kidnapped from his Uttara residence at about 9:45am on February 1 and killed by a group of his previous party members as he refused to take part in JMB's activities.

Metropolitan Magistrate Ismail Hossain placed Maulana Saidur on a three-day remand after Detective Branch (DB) Inspector AKM Mizanur Rahman, also the investigation officer (IO), produced him before it with a seven-day remand prayer.

In his forwarding report, Mizan said Rashidul Islam was killed by a group of JMB men as per directive from Maulana Saidur as he (Rashidul) refused to continue JMB's activities. So, Saidur needs to be remanded to find out vital clues behind the killing, he said.

Police arrested the JMB chief, a female member and three other top leaders from the city and Narayanganj on May 24 and May 25.

Following his arrest, Maulana Saidur was placed on 13 days remand in a case filed with Kadamtoli Police Station on charge of creating subversive activities across the country.



Obituary

METRO DESK

AFM Mozammel Huq, executive director of ETBL Holdings Ltd. and ETBL Securities & Exchange Limited, passed away on Tuesday at the age of 61, says a press release.

He was laid to rest in the Azampur (Old) Graveyard the same day after namaz-e-janaza after Asr prayers at Staff Quarters Mosque of Green Road.

He left behind his wife and two daughters and a host of friends and relatives to mourn his death.

Mozammel was the second son of late Moulvi Sirajul Huq of "Niloy" at Rammala Road in Comilla.

WEATHER

Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

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

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:46pm today and rises at 5:10am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 37.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and lowest 22.3 degrees Celsius at Mymensingh.

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	35.5	26.5	67	82
Chittagong	32.8	27.5	70	82
Rajshahi	36.5	25.0	76	71
Khulna	37.5	25.5	64	65
Barisal	35.1	27.7	77	71
Sylhet	34.4	24.0	92	87
Cox's Bazar	34.0	26.6	70	74

South Africa

FROM PAGE 16

"I have never experienced this type of vibe in my life before, not even for the 1994 elections," said Brenda Barratt, a 59-year-old, referring to the country's first democratic vote.

Toddlers, students, construction workers, business executives and some in wheelchairs lined the packed streets to get a glance of their Bafana Bafana players as they trundled through the crowds in an open bus.

Almost all the tenants left the ten-storey National Bank building feeling an impending danger.

Sources said residents in the adjacent areas are also in a panic. They fear that the high-rise built on marshy land may collapse and create another tragedy like Nimtali.

The tenants said the building has become very risky and it needs to be demolished soon to avert casualty.

There are a railway hospi-

tal, a shopping mall, many shops and hundreds of semi pucca and thatched houses adjacent to it.

Principal Officer of the bank Shefar Ahmed admitted that the high-rise developed some cracks.

But it has not tilted to any side, he added.

Khulna City Corporation (KCC) identified some 94 more unsafe buildings in the city after carrying out a survey in 2008.

Of the 94 buildings some 47 are being used as residential quarters, 18 as shops and 18 have been abandoned.

Of the remaining eleven structures, four are being used as clubs and one as a cooperative bank and another one as a temporary temple.

Most say the team have a good chance of at least advancing to the next round after facing Mexico, Uruguay and France in the Group A matches.

"I've got confidence that they can make it. I need them to go as far as the finals," said Moses Ngube, an advocacy worker from Johannesburg.

Football fever has been building up in South Africa and the team is attracting sell-out crowds. Musicians beat steel drums and marimbas, others formed spontaneous orchestras using their vuvuzelas, plastic trumpets cherished by local fans.

"This is big history, I can't believe it," Alice Satege, a 45-year-old domestic worker said, shaking with tears.

The squad has been overwhelmed by an unexpected outpouring of national fervour after years of indifference and scepticism about South Africa's ability to host the World Cup.

Even President Jacob Zuma said on Monday the soccer bonanza, the first held on the continent, was uniting South Africa much like the 1995 Rugby World Cup victory which helped break down racial barriers and would leave a legacy for decades to come.

Many foreigners, often victims of attacks in the country where they compete with locals for limited jobs and scarce social services, joined the Wednesday crowds.

"I love the energy. It makes you want to be South African," Elsa Oliveira, an Angolan-American student said.

Today is the 18th death anniversary of journalist Faruq Hossain, says a press release.

Faruq, a Nawapara correspondent of the Daily Runner and the Daily Purabi, was killed by a gang of miscreants on this day in 1992.

On the occasion, a milad and Qurankhwani will be held at his village home in Sarkhola village under Nawapara municipality in Jessore.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



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Furnace blast in N'ganj re-rolling mill: 8 injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eight workers of a steel re-rolling mill at Fatulla in Narayanganj were injured seriously after a massive explosion in its furnace yesterday morning.

Five of them were brought to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in a critical condition. They are Alamgir, 22, Sheikh Shahid, 40, Bakul, 25, Shabuj, 20, and Md Shahid Hossain.

The explosion ripped through the Rajdhani Casting factory at Aliganj with a big bang due to low voltage of electricity at around 6:30am, workers said. Rajdhani Casting is a sister concern of Nabi Steel Mill in the area, our Narayanganj correspondent

reports.

Corrugated roofing sheets of the factory were blown away and its walls collapsed by the force of the explosion, which created panic in the locality.

The condition of Alamgir, who sustained 45 percent burns, and Sheikh Shahid are critical, the doctors said.

Bakul, who sustained 12 percent burns in the back, arms and chest, told this correspondent at the hospital that the furnace exploded while they were working.

"We tried to run away but our dresses caught fire," he added.

Alamgir joined the factory only two days ago and has been staying in the

factory at night, his relatives said.

A farmer in Netrakona, Alamgir came to Narayanganj in search of a job as the harvest season is over.

At the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of DMCH, shortage of staffs makes it difficult for the authorities to manage all the patients.

"The 50-bed unit has only 21 regular doctors and 11 nurses and it is difficult for them to manage more than 200 patients every day. Although the prime minister on June 2 asked some 14 nurses to join the unit on deputation, only four of them have joined the unit so far," said Project Director of the unit Dr Samantlal Sen.

2 buildings tilt in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A ten-storey building on Jessore upper road and another six-storey structure beside Moilapota in the city have been leaning to one side for the last one year.

Almost all the tenants left the ten-storey National Bank building feeling an impending danger.

Sources said residents in the adjacent areas are also in a panic. They fear that the high-rise built on marshy land may collapse and create another tragedy like Nimtali.

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Of the remaining eleven structures, four are being used as clubs and one as a cooperative bank and another one as a temporary temple.

These eleven buildings are under the authority of deputy commissioner of the district.

According to KCC survey report, at least 40 per cent of these highly dangerous buildings are located in Ward no-21.

City Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque blamed Public Works Department for not taking action so far against these unsafe structures.

The mayor added that KCC would go for action on June 18.

The hazardous buildings also include Khulna District Jail, Ansar and VDP office, Khulna General Hospital, some bungalows for civil and police administration officials and a five-storey labour colony building for jute mill workers at Khalishpur.



Civic reception to Musa Ibrahim today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Musa Ibrahim, the first Bangladeshi Everest conqueror, will be accorded a civic reception at Rabindra Sarobar at Dhanmondi in the city at 4:30pm today.

Musa reached the summit of the Mount Everest on May 23.

Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury will preside over the reception ceremony where renowned personalities will felicitate Musa. A musical programme will also be held.

Former chief adviser to the caretaker government Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed, Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Syed Abul Maqsood, Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Asaduzzaman Noor MP, The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, Nasiruddin Yusuf and Faridur Reza Sagor will join the reception ceremony.

Singers Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya, Ayub Bacchu, Kumar Biswasjit, Mahmuduzzaman Babu, Shuvra Deb, Asif and Meherin will perform at the musical programme.

North Alpine Club, Prothom Alo Bandhu Sabha, The Daily Star, Channel i, ABC Radio, Young Writers and Artists Initiative, Bangladesh Maths Olympiad Committee and Chhobir Haat have extended their support to the programme.

Musa Ibrahim Reception Council has requested all to participate in the programme.

28TH BCS EXAM Aggrieved docs demand jobs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of aggrieved doctors, who passed the 28th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examination, yesterday demanded immediate appointment to the vacant health cadre posts.

They called for relaxing quota reservation system in the 28th BCS, as there was no such provision at its circular.

The doctors placed the demands at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city.

Reading out a written statement, Dr Al Mahmud Lemon, one of the organisers, said 480 physicians were not given jobs by the Public Service Commission (PSC) despite they have successfully passed the written test and viva voce of the 28th BCS. There are still more than 1,800 vacant health cadre posts across the country. The government plans to appoint physicians on an ad hoc basis to fill up those. "But the government has not taken any initiative to appoint us to fulfil the posts," he said.

About the reservation of the quota reservation system, another organiser Dr Shah Mohammad Zakir Hossain said, "We are not against the quota system as it gives opportunities to the disadvantaged. But it does not allow the authorities to keep the posts vacant due to non-availability of qualified applicants from the quota groups."

They also sought prime minister's interference to resolve the problems centring the recruitment.

The aggrieved doctors will form a human-chain in front of the National Press Club and submit a memorandum to the prime minister today to press home their demands.

UNIDO to support science, innovation infrastructure

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) Dr Kandeh K Yumkella has expressed his firm commitment to support science and innovation infrastructure in the country.

UNIDO would be happy to "scale up the partnership" with the newly developed Instrumentation & Calibration Service Laboratory (ICSL) for the development of the national measurement system to be accepted by the international communities through accreditation, he said during a visit to the laboratory at BCSIR (Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) in Dhaka recently.

The ICSL is the nation's first reference laboratory in chemistry.

The UNIDO support will come through the Ministry of Science and ICT under various international technical assistance programmes, says a press release.

The UNIDO chief also stressed the need to create national wealth through industrialisation and promoting SMEs in order to eradicate poverty.

Md Abdul Hannan, ambassador and permanent representative of Bangladesh to UN in Geneva, accompanied the UNIDO chief during his visit to the BCSIR.

The UNIDO delegation team comprising nine members from Vienna, Indonesia, Thailand, India and Dhaka ended its three-day visit to Bangladesh on June 8.



PHOTO: COURTESY

UNIDO Director General Dr Kandeh K Yumkella visits the Instrumentation & Calibration Service Laboratory at BCSIR in the city recently.

KOKO'S TAX EVASION HC asks govt to explain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday issued a rule upon the government to explain within a week why the proceedings of a tax evasion case against Arafat Rahman Koko, younger son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, should not be declared illegal.

The HC bench of Justice Md Ashfaque Islam and Justice SM Emdadul Hoque issued the rule following a writ petition filed by Koko challenging the legality of the proceeding of the case against him.

Koko, who was earlier released on parole and is now abroad for treatment, recently filed the writ petition through his lawyer Barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokon.

Deputy Tax Commissioner of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) Shahin Akhter Hossain filed the case against Koko with the Senior Special Judge's court of Dhaka on March 1 on charges of evading tax on his income of Tk 52.39 lakh between 2002-2003 and 2006-2007 fiscal years.

According to the case statement, Koko repeatedly provided false information about his real income and expenditure.

Earlier on March 1, the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka issued arrest warrant against Koko in connection with the case.

Barrister Rafique-ul Huq appeared for the petitioner.

Prof Zaker honoured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



The government has conferred 'Bangabandhu Wildlife Conservation Award-2010' on Prof Kazi Zaker Husain, founder president of the Wildlife Society of Bangladesh, for his outstanding contribution to wildlife study and research.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina formally handed over the award to Prof Husain, a pioneer in the field of wildlife research, at a function at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city recently, says a press release.

Emeritus Professor Husain of the zoology department, Dhaka University, also received 'Global-500 Roll of Honour' of the United Nations Environment Programme (WNEP) in 1990 and the Independence Day Award in 1992.