METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Follow rules of seniority strictly in recruitment, promotion

PM asks army officials

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the authorities concerned to strictly follow the rules of seniority, qualification, merit and efficiency during recruitment, posting, and promotion in the armed forces.

The prime minister said this while inaugurating the Army Headquarters Selection Board-2010 at Dhaka Cantonment.

"I think that faith in the spirit of Liberation War, professional efficiency, leadership, discipline, honesty, truthfulness, loyalty and effectiveness should be considered while giving promotion as the promoted officers will lead the armed forces in future,"

Sheikh Hasina, also the defence minister, said she had confidence in the wisdom, judgment and impartiality of the senior officers and hoped that they would select the appropriate persons for promotion rising above personal likes and

She said the Armed Forces that started its journey with a limited number of officers and soldiers during the country's War of Liberation is now very experienced and well-

Sheikh Hasina said Awami League government always believes in development, expansion and modernisation of Armed Forces and it implemented massive programmes for strengthening the Armed Forces during its previous tenure from

Referring to her initiative to recruit female officers in the army, the first ever in the country's history, Sheikh Hasina said it is her government which improved the quality of food, including introduction of rice in two meals of the army.

After assuming office this time her government has undertaken a number of projects, including bringing uniformity in giving ration to Army, Navy and Air Force, increasing budgetary allocation for per capita protein intake, implementing new pay scales and constructing multistory housing complex for members of the armed

She said her government has adjusted the ranks of officials of Bangladesh Army to international standards in order to



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presides over a meeting of the Army Headquarters Selection Board-2010 at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

strengthen their participation in the UN peacekeeping missions

Besides, she said during her government's previous term she established Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training at Rajendrapur so the Bangladeshi troops can serve more smartly in peacekeeping missions.

She said Bangladesh is the first country to send Integrated Brigade to peacekeeping missions.

The prime minister said the people of the country always remember the role of armed forces during natural calamities

with gratitude.

The democracy-loving people would also remember the contribution of the armed forces on preparing a flawless voter list before the last national general elections in 2008, she added. Defence Secretary, Chief of Army Staff and lieutenant generals and major generals of Bangladesh Army were present in the

meeting. Prime Minister's Defence Adviser Major General (retd) Tarique Ahmed Siddique and Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad were also present.

rice this season. The same day the minister

warned the rice millers of taking legal actions against

Govt to buy additional 1 lakh tonnes of rice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to buy an additional one-lakh tonne of rice from the domestic market at Tk 28 a kg in this Boro season, officials at the food ministry said yesterday.

The decision comes after the rice millers retracted from their earlier stance and agreed with the government to its rice procurement drive.

and Husking Mill Owners' Association leaders yesterday held talks with Food and Disaster Management Minister Dr Abdur Razzaque at the ministry and assured him of continuing rice supply to the public warehouses.

Earlier on July 1, the Food Policy Monitoring Unit (FPMU) decided to procure five lakh tonnes of rice from the domestic market, which was seven lakh tones less than the government's procurement target of 12 lakh tonnes during Boro season, due to earlier. price hike of rice.

minister decided to give Tk 3 incentive per kg over and above Tk 25 to buy 2.37 lakh tonnes of rice from the millers who had agreements and were demanding a price rise, saying the market price was more.

However, the association called strike on last Sunday demanding same incentives to the millers who had earlier supplied 2.63 lakh tonnes of

them, including cancelling licences, if they do not comply with the agreements made with the government on rice

Following that warning, the millers called off the strike. Sources said the prime minister's office also asked the millers to continue rice supply to the government without causing any trouble.

KM Layek Ali, convener of Bangladesh Auto, Major the association, said they would fully cooperate with the government in buying rice from the domestic market.

> The millers have already agreed to supply 30,000 tonnes of rice in addition to the previously agreed 5 lakh tonnes, Layek said, adding that he has asked all the millers to continue supply as per the agreements.

He however said they again requested the food minister to consider providing Tk 3 incentives per kg of rice supplied by the millers

The minister said he would At that meeting, the food take the issue to the FPMU, Layek told The Daily Star after the meeting yesterday.

"However, supplying rice is not linked to the incentive," he

Razzaque thanked the millers for withdrawing the strike and said the millers' problems would be addressed, says a food ministry press release.

To the millers who said they couldn't mill rice because of electricity crisis, the minister said he would look into the

AK Luthful

Karim,

former deputy

secretary of

the Ministry

of Finance,

passed away

Obituary

HC asks police not to torture Jamaat trio

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed police not to torture Jamaat-e-Islami chief Motiur Rahman Nizami, its Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid and Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee in any manner after taking them on remand in a sedition case.

A division bench of Justice Syed Mohammad Dastagir Husain and Justice AKM Zahirul Hoque ordered the police authorities to allow their counsels to meet them for legal consultations.

It asked the authorities to take steps for medical checkups of the Jamaat top brass who spent most of the time on remand in different cases since their arrests on June 29.

The court also asked them

to supply pillows to the remanded Jamaat leaders for sleeping. It passed the order follow-

ing a petition filed by the Jamaat leaders challenging the remand orders against A Dhaka court on June 30 placed the Jamaat trio on

remand for interrogation in the sedition case filed with Uttara Police Station in March this year. Abdur Razzaq appeared for the petitioners while

Additional Attorney General Momtazuddin Fakir represented the government.

President greets PM for taking initiatives to build hospital

BSS, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman in a letter to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday congratulated her for taking initiatives to build an international standard hospital and nursing institute on 20 bighas of land of Awami Foundation at Nabinagar in Savar.

Terming the decision a humane initiative, he said the prime minister has set an example of great sacrifice by taking the steps.

"Your continuous efforts to contribute to human welfare made me emotional about the goal and work of great architect of the independence Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," he said, adding, "You are the able successor of

Bangabandhu." Hasina yesterday announced that a 250-bed non- profit hospital and nursing institute with the initiative of Awami Foundation will be set up at Savar to provide healthcare facilities for the common people at nominal cost.

and order

New CMP boss urges all

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Newly appointed Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) Commissioner Md Abul Kashem sought cooperation from all to maintain law and order in the port city.

While exchanging views with journalists at CMP conference room yesterday the commissioner put special emphasis on addressing the problems of mugging and traffic congestion. He assured of remedial measures including increased patrol to address the mugging problem as it has seen a serious rise in Chittagong in the recent months.

The commissioner said absence of bus and truck terminals and parking lots was mainly responsible for creating gridlocks on the city streets. On-going construction of several important city streets aggravates the situation, especially in the rainy season, he observed.

The CMP commissioner felt the necessity of increasing number of public transports and improved signalling system for smooth movement of vehicular traffic.

The commissioner added that introduction of school buses and development of parking lots in schools could ease traffic congestion remarkably and urged schools authorities to come forward in this regard.

The CMP commissioner urged the city dwellers, particularly media people, to help them with information to nab criminals and check criminal activities.

Emphasising on coordi- ing.

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Office said.

City/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Dhaka

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

5:21am tomorrow.

degrees Celsius at Rangamati.

nated efforts to streamline traffic movement the CMP boss urged Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Chittagong Development Authority, Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) and other related organisations to cooperate.

Among others, CMP Additional Commissioner Abdul Jalil Mandal, Deputy Commissioner (DC Headquarters) Md Moyenul Islam, DC (Traffic) Faruq Ahmed and DC (port) Kusum Dewan addressed and replied to queries of journalists at the press conference.

US embassy official concerned

Claims Jamaat STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A political officer of the US embassy in Dhaka yesterday expressed concern over the recent arrest of top ranking leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami, claimed a Jamaat press release.

The officer, Partha Majumdar, met Jamaat's acting secretary general ATM Azaharul Islam at the party's central office in Moghbazar at around 10:00am yesterday.

During the meeting, the political officer and Jamaat leaders discussed the present situation of the country, the press release added.

Party central leader Dr Syed Abdullah Muhammad Taher was also present at the meet-

Humidity in

percentage

76

78

77

80

80

89

73

Evening

73

80

77

77

80

WEATHER

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by

temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country, Met

The sun sets in the capital at 6:49pm today and rises at

Country's highest temperature 35.0 degrees Celsius was

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded

28.0

26.3

27.2

27.4

27.4

26.4

25.7

Min Morning

recorded yesterday at Jessore and Ishwardi and lowest 25.4

in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Max

33.5

31.6

34.8

33.8

32.5

33.1

33.0

Temperature in

Celsius

all the seven divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Help maintain law Call to expedite functioning of war crimes tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Political leaders yesterday urged the government to expedite the functioning of war crimes tribunal without any hesitation and not to politicise the issue.

They made the call at a seminar on a study on "War Criminal Delwar Hossain Sayedee's Waz Mehfil and Women's Empowerment," organised by Karmajibi Nari at the Jatiya Press Club.

The leaders said the war crimes trial cannot be an issue to gain political bargaining chips. Since a planned genocide was carried out in 1971 against a nation, its perpetrators must be tried in accor-

in poultry feed'

Environmentalists yesterday urged the govern-

ment to take necessary measures to stop the

use of tannery waste in poultry feed to avoid

roundtable on 'Preparing poultry feeds by

poisonous tannery waste: Impact on public

health' organised by the Poribesh Bachao

Andolon (POBA) at its office, said a press

They said over 250 chemicals like zinc,

They made the call while addressing a

dance with the stature and militants. graveness of that crime. They also claimed Jamaat

has been preparing to confront the tribunal very systematically. Any wrong move from the government would eventually rebound, warned the politicians. Chairman of Workers Party

of Bangladesh Rashed Khan Menon MP said a certain level of hesitation is noticeable in the government about the issue. "The war criminals would wreck havoc on the entire nation if they (Awami League) fail to bring the war criminals to justice this time," added the lawmaker.

He also demanded banning the NGOs working as the funding sources of the Islamic

'Stop use of tannery waste

The study was conducted

on 15 audio tapes of waz mehfil (religious sermons) by Sayedee. It focuses on how waz mehfil spreads the messages of hatred about progressive beliefs, education, secularism and women's empow-

Terming his messages as repulsive and provocative, speakers urged banning of Sayedee's waz mehfil.

Industries Minister Dilip Barua said these are planned messages to create antagonism against the nation with long lasting plans to reinstate the fundamentalists' power that they lost in 1971.

President of Jativa addressed the seminar.

Samajtantrik Dal Hasanul Haque Inu MP said empowerment of women is a precondition for democracy. He pointed out fundamentalism as the main obstacle towards women's empowerment.

Mahfil will be held after Asr Uprooting fundamentalprayers at 53/6 Baddanagar ism and bringing the war Lane, Hazaribagh in the city. criminals to justice are neces-Relatives and well-wishers sary to free the nation of its have been requested to attend shame of not being able to try the mahfil and pray for the eterthe war criminals before, he

nal peace of the departed soul. added. Manjurul Ahsan Khan, Fundamentalism-Militancy,

Shirin Akter, president of Karmajibi Nari, also

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



of Sultan Ahmed, secretary of the then Pakistan Government and

East Pakistan Red Cross Society, said a press release. On the occasion, a milad

the city after Maghrib prayers today.

Friends and well-wishers are requested to attend and pray for salvation of the

ATM Riazul Islam

METRO DESK



anniversary of ATM Riazul Islam, a freedom fighter and

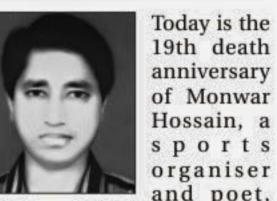
Qurankhwani and milad

are requested to attend the

milad and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Monwar Hossain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



anniversary of Monwar Hossain, a sports organiser and poet,

mahfil will be held and foods will be distributed among the destitute at the Anjuman Mafidul Islam orphanage in the city and prayers will be held at his grave in his village home at Srinagar in Munshiganj.

cadmium, chromium and arsenic are used for leather processing and are in turn being used to prepare poultry feed. Those chemicals are 48 Korean volunteers

in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

health hazards.

release.

METRO DESK

A group of 48 Korea Internet Volunteers (KIV) from National Information Society Agency (NISA) of the Government of Republic of Korea have arrived in Dhaka to provide one month of voluntary service in different government and private organisations here, says a press release.

They will mainly provide computer IT training on MS Office, Photoshop, web designing, programming and knowledge on Korean culture. The volunteers will work

with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh, Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA), Bangladesh Police, Directorate General of Food, Dhaka and so on. These volunteers will

provide their services until August 19, 2010 by dividing into 12 teams. All of these volunteers are IT graduates while some of

them are also IT professionals. Another group of volunteers will also arrive in Dhaka during August to

September 2010.

DHÄKA

Quiz Draw

they added.

National Press Club, Time: 4:00pm. **Cultural event** Hello's Association of Neophytestudents (Hans) in collaboration with Surf Excel will organise a cultural event titled "Share with

innocence V" participated by special

children. Venue: LGED auditorium,

Time: 3:30pm. **Cultural evening**

organise "Lalon Fakirer Gan" by Mrs Farida Parveen. Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, 7:00pm. **Human Chain**

roundtable meeting.

Time: 10:00am.

playground in each ward of Dhaka city. Venue: Hazaribagh park, Time: 11:30am. Roundtable

Venue: Muktijuddha Jadughar,

Gano Forum will hold its presidium

passed into the chicken body and eggs. People

consuming those chicken and eggs are suffer-

ing from different complex diseases like cancer

while children suffer from mental disabilities,

taken to stop preparing poultry feed using

over the roundtable, while Sirak-Bangladesh

Executive Director SM Saikat presented the

keynote paper. Professor of Dhaka University

Chemistry Department Abu Zafar Mahmud,

BCSI former director Dr. Formuzul Haque, and

Nirapod Development Foundation Chairman

Ibnul Syed Rana spoke at the function.

poisonous tannery waste, said the speakers.

As a result, immediate measures should be

POBA Chairman Abu Naser Khan presided

The bumper draw of the world cup guiz by The Daily Star and Rangs-Toshiba will be held. Venue: Central Office, Time: 5:00pm. Discussion

> Theatre Abayob Theatre Troupe will stage

Venue: Shilpakala Academy Experimental Hall, Time: 7:00pm. The High Commission of India will Rally

The Dhakabashi will organise a human chain demanding

Jot and Sheba will hold a meeting Club, Time: 10:30am. Shamprodaikota, Jongibad Birodhi Mancha (SJBM) will hold a

Monica Jahan Bose will hold an art Centre, Time: 6:00pm.

Meeting

meeting. Venue: Gano Forum

Bangladesh Jhankar Shilpi Ghosti will hold a discussion on "Folk-King Abbasuddin's contribution to folk

Mukti Bhaban, Time: 5:30pm.

culture". Venue: Maitri auditorium,

the drama "Bhumadhyasagar".

Bangbandhu Sangskritik Jot will take out a rally demanding a ban on Jamat-Shibir politics. Venue: National Press Club, Time:

Meeting Green Voice, Jubo Nagorik Adhikar

11:00am.

demanding steps to stop propaganda against Detailed Area Plan (Dap). Venue: National Press Exhibition

exhibition. Venue: Dhaka Art

and 105 FM in Sylhet.

chairman of Communist Party of Bangladesh, Ajay Roy, coordinator of Platform Against

BBC Radio

to air Fauji

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

radio service today.

press release.

part BBC Bangla documentary

titled Fauji Banijjya (Military in

The weekly radio series will

Bangladeshi society, said a BBC

The BBC radio evening

programme Probaho will

broadcast the documentary at

7:30pm and repeat it on the

late-night programme

major player in Bangladesh's

business arena and its business

interest is present across key

sectors of the economy from

manufacturing to services, said

cement, textile, food processing,

electrical and electronics indus-

tries while the services sector

includes banking, luxury hotels,

fast food, retail, filling stations

in business activities before the

independence, aimed at gener-

ating income to maintain the

welfare of veterans and the

However, the welfare-

oriented business model has

led to the creation of many

more entities, which can

exploit the army's advantage in

gaining commercial success,

tary series Kamal Ahmed said,

"There is a great unease within

the force and among civil soci-

ety about the army's growing

business interests." BBC Bangla

radio is available in Bangladesh

on BBC 100 FM in Dhaka, 101.2

FM in Comilla, 102 FM in

Khulna, 105.4 FM in

Chittagong, 105 FM in Rajashahi, 105.4 FM in Rangpur

Bangla-speaking online

Producer of the documen-

The army has been involved

In manufacturing there are

The army has become a

Parikrama at 10:30pm.

a BBC press release.

and training centres.

families of servicemen.

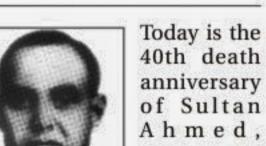
the press release added.

Death anniversary

on Sunday, says a press

On the occasion, a milad

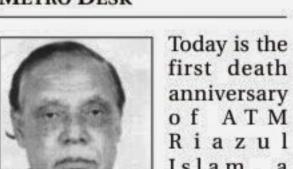
Today is the 40th death



Banijjya today mahfil will be held at his resi-The first episode of the ninedence at 32 Purana Paltan in

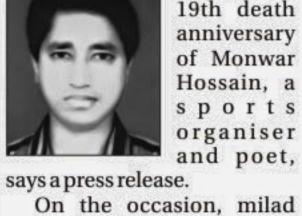
business) will be aired on BBC explore the extent of the busideparted soul.

ness owned by the military in Bangladesh and its impact on the armed forces and on



veterinary doctor, says a press release. On the occasion,

mahfil will be held at his village home at Teroania in Dinajpur and at Koronjai Road in Rangpur after Juma prayers. Relatives and well-wishers



audience can get BBC news on Relatives, friends and welldemand and on the go via the wishers are requested to wide-format, multimedia attend the functions. website www.BBCbangla.com.