

'Project talented works to new generation'

BSS, Dhaka

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad yesterday stressed the need for projecting life, works and ideology of talented persons to the new generation for driving the society in right direction.

"Every one will have to work for the country and the people from their respective position", the minister said while addressing a memorial meeting of former Chief Controller (Export and Import) M Shahid Ullah.

He said, "Death of a friend like Shahid Ullah, who was energetic, friendly and helpful, is very painful for me."

Azad expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Shatirtho Sammilan, an organisation of the Dhaka University students of 1958-62 academic year organised the function held at the Officers Club in the city.

DC OFFICE STAFF RECRUITMENT
Question papers not leaked out: Job seekers

Jubo League leader held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Most of the job seekers who took part in Pabna DC office staff recruitment examinations on Friday believed that the question paper of the examinations was not leaked out though the local ruling party men have made the allegation of the leakage.

Meanwhile, police arrested a Jubo League leader yesterday in connection with the forced halting of the Friday's recruitment examinations.

The arrestee Rayhan Uddin, 28, a cultural secretary of the district Jubo League, is one of the persons allegedly involved in the Friday's incident, said Officer-in-Charge of

Pabna Police Station Motiur Rahman.

Local Awami League last night staged a demonstration in the town protesting the leakage of the question and demanding removal of the deputy commissioner of the district.

Some people halted the examinations and vandalised five vehicles of the district administration on Friday and assaulted the DC office staff alleging that the question paper was leaked out.

When contacted, most of the examinees said that the outsiders entered the examination centres and halted the recruitment examinations.

Mamunur Rashid who appeared at the examinations

for the post of office assistant in Pabna Zila School centre (roll no. 562) said, "We did not hear any news that the recruitment examinations questions were leaked out earlier."

"As a real examinee we went to the centre but the outsiders forced to halt the examinations just after it starts," said Mamunur Rashid.

Hassem Ali, a resident of Mashumdia village in Bera upazila of Pabna and also an applicant for the post of office assistant (roll no. 1190), said he does not believe that the question was leaked out adding, "The outsiders stopped the examinations."

"It is a matter of sorrow that I have failed to complete the examination as my eye for government service have passed earlier," he said.

Deputy Commissioner of the district Dr AFM Monjur Kadir refuted the allegation of Pabna district unit Awami League about the question leakage. "There was no scope to leak out the question papers because high officials of Rajshahi divisional commissioner office prepared the question papers just before the night of the examinations.... They (ruling party leaders) are just blaming our administration based on false information," said the DC.

Meanwhile, the AL leaders showed some printed questions and some hand written questions to the journalists at a press conference yesterday and claimed that the question papers were leaked out earlier.

Asked about the matter, the DC said the attackers snatched the question papers and the examination papers from the examination centres.

The district administration filed two separate cases with Sadar Police Station on Friday night. Over one hundred people including 28 identified of Bangladesh Chhatra League and Jubo League were named in connection with the attack.

Police is still raiding different areas to nab them as they are in hiding, said the DC.

Pabna district unit AL organised the press conference at Pabna Press Club yesterday.

Senior Vice President of district AL Saiful Haque Chunnun chaired the conference conducted by lawmaker of Pabna-5 constituency Golam Faruk Khandaker Prince, also the organising secretary of the district AL.

The leaders condemned Friday's incident and denied the allegations against AL and its associate organisations.

The leaders blamed the DC for creating the situation because the question paper of the recruitment examination was leaked out before the examination.

They also demanded withdrawal of cases filed against their activists.

Joint Secretary of district AL Abu Ishaque Shamim, Pabna Sadar Upazila Parishad Chairman Mosharaf Hossain and Office Secretary of district AL Abdul Ahad Babu were also present at the conference.



PHOTO: STAR
Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad and Dhoritri Foundation organise a children's rally in front of the Teacher Student Centre (TSC) of Dhaka University yesterday demanding a hunger, poverty and discrimination free society ahead of United Nations General Assembly.



PHOTO: STAR
CR Dutta speaks at the national convention of the Bangladesh Hindu-Buddha-Christian Oikya Parishad at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

'Revise bill on vested property return act'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some eminent personalities yesterday urged the prime minister to place the bill of Vested Property Return (amendment) Act in the next parliamentary session after necessary amendments in agreement with the Supreme Court verdict.

Termining the bill as against people's interest, they demanded its annulment.

They placed the demand at the national convention of the Bangladesh Hindu-Buddha-Christian Oikya Parishad at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

Speaking as the key speaker Suranjit Sengupta, president of the parliamentary standing committee on law ministry, stressed the need for passing the act in the parliament's next session.

"If the act can not be passed in this session, it will be clear that an ill-motivated section is acting as barrier to pass the act despite the prime minister's direction," he said.

He also blamed the

bureaucrats for opposing to pass the act.

"They (bureaucrats) are playing a significant role, trying not to pass the act, because they are taking benefits in its absence," he added.

Presiding over the function CR Dutta, president of the oikya parishad, urged all to work together to press over the government to pass the act in the next session of the parliament.

He also laid emphasis on restoration of the four fundamental principles to establish a secular democratic Bangladesh.

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim said amendment of the act is a must to strengthen the base of the country's democracy and national unity.

Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique said the act should be passed after necessary amendments to establish a discrimination free Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Human Rights Commission member Aroma Dutta stressed the need for

passing the act to ensure the rights of the religious minority groups.

Prof Ajoy Roy, president of the Human Rights Congress for Bangladeshi Minorities, said the government should return land and properties, grabbed after March 23 in 1974, to their rightful owners.

After the convention, the leaders submitted a memorandum to the prime minister with some recommendations to include in the act.

The recommendations include a clear definition of vested property on the basis of Supreme Court's orders, return of all properties grabbed after 1974 and formation of tribunals at district levels to dispose of the cases.

Additional Attorney General MK Rahman, General Secretary of the parishad Ranadas Gupta, Joint Secretaries Tapos Kumar Pal and Nirmol Chatterjee, Bangladesh Adivasi Forum General Secretary Sanjeeb Dronng and human rights worker Shirin Akhter were also present at the function.

'Autoimmune disease nine times more among women than men'

UNB, Dhaka

Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), a chronic systemic autoimmune disease that can affect any part of the body resulting in inflammation and tissue damage, occurs nine times more often in women than in men.

The SLE most often harms the heart, joints, skin, lungs, blood vessels, liver, kidney and nervous system and the course of the disease is unpredictable, with periods of illness alternating with remissions.

Expert physicians in Bangladesh informed that there are thousands of people have been suffering from SLE over the times but many of them remain unidentified due to lack of proper diagnosis.

Prof Syed Atique Haq, Chairman of Department of Medicine in Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, has said although SLE is not curable but it can be controlled with taking medicine and changing lifestyle.

Aiming at creating awareness and taking preparedness among patients he held a lengthy discussion meeting on Thursday at the city's Green Life Medical College where his SLE patients from across the country, scores in number, attended the meeting and shared views with the experts.

"It's very essential for the SLE patients to lead their lifestyle in scientific way to control the disease taking medicines regularly and undergoing medical tests as per doctor's advice," Prof Atique said.

Emphasising on boosting patients' mental strength he said the SLE patients should carry on their normal life with courage in heart, leaving

out all sorts of frustrations to achieve the goal.

"Changing lifestyle, taking fresh diets with fish, vegetables, fruits and milk and regular exercise, avoiding fat and additional salts, can help the SLE patients keeping in normal health," he said.

The disease occurs especially between the age of 15 and 50, and is more common in those of non-European descent. In Asia SLE patients are mostly found in Hong Kong and China, he added.

Prof Atique mentioned that SLE is treatable through addressing its systems mainly with cyclophosphamides, corticosteroids, and immunosuppressant.

Mentioning that SLE patients were firstly treated by him in the country in 1992, Dr Atique, also the WHO fellow in Rheumatology, observed that although there's no proper research or survey, there might be around one lakh people suffering from the disease in the Bangladesh.

Survival for people with SLE in the United States, Canada and Europe is approximately 95 percent at five years, 90 percent at 10 years and 78 percent at 20 years, according to the physicians.

They said the warning signs of an impending flare of the disease include increased fatigue, pain, rash, fever, abdominal discomfort, headache and dizziness.

Early recognition of warning signs and good communication with a doctor can help individuals remain active, experience less pain and reduce medical visits.

Dr Matiur Rahman, Prof of Medicine and Rheumatology in Mitford Medical College, noted zoologist Rajib Uddin Ahmed, Dr Nazim and Dr Delwar were present at the meeting.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Journalist Manjurul Alam, Chief News Editor of Islamic TV and also a former secretary general of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), passed away on Friday night at a hospital in the city at the age of 55, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, a son and a daughter.

His first namaaz-e-janaza was held at Jatiya Press Club and second namaaz-e-Janaza was held at Choddagram in Comilla. He was buried at the local graveyard.

All are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

In a statement, BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in the Parliament Khaleda Zia condoled his death.

In a joint statement, BFUJ president, secretary general, president of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), general secretary and Jatiya Press Club Management Committee condoled his death.

Towhida Manjur Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Towhida Manjur Khan Chowdhury Minu, wife of lawyer Manjur Hossain Khan Chowdhury (DUJ), passed away around 11:50pm at her residence in Uttara on Wednesday at the age of 77, says a press release.

She left behind her husband, one daughter and two sons.

Her Namaaz-e-Janaza was held after Johr prayers yesterday. She was buried at the graveyard of Sector-4 in Uttara.

A doa mahfil will be held after Asr prayers today at her residence at 28, Shahjalal Avenue, Sector-4 in Uttara.

Relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the programme.

Chehlum

METRO DESK



Chehlum of Atif Rahman will be held today after Asr prayers at Gulshan Azad Mosque, says a press release.

Atif Rahman is the son of Rezaur Rahman, managing director of Bengal Airlift Group of Companies and former president of Dhaka Club Limited and Kaukab Reza, senior teacher of Wills Little Flower School and College.

He passed away on August 16, this year at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore.

Atif left behind his wife, a son and a daughter to mourn his death.

Friends, relatives and well-wishers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Atif Rahman completed his higher education in United States of America and passed Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania.

Atif was deputy managing director of the Bengal Airlift Group.

Besides he was chief executive officer (CEO) of Air Alliance Limited, the service provider of UPS in Bangladesh, sponsor director of Bengal Knittex Limited, Bengal NFK Textile Limited, Bengal Travel and Tours Limited, Bengal Airlift Aviation Limited and Premier Leasing and Finance Limited.

He was also managing director of Ace Bangladesh Limited and Ace Aviation Limited.

Jupiter closest to Earth in nearly 50 yrs

AP, Cape Canaveral

Better catch Jupiter next week in the night sky. It won't be that big or bright again until 2022. Jupiter will pass 368 million miles from Earth late Monday, its closest approach since 1963. You can see it low in the east around dusk. Around midnight, it will be directly overhead. That's because Earth will be passing between Jupiter and the sun, into the wee hours of Tuesday.

The solar system's largest planet already appears as an incredibly bright star -- three times brighter than the brightest star in the sky, Sirius. The only thing brighter in the night sky right now is our moon. Binoculars and telescopes will dramatically improve the view as Jupiter, along with its many moons, rises in the east as the sun sets.

"Jupiter is so bright right now, you don't need a sky map to find it," said Tony Phillips, a

California astronomer under contract with NASA. "You just walk outside and see it. It's so eye-catching, there it is."

Phillips has never seen Jupiter so bright. "To an experienced observer, the difference is notable," he said Friday.

Coincidentally, Uranus also will make a close approach the same night. It will appear close to Jupiter but harder to see with the naked eye. Through a telescope, it will shine like an emerald-colored disk less than one degree from Jupiter.

Jupiter comes relatively close to Earth about every 12 years. In 1999, it passed slightly farther away. What's rare this time is Uranus making a close appearance at the same time, Phillips said. He called it "a once-in-a-lifetime event."

While seen right next to Jupiter through a telescope, Uranus actually will be 1.7 billion miles from Earth on Monday night.

JS residential sub-committee meeting held

BSS, Dhaka

The 7th meeting of the residential sub-committee of the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) was held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban here yesterday.

Committee chairman and Chief Whip M Abdus Shaheed presided over the meeting attended by committee member ABM Ashraf Uddin (Nizam).

The meeting discussed the security of the JS Bhaban and appointment of caterers to the JS cafeteria, said an official release.

It directed the concerned authority to install security equipment at the JS on an emergency basis to ensure security of the Sangsad Bhaban.

The meeting also advised the authority to ensure security checking of outsiders before their entry to the JS Bhaban and not to allow anybody except lawmakers and their family members to MP hostel.

Members of Dhaka City Corporation, Public Works Department and senior police officials were present.

Change in temperature unlikely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagang divisions and at many places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet divisions in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:58pm and rises tomorrow at 5:47am.

Country's highest temperature 33.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rangpur and lowest 23.5 degrees at Rangpur.

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	31.8	25.6	78	91
Chittagang	33.0	25.4	80	80
Rajshahi	31.6	25.0	83	96
Khulna	31.2	26.0	82	96
Barisal	31.0	24.8	100	88
Sylhet	32.0	24.0	94	83
Cox's Bazar	32.7	25.0	73	83



PHOTO: STAR
The Department of Environment seizes huge quantities of illegal polythene bags at the city's Karwan Bazar during a drive yesterday.