METROPOLÎTAN/NEWS

250 more seats

ALPHA ARZU

The government has increased 50 more seats at a public medical college from 2010-2011 academic sessions to provide meritorious students a scope to study medicine.

Jessore Medical College. Another 200 seats will be added at private medical colleges from the same session," said Khandaker Md Shefayet Ullah, director of Medical

Education and Health Manpower Development under the health ministry.

students will be Now, the total number of seats at all 18 public medical medicine colleges has increased to 2,227 and to 3,550 at 43 private medical colleges, said the director.

Despite the increase, around 24,000 qualified students will not get scope to study at both private and public medical colleges due to seat limitation.

The form distribution and submission for MBBS admission course of the session College. ended yesterday. The examination is due to be held on October 22. Number of candidates for the year increased to 43,644 from last year's 35,000.

The government has increased the seats 2011.

to fulfil the growing demand of doctors at home and abroad, he said.

In 2008, the government increased 100

Set as quota, 20 seats are reserved for indigenous community students, 80 for foreigners and two percent of the total

an increase in the number of seats at private medical colleges.

In this regard, the ministry formed a

private medical education scrutinising committee headed by Dr Shefayet.

deprived of studying committee visited three private medical colleges and sent recommenda-

> The colleges are Addin Women's Medical College, Community Medical College and Shahid Monsur Ali Medical

> Two new private medical colleges, start academic activities from January

Medical colleges get | Hasina to meet grassroots leaders next month

ALCWC meet tomorrow

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Prime Minister and Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina will exchange views with her grassroots level leaders to bring coordination among the rank and file of the party and diminish the existing gap between the government and the party.

Hasina will start the view-exchange meeting with her party's organisational district and upazila unit leaders next month. A meeting of the AL Central Working Committee (ALCWC) will be held at her political office in Dhanmondi tomorrow to finalise date of the meeting, said party insiders. At the meeting, she will give the leaders

important guidelines to strengthen the party's organisational capacity across the country in an effort to thwart any bid by the opposition parties to foil the trial of war crimes. According to the sources, the premier would listen to the leaders to get first hand

respective constituencies. A stalemate in the activities of the party has been witnessed across the country since it assumed power as lawmakers and their close associates in almost every

information on various matters, including

organisational matters and performance of

the government and its ministers in their

constituency are controlling party matters, said leaders of different district units of the party.

AL insiders said she will issue tough warnings against the unruly activities, including illegal involvement in the government's recruitment, tender manipulation and extortion, by the party men and ask them to stay away from these unlawful

"A gap has been created between the party and the government, central and the grassroots, and grassroots level leaders and lawmakers and workers across the country. The prime minister will address these problems and give necessary guidelines to the grassroots level leaders to establish coordination at all levels of the party and the government," AL Presidium Member Obaidul Quader told The Daily Star yesterday.

He said the view-exchange meeting is very much important at this time. She will also give directives to the grassroots leaders about mobilising people in favour of the trial of war criminals, said the AL policymaker.

"The prime minister will give necessary guidelines to the district and upazila leaders to strengthen the party activities across the country and make it more vibrant," AL Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif,

also a special assistant to the premier, told The Daily Star.

The grassroots level leaders will urge Hasina to take tough action against those party men who are tarnishing the image of the government through their unruly activities. Talking to The Daily Star they also said they will urge the premier to implement party's electoral pledges as early as possible.

ALCWCMEETINGTOMORROW

Asked about the agenda of the ALCWC meeting to be started at 11:00am tomorrow, Mahbubul Alam Hanif said latest socio-economic and political situation and organisational matters are likely to be discussed.

Dates would be finalised to hold rallies and grand rallies in district and division levels to gain public support in favour of the trial of war criminals, he said adding that holding of union parishad and municipality elections and process of candidate selection will come to discussion at the

Contacted, some other AL central leaders said issues like price hike of essentials, persisting power, gas and water crises, opposition BNP's anti-government agitation and performance of ministers and lawmakers would also be discussed at the meeting.

Obituary

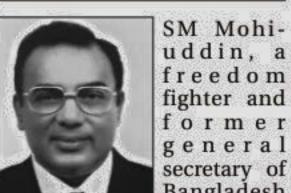
Barrister Syed Mohammad Ali, son of late Syed Badrudduja, former mayor of Kolkata, passed away in London on Wednesday at the age of 77, says a press release.

Syed Ali served a spell in prison owing to his active part in the 1952 Language Movement. In 1971, he was an

assistant editor at The People. He left behind his wife, two sons and a host of relatives and admirers. Ali will be buried in London today (Friday).

SM Mohiuddin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



uddin, a freedom fighter and former general secretary of Bangladesh Bodybuildin

g Association, passed away early hours yesterday at the age of 61, says a press release. He left behind his one son

and two daughters. Mohiuddin became 'Mr East Pakistan' in bodybuilding competition in 1966-67. He secured 15th place in 'Mr Asia'

competition in 1975. He was buried yesterday at Jurain graveyard with state honour.

Atiqur Rahman

METRO DESK



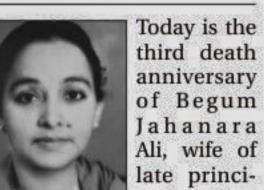
Atiqur Rahman, a businessman and son of late M Fazlur Rahman, passed away at Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital in the city early hours yesterday,

says a press release. He left behind his wife and two sons to mourn his death.

Relatives, friends and wellwishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Death anniversary

METRO DESK



pal Askar Ali, says a press release.

Relatives, friends and wellwishers are requested to pray for the departed soul.



Dr Shamsul Huda Shahzadi Harun

Milad mahfil

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A milad mahfil will be held on the second death anniversary of Dr Shamsul Huda Harun,

former chairman of Political Science Department of Dhaka University, and third death anniversary of his wife Shahzadi Harun at their residence at House No. 22, Flat No. 2/A, Road No 108, IV Concord at Gulshan in the city after Maghrib prayers today, says a press release.

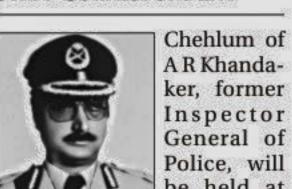
Prof Harun was a member of the Awami League advisory council.

Relatives, friends and admirers are requested to

attend the milad.

Chehlum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



ker, former Inspector General of Police, will be held at his Banani residence after Asr prayers

today, says a press release. Khandaker passed away

on August 26 this year.

Relatives, friends and wellwishers are requested to attend the programme.

Begum Zinnatunnesa

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Chehlam of Begum

Zinnatunnesa, mother of Jatiya Party (JP) Secretary General Sheikh Shahidul Islam and elder sister of Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib, will be held at Tungipara in Gopalganj after Juma prayers today, says a press release.

On the occasion, special prayers will be offered and different mosques.

30 at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University in

seats at four medical colleges.

"A total of 50 seats have been added at seats for children of freedom fighters. The government is also planning to allow

Around 24,000 qualified Yesterday the

> tions to the ministry to allow an increase of 200 seats at these institu-

Shamorita Medical College and Square Medical College, got primary approval to

Fake DU student

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University authorities

identified a fake student in

the department of mathemat-

ics and handed him over to

Sahriar Arefin, a second

semester student, appeared

to took admission by illegal

means when he failed to

produce authentic docu-

He went to the department

office yesterday for collecting

police yesterday.

UNB, Dhaka

6:00pm today.

5:53am tomorrow.

Celsius at Hatiya.

Office said.

country.

were:

City/Town

ments.

handed over to cop

main documents of his SSC

Islam handed him over to

Shahbagh Police Station after

Shahriar admitted that one of

his friends sit the admission

test by proxy; he just replaced

his friends' photograph on

the admit card and took

be cancelled if irregularities

are proved in his admission

process, said DU officials.

Shahriar's admission will

admission.

WEATHER

Thundershowers likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompa-

nied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at

many places over Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna and

Dhaka divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi,

Rangpur and Sylhet divisions in next 12 hours as of

over Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna and Dhaka divisions, Met

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the

The sun sets in the capital at 5:39pm today and rises at

Country's highest temperature 27.8 degrees Celsius was

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity

Min

23.3

23.5

22.9

23.9

24.2

24.2

24.8

Humidity in

percentage

Morning

98

100

97

89

93

100

Evening

94

98

97

77

95

96

recorded yesterday at Satkhira and lowest 22.1 degrees

recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday

Temperature in

Celsius

Max

25.2

25.1

25.0

26.8

25.5

26.3

27.4

DU Proctor Dr KM Saiful

and HSC examinations.

Negligence in Hajj management won't be tolerated: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government would not tolerate any negligence in Hajj management.

"You're taking care of Almighty Allah's guests (pilgrims)...be conscious that no negligence takes place," she told the officials while inaugurating the National Hajj Programme-2010 at a function at the Hajj camp in city's Ashkona.

The premier said the government is sincere about accomplishing all the Hajj related tasks without any flaw, and efforts to this end would continue. "We've formulated a five-year Hajj Policy for the first time for better Hajj management."

On the increase of pilgrims' number this year, she said, "It's our good fortune...but some problems appeared initially due to abrupt increase in the number of pilgrims. However, we've resolved the problems."

The number of physicians has also been

healthcare services to the Hajj pilgrims, she informed. "A total of 94 doctors are going this year whereas the number was 60 last year," she The PM said ten airlines would carry the Hajj

passengers to Saudi Arabia. The government would provide IT ser-

vices to the pilgrims so that they can communicate with their relatives in Bangladesh through short message service (SMS), she added. Meanwhile, 150 Saudi nationals have

been appointed as local volunteers to look after the Bangladeshi pilgrims in Saudi Arabia.

talked to the Hajj pilgrims.

Religious Affairs Secretary Kazi Habibul

Minister for Religious Affairs Shahjahan Mia

Later, the PM went round the Hajj camp and

Awal presided over the function while Home Minister Sahara Khatun, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Quader and State

were, among others, present.

increased this year for ensuring better

registration: HC

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina from her welfare fund donated Tk 5 lakh in aid of 'Pop Guru' and valiant freedom fighter Azam Khan, who has been

Azam Khan's

treatment

UNB, Dhaka

suffering from oral cancer. PM's deputy press secretary Md Nazrul Islam and assignment officer Manjo Kanti Boral handed over the cheque to Azam Khan at his Kamlapur residence in the city yesterday

afternoon. The Prime Minister previously donated Tk 2 lakh for the treatment of the ailing pop

singer.

(SUPRO) will form a human chain.

Human chain

Venue: National Press Club, Time: 11:00am. Discussion Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul

Campaign for Good Governance

Committee will arrange a discussion. Venue: Bilia auditorium, Time: Workshop

Bangladesh Agricultural Research

Council will arrange a regional workshop. Venue: Sheraton hotel, Time: 9:30am.

Club, Time: 10:30am.

Cultural programme

Human chain Bangladesh Mobile Phone Recharge Babsaie Association will form human chain. Venue: National Press

programme. Venue: Biam hall, Time: 4:00pm. Rally Bangladesh Finished Leather, Leather Goods and Footwear Exporters' Association will organise a

rally. Venue: Tannery more,

Compensation International will

organise a symposium and cultural

Human chain Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote wil

Hazaribagh, Time: 4:00pm.

form a human chain. Venue: National Press Club, Time: 11:00am. Conference

Bangabandhu Shishu Kishore Mela will organise national conference. Venue: BMAauditorium, Time: 9:00am.

PM's support for Birth certificates of girls CUJ sit-in Oct 13 mandatory for marriage

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) in a verdict yesterday directed the kazis (marriage registrars) to examine birth certificates of girls before registering their marriages, so that child marriage cannot take place in the country.

An HC bench of Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore came up with the verdict following a writ petition filed by Abul Hossain, a kazi of Chouddagram in Comilla.

Abul filed the petition in June this year challenging a government action cancelling his (petitioner) licence (for

registering marriage of two girls under 14 and 16 years. The girls under 18 years are

considered children as per

provisions of the existing law of the country. The petitioner stated that he did not commit any misconduct, as it seemed to him

that the girls were adult during

registration of their marriage.

The HC bench yesterday upheld the government decision cancelling the licence of the petitioner after rejecting his writ petition.

Additional Attorney General Murad Reza told The Daily Star that the HC verdict would assist the government to take steps in preventing marriage registration) for child marriage in the country.

BSS, Chittagong

Journalists in the port city will observe the programmes of roadblock and sit-in on October 13 at Jakir Hossain road crossing to press home their demand for implementation of the 7th Wage Board Award in the Daily Purbokone. The programmes were

announced by Chittagong Union of Journalists (CUJ) at a rally held in front of the Daily Purbokone office. The journalist leaders expressed their concern over

non-implementation of the wage board award in the newspaper. CUJ General Secretary Nazim Uddin Shyamal, jour-

nalist leaders Mustak Ahmed Sultan Ahmed Asharafi, Asif Siraj, Ezaz Yousufi, Mohammad Ali, Ratan Kanti Debashish, Faruk Taher, Mohammad Shanowaz and Golam Mowla Murad spoke at the rally with CUJ President M Shahidul Alam in the chair.

DU online admission process successful: VC

The newly introduced online process to enrol

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

students in the admission tests for first year honours courses at Dhaka University is running successfully, said Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique yesterday. Briefing reporters at his office, the VC said

over 115,000 forms have already been downloaded from the admission website till now while 71,041 applications have been submitted tillWednesdaynight. As many as 120,000 application forms were sold by the manual process, he added.

He said students from different parts of the country are daily downloading, submitting and collecting admit cards successfully. DU authorities started the online registra-

received around 200 complaints from the applicants, out of which 100 have already been answered. He said applicants who are putting wrong

September 27 and it will end on October 14.

facing a few troubles. Sometimes students put down information completing the application process online.

information and making spelling mistakes are

Message Service (SMS), typing "du" and sending to 16321 to get information on whether their admit cards are ready to be downloaded.

officials received from the education boards, he added. He said top officials of every education board have already been requested to send

that do not match with those that the university

administration to the Madrasa board. He expressed concern on some newspaper

were not clearly mentioned in the mark sheet of miss-match in GPA during submission of appli-

The VC said officials who monitor the process

datamin@office.univdhaka.edu. During the briefing, the VC presented some documents to clarify the transparency of the process and accountability of the university

"The fourth subjects or optional courses

appropriate information of successful students in the HSC or equivalent examinations to

reports claiming that Madrasa students are being deprived in the online process.

madrasa students and so students faced some tion process for the admission tests on cations. But we collected the subject code from the Madrasa Board and resolved the problem," Prof Arefin added. He suggested applicants to use Short

The VC said all out cooperation would be provided to the students facing trouble in

membership STAFF CORRESPONDENT A legal notice was served yesterday on the authorities con-

Commission (EC). Abu Sved Mo Khairuzzaman, a voter of Joypurhat-1 constituency, sent the legal notice to the speaker of Jatiya Sangsad, chief election commissioner, secretaries to the ministry of law, Jatiya Sangsad and EC secretariat to cancel the parliamentary membership of

Prodhan for providing false

information to the Election

having four. According to the law, his parliamentary membership should be cancelled for providing false statement and concealing information,

issued the legal notice on behalf of Khairuzzaman.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



foods will be distributed in She passed away on August

the city at the age of 87.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina talks to intending Hajj pilgrims after inaugurating the National Hajj Programme-2010 at the Hajj camp at Ashkona in the city yesterday. Legal notice to cancel BNP lawmaker Mozahar's cerned for the cancellation of parliamentary membership of BNP lawmaker Md Mozahar Ali

Mozahar Ali within three days. The notice said Mozahar Ali gave false statement to the EC that he has only one residence in Joypurhat town while

the petition added. Advocate Manzill Murshid

Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani M d Alam, a BRAC gov-

BRAC centre at Mohakhali in the city around 5:00pm. On the occasion, special prayers will be offered at BRAC

try and abroad tomorrow. Aminul passed away on Saturday from a cardiac arrest at the age of 61.

two sons.

offices throughout the coun-

and execu-

He left behind his wife and Rangpur

tive director of international programme, will be held at the

erning body member

Dhaka Chittagong Rajshahi Khulna Barisal Sylhet