

NEWS IN

brief

Dhaka City College student drowns

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A Dhaka City College student drowned yesterday while bathing near St Martin's Island under Teknaf upazila in Cox's Bazar while three other students were rescued in critical condition.

The deceased Sakhawat Hossain Jitu, 21, a student of Department of Business Administration, was visiting the island with four faculty members and 152 students, police said.

Jitu, Omar Ferdous 21, Sansardin Al Shams, 21, and Ashraful Haque Raihan, 21, along with their group were bathing on the west side of the island around 3:00pm when a strong tidal wave washed the four out to sea.

Woman 'commits suicide' in Mohammadpur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging yesterday at city's Mohammadpur area. Police arrested her husband Soheli Khan, an employee of a private company, in this connection.

Soheli said he found his wife Afroza, 25, hanging from the ceiling of their residence when he came home from a neighbour's house.

Afroza's brother Rezaul Islam said Soheli used to torture Afroza mentally and physically since they got married seven years back.

New warship arrives in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNS Dhaleshwari, the latest addition to Bangladesh Navy's fleet of warships, arrived at New Mooring Naval Jetty of Chittagong yesterday, says a press release.

The modern castle class warship was purchased from the UK in a government initiative to make Bangladesh Navy a modern, more effective, and three-dimensional force.

Youth found dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the slaughtered body of an unidentified man aged about 26 from Jatrabari of the capital yesterday.

The youth in black trousers and a white T-shirt was found dead in front of Saddam Market near Dhaka Chittagong highway around 4:30am.

Sub-inspector Hossain Ali Khandokar of Jatrabari Police Station said criminals might have killed him elsewhere and dumped the body there somewhen on Sunday night.

Nat'l research council proposed

UNB, Dhaka

University Grants Commission (UGC) recommended the government to establish a national research council to coordinate and strengthen all research activities.

UGC made the suggestion in its recent annual report-2009 submitted to President Zillur Rahman.

The report said research activities were sporadically conducted at various levels but it is not clear what the pragmatic applications of the emerging knowledge will be.

University Laboratory School re-union Feb 26

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Formers students of University Laboratory School and College are going to organise a re-union on February 26.

University Laboratory Ex-Student Association (ULESA) requested all former students of the school to attend the re-union at the school campus.

WEATHER TODAY

Change in night temperature unlikely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the country during midnight till morning, Met Office said.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:49pm and rises tomorrow at 6:35am.

Country's highest temperature 31.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakundu and lowest 11.8 degrees at Sitakundu and Srimongal.

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	28.8	15.7	70	55
Chittagong	27.3	14.8	68	80
Rajshahi	28.5	12.6	96	73
Rangpur	27.5	14.5	88	72
Khulna	29.5	15.8	94	65
Barisal	30.0	14.2	90	76
Sylhet	28.6	15.7	66	54



Though the city is supposed to get a face-lift before the ICC World Cup Cricket 2011, cables still dangle dangerously on the road north side of Baitul Mukarram Mosque, right beside the inaugural match venue Bangabandhu National Stadium.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Hasina greets newly elected Nepalese PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina greeted the newly elected Prime Minister of Nepal Jhulanath Khanal yesterday.

In a message to Khanal, Sheikh Hasina expressed her government's eagerness to work with the Nepal government in the days ahead to further strengthen the cordial relations between the two countries and also to achieve the shared goal of development in the region.

Valerie Taylor's anniversary of birth today

METRO DESK

Today is the 67th birthday of Valerie Ann Taylor, founder and coordinator of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP), says a press release.

Valerie was born to Marie and William Taylor in 1944 in Kent, the UK.

She is a fellow of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (FCSP) and first came to Bangladesh with Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) in 1969 to work as a physiotherapist in the Christian Hospital of Chandra Ghona in Chittagong Hill Tracts.

She established Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP) at 1979 with four spinal cord injured patients. In 1998 Valerie was granted Bangladeshi citizenship.

Arju Ahmed passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A r j u Ahmed, former student leader, journalist and acting editor of newspaper 'Alor Michhil', passed away due to cardiac arrest at his Mirpur residence yesterday morning at the age of 41.

He left behind his wife and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death, says a press release. His kulkhwani will be held at his residence after Asr prayers on February 11.

Leaders of different socio-cultural organisations including Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, Dhaka Journalists Union and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal expressed deep shock at his death and expressed condolence to the bereaved family members.

Dr SM Golam Kadir

METRO DESK

Dr SM Golam Kadir, former professor of Anandamohan College and former Dean of school of arts of Asian University, died at National Heart Foundation in the city on Saturday, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, a son and four daughters.

Impart education of global standard

Nahid urges private universities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday called upon private universities to provide quality education to make students competent and efficient while meeting global standards and help them contribute to country's development.

"Private universities should be committed to provide quality education with adequate infrastructure, quality faculty and other necessary facilities," he said while addressing the sixth convocation of Brac University at city's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

Speaking as the chief guest, Nahid said the government would extend all-out support to the universities in ensuring modern and global standard education.

Delivering the convocation speech, Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland said, "You are the generation that needs to grapple with this huge 21st century challenge in a way that my generation and generation before me have failed to."

She talked about climate justice, saying that in Bangladesh and across the world, people are struggling to secure basic necessities due to rapidly-changing environmental conditions.

"Rouge weather events destroyed lives and livelihoods of the poor. And rising sea levels threaten entire communities, in this country, in the Maldives, Vietnam and the majority of Africa's coastal cities," she said.

Explaining the role of universities worldwide, she said some universities are forming inter-disciplinary climate justice groups.

She said her foundation, Mary Foundation-Climate Justice, is interested to support links between Brac University and universities in Ireland.

Brac University Board of Trustee Chairperson Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Vice Chancellor Prof Ainun Nishat, Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Golam Samdani Fakir also spoke.

A total of 497 students of Brac University were conferred with degrees. Of them, 309 students were from graduate programmes and 188 from postgraduate programmes. Two students were awarded gold medals for their outstanding academic achievements.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina speaks at a ministerial meeting at Bangladesh Secretariat in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 20)

PHOTO: PID

Mosquito menace beyond control

UNB, Dhaka

Vexed by the sudden intensification of the mosquito menace in the capital, the city dwellers have alleged that the menace has gone beyond control in the absence of the usual anti-mosquito drive by the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC).

"The situation has become so alarming that even during the day, anti-mosquito spray needs to be used in business establishments, offices and also in houses," complained Khadiza Akther, a housewife at Katusur Housing in Mohammadpur area.

She urged the authorities concerned to take special measures to contain the mosquito menace, saying that children, particularly the SSC candidates, are facing problems studying because of severe mosquito attacks.

Describing the mosquito menace as a public health nuisance, Dr Prabhat Chandra Barua, a public health specialist, told the news agency that the city corporation should take immediate measures to reduce the sources of mosquito breeding places, as it can emerge as a big public health concern.

"Mosquito bites during the spring season can increase the number of patients who will come down with various skin diseases, particularly allergy complaints," he said.

Visiting some DCC areas like Shewrapara, Kazipara, Mirpur, Pallabi, Mohammadpur, Gandaria, Malibagh, Moghbazar, Rampura, Khilgaon, Basabo, Madartek, Uttara and the Dhaka University areas, the correspondent found that the city dwellers in these areas suffer equally from mosquito menace.

When contacted to find the reasons behind the spurt in mosquito menace, the DCC authorities concerned alleged that huge privately owned wetlands in the city corporation areas remain as breeding places for mosquitoes, creating the recent public nuisance.

DCC Chief Health Official Brig Gen Nasir Uddin recently told reporters that though the mosquito eradication drives are carried out, but this year the regular mosquito crash programme was hampered due to shortage of the necessary pesticides.

KNOWLEDGE CORNER

NOBEL PRIZE
The Nobel Prize, named after the Swedish-born engineer Alfred Nobel, is the world's most prestigious award in the field of Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Economics and Peace. Introduced first in the year 1901, the prize was awarded in five major fields except Economics. Later, in 1968, Economics was included as one of the major fields and the first Nobel Prize in this category was given the following year.

Alfred Bernhard Nobel was a chemist, engineer, innovator, and armaments manufacturer. He is the inventor of dynamite. He has numerous patents among which dynamite is the most famous. He went to USA to study chemistry for four years. After returning from his education, Alfred devoted himself in the family business and started his research on the safe use of explosives. He never got married and left much of his wealth to the Nobel Foundation.

Since 1901, people around the world, who have accomplished extraordinary achievements in their fields for the welfare of human life has been awarded with this prestigious award. The first Nobel prize in physics was awarded to Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen for his discovery of X-ray. In 1903, only two years after the Nobel Foundation was established, a Nobel Prize was awarded to a woman, Marie Curie, for the first time.

Despite winning the Nobel Prize as the first female laureate, Marie Curie was also the first person to win the Nobel Prize twice. The prize cannot be awarded posthumously, unless the winner of the prize has passed away after the prize's announcement. Nor may a prize be shared among more than three people.

William Lawrence Bragg is the youngest person to win the Nobel Prize in the field of physics in 1915. He shared the Prize with his father Sir William Henry Bragg for their services in the analysis of crystal structure by means of X-rays. In 2007, 90-year-old Professor Leonid Hurwicz became the oldest person to ever win (one-third of the Prize in Economics); at 88, writer Doris Lessing became the oldest woman (Literature). In our Sub continent, Rabindranath

Tagore, a Bengali Indian poet, dramatist, and writer from Santiniketan, now in West Bengal, India, became the first Asian Nobel laureate in 1913. The Nobel Peace Prize 2006 was awarded jointly to Muhammad Yunus and Grameen Bank of Bangladesh for their efforts to create economic and social development from below through microcredit.

WORLD RELIGION

Religion is an ancient inheritance that we possess. It is based on beliefs and rituals. It deals with the purpose and meanings of our spiritual and physical existence.

According to historical origin, religions can be arranged into several categories. Namely Abrahamic, Indian, Asian, Iranian, African, etc.

Abrahamic religions are the largest group, and these consist mainly of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. They are named after the prophet Abraham, and are unified by the practice of monotheism (one God existence). The main religions of Indian origin are Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism. East Asian religions make use of the concept of *Tao* (in Chinese) or *Do* (in Japanese or Korean), namely Taoism and Confucianism.

Every religion has some basic components. The most important one is the belief on a divine existence. This existence is variable in number and even in name. Islam, Christianity, Judaism believe in One Creator. He is called **ALLAH, GOD, and JEHOVAH** in Islam, Christianity and Judaism respectively.

Each religion needs a spiritual leader for preaching, a text for guideline, a symbol for recognition and a place for rituals. For example, Lord Buddha, also known as **Siddhartha Gautama** was the founder of Buddhism. Tripitaka is the Holy book of Buddhism. It has adopted a symbol known as *wheel of the law*.

Basic purpose of religion is to attain salvation, both in this life and afterlife, and for purifying the soul. In **Buddhism** it is known as **NIRVANA**.

Religions have played vital roles throughout the history. It also manifests itself in various forms of

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12 bombs recovered in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) intelligence branch arrested one and recovered one locally made handgun, 12 hand made bombs, seven rounds of bullets and one machete here on Sunday.

Police identified the arrestee as Miraj Akon, 24, of Bandortilla area.

Police said the CMP patrol team recovered the arms in front of Navy Hospital gate and held one from the spot but failed to nab three other members of the gang.

Quoting Miraj, police said the gang was going to use the arms for hijacking in the city.

Police said they filed a case with Bandor Police Station under Explosive Substances Act against the gang.

Qulkhwani

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Qulkhwani of Shaidur Rahman Khan, former additional chief engineer of Power Development Board, will be held at his residence Ahsan Plaza, 56, Eskaton, Bangla Motor after Asr prayers today.

Relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend, says a press release.

Shaidur was suffering from cancer and passed away last Saturday.