

NEWS IN *brief*

'Chief Justice Box' in JS Bhaban

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Sangsad has introduced "Chief Justice Box" beside the "President Box" in the parliament house to show respect to the chief justice (CJ) and the judiciary. CJ ABM Khairul Haque inaugurated the Chief Justice Box and spent some time there yesterday evening, said Supreme Court Registrar Ashrafal Islam. The box has been installed to demonstrate that the parliament and judiciary are complement and respectful to each other, he added.

Complex for challenged people soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will construct a complex for the rehabilitation and welfare of people with disabilities in the city's Mirpur area, said a government official yesterday. Jatiya Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation Managing Director Gazi Nurul Kabir said the construction work would begin by the next fiscal year. He told the "National Conference on Deafblindness-2011" organised by Centre for Disabilities in Development (CDD) at LGED auditorium in the city. Initial cost for the 250-seat complex was estimated at Tk 100 crore, he said.

Int'l poultry show begins today

METRO DESK

A three-day long 'International Poultry Show and Seminar, 2011', begins in Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city today. President of World's Poultry Science Association-Bangladesh Branch (WPSA-BB) Abdur Razzaque Mia announced the event before the journalists at the National Press Club on Wednesday. Poultry farming, production, breeding, hatchery, feed mill, medicine as well as marketing and management techniques will be available in the mega event, said a press release. Dr MA Saleque, secretary of WPSA-BB also spoke at the press conference. The organisers said 23 countries are participating in the event. Some 246 stalls will be installed in the show while 53 technical papers will be presented. It will remain open from 9:00am to 6:00pm.

European Standard School joins PASCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

European Standard School (ESS) has become the fifth Bangladeshi school to join the German Language Partner School Programme (PASCH). PASCH is a worldwide network of 1,500 schools sharing a common platform of German language and culture. The school signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Goethe-Institut, an international German cultural institution in the city on Sunday, says a press release. ESS Principal Abdullah and Goethe-Institut Director Angela Grunert signed the MoU.

Bhutanese king arrives

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck yesterday expressed firm conviction that the current engagements between Bhutan and Bangladesh would bring benefits to the peoples of the two friendly countries. He also appreciated the initiatives taken by the prime minister of Bangladesh to strengthen and widen the relations between the countries which have brought substantial results.

The king stated this when Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dipu Moni called on him at Hotel Sonargaon yesterday evening after his arrival on a five-day state visit to attend the 40th Anniversary of Independence of Bangladesh. Recalling the pivotal role of the Third King and the people of Bhutan for their unstinted support during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971, Dipu Moni stated that the presence of the king is a fitting tribute and recognition of the contribution of Bhutan to the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

The king expressed his happiness to be able to visit Bangladesh particularly during this auspicious occasion. The bilateral cooperative issues in the trade, connectivity, energy, education, climate change sectors came up for discussion during the call on.



President Zillur Rahman greets Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck at Shahjalal International Airport in the city yesterday. PHOTO: PID

WAR CRIMES TRIAL Hearing on BNP ex-MP's arrest permission Mar 27

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal yesterday fixed March 27 for hearing two petitions seeking its permission to arrest former BNP lawmaker Abdul Alim and for interrogating detained Jamaat-e-Islami chief Motiur Rahman Nizami in connection with crimes against humanity in 1971.

The tribunal also fixed April 19 for hearing another petition seeking its permission to interrogate detained BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury in connection with the same charges, said the tribunal registrar, Md Shahinur Islam.

He told a press briefing at his office yesterday that the prosecutors on Wednesday filed the three separate petitions with the tribunal.

40 jailed for drug link

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court aided by Rab on Tuesday sentenced 40 people in the city to six-month imprisonment each for selling and purchasing illegal drugs. A huge quantity of yaba tablets and cannabis were also seized.

Banned Hizb ut-Tahrir's procession in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Operatives of Hizb ut-Tahrir Bangladesh, a banned militant outfit, yesterday brought out a procession in the city's Bijoy Nagar Water Tank area protesting ongoing air strike by coalition forces in Libya.

Witnesses said around one hundred operatives, mostly youths, suddenly appeared around 11:00am with banners written in Arabic, English and Bangla, paraded up to Purana Paltan intersection and disappeared a few minutes later.

Shabbagh police said being informed, they reached the spot and chased some of the operatives who managed to escape.

JAMAAT TOP BRASS'S BAIL HC bench delivers dissenting opinions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court bench yesterday delivered dissenting opinions on a petition filed by three detained Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami leaders seeking bail in Rajshahi University student Faruk Hossain murder case.

The leaders are Ameer Matur Rahman Nizami, Secretary General Ali Ahsan Muhammad Mojaheed and Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Saydee.

Senior judge of the bench Justice Moyoenu Islam Chowdhury granted them bail in the case, saying that the names of the accused were not mentioned in the case, although they were shown arrested in this case after four months of the detention.

Junior judge of the bench Justice Nazrul Islam Talukder rejected the bail petition, saying that the accused should not be granted bail in the case filed on charge of heinous killing as the investigation into the case is going on.

Advocate Tajul Islam, one of the counsels for the petitioners, told The Daily Star that the HC bench will send the bail petition to the Chief Justice for a decision.

After receiving the bail petition with dissenting opinion, Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque will constitute a third bench of the HC for disposal of the matter, Tajul said.

Rajshahi University Chhatra League leader Faruk Hossain was killed in a clash between Islami Chhatra Shibir and his party on February 9 last year. Later, a case was filed on the same day.

Jamaat leaders Nizami, Mojaheed and Saydee in August last year jointly filed a bail petition with the HC.

The HC on August 26 issued a rule upon the government to explain why the petitioners should not be granted bail in the case.

After two days' hearing, the HC bench yesterday passed dissenting verdicts.

Additional Attorney General MK Rahman appeared for the government, while Barrister Abdur Razzaq argued for the petitioners.



Operatives of Hizb ut-Tahrir Bangladesh, a banned militant outfit, brings out a procession in the city's Bijoy Nagar Water Tank yesterday and later disperse in minutes. They were protesting ongoing air strike in Libya. PHOTO: STAR

WEATHER TODAY

Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the region of Comilla in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:11pm and rises tomorrow at 5:57am.

Country's highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 19.2 degrees at Srirongal.

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	32.1	24.4	69	58
Chittagong	29.5	22.0	76	71
Rajshahi	36.0	24.5	75	47
Rangpur	30.7	22.0	93	70
Khulna	33.5	22.6	79	78
Barisal	32.0	22.5	87	68
Sylhet	32.2	21.8	78	64
Cox's Bazar	31.5	21.5	79	75

Qulkhwani

METRO DESK



Qulkhwani of Abdul Gaffur Ahmed, director (A & F) of Advanced

Development Technologies Ltd, will be held today, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at his residence at House No # 8, Road No # 14D, Sector 4 at Uttara in the city after Asr prayers.

He passed away on March 21 at the age of 75.

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

BDR CARNAGE CASE

'Produce 26 BGB men before court Mar 28'

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked the jail authorities to produce 26 members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) included in the supplementary charge sheets, before it on March 28 in Palkhona carnage case.

After scrutinising the dockets and other relevant documents, Judge Mohammad Zohurul Hoque of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court passed the order.

The court fixed the same date for taking into cognizance the charges of killing, looting, hiding of bodies and sedition and using explosives against 26 BGB members. On that day, the court will hear whether the charges brought in the charge sheets will be framed or not.

Earlier the same court fixed March 28 for hearing on charge framing against 824 included in the previous charge sheets of the cases.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) on March 21 indicted 26 more BGB members, raising the total number of accused to 850.

Special Superintendent of CID Abdul Kahar Akand submitted two supplementary charge sheets in two cases against the 26, including a deputy assistant director, to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka, showing 58 prosecution witnesses.

Last year, in July the CID pressed charges against 824 people and 23 civilians on various accusations, including murder, arson, looting, hiding of bodies and sedition.

Some 74 people, including 57 army officers, were killed in a BDR mutiny at BDR Headquarters in Palkhona of the city in 2009.

'Begin war crimes trial before Independence Day'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amra Muktijoddhar Shantan, an organisation comprising children of freedom fighters, yesterday demanded to begin trial of war criminals before March 26, the Independence Day.

They submitted a memorandum to the panel in this regard, says a press release.

Chief Prosecutor Golam Arif Tipu; Prosecutors Jeyad-al-Malum, Rana Das Gupta and Nurjahan Begum; and the organisation President Md Humayun Kabir and its General Secretary Syed Ashrafal Islam Nayyan were present.



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ভালবাসার টানে, পাশে আনে

7th International Poultry Show & Seminar 2011

Date: 25-27 March 2011
Time: 10.00 am - 07.00 pm
Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Center, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Organised by

World's Poultry Science Association - Bangladesh Branch, Dhaka, Bangladesh.