

NEWS IN brief

SC reopens today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) reopens today after a two-week summer vacation. The Appellate and High Court (HC) divisions of the SC went on vacation on April 8. Nine vacation benches of HC division and a vacation bench of Appellate division heard and disposed of some urgent matters during the vacation, SC sources said. Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque has recently reconstituted powers of nine HC benches which will run from today.

Worker killed in machine collapse

UNB, Narayanganj

A worker of Jony dyeing and printing factory was killed as machine collapsed on him while was working in the factory in Bottola area of Sadar upazila early hours of yesterday. The deceased was identified as Raju Ahmad, 18, son of Shamsuddin of Rangpur district. Ainul Haque, officer-in-charge of Fatulla police station, said Raju was injured critically as the rolling machine collapsed on him at around 3:30am. He was rushed to Khanpur Hospital in the town where attending doctor declared him dead.

Assam University VC calls on DU VC

UNB, Dhaka

Prof Dr Tapodhir Bhattacharjee, vice-chancellor of Assam University (AU), Silchar, India called on Dhaka University (DU) Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique yesterday at the latter's office in the city. AU vice-chancellor was accompanied by Director of National and International Academic Collaboration (NIAC) Prof M Dutta Choudhury, Finance Officer D Kanunja and Deputy Registrar Anup Kumar Roy. DU Registrar Syed Rezaur Rahman was present on this occasion.

'Decision on tea gardens soon'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The government will take decision soon regarding tea gardens, which have been running without lease for long, said Land Minister Rezaul Karim Hira. The government has determined to ensure just use of tea garden's land, the minister said, adding that illegal structures in the tea gardens will be demolished within three months.

The minister was addressing at a view exchange meeting with the tea garden owners and officials at Sylhet Circuit House in the city yesterday. State Minister for Land Mostafizur Rahman, Lawmaker Imran Ahmed and Bangladesh Tea Board Chairman Major General Mahbulul Hasan spoke at the programme.

Discussion on GC Dev held at DU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dev Centre for Philosophical Studies of Dhaka University organised a discussion marking the 40th death anniversary of Dr Gobinda Chandra Dev popularly known as GC Dev at RC Majumder auditorium on the campus in the city yesterday, says a press release. GC Dev, a professor of philosophy department of the university, was brutally killed by the Pakistani occupation forces on the night of March 25 in 1971 on his campus residence. Columnist Syed Abul Maqsood presented the keynote paper on social and political perspectives of philosophy of GC Dev in the discussion. In his keynote paper, Abul Maqsood said GC Dev had not feel any necessity to come out from religion rather he engaged logic with religion. DU Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique as the chief guest said GC Dev considered religion as an inspiration of human welfare. Prof Aminul Islam, Dr Nirukumar Chakma, Prof Sadrul Amin, Prof Latifa Begum spoke in the discussion while Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Harun-or-Rashid presided over the programme.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina lays the foundation stone of Second Mahananda Bridge at Shaheber Ghat of Chapainawabganj sadar upazila yesterday. PHOTO: PID

PM vows to change Rajshahi people's fate

UNB, Chapainawabganj

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed her firm determination to develop the Rajshahi division socio-economically. "We'll change the fate of the people in the Rajshahi division," she said after inaugurating the machinery installation work of Amnura 50 MW power plant in the morning. Later, she unveiled the plaque of the railway rehabilitation projects of Rajshahi-Amnura-Chapainawabganj, and Amnura-Rohanpur-Rohanpur border lines. She also laid the foundation of the 546-meter long second bridge over Mahananda River at Saheber Ghat and inaugurated the newly built stadium at Rehaicher in Chapainawabganj. Sinha Power Generation Company is implementing the furnace oil-based Amnura power plant, which is expected to go into operation from June this year. Agreement on the power plant was signed on June 15 last year. Addressing the opening ceremony of Amnura Power Plant, the prime minister asked the authorities concerned to complete all the works in time

Hasina inaugurates machinery installation work of Amnura 50 MW plant, railway rehab projects, stadium in Chapainawabganj

to start operation of the power plant. She said Chapainawabganj, even the entire Rajshahi region, had been neglected in the past. The present government is undertaking various projects to develop the region. Hasina was highly critical of the past BNP-Jamaat government, saying that no power plant was set up during its five-year rule. She said Awami League during its 1996-2001 tenure had increased power generation in the country to 4300MW.

Describing Chapainawabganj as a district of delicious mango, Hasina emphasised carrying out research works on mango for further developing its quality and method of processing. After inaugurating the railway rehabilitation projects that will cost Tk 115 crore, Hasina said her government has planned to expand railway networks across the country. She said the present government is committed to develop both rail and water networks as these are the most effective means of transportation in Bangladesh. The PM said rail transportation protects businessmen from many hazards, including extortion. Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain, State Minister for Power and Energy Mohammad Enamul Haque, Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister Toufiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, State Minister for Sports Ahad Ali Sarkar, Rajshahi City Mayor Khairuzzaman Liton and Press Secretary to the Prime Minister Abul Kalam Azad were present on the occasions.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 5th death anniversary of Nasrin Haque, a human right activist and member of Naripokkho, says a press release. Naripokkho will organise a memorial meeting to recall her contribution at Rangs Nilu Square, House No-75, Road No-5/A, Dhanmondi in the city today. Wreath will be placed at her graveyard at Baupara village in Gazipur.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Joyanti Rani Das, mother-in-law of Sanjit Kumar Dutta, adviser of the Mahanagar Sarbojaneen Puja Committee, passed away yesterday at her Dhanmondi residence at the age of 87, says a press release. Her cremation was held at Borodesswri Crematorium at Sabujbagh in the city. Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Parishad President Subrata Chowdhury, General Secretary Mongol Chandra Ghosh and Bangladesh Chhatra Jubo Oikkyo Parishad General Secretary Nirmol Kumar Chatterjee condoled her death.

Rajoir students' association executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Samrat Miah and Habibur Rahman Sabuj were elected the president and the general secretary respectively of the Rajoir Upazila Students Association in Dhaka. The election was held on Friday, says a press release. Other office bearers are Sumon Talukder, Sanjeeb Das, Golam Sawwar Tipu, Sumon Kundu, Mohsin Mollah, Shahnaz Akhter.



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia speaks at the party's National Executive Committee meeting at Mahanagar Natya Mancha in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1) PHOTO: STAR

Jewellery market demolished in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Landowners of a jewellery market at Hazari Lane under Kotwali Police Station in Chittagong yesterday demolished nine shops in an attempt to evict the shop owners and build a high rise there. The shop owners alleged that around 500 tolas of gold ornaments worth Tk 2 crore 20 lakh and Tk 10 lakh in cash were looted during the sudden demolition in presence of police around 3:30am. During the demolition, around 300 men led by Imran Ahmed, son of the landowner Mohammad Sagir, also locked adjacent shops, markets and residential buildings so that locals could not resist them, alleged locals. Sujit Baran Dhar, one of the shop owners, said Sagir owns the land but the shop owners have rights as they have been running business there for around 35 years. "We filed cases to stop the landowner from evicting us that are running in the court," Sujit said, adding that the landowners filed no eviction case against them. Amar Krisna Paul, lawyer of the shop owners, said Sagir and his son carried out the demolition without any court directive. On the contrary, Imran claimed the judgment of the case came in their favour. Officer-in-Charge Abul Kalam Azad of Kotwali Police Station said police arrived on information and the landowners claimed to have the judgement in their favour. Terming the incident unlawful, Bangladesh Jewellery Samity, Chittagong Branch, President Nurul Afsar Chowdhury and Secretary Subash Chandra Dhar demanded immediate punishment to the attackers and return of the looted valuables. They threatened to launch greater movement. Locals at Hazari Lane later held a protest rally.

ATTEMPT TO RAPE 2 cops closed in Cox's Bazar

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two members of Tourist Police have been closed yesterday following allegations that they attempted to rape a newlywed woman near Diabetic Hospital point of Cox's Bazar sea beach on Friday. The two policemen havilder Zakir Hossain and constable Shahid Uddin were closed to police line and departmental investigation has been started after cases were filed against them. Police and witnesses said Rubel, 27, of Pahartoli area in the town took his newly married wife Hena for sight-seeing at Diabetic Hospital point around 5:00pm. The two accused members of the Tourist Police, entrusted with the duty of providing security to the tourists at the sea beach, called them to nearby Jhau Bon (Tamarisk grove). They separated Rubel and his wife saying that they wanted to see whether they were genuine couple. Later, the two policemen tried to rape the woman. Hearing the scream by Rubel and his wife, local people came forward and rescued them and took them to the town. In the night, Rubel lodged a written complaint against the two policemen at Cox's Bazar Sadar Model Police Station saying they also looted cash money and cell phone sets. The officer-in-charge of the police station Mohammad Shahjahan confirmed the incident and said the two policemen have been closed on charges of attempt to rape and looting cash money.

Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Recently married Rehana Jahan, 28, is suffering from ovary cancer. Her family already spent their savings to bear her treatment cost and her condition is deteriorating gradually. She is not from a well off family while her retired father is bedridden due to paralysis. Doctors suggested sending Rehana abroad for better treatment. Around Tk 40 lakh is required to initiate minimum treatment abroad, quite impossible for her family members to arrange. Rehana, a resident of the city's Mirpur area, appeals to the well-off for financial assistance. Contributions can be sent to Afzal Hossain, Account Number - 2072007255, Dhaka Bank Limited, Karwanbazar Branch or can be contacted over cell phone 01924737376.

Zakir Hossain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Mohammad Zakir Hossain, an eleven-year old boy and a student of class two, is suffering from aplastic anemia, a condition where bone marrow does not produce sufficient new blood cells. The condition of Zakir, son of day labourer Mohammad Nannu Mia, came to notice when he suddenly fell sick and was admitted to the city's BSMMU, says a press release. Doctors said Tk 2,500 is daily needed for Zakir's treatment. It is impossible for Nannu, a resident of Mirpur 1 in the city, to collect such the money. Nannu, claiming to be an activist of Awami League, appealed to the well-off for financial assistance. Contributions can be sent to Nannu, Savings Account #100249624, Sonali Bank Limited, Mirpur Section 1 Branch.

Glaxose WEATHER TODAY
100% GLUCOSE

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country. Mild heat wave sweeping over the regions of Pabna, Rajshahi, Khulna and Jessore may spread over rest of Khulna division, Met Office said.

Day temperature may rise 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:24pm today and rises at 5:30am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 37.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 23.0 degrees Celsius 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	35.0	26.4	61	49
Chittagong	32.8	27.2	71	48
Rajshahi	36.5	24.5	76	47
Rangpur	34.0	23.0	81	55
Khulna	35.6	24.8	74	56
Barisal	34.0	24.5	89	57

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DHAKA TODAY

Seminar

Palli Karma-Shahayak Foundation will organise a seminar; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 3:00pm.

Discussion

Dhaka University will hold a discussion; Venue: Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban auditorium; Time: 4:00pm.

Discussion

Communist Party of Bangladesh will organise a discussion; Venue: CPB central office; Time: 5:00pm.

Book fair

Ottija will hold a book fair; Venue: Central Public Library premises; Time: 11:30am.

Discussion

Bangladesh Workers Party will organise a discussion; Venue: Shaheed Asad auditorium; Time: 5:00pm.

Memorial programme

Naripakha will hold a memorial programme; Venue: Rangs Nilu Square, House#75, Road#5/A, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi; Time: 5:00pm.

Forum

Dhaka School of Economics will organise a forum; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 10:00am.

Discussion

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will hold a discussion; Time: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:30pm.

Sit-in

Beshorkari Prathomik Shikhyak Samity Bangladesh will organise a sit-in; Venue: Muktagong; Time: 5:00pm.

Meeting

Rotary Club of Dhaka Midtown will hold a meeting; Venue: House#49, Road#10, Sector#6, Uttara; Time: 7:00pm.

Seminar

Association for Land Reform and Development will organise a seminar; Venue: LGED Bhaban; Time: 5:30pm.

Seminar

Human Development Research Centre will hold a seminar; Venue: Bangabandhu International