

NEWS IN brief

Azam Khan not out of danger

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's Pop Guru and freedom fighter Azam Khan, who is on life support in the city's Square Hospital, can move his limbs slightly but he is not out of danger.

Dr Quamaruzzaman Chowdhury of the hospital told The Daily Star that last evening that they could not take him out of life support as his lung remained non functional though his blood pressure was under control without medicine.

He said now it is impossible to shift Azam abroad for better treatment if his condition does not improve.

e-GP portal opens tomorrow

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to open the national electronic government procurement (e-GP) portal tomorrow for introducing e-tendering in the country.

The inaugural ceremony will be held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city at 10:00am.

The Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) within the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the planning ministry will organise it.

Interested individuals can register themselves with the e-GP system after opening of the portal addressed www.eprocure.gov.bd

Two mugged in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people fell victim to muggers in front of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital while they were out to look for blood for their ailing relative yesterday.

The muggers snatched Tk 2,900 from Md Muhasin, 50, and his cousin Arifur Rahman, 33, of Bhola district, around 11:00am.

Arifur said four people picked up a quarrel with them and snatched the money. They were looking for three bags of blood for Muhasin's brother Ansar Ali, 35, admitted to DHMCH.

Worker electrocuted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A factory worker was electrocuted at Sanarpur of Demra in the city yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Md Mainuddin, 17, a worker of a coil factory.

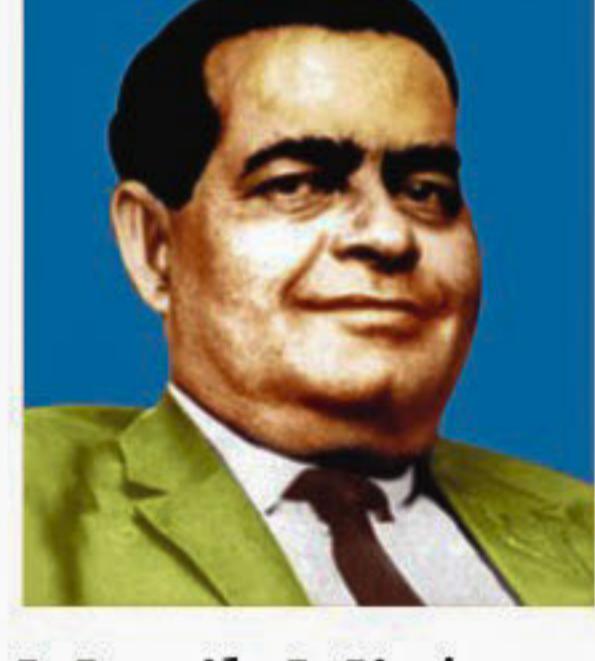
Witness said the worker was electrocuted when he came in contact with a torn live wire while he along with some other workers took bath into a pond near their factory at about 3:00pm.

Seriously injured Mainuddin was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where duty doctors declared him dead.



The youth tipped into a manhole in front of Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the city yesterday after rains led to complete submersion of the road.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL KHAN



Manik Mia's anniversary of death today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 42nd death anniversary of Tofazzal Hossain Manik Mia, a renowned journalist and the founder editor of the daily Ittefaq.

Different organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes to observe the day in a befitting manner, says a press release.

Jatiya Party (JP) will place wreaths and offer fetahe at his graveyard at Azimpur at 8:00am. A discussion on his life and work will also be held at the Jatiya Press Club.

Manik Mia Parishad and Jatiya Gonotantrik League will place wreaths at his grave in the morning and will hold a discussion at Mukti Bhaban of Purana Paltan in the city.

Hasina Banu Younus

METRO DESK

Today is the first death anniversary of Hasina Banu Younus, wife of late

Alhaj Ahmed Younus, a former joint secretary of Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation and founder president of Rajshahi Zilla Parishad, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at her son Ahmed Mostafa Shaheen's residence at House No-66, Road No-11, Sector No-14 of Uttara after Asr prayers today.

She will be buried at a graveyard at her village home at Lafadi of Madhabpasha in Barisal after namaz-e-janaza.

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The meeting was a part of EC's latest initiative to sit with different political parties regarding different electoral issues.

Inform custodial deaths within 24 hours

HR body chief asks law enforcers

UNB, Dhaka

Law enforcement agencies are to inform National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) about deaths in custody, crossfire and encounter.

NHRC Chairman Dr Mizanur Rahman yesterday said his organisation will send letters to all law enforcement agencies asking them to submit the report of all unnatural deaths with all consistent documents within 24 hours of the incidents.

Dr Mizan said this while he was speaking at a seminar on "Role of media in promoting transparency for human rights in Bangladesh" at Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban at Dhaka University.

Relief International in collaboration with European Commission organised the seminar.

Dr Imtiaz Ahmed of Dhaka University and Nazmul Islam, country director of Relief International Bangladesh, also spoke at the seminar

while senior journalist Jaglu Ahmed Chowdhury presented the keynote paper.

Talking to reporters after the seminar Dr Mizan expressed deep concern over statements of high government officials bracketing Limon and his family members as criminals while the incident is under investigation.

Drawing the prime minister's attention, he said "Prime minister has received biased information due to the speech by the high government officials."

'25pc people in city face eye problem'

METRO DESK

Around 25 percent people in Dhaka city are facing eye problems, says a baseline survey.

This was revealed at the Bangladesh Community Ophthalmological Society's annual conference at BICC in the city yesterday, said a press release.

Syed Modasser Ali, prime minister's health affairs adviser was the chief guest, while Prof Deen Mohd Noorul Huq, president of the society, was in the chair.

M Nurun Nabi, project coordinator of Dhaka Urban Comprehensive Eye Care Project, in his presentation based on the last year's baseline survey said 72 percent of the surveyed people were not aware about necessary eye care services.

\$30m US help for school feeding scheme

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

World Food Programme (WFP) has received a contribution of US\$30 million from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for operating its flagship school feeding programme.

The USDA donations would help WFP-run school feeding programme in 1,800 schools for a year benefiting over 350,000 pre-primary and primary school children in poverty-prone areas in Bangladesh, said a WFP press release yesterday.

The school feeding programme provides fortified biscuits to reduce micro-nutrient deficiencies among school children.

Parents, teachers and other family members will also be benefited from community mobilisation and educational activities under WFP's school feeding programme. WFP will also provide training to government officials and NGO service providers on gender issues, community mobilisation, hygiene, health and de-worming.

The WFP-supported School Feeding programme, covering more than 1.2 million children, is being implemented jointly by the primary and mass education ministry and the directorate of primary education. NGO partners will also assist the implementation at the local level.

Between 2001 and 2010, USDA contributed more than US\$40 million to WFP-assisted primary school children in the most food-insecure areas of the country, said the release.



Non-government primary school teachers in shrouds form a human chain in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday demanding nationalisation of their job.

AL cancels meeting with EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling Awami League (AL) has decided not to join a scheduled view-exchange meeting with the Election Commission on June 9.

AL General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam, in a letter sent to the commission yesterday, said, "The party can't take part in the meeting as the National Budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal will be placed in the parliament on the day."

The party, however, asked the commission to reschedule the meeting on a suitable day.

AL deputy office bearer Mrinal Kanti Das took the letter to the commission.

The meeting was a part of EC's latest initiative to sit with different political parties regarding different electoral issues.

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\$1.8b UN grants in the pipeline

UNB, Dhaka

The United Nations (UN) agencies will provide around US\$ 1.8 billion as grants for Bangladesh over a period of five years under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012-2016.

In this regard, an agreement will be signed between the government and the UN country team at the Ministry of Finance today in presence of Finance Minister AMA Muhiith.

Economic Relations Division (ERD) Secretary Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan and UN resident coordinator Neal Walker are expected to sign the agreement, said an ERD high official.

The agreement envisaged that the UN to work in seven interrelated and complementary areas and is based upon the MDGs Bangladesh Progress Report 2009, jointly prepared by the Government and the UN.

The ERD official said that the UNDAF 2012-2016 for Bangladesh has been prepared in line with the draft Sixth Five-year Plan (SFYP), Vision 2021, MDG Bangladesh Progress Report and Perspective Plan

through consultations with the UN agencies, civil society members and think tanks.

The agreement, known as UNDAF 2012-2016 is the guiding development plan for the UN system in Bangladesh.

UNDAF 2012-16 aims to raise US\$ 1.8 billion for Bangladesh in seven priority areas which are led by individual UN agencies.

These areas are Democratic Governance and Human Rights (UNDH);

Pro-poor Growth with Equity (UNDG); Social Services for Human Development (UNICEF); Food Security and Nutrition (WFP); Climate Change, Environment, Disaster Risk Reduction and Response (UNDP);

Pro-poor Urban Development (UNDP); Gender Equality and Women's Advancement (UNFPA).

The official said that the projects to be taken under this assistance would be executed following the rules and regulations of the government and the UN agencies.

A meeting on the (UNDAF) 2012-2016 will be held on June 5 at the ERD to advance the process.

DHAKA TODAY

Workshop

Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (Cirdap) will hold a workshop. Venue: Cirdap auditorium, Time: 10:30am.

Discussion

Cigat will hold a discussion. Venue: National Press Club, Time: 11:00am.

Workshop

World Fish Center, International Rice Research Institute and Cgair will jointly organise a workshop. Venue: Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, Farmgate, Time: 9:00am.

Conference

VIV Asia forum will organise a conference. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel, Time: 11:00am.

Human chain

The daily Amar Desh will form a human chain. Venue: In front of the National Press Club, Time: 2:30pm.

GlaxoSE WEATHER TODAY

100% GLUCOSE

Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

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

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over the country.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sunsets in the capital at 6:41pm today and rises at 5:11am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 37.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chaudanga and lowest 23.8 degrees Celsius at Cox's Bazar.

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	27.4	72	90
Chittagong	31.2	24.7	86	95
Rajshahi	34.8	26.5	80	76
Rangpur	30.5	25.8	82	71
Khulna	37.4	27.5	74	93
Barisal	33.0	26.5	78	81
Sylhet	28.6	25.0	94	96
Cox's Bazar	32.4	23.8	90	94

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