

NEWS IN *brief*

National fish week begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The production of fish has been dropped in the past few years due to lack of rainfall, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdul Latif Biswas said yesterday. "This lack of production results unsatisfactory per capita income of the fishermen," he said during a press conference on the eve of National Fish Week-2011 in the auditorium of the Department of Fisheries in the city. The fish week, scheduled to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, will begin today to encourage fish farmers. The theme of this year's fish week is Nirapad Machhe Vorbo Desh, Bodle Debo Bangladesh (Cultivate safe fish, change Bangladesh).

Tuku on one day remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT
Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Sultan Salauddin Tuku was placed on one day remand yesterday in a case filed for throwing Molotov cocktails on policemen in the city's Paltan area. Metropolitan Magistrate Keshob Roy Chowdhury passed the order after Detective Branch of Police Inspector Mohammad Shahjahan, also the investigation officer, produced Tuku before it with a seven-day remand prayer. The court also rejected bail petition of Tuku. The JCD leader was shown arrested in the case on July 12.

Schoolboy commits 'suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A schoolboy allegedly committed suicide at his residence at Kalyanpur in the city yesterday. The deceased is Abdullah Al Noman alias Hridoy, a class IX student of Kalyanpur Laboratory High School, and son of Mahub Hossain, a transport businessman, of South Paikpara of Kalyanpur. Family members and relatives of Noman, however, could not ascertain the cause behind his death.

Office hours during Ramadan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government office hours during the month of Ramadan have been fixed from 9:00am to 3:30pm, with a 15-minute break from 1:15pm to 1:30pm. The Supreme Court along with banks, insurance companies, Bangladesh Railway, post office and other such organisations will fix their own timetable for the month according to their rules and regulations, Prime Minister's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad said yesterday. The Ramadan office hours were approved in yesterday's cabinet meeting.



Police pick up two boys, actually the driver and helper of a bus, which ran over a motorcyclist at the city's Bangla Motor yesterday. Inset, a wrecker towing the seized vehicle.



PHOTO: STAR

Power generation hits new record Monday

UNB, Dhaka
The country's power generation hit a new record on Monday night touching 4,936 megawatt, but came down to a projected 4,786 MW yesterday. According to officials at the state-owned Power Development Board (PDB), the electricity generation saw the record on the night of a general holiday when all public and private industrial and commercial units were closed for the holy Shab-e-Barat. "Because of the closure of industries and commercial ventures, the PDB and private power generation units received the highest gas supply in recent times that resulted in the highest ever generation so far," said a senior PDB official. "We received about 765 million cubic feet (MMCF) of gas on Monday against an average supply of 700. But the power generation declined by 150 MW yesterday due to reduced gas supply," he added. PDB officials, however, said the average power generation now stands between 4,500 and 4,700 MW for the last few weeks. The generation will increase by another 300-350 MW within the next few months as a number of under-construction power units will start operation soon.

LABOUR TRAFFICKING Migrant workers denied justice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The legal system for the migrant workers denies justice while they are constantly cheated and exploited in the overseas recruitment process, says an action research. "Under the guise of recruitment agencies, traffickers use deception, fraud, and other means to extract huge sums of money from the poor and vulnerable. Yet the survivors are persistently denied justice", it said, and suggested reform of the Emigration Ordinance. Shikha Shastha Unnayan Karzakram (Shishuk), an NGO, conducted the research on 150 identical cases of labour trafficking under a programme of Winrock International. Shishuk Executive Director Sakiul Millat Morshed presented the research paper "Legal redress for victims and survivors in the process of migration: Framework and realities" at Biam auditorium in the city.

Census in all enclaves done

Dhaka, Delhi to make reports in a week
M RAHMAN
Bangladesh and India have completed the much-talked-about headcount in all 162 enclaves and exclaves and will exchange grand totals of the count within a week. Home ministry's Joint Secretary (political) Kamal Uddin Ahmed said, "Joint teams of the two countries completed the headcount on Sunday. The main survey sheets will be kept in the vaults of the deputy commissioners' offices." Bangladesh has 111 enclaves (Indian territory surrounded by Bangladesh) in nine upazilas of four districts--Panchagarh, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram and Nilphamari--and 51 exclaves (Bangladeshi territory surrounded by India) in Cooch Behar district. Sources said while counting heads they recorded names, sex, religion and number of family members and some other particulars. Lalmonirhat Deputy Commissioner Mokhesar Rahman Sarker said, "There are 59 enclaves in my district and I coordinated three-day-long (Friday-Sunday) headcounts there. Main copies of the count are kept in my office vault." The Adversely Possessed Land and enclaves/exclaves issues are going to be resolved in line with the Mujib-India Land Boundary Agreement, 1974. Home Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikdar and his Indian counterpart Gopal K Pillai in a fresh initiative had agreed to resolve the dispute at secretary-level talks held in Dhaka earlier this year. Home ministry sources said the enclave-exclave issue will be settled during Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Dhaka in September.



Swadhinata Sammanona for Indira

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government yesterday decided to confer "Bangladesh Swadhinata Sammanona" upon former Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi posthumously for her outstanding contribution to the country's Liberation War in 1971. Indira will be the first ever foreigner to be given the highest state honour. The two other state honours - Bangladesh Muktiyuddho Sammanona and Muktiyuddho Moitree Sammanona--would be given to 47 people and five organisations for their tremendous contributions to the Liberation War marking the 40th anniversary of the independence next year. The decision came at the weekly cabinet meeting at Bangladesh Secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. President Zillur Rahman will formally hand over the honour to Indian Congress party President Sonia Gandhi, also daughter-in-law of Indira Gandhi, at Bangabhaban on July 25. PM's Press Secretary Abul Klam Azad briefed reporters on the cabinet decision after the meeting. During her Dhaka visit, Sonia will attend a conference on autism organised by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University. Indira extended her all out support for the freedom of Bangladesh by sending troops to fight against the Pakistani occupation forces, providing shelters, foods and medicines to 10 million people who fled their home to India, and giving trainings, arms and ammunition to thousands of freedom fighters of Bangladesh to attain liberty.

Bail to Tarique extended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The High Court yesterday extended for six months its earlier orders granting bail to BNP Senior Vice-Chairman Tarique Rahman in three criminal cases filed during the regime of military-backed caretaker government. Of the cases, two were filed on charge of extorting money from a construction company and another for evading tax. Tarique is now in London for treatment. A bench of Justice Siddiqui Rahman Miah and Justice Naima Haider yesterday extended his bail following three separate prayers moved by his counsel Barrister Mahub Uddin Khokon.

Save Bakar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Abu Bakar Siddiq's both kidneys are fully damaged since June 20 and he needs dialysis every three days at LabAid Hospital in the capital. His family is not able to bear the expenses of treatment. Siddiq completed his postgraduate degree on geography from Jahangirnagar University in 2005. His elder brother Ismail Hossain is a class-III employee of JU and the lone breadwinner of the family. Ismail makes a fervent appeal to the well-off people of the society to come forward with financial assistance to save his younger brother's life. Those interested are requested to send monetary assistance to Abu Bakar Siddiq, A/c No 002172252001, HSBC Bank, Dhaka, or Afroza Akter, A/c No 0185162750005, One Bank, Banani Branch.

BNP-Jamaat protest on Saturday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
BNP and its key ally Jamaat-e-Islami will stage countrywide demonstration on Saturday in protest against abolishing the caretaker government system and deleting the phrase "absolute trust and faith in Allah" from the constitution. Both the parties announced the programme yesterday from separate press briefings at their party headquarters. Announcing the BNP programme, party acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said his party will also bring out processions in the capital. BNP sources said party Chairperson Khaleda Zia may lead the procession. Jamaat acting secretary general ATM Azharul Islam said they will hold protest rallies only in the capital. Briefing reporters at Nayapaltan office, BNP acting secretary general alleged the government has taken a stance against people's faith by unilaterally amending the charter. "The right to speak has been taken away. The government is now threatening to lodge sedition cases against the opposition," he said. Earlier on Saturday night, the top brass of the four-party alliance at a meeting at Khaleda Zia's Gulshan office finalised the protest programmes as part of the ongoing anti-government movement. BNP will also protest the arrest warrant against BNP Senior Vice-chairman Tarique Rahman, the police attack on Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abidin Faroque and reinstatement of secularism and socialism in the constitution.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Mohammad Nurul Kabir, son of late Dr Ahmed Sobhan, passed away at Massachusetts General Hospital at Boston in the USA on July 14 due to cancer at the age of 67, says a press release. Kabir, former marketing manager of Meghna Petroleum, left behind his wife, son and daughter. He will be buried at his family graveyard at Polmogra of Mirsarai in Chittagong after namaz-e-janaza following Zohr prayers today. His first namaz-e-janaza was held in Boston on July 14.

Abdul Matin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Abdul Matin, a freedom fighter and retired inspector of police, passed away at his residence at Raisecourse in Comilla on Monday at the age of 78, says a press release. He left behind his wife, seven sons and two daughters. He was buried with state honour at Khairabad village graveyard under Debidwar upazila in Comilla. Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Punorbashon Sangstha and Debidwar upazila Muktiyoddha Sangsad conduced his death.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Today is the third death anniversary of Farida Akhter Khan, a noted writer and journalist, says a press release. She passed away on this day in 2008 due to cancer. Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.




Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka
Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Rangpur, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions in 12 hours as of 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places over, said Met Office. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital at 6:47pm today and rises at 5:23am tomorrow.** Country's highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and lowest 24.9 degrees at Feni. 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	30.3	26.9	89	87
Chittagong	29.4	25.0	96	90
Rajshahi	31.5	27.6	89	88
Rangpur	29.0	26.9	90	92
Khulna	30.5	27.6	88	99
Barisal	28.6	27.3	98	100
Sylhet	31.0	26.3	90	83

Ultra | Powered by Citycell

Get used to surprises



DOUBLE

usage on internet!

Prepaid connection with modem only @ tk. **1490**

Nationwide mobile broadband coverage

Fastest mobile internet on the move anywhere, everywhere

Customer care within your reach

- Double usage offer is only applicable for Ultra 300 kbps postpaid and Ultra 2 prepaid users. To know about the other offers on usages, please visit: www.citycell.com
- This offer is applicable for both new and existing users
- Offer is valid only for limited time
- Stock limited

Zoom Ultra

THE FASTEST MOBILE BROADBAND IN BANGLADESH

Helpline: 121, 011 99 121 121 | www.citycell.com