

NEWS IN *brief*

8th wage board for journos soon

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad said here yesterday the government has launched activities to form the eighth wage board for journalists following a directive of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

"It will be finalised within the shortest possible time upon consultation with the owners of electronic and print media," he said.

Azad made the assurance at a reception accorded to the GPA-5 achievers by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), Magura district unit, in the town.

Girl 'commits suicide' in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A minor girl allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself on Thursday night at her grand mother's house in the city's Khilgaon.

Mithu Begum, 10, of West Rampura stayed with her grandma at Meradia, Noyapara of the area, said police. When her grandma Minu Begum went to the market, she hanged herself from the ceiling.

Worker electrocuted in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A construction worker was electrocuted and three co-workers suffered injuries at a site in the city's Tejgaon yesterday evening.

They got electrocuted while moving iron rods Colony which came contact with a live electric line at the building of Ismail Hazi near Railway around 6:00pm, said workers.

The dead is Mohammad Ibrahim, 16. Injured workers Ibrahim's cousin Sagor, 16, Anwar, 26, and Sumon, 22 were given treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. They were rushed to DMCH where Ibrahim died around 7:30pm.



Search Skating Club arranges a road show to create awareness to stop formalin-mixed and adulterated foods. The photo was taken in front of High Court in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Maasranga TV sets off journey today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With a promise to maintain objectivity and professionalism in news and programmes, Maasranga Television, a new private satellite channel, will set off its journey from today (Saturday) afternoon.

It will be the first high definition (HD; 920 x 1080 resolution) TV channel in Bangladesh that will enable viewers to watch more vividly quality programmes, said Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of the TV, during a press conference at a city hotel yesterday.

"We will emphasise quality and follow schedule literally", said Chief Editor and Chief Executive Officer Syed Fahim Munaim. Considering the boredom and irritation the viewers undergo, the channel will telecast advertisement only for six minutes in two different slots in every half-hour programme, he added.

Shah Alamgir, head of news, and Hassan Abidur Reja Jewel, head of programme, also addressed the programme. Alamgir said Maasranga Television will serve news like a 24-hour news channel.

Motahar Husain's anniversary of birth today

METRO DESK

Today is the 114th birth anniversary of National Professor Qazi Motahar Husain.

He was one of the fore-runners of a movement 'Mukto Buddhi' which endeavored to encourage the educated Muslim society to free expression and progressive thinking, says a press release.

He was a renowned litterateur, scientist and chess maestro. He was born on July 30, 1897.

AL vows to free Feni from crime

HASAN JAHID TUSHER, from Feni

The ruling Awami League leaders and workers in Feni yesterday made commitment to free the district, once known as a criminals' den, from criminal activities.

The vow came while AL Presidium Member Obaidul Quader MP was addressing a meeting at the district Shilpakala Academy. It was the party's first meeting in eight years here.

As Quader asked Feni AL leaders and activists if they want to go back to the past, the party men shouted slogans that they do not want criminal activities in the district again.

5,002 Yaba seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday seized 5,002 Yaba tablets worth Tk 20 lakh and arrested a drug peddler from Asodganj in the port city.

The arrestee is Zahid of Moheshkhali in Cox's Bazar.

Sources said a team from Rab-7 raided in the Sundarban Guest House area of Asodganj around 8:30am and arrested the drug peddler with the Yaba tablets.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE FM's remark protested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders and rights activists of indigenous community organisations yesterday condemned Foreign Minister Dipu Moni's comment on July 26 when she said people of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) are not indigenous.

Speaking at a human chain organised by Adivashi Chhatra Sangram Parishad in front of National Museum in the city's Shahbagh, they also demanded Dipu Moni's removal from the post of foreign minister and withdrawal of her comment.

They termed the remark disgraceful, undemocratic and obsessed with Bangalee nationalism, says a press release.

Bangladesh Adivashi Forum General Secretary Sanjeeb Drong, rights activist Tandra Chakma, Dhaka University teacher Robayet Ferdous, acting president of Communist Party of Bangladesh Haider Akbar Khan Rono, Workers Party Member Mojammel Huque, journalist Golum Murtaza and Dipayan Khisa expressed solidarity with the cause.

Mannan's role recalled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers recalled Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan's contribution to the nation saying that he was a progressive politician with sagacity and principle who played vital roles in all democratic movements of the country.

They said this at a memorial meeting on the occasion of first death anniversary of Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan at Jatiya Press Club yesterday organised by Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan Mrittu Udjapon Committee.

Bhuiyan served as secretary general of BNP for 11 years. BNP expelled him in September 2007.

Ashraf Hossen, former whip, presided over the event while Dr Akbar Ali Khan, Shahriar Akhter Bulu, Nurul Huda Minu, Abul Haris Rikabder and Prof Abdul Kader Bhuiyan spoke.

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DHAKA TODAY

Workshop
Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution will organise a workshop; Venue: its central office; Time: 10:00am.

Lecture
Banglar Pathshala will organise a lecture; Venue: RC Majumder Auditorium, Dhaka University; Time: 5:00pm.

Discussion
Banglar Alo will hold a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Workshop
Journalism Training and Research Initiative will organise a workshop; Venue: its office; Time: 10:00am.

Workshop
Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association will organise a workshop; Venue: Local Government Engineering Department auditorium; Time: 9:00am.

Rally
Citizens Rights Movement will hold a rally; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Discussion
Research and Development Collective will hold a discussion; Venue: National Museum; Time: 11:00am.

Discussion
Transparency International Bangladesh will hold a discussion; Venue: Cirdap Auditorium; Time: 10:30am.

Workshop
Consumer Association of Bangladesh will organise a workshop; Venue: its Segunbagicha office; Time: 10:00am.

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