City

DRAFT EDN FUND Tax exemption gets cabinet nod

UNB, Dhaka

The cabinet yesterday approved in principle the draft Education Trust Fund Act, 2011 with a provision for tax exemption.

The approval came from the cabinet's regular meeting held with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad briefed reporters at the PID conference room after the meeting.

He said the prime minister had directed the planning ministry on April 10 last year for creating the fund to help the poor but meritorious students.

Those who want to donate to this fund will enjoy tax exemption for the donation.

Teacher held for violating girl

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,

Police yesterday arrested a schoolteacher on charge of violating a class IX girl of his school in Tanore upazila Sunday night.

Abu Sufian, 30, a teacher of Ilamdohi Girls High School, was detained after the victim filed a case against him.

Police said Sufian proposed the girl to marry him and raped her in a wayside bush while she was returning home with him from private tuition at his house around 8:00pm Sunday.

Ismail Hossain, officer-incharge of Tanore Police Station, told this correspondent that Sufian confessed to violating the girl. "After his arrest, the teacher wanted to marry the girl. But the girl is under-aged, and any rape case cannot be settled out of court", he said.

The teacher was sent to jail custody after police produced him before a court.

Sacked NU staffs stage sit-in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sacked staffs of National University (NU) continued their sit-in for the second day yesterday on the campus in Board Bazar in Gazipur yesterday.

appealed against the High Court (HC) verdict and the university authority should not stop disbursing their salaries until disposal of the appeal.

They said they have

Nurul Amin, convenor of lob Preservation Committee, said the sacked staffs, divided into three groups, are going to appeal against the August 23 HC verdict and two groups have already appealed.

"Hearing of the appeals will be held tomorrow [today]," he told The Daily Star.

Besides, they would continue their demonstration and may also arrange a press conference on Wednesday depending on today's decision on the appeal, he added.

Law enforcing personnel have been deployed on the campus since Saturday night.



View exchange meeting Brac will organise a view exchange

meeting; Venue: Brac Centre Inn; Time: 9:30am.

Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University

Painting exhibition

will hold a painting exhibition; Venue: its premises; Time: 11:00am.

Oxfam will hold a discussion; Venue:

Cirdap auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

Discussion

Consultative meeting

Partners in Population and Development will organise a consultative

meeting; Venue: Hotel Eastern Residence; Time: 9:00am.

State University of Bangladesh will

Seminar



Passersby cover up nose to keep safe from dust clouding, a sunny day nuisance on the road between Swari Ghat and Kadamtali Ghat in the city. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

14 killed, 49 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Fourteen people were killed and around 50 were severely injured in ghastly road accidents at different districts in the country vesterday.

Our Correspondent from Kushtia reports that three people were killed and 25 injured when a Kushtia-bound bus from Rajbari lost control and plunged into a roadside ditch at the upazila's Kazipara area on Kushtia-Rajbari highway around 10:45am yesterday, said police.

Abdul Malek, 32, of the upazila's Soduki village is one of the dead, while the identity of the other two could not be known.

The injured people were admitted to Kumarkhali upazila health complex and Kushtia general hospital.

Our Lalmonirhat correspondent reports, four people including a child were killed in separate incidents in the district's Hatibandha and Patgram upazilas in the last two days.

Police said Roshidunnobi, 32, a T&T lineman of Hatibandha upazila, died on the spot after a Patgram-bound passenger bus hit him when he was crossing road in the upazila's Paruliya area around 12:30pm yesterday.

Around same time, a Rangpur-bound passenger bus hit Yakub Ali, 57, of the upazila's Tangjhara village, at Milon Bazar area leaving him spot dead.

Two separate cases were filed with Hatibandha Police Station in these regards,

while none was arrested.

Meanwhile around 9:00pm on Sunday, a mother and her child were both killed when a Rangpur-bound passenger bus lost control and fell into a roadside ditch at Alauddin Nagar area on Lalmonirhat- Burimari highway in Patgram upazila.

At least 20 passengers were severely injured in the incident. Police and fire fighter teams jointly rescued the injured and admitted them to different hospitals.

The deceased were Rezina Begum, 30, wife of Robiul Islam, and her daughter Romena Khatun, 5, of the upazila's Kochuya village.

Our Thakurgaon correspondent reports, three people were left spot dead in different accidents around the district highway in Baliadangi and Sadar upazilas.

Locals and hospital sources said a motorcyclist was killed when a goods-laden truck coming in opposite direction hit his motorbike on Thakurgaon-Baliadangi road at Molani village in Baliadangi upazila around 4:30pm yesterday.

The deceased was Joynal Abedin, 30, of Mohitpur village under Barura upazila in

His fellow Hatem, 25, was also severely injured and is under going treatment at Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital.

On another road incident at the district's Sadar upazila, an elderly man was killed on Thakurgaon-Dinajpur highway in front of Dodapara Madrasha near Khochabari Bazar

at 6:00pm yesterday.

Police and locals said a Thakurgaonbound bus coming from Dhaka hit Abdul Mannam, 60, of the upazila's Khagrabari village, when he was entering the highway from a connecting mud road on his bicycle. Meanwhile on Sunday, a Dinajpur-bound

passenger bus coming from Panchagarh hit a bicyclist in front of LSD Godown on Thakurgaon-Panchagarh highway near Bhulli Bazar in Sadar upazila on 1:30pm, leaving him critically injured, said police and local sources.

The victim Anis Ahamed, 20, son of Fazlur Rahaman of the upazila's Bara Balia village, was a 1st year student of Balarapur Agriculture College in Panchagarh.

Rangpur Medical College Hospital around 6:15pm. Protesting the incident, villagers barri-

Anis succumbed to his injuries at

caded the road from 1:30pm to 4:00pm. Meantime our Chandpur correspondent

reports, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw collided head-on with a truck coming in the opposite direction at Bhatialpur Dasbari area at Faridganj upazila in the district around 10:30am yesterday.

Selim Ahmed, sub-inspector of Faridganj Police Station, said the accident killed Jubair Alam, 32, an engineer of Airtel telecom hailed from Jamalpur, and injured three other passengers of the auto-rickshaw.

Our Mymensingh correspondent reports, a man distributing leaflets of a company to

different bus passengers was crushed under the wheels of a running bus at Patgodam of China-Bangladesh Friendship Bridge area around 1:00pm yesterday, said police. The victim was Arfan Ali, 50, son of late

Bisha Miah of Char Iswardia village in sadar upazila. Police sent the body to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital morgue for

autopsy. A case was lodged with Kotwali Police Station in this regard. Our Narayanganj correspondent

reports, a local, Mohiuddin, 60, was killed in a road accident in Kanlni Bazar area under Rupganj upazila around 11:30pm on Sunday. Mojibor Rahman, officer-in-charge of

bound goods-laden truck run over Mohiuddin when he was crossing the road. Police sent the body for autopsy and nabbed the truck along with its driver. A

Rupganj Police Station said a Gazipur-

case was filed in this connection. Our Gopalganj correspondent reports, an unidentified man, aged around 35, was

killed in a road accident on Dhaka-Khulna highway in Daserhat area under the district's Moksudpur upazila around 3:00am yesterday. Monirul Islam, officer-in-charge of

Moksudpur Police Station, police could not identify the vehicle that run over the deceased.

Bhanga highway police filed a case with local police Station in this connection.

Obituary

METRO DESK



Sheikh Ahmed Bazzi Al-Yasseen, sponsor director of Islami Bank

Bangladesh Limited (IBBL), founder chairman of Kuwait Finance House and chairman of Kuwait Shariah Board, passed away on Saturday at the age of 83, says a press release.

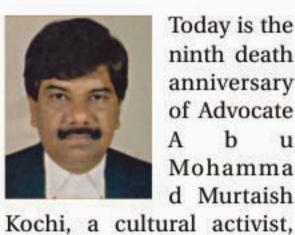
Prof Abu Nasser Muhammad Abduz Zaher, chairman of IBBL, and Mohammad Abdul Mannan, managing director of the bank condoled his death.

Habibur Rahman Hiron STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Syed Habibur Rahman Hiron, central joint general secretary of the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Rob), passed away at a private hospital in the city on Sunday evening due to kidney diseases at the age of 57.

He was buried at the graveyard attached to the shrine of Hajrat Shahjalal (RA) yesterday afternoon.

Death anniversary STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the ninth death anniversary of Advocate b u Mohamma d Murtaish

says a press release. On this occasion Padatic Nattya Sangsad will arrange

a Kochi Memorial Street Drama Festival at TSC on September 16 evening. He was a former legal

adviser of the Dainik Sangbad, the Daily Star and Brac. He was also a former president of Bangladesh Ain Samity.

Kamrul Islam Momin STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the sixth death anniversary of Kamrul



this day in 2005.

Dhaka Commerce College, says a press release. Momin was shot dead on

On the occasion Dhaka Commerce College students and Momin Smriti Sangsad will place wreaths at his grave and a milad mahfil will be held at his residence at 5:00pm today.

BANGLADESH-MYANMAR MARITIME DELIMITATION

Hearing continues for 3rd day

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The hearing in the Bangladesh-Myanmar maritime delimitation dispute continued for the third day yesterday in the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in German city of Hamburg.

Bangladesh's counsels argued for delimitation of exclusive economic zone and continental shelf within 200 Nautical Miles (NM).

Counsel Prof Philippe Sands presented the rules and principles of international law applicable for the delimitation of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and continental shelf, according to a Foreign Ministry press release.

He discussed the relevant laws of UN Convention on the Laws of the Sea (UNCLOS), legislative history of the Convention of 1982 to stress the obligation of the tribunal for achieving equitable solution without giving priority to equidistance method.

Prof Sands referred to two recent cases on Nicaragua vs Honduras decided by ICJ and Guinea/Guinea Bissau Arbitration decided by Court of Arbitration, where alternative method was used for achieving equitable solution.

The Bangladesh counsel urged the Tribunal to appreciate the geographical position of Bangladesh before applying the relevant laws and practices in this case. Another counsel Larry Martin in his argu-

ments concentrated on giving various examples and reasoning as to why equidistance does not give equitable result to Bangladesh vis-à-vis India and Myanmar. Martin illustrated to the judges the inequity

that would result if equidistance is applied in the case between Bangladesh and Myanmar due to extreme concavity faced by Bangladesh. He justified his arguments with case laws

like North Sea Case & Guinea/Guinea Bissau Arbitration as well as with state practices, like, Senegal/Gambia, Dominica/France, France/Monaco, Malaysia/Brunei and so on to

show that, concavity has been always given special consideration for discarding equidistance in maritime delimitation.

Martin argued that Bangladesh, having a long coastline which faces only the sea, deserves something equitable, not a cut-off by neighbouring countries.

the arguments and specifically mentioned about Myanmar's approach of drawing provisional equidistance line ignoring Saint Martin's Island, an integral feature of Bangladesh's coast.

Martin's Island.

Reichler also elaborated Bangladesh's unrebutted and uncontested entitlement to outer continental shelf on geological and geomorphological ground which demands an alternative of equidistance method for delimitation of its EEZ and Continentals Shelf within 200 NM.

which is angle bi-sector method will be presented to the judges with reasoning by Prof James Crawford in the afternoon when Bangladesh's counsel Prof Payan Akhavan of McGill University gave his presentation on the subject of the Tribunal's jurisdiction and show that there can be no doubt that the Tribunal has jurisdiction over this dispute in its entirety.

The Bangladesh team to the hearing is being led by Foreign Minister Dipu Moni.

After the presentation of Martin, another lawyer for Bangladesh Paul Reichler continued

He described various rules and judicial precedents like, Dubai/Sharjah Case, Rumania/Ukraine Case and Myanmar/India (Andaman Nicobor) maritime delimitation agreement in favour of giving full effect to Saint

According to the Foreign Ministry press release, yesterday's hearing stressed on the exclusion of equidistance due to its distorting effect in the present case and requested the Tribunal to delimit the 200 NM EEZ and Continental Shelf. The method proposed by Bangladesh,

carry huge number of pilgrims.



Prime minister's **Foreign Affairs Adviser Gowher** Rizvi speaks at a discussion organised by Bangladesh **German Chamber** of Commerce & Industry (BGCCI) at The Westin Hotel in the city yesterday. On his right is **BGCCI President** Saiful Islam.

PHOTO: STAR

Flights for 1.29 lakh Hajj pilgrims ready

Bss, Dhaka

A total of 1,06,965 people will perform Hajj this year while the civil aviation ministry has already arranged flights for 1,29,549 Hajj pilgrims to Saudi Arabia, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Quader said yesterday.

The Hajj flight will begin on September 29 and continue until October 31 while the return flight is scheduled to start from November 8, he said. Quader said the ministry has

arranged third carriers apart from national flag carrier Biman Bangladesh Limited and Saudi Arabian Airlines to

"There is no alternative to arranging 4,000, Kuwait Airways 3,000, United third carriers as the number of Hajj two years," he said.

The number of Bangladeshi Hajj pilgrims was more than 90,000 last year that was only around 50,000 in 2009.

Bangladesh Airlines and Civil Aviation Authority have already signed separate agreements with 11 other airlines as third carrier to ensure journey of all Hajj pilgrims on time, Quader said.

Under the arrangements, Biman will carry 36,225 pilgrims while Saudi Arabian Airlines 20,000, NAS Air 24,624, GMG Airlines 14,000, Gulf Air 9,000, Emirate Airlines 7,000, RAK airways

Airways 3,000, Air Arabia 2,500, Qatar pilgrims has rapidly increased in last Airways 2,300, Jet Airways 2,000 and Etihad Airways 1,900. "We can overcome all possible risk

of failing to carry the devotees if all quarters concerned follow our instructions," he said. Civil Aviation and Religious Affairs

Ministries will jointly form a monitoring cell to look after the flight management and a task force to supervise the entire Hajj management, he said. Of the Hajj devotees, 15,000 will

perform their Hajj under the government management while the rest are under private arrangements, religious affairs ministry said.