

NEWS IN *brief*

ALCWC meets today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League Central Working Committee (ALCWC) and party Advisory Council will hold a meeting today to discuss country's latest socio-political situation and organisational matters. The meeting will begin at 5:00pm at Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's official residence Gono Bhaban. ALCWC is the highest decision making body of the ruling party while the advisory council is the party's think tank. AL President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will chair the meeting. Party General Secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam urged the ALCWC and advisory council members to attend the meeting in time.

HSC results under BOU published

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Results of the first and second year examinations of the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) Programme under Bangladesh Open University (BOU) were announced in the grading system yesterday. A total of 1,01,434 students appeared in the examinations. Of them, 26,266 students became successful, says a BOU press release. The pass percentage is 38.81. Of the successful candidates, only one secured A+, 175 got A, and 1,375 received A-. Besides, 4,821 were placed in B, 14,813 in C and 5,081 in D grade. Of the successful students, 13,138 or 61.35 per cent are male and 13,128 or 66.11 are female, the release said. Examinees have been advised to contact their respective HSC's Tutorial Centres to know the result on Sunday.

Schoolboy commits suicide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A schoolboy allegedly committed suicide jumping from their 9th floor flat on Wednesday night at Sutrapur in the city, police said. The deceased Ruhana Mahmud Papon, 15, son of businessman Shawkat Ali, was a class-X student of Jubilee High School at Wari. Mohammad Arshad Hossain, sub-inspector of Sutrapur Police Station, said they recovered the body from in front of his residence at Larmini Street of Wari around 10:30pm. Quoting family members, Arshad said Papon jumped through a whole made for installing air conditioner in a bedroom.

3 suffer burn in factory fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three workers sustained burn injuries in a fire which broke out at a furniture factory at Gulshan in the city early yesterday. The injured workers Belal Hossain, 30, Shakil, 15, and Zulhash, 26, were given first aid at United Hospital Ltd and Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH), police said. The fire broke out around 1:15am at "Euro Furniture" situated on the first floor of a five-storey building at Kalachandpur, Norda of Gulshan-2.

Elderly man dies as train hits him

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A speedy train hit an elderly man on Vangura Boral Bridge here yesterday, leaving him dead on the spot. A Dinajpur-bound intercity train 'Ekota' Express hit Osman Mollah, 65, when he was crossing Boral rail bridge at about 4:30pm. Police sent the body to Pabna General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Ruet admission test Oct 26

RU CORRESPONDENT

The first year admission test under 2011-12 academic session of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) will be held on October 26. Details schedule and other examination related information would be available at the university website at www.ruet.ac.bd. Students can also dial 01555555021 or 01555555022 for more information.



(Sitting centre) Prof Veena Sikri and Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique pose for a photo with participants at a certificate awarding ceremony of a special course on India Bangladesh Studies at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi; Central University of Sikkim, Gangtok; and Department of International Relations, Dhaka University; organised the programme. PHOTO: STAR

TEESTA WATER SHARING

Delay in signing treaty to create misunderstanding

Says Veena Sikri

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

India and Bangladesh must start talks immediately on sharing of Teesta river water and sign a deal quickly, said former Indian High Commissioner Veena Sikri yesterday. "We have to start talks immediately, not even waiting for two weeks...it is urgent because if the deal is not signed, it will create further misunderstanding," she said. She was talking to The Daily Star after attending a certificate awarding ceremony at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban of Dhaka University (DU). The Teesta water-sharing treaty

was not signed during Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Dhaka on September 6 as Paschimanga (West Bengal) Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee disagreed at the last-minute. The issue was widely criticised by Indian and Bangladeshi diplomats, media and experts. "Teesta deal should have been signed. We should not make politics out of why it did not happen. As it did not happen, let us immediately start talking," said Veena. Veena, now a professor at Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi, however, emphasised implementing the agreements signed. She also suggested formulating a

foreign policy on the basis of national consensus so that it does not become a matter of conflict. It is also important that people of both countries understand each other so that those who might have doubts on various issues of national interests realise the interests of both countries, Veena said. The ceremony at DU was over a special course on India-Bangladesh Studies. Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi; Department of International Relations, DU; and Central University of Sikkim jointly organised the course from September 9-15. One part of the course was held in India and the latter in Dhaka,

attended by 20 young professionals and students from the two countries. Addressing as the chief guest, DU Vice Chancellor Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique said the two countries share a common history of culture, politics and tradition which bind the people together. Such programmes for the young minds will surely strengthen relations between people and at diplomatic level, he said. Prof Arefin conferred the certificates to the participants. DU Prof Amena Mohsin spoke at the programme where participants Sajjadur Rahman and Manjima Haque of Bangladesh and Punam Pandey of India shared their views.

BATAMUL CARNAGE
Next hearing Oct 9

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The next hearing in the Ramna Batamul carnage case will be held on October 9. Judge Begum Chamon Chowdhury of the Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court fixed the date during the hearing yesterday. Abu Yusuf Ali Mollah, second investigation officer (IO) in the case, gave his statement to the court. Yusuf, also an assistant director of Rapid Action Battalion-6, was also cross-examined on behalf of eight accused, including Harkatul Jihad (Huji) Chief Mufti Abdul Hannan. Yusuf, the then inspector of detective branch of police, said he took over the charge of investigation on June 11 in 2001 and continued it till August 28 the same year. He visited the place of occurrence and tried to arrest those who were responsible for committing such offences, Yusuf added. Earlier, 51 prosecution witnesses had given their statements before another court on different dates. Seven accused including detained Huji boss Hannan were produced before the court during the hearing while another accused Maulana Akbar Hossain, now on bail, was present. Six others including Maulana Tajuddin, brother of BNP leader Abdul Salam Pintu, have been absconding since the cases were filed. Ten people were killed and scores injured in the blast at Ramna Batamul during Pahela Baishakh celebration on April 14 in 2001. Following the incidents, two cases -- one for killing and the other under the Explosive Substances Act -- were filed in this connection.

Protest against transit to India

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of 25 eminent citizens in a written statement on Wednesday strongly condemned the government's decision to allow transit through the country to India. They said the transit is in fact "a corridor through Bangladesh" to transport goods and equipments from one part of India to another. "There have been no credible explanations on the economic, infrastructure or security related concerns in this regard," the statement stated. "Instead of protecting the interests of the citizens of Bangladesh, the government is providing service slavery to India," it added. The statement was signed by Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, Prof Talukdar Moniruzzaman, Ataus Samad, Mohammad Asafuddowla, Shafique Rahman, Farhad Mazhar, Alamgir Mohiuddin, Mahmudur Rahman, Dr Pias Karim, Dr Sadrul Amin, Kamal Uddin Sabuj, Ruhul Amin Gazi, Dr Mohammad Mahbubullah, Dr Kamrul Ahsan Chowdhury, Dr Yusuf Haider, Dr ABM Obaidul Islam, Dr Abdur Rahman Siddiqi, Dr Razia Akhter Banu, Abdul Hai Shikder, Syed Abdal Ahmed, Dr Khandaker Mushtahidur Rahman, Advocate Adilur Rahman Khan, Advocate Ruhul Amin Bhuiyan and Advocate Nasim Ahmed and Advocate AKM Zabir.

Man dies as brick falls on him

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A worker died after a brick fell on his head when he was demolishing a semi-permanent building in the port city's Maitta Pukur area of Pahartali around 9:30am yesterday. The deceased was Jahangir Badsha, 40, of Kaptai upazila in Rangamati. Babul Banik, officer-in-charge (OC) of Pahartali Police Station, confirmed the incident. The worker was brought to Chittagong Medical College Hospital around 10:00am yesterday where duty doctors declared him dead, said Md Jewel, a constable of the hospital police box.

Int'l Ozone Day today

UNB, Dhaka

The International Ozone Day will be observed in the country as elsewhere in the world today with an emphasis on global efforts to protect the ozone layer of the earth. Bangladesh has been observing the day since 1995 along with other member countries of the United Nations. The ozone layer protects the planet from ultraviolet radiation, which at high levels poses various dangers to earth. The theme of this year's International Ozone Day is: "HCFC phase-out: A unique opportunity". Scientists first marked the decline in the stratospheric ozone over Antarctica in 1986. President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the eve of the day.

WEATHER TODAY

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions in next 12 hours till 6:00pm today. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over of the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:02pm today and rises at 5:45am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 32.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 24.5 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	32.0	26.5	75	77
Chittagong	28.0	25.0	92	94
Rajshahi	29.8	25.5	97	93
Rangpur	31.5	26.2	78	76
Khulna	30.7	25.2	92	97
Barisal	31.5	26.0	77	93
Sylhet	32.8	24.6	86	91

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Banani: H 34, R 19/A | Uttara: Siaam Tower, Plot 15, Sec 3 | Dhanmondi: H 5, R 2, Novera square

For details | call 016 1600 4005, 016 1600 1006 | visit facebook.com/airtelbuzz

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