

NEWS IN *brief*

Free breast cancer screening at NICRH begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A month-long breast cancer screening programme has begun at National Institute of Cancer Research and Hospital (NICRH), said a press release yesterday. Screening of the disease would be held from 9:00am to 12:00pm in this month of October on the ground floor of the hospital in the city's Mohakhali. Possible patients are requested to contact at NICRH, TB Gate, Mohakhali or phone at 8826162 or 8826164 for any queries.

JU admission tests from Oct 8

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first year honours admission tests for the academic session 2011-2012 of Jahangirnagar University (JU) will start on October 8. On the beginning day, admission test of "Ka" unit (math and physics) will be held. Test of "Gha" unit (biology) will be held on October 9, "Uma" unit (business studies) on October 10, "Kha" unit (social science) and "Cha" unit (IT) on October 11, "Chha" unit (IBA) and "Ja" unit (law) on October 12 and "Ga" unit (arts) on October 13. Details in this regard can be found at www.juniv.edu/admission.php, says a press release.

Call for women's right to land

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government must take necessary steps to ensure equal rights of women to land and inherited property, said leaders of National Committee to Celebrate International Day of Rural Women yesterday. They were speaking at a press conference organised by the committee at Jatiya Press Club in the city marking International Day of Rural Women, scheduled on October 15. Advocate Shamima Sultana, president of the committee's Khulna district unit, read out the keynote paper. The committee Joint Secretary Morsheda Khatun Dilara moderated the conference where its President Mahbub Alam Firoz, Kushtia district unit President Salma Akhter and Jasim Uddin from Savar unit also spoke.

Youth stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mugger stabbed a youth to death at Barogram of Kamrangirchar area in the city yesterday. The deceased was Hazrat Ali, 27, a local trader, of the area. Police said Apu, an identified mugger, stabbed Hazrat as he chased him while he was fleeing after stealing a cell phone from one of his tenants house. Hazrat was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead. Police said Apu is a listed criminal in the area and he has been absconding after the incident.

Dr Shafee new EWU VC

METRO DESK

Dr Ahmed Shafee has been appointed vice-chancellor of East West University, says a press release yesterday. Besides serving as the chairman of the Physics department of Dhaka University, he was the founder-director of the university's Institute of Information Technology.

Chevron gives one year's salaries to teachers

METRO DESK

Chevron Bangladesh donated a year's salaries for three teachers of three Bibiyana high-schools at a ceremony at its Dhaka office yesterday, says a press release. Chevron Bangladesh President Geoffrey Strong, External Affairs Manager Obaidullah Al-Ejaz, Communication Manager M Ahsan Ullah Khan and headmasters Pradip Ranjan Das of Nadampur, Md Nizamul Islam of Dighalbak and Md Ataur Rahman of Inathganj high schools were present.



Life on the move?

Despite the day being United Nations World Habitat Day, citizens of low-income are compelled to pass their days floating from one footpath to another, building make-shift shanties and carrying out their day-to-day cooking and cleaning with their families out in the open. There has been no comprehensive survey either by the government or by the non-government organisations to determine the exact number and status of the homeless in the country. The photo was taken from Old Rail Station area in the port city of Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Release of JU teacher urged

JU CORRESPONDENT

Over 100 pro-Awami League (AL) teachers, officers, staff and some students of Jahangirnagar University (JU) formed a human chain in the campus yesterday demanding immediate release of a JU lecturer arrested on Friday. The government and politics department lecturer Mohammad Firozul Hasan and 20 others were arrested by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in connection with selling fake question papers for the combined medical college and dental college admission test.

Later, some students burned an effigy of Rab DG Mukhlesur Rahman in front of the administrative building. Meanwhile, JU pro-BNP teachers alleged that JU authority is still to temporarily expel Firozul. Nationalist Teachers Forum Chairman Prof Khandakar Mustahid Rahman said according to university job law 10 (Ka), if any teacher is detained or if any trial is held against a teacher, he must be expelled temporarily. On contact, JU Registrar Abu Bakr Siddique said JU authority would take a decision on receiving the court papers.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Abdu Wadud Khokon, a former vice-president of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), passed away at his Fakirhat residence in Bagerhat yesterday due to cardiac arrest.

He left behind his wife, one son, one daughter and host of relatives to mourn his death.

Khokon was the president of city's Motalib Plaza Shop Owners' Association, former general secretary of Dhaka University unit of BCL and the former president of Surya Sen Hall unit.

He completed MBA in finance and banking from Dhaka University. He will be buried at his family graveyard after namaz-e-janaza after Zohr prayers today.

AL presidium member Obaidul Quader and other leaders Bahadur Bepari, Ajoy Kar Khokon, Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, Liaqat Sikder, Nazrul Islam Babu, Rafiqul Islam Kotawal, Sahajada Mohiuddin, Baloram Podder, Marufa Akhter Popy, Saifuzzaman Sikhor, Delwar Hossain, Sheikh Hasan Mehedy and Imran Miah among others condoled his death.

ALTERING TESTIMONY ON DU VIOLENCE

Moeen's allegation refuted

RASHIDUL HASAN

The parliamentary sub-committee probing the August 2007 violence at Dhaka University has refuted former army chief Moeen U Ahmed's allegation of altering his testimony on the event.

Moeen, a key player in the last caretaker government, in an e-mail to Rashed Khan Menon, chief of the probe body, last week said he in his testimony to the committee did not blame the then caretaker government for the violence on the university campus.

He also termed "inappropriate" the news reports done on the basis of the committee chief's press briefing.

"News items published in newspapers quoted me that I had blamed the last caretaker government for the campus violence. It is not correct. The fact is I did not tell the probe body anything blaming the then caretaker government," a source in the commit-

tee quoted from the e-mail.

Menon on Saturday said, "We are not worried about his [Moeen] claim. We had recorded his testimony on the incident."

He said, "A small part of his [Moeen] testimony got blurred for technical glitch. But that does not create any difficulty in understanding what he said during the teleconference."

Moeen on September 13 gave a testimony to the sub-committee through a teleconference from the US, where he has been staying for the last one and a half years.

Later that day, Menon told reporters that Moeen blamed field-level army officials, DGFI and the caretaker administration for the atrocities on DU teachers and students.

Violence broke out on the DU campus on August 20, 2007 after some army men beat up three students and insulted a teacher during a football match on the gymnasium field at the university.

Warrant against acting Jamaat boss

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two separate courts of Dhaka issued arrest warrants yesterday against Jamaat-e-Islami Acting Ameer Maqbul Ahmad, its Dhaka City chief Rafiqul Islam Khan and nine others in cases filed for assaulting police, blocking traffic movement, and creating anarchy during the party's recent demonstration in the city.

The courts passed the orders directing officers-in-charge of Paltan and Ramna police stations to submit reports on execution of the arrest warrants between October 13 and 20.

Earlier, Metropolitan Magistrate Erfan Ullah of the Speedy Trial Court-7 acknowledged the charges against 120 Jamaat leaders and activists with Ramna Police Station while Metropolitan Magistrate Asaduzzaman Nur of the Speedy Trial Court-14 acknowledged charges against 161 Jamaat men with Paltan Police Station.

Maqbul and ATM Azharul Islam were accused in charges acknowledged in both courts.

On September 19, several hundred Jamaat activists clashed with police in the capital, leaving at least 100 people injured and halting traffic for hours.

During the violence, the Jamaat men set fire to at least 28 vehicles, smashed around 200 others, and vandalised dozens of roadside shops, police said.



(From left) Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB); Sultana Kamal, executive director of Ain O Salish Kendra; and Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chairman of All Party Parliamentary Group on Climate Change; at a consultation on Transparency in Climate Finance organised by TIB at Biam auditorium in the city yesterday.

Girl student 'commits suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A minor girl allegedly committed suicide at her residence at West Rajabazar in the city on Saturday.

Family members said Momtaz Akhter, 13, daughter of Mohammad Mohsin and a class five student of Sukrabad High School, hanged herself from a ceiling fan in her house around 11:00pm.

Sher-e-Bangla Nagar police recovered the body yesterday morning and sent it to Dhaka Medical College morgue for post mortem.

Her neighbour Harum Rashid said, Saturday afternoon, Momtaz had a quarrel with her parents for not allowing her to go out with some friends.

Later at night, her father and other siblings found her room door locked from inside and they broke open the door to find her dead.

Dalits demand housing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dalit people yesterday urged the government to ensure accommodation facilities for them throughout the city by formulating a housing policy.

They told a press conference at Dhaka Reporter's Unity that around 55 lakh people of the disadvantaged group have been living in misery due to lack of adequate housing space.

Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement (BDERM) and Nagorik Uddog jointly organised it on the occasion of the World Habitat Day 2011 to be observed on October 4.

The BDERM leaders placed at the event four points of demand, including setting up of a separate cell for the Dalits and allocation of khasland to them to ensue their housing security.

They also urged the government to reconstruct their colonies, saying Dalit members cannot rent a house, as the owners do not let them live in their houses.

Moni Rani Das, president of Dalit Nari Forum, said the government has arranged sufficient living space for the birds and animals of the zoo, but it is yet to provide required facilities to the Dalits.

Also speaking at the conference were BDERM president Mukul Sikder, General Secretary Bodhanki Sholoman, and Engineer Salma A Safi.

Man buries wife in room after killing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Drug addict husband concealed his wife's body under the earth in their room after killing her over a family feud at South Chhinnomul of Jalalabad in the port city yesterday.

The deceased was Sharmin Aktar Pakhi, 25, wife of Md Didarul Alam Hridoy, 30.

Quoting family sources, police said the couple locked into a quarrel at midnight as Didarul sold Sharmin's mobile phone set without informing her two days ago for his drug money.

At one stage, he strangled her and buried the body under the ground of their semi tin-shed house, police added.

Later, police recovered the body and arrested Didarul.

US to give \$180m dev assistance

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The US government will provide over US \$180 million to Bangladesh as development assistance this year, an increase of over US \$20 million from last year.

US Chargé d'Affaires Nicholas Dean and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission Director to Bangladesh Richard Greene announced the commitment yesterday, says a press release of the American Centre in Dhaka.

Of the assistance through USAID, approximately \$13 million is allotted for democracy and governance while \$45 million for food security, \$61 million for population, health, and nutrition programmes and \$17 million for climate change and environment programmes.

Moreover, USAID will help Bangladesh government expand its clean energy programmes.

Lastly, \$42 million will go for basic humanitarian assistance, improve availability of food, increase purchasing power of poor people, improve disaster readiness and provide basic health and nutrition services to highly vulnerable people.

WEATHER TODAY

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Dhaka, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Weather remained dry elsewhere over the country, said Met Office.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:44pm and rises tomorrow at 5:51am.

Country's highest temperature 34.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and Khepupara and lowest 23.7 degrees at Sylhet.

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	32.5	24.7	79	81
Chittagong	30.4	25.6	87	82
Rajshahi	33.4	25.0	83	80
Rangpur	33.7	26.5	84	78
Khulna	34.8	27.5	73	77
Barisal	31.5	26.5	86	80
Sylhet	32.5	23.7	79	78
Cox's Bazar	31.8	24.8	88	86