

NEWS IN *brief*

DU Ga unit admission test today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) Ga unit admission test, which was cancelled earlier, will be held today. The one-hour test will start at 3:00pm at 59 centres in and outside DU, said a press release. Seat plan is available at the website <http://gaunit.univdhaka.edu>. The admission seekers will also be able to know the seat plan through mobile phone (Robi, Banglalink, Citycell and Airtel). They have to go to the message option and type DU GA<Roll No> and send it to 16321.

100th birth anniversary of Barin Dutta today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 100th birth anniversary of anti-British movement hero and leader of Liberation War Comrade Barin Dutta (Abdus Salam), says a press release. Barin, also former general secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), was born in Sylhet on December 20 in 1911. He joined CPB in 1938. He was known as Abdus Salam, the name given by the party. He led the historical Nankar movement. He died in 1993. On the occasion, CPB has taken different programmes, including placing wreaths at his portrait and discussion.

Fake company director held

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rab men arrested the director of a fake private company at Satihat in Naogaoan district yesterday. Rab men from Binodpur camp in Rajshahi also seized some fake documents of the company around 10:00am. Md Abul Hossain, 35, is the director of LTC Network Co Ltd and son of Taslim Uddin of Gubanisar in Manda upazila of Naogaoan. Rab said LTC network has no registration with any government bodies but Abul Hossain has collected a huge amount of money from the people of the area in the name of investment in the company. Abul was handed over to Naogaoan Police Station in the evening.

'Save street children from cold'


STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

NGO activists have urged the government to set up shelter homes for protecting the street children from severe cold. Rajshahi-based NGO-Adivasi Sangskritik Unnayan Sangstha (ASUS)- assisted by INCIDIN Bangladesh raised the demand in a joint press conference at Rajshahi Metropolitan Press Club yesterday. Musfiqur Rahman, project coordinator of INCIDIN Bangladesh, read out a joint statement while Rajkumar Shaw, executive director of ASUS, and Jatiya Adibashi Parishad General Secretary Rabindranath Soren were present. The statement said some five lakh children in the country live on the streets and of them, around 25,000 are in Rajshahi city. A safe shelter in the city can help them remain safe from the miserable condition in the biting cold, it said.

Robbery at Keraniganj

UNB, Keraniganj

Robbers looted valuables from a house at Balughata village in Keraniganj upazila early yesterday. Police said a gang of armed robbers numbering 20/25 swooped on the house of Barek, breaking open the door of the house and kept the house inmates hostage at gun point at about 1:00am. Later the robbers looted valuables including 12 tolas of gold ornaments, Tk 2.5 lakh in cash and six mobile phone sets worth about Tk 10 lakh. Three people were injured as the robbers shot Alauddin, son-in-law of Barek, and hit his wife and a woman domestic help with sharp weapons. The injured were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and Mitford Hospital.



WEATHER TODAY

Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in 12 hours as of 6:00pm today. Moderate to thick fog may occur over the country during mid night till noon, Met office said. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital at 5:16pm today and rises at 6:36am tomorrow.** Country's highest temperature 26.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 09.2 degrees Celsius at Rajshahi. 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	18.2	12.0	96	89
Chittagong	20.0	12.5	97	89
Rajshahi	23.5	09.2	95	89
Rangpur	23.0	10.0	99	84
Khulna	17.8	11.0	100	89
Barisal	22.5	12.0	89	89
Sylhet	26.0	14.5	87	85
Cox's Bazar	25.0	14.3	97	79

Increase skill of workers to ensure safe migration

Speakers tell seminar

Speakers at a seminar yesterday stressed the need for increasing facilities of skill development training for migrant workers to boost their skill and confidence and enable their negotiating capability. It is not possible to ensure safe migration without education and skills, they said, adding that integrated effort of the government and private organisations is a must for developing skills of migrant workers. They also said the government needs to have a long-term visionary perspective plan for this sector which contributes around 11 per cent to gross domestic product (GDP). Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) organised the seminar titled "Developing skills of migrant workers, current market demand and way out" at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city. "Safe migration is only possible through education and skills," said Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on expatriate welfare and overseas employment ministry. If the migrant workers are provided with proper education and skills, the case of fraudulence with them will decrease significantly, he said, adding private participation has to be encouraged here. He said the government will have to take some long term plans, emphasis and invest more on skilled based education than general education, and give stimulus to those who are contributing to this sector. Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) Director Dr Nurul Islam said when



Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) Executive Director Shaheen Anam speaks at a seminar on 'developing skills of migrant workers, current market demand and way out' at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday. On her right are Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, Dr Nurul Islam and Ali Haider Chowdhury and on her left are Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir and Kazi Abul Kalam.

the demand of skilled workers is increasing globally around 50 per cent the migrant workers of the country are going abroad as less skilled. "We face most of the problems of these skilled workers," he said. Mentioning that the government is reorganising the skill development training system, he said apart from the existing 38 technical training centres, BMET will soon launch 35 more centres which would enable training to around one lakh people. Blasting the government, Ali Haider Chowdhury, secretary general of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira), said although this sector is contributing huge to the national economy this sector has not been announced as thrust sector yet. He suggested that the private sector should be given the priority for skill development with the government acting as associate force here. MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam moderated the seminar while Unnayan Anneshan Chairman Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir presented the keynote paper. Speakers at another programme voiced for building skilled manpower with technical and vocational education and producing new products to move the country forward,



Three arrested persons along with explosive materials seized from Shakhribazar area in the city yesterday.

Huge explosives seized, three held

Police yesterday seized a huge quantity of explosives from several storehouses in the city's Tantibazar and Shakhribazar areas and arrested three persons in this connection. The arrested are Swarna Datta, Dipu and Kala Chand. Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali Police Station Salauddin Khan said the explosives, mainly used for making chocolate bombs and crackers, had been stored illegally by some businessmen. M Khurshid Hossain, deputy commissioner (DC) of DMP of Lalbagh division, said these explosives could be used for making of high-powered bombs too.

NU masters, BBA results published

The results of 22 subjects out of 30 of 2008 Masters final examinations, BBA 1st semester (1st year) of 2010 and CSE (1st year) 2nd semester of 2009 under National University (NU) were published yesterday. The 22 subjects of Masters are: Bengali, English, Arabic, Sanskrit, Pali, History, Islamic History & Culture, Philosophy, Islamic Studies, Political Science, Sociology, Social Welfare, Marketing, Finance and Banking, Management, Physics, Biochemistry, Zoology, Soil Science, Psychology, Home Economics, and Statistics, a NU press release said.



Discussion

Deshpremik Jonogoner Mancha will organise a discussion; Venue: Gono Sangskriti Kendra, Shahbagh, Time: 3:00pm.

Human chain

Bangladesh Krishak Samik Mukti Andolon will form a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club, Time: 11:00am.

Conference

Disadvantaged Adolescents Working NGOs Forum will hold a national conference; Venue: Mahanagar Natyamancha, Time: 11:30am.

View exchange meet

Concern Universal Bangladesh will organise a view exchange meeting; Venue: Setara Convention Hall, Mirpur, Time: 9:30am.

Human chain

Swadhinata Forum will form a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club, Time: 3:30pm.

Seminar

National Grassroots Disability Organisation will arrange a seminar; Venue: Dhaka Reporters' Unity, Time: 10:00am.

JP picks 2 for DCC mayoral elections

Jatiya Party has announced two mayoral candidates for Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) elections without consulting with its ally Awami League. However, the Election Commission is yet to declare the polls schedules. JP Chairman HM Ershad made the announcement at a meeting at the party's Banani office in the capital on Sunday. JP presidium member Kazi Firoz Rashid will contest the mayoral post in DCC South and Bahauddin Babul, party's joint general secretary and also secretary general of JP Dhaka north unit, will stand in DCC North.

Posh cars seized at Ctg port

Customs officials at Chittagong Port yesterday unearthed illegally imported two posh cars and electronic goods in a container worth about Tk five crore. Sources said the importer Goldtex Limited located at plot No. 97-113 of DEPZ at Savar in Dhaka submitted bill of entry to the Chittagong Customs House where they had showed that they were importing 400 cartons of Combed Compact Yarn on November 30. The customs officials seized the container suspecting illegal goods during scanning on December 17.

Photography exhibition on liberation war ends

A two-day photography exhibition on the War of Liberation concluded at Chittagong University (CU) yesterday. CU unit of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, a left leaning student organisation organised the exhibition on the CU Railway Station premises on Sunday with around 70 images of the War of Liberation of 1971. Lauding the exhibition Rabeka Jannat, a student of Communication and Journalism Department, said such kinds of display on the War of Liberation should be arranged regularly. "We did not see the War of Liberation, but through these photographs we can visualise the creepy history of the war," she said. Rabeka said, "Such exhibition will give us a clear idea about the atrocities committed by the Pakistani occupation forces during the War of Liberation". The exhibition is aimed at introducing the new generations with our glorious War of Liberation, said Samajtantrik Chhatra Front university unit President Probal Majumder.



Save Ruponti

A student of class two, Ruponti, has been suffering from acute lymphoblastic leukemia at Pediatric Hematology and Oncology department of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) for long. To recover from the deadly disease, the physicians advised her parents--Abedur Rahman Topu and Selina Khandaker Selee of Boalia in Kotiadi under Kishoreganj district--to continue a long term treatment, said a press release. A huge amount of money is required for the treatment which her family cannot afford. Her parents have requested the generous and affluent people of the society to come forward with financial help to save their daughter. One can send assistance to Selina Kandaker, bank account no 101101275232 Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd Swift code: DBBLBD DH 101

JU teachers protest recruitment

Around 45 teachers of different departments at Jahangirnagar University (JU) yesterday formed a human chain protesting appointment of inefficient and excessive teachers by the current administration. A short sit-in programme was also staged following the human chain programme before the university's Shaheed Minar adjacent to the new Arts Building where Prof ATM Atiqur Rahman, Prof MA Matin, Prof Sayed Mohammad Kamrul Ahsan, Prof Md Shamsul Alam Selim, and asstt prof Rayhan Rhyne spoke. Prof Atiqur said as, at present, teachers are appointed on political consideration and personal relation, many qualified people are deprived of getting appointment as teachers. Prof Matin said current authorities have recruited more than 200 teachers, which is in excess of the posts mentioned in the advertisement.