

'Ensure security of domestic helps'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a meeting yesterday emphasised creating awareness among the house owners to ensure security and improve the lives of female domestic helps.

The view exchange meeting on "Safer life for girl domestic workers project" was organised by Young Power in Social Action (YPSA), a non-government organisation (NGO), at its head office at Chandgaon in the port city.

A survey conducted on the female domestic helps of the city's Mehedibag and Bakalia areas found that the workers, mostly hailed from Banskhal and Mirasari upazilas of Chittagong, came to this profession as a result of poverty, absence of parents or family break-up, said YPSA Project Manager Yasmin Akter.

YPSA set up several training centres to provide education and training among the domestic helps to make them skilled and improve their manners.

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Ward Councillor Mohammad Gias Uddin said torture on the domestic helps could be reduced through such awareness.

YPSA Director (Finance) Polash Chowdhury moderated the meeting while its Director Morshed Chowdhury and Associate Programme Officer Nur Mohammad, and Female Ward Councillor Anjuman Ara Begum spoke among others.



Candles light up the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in the city yesterday on the occasion of the sixth global Earth Hour. Several hotels switched off their electric lights for an hour in a global effort to raise awareness on climate change. Since it began in Sydney in 2007, Earth Hour has grown to become, what environment activists say, the world's largest demonstration of support for action on carbon pollution. (Story on Page-1)

PHOTO: STAR

Ruet reopens today

RU CORRESPONDENT

Classes at Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) will resume today amid tight security after 14 days closure over the killing of Aziz Khan Sajib, a BCL leader of the university.

The dormitories of both male and female reopened yesterday.

Meanwhile, the authorities have taken tight security measures to avert any untoward situation on the campus.

Correction

In our story, 'Pvt varsity class at DU!', on this page in yesterday's issue of The Daily Star, Professor Aminul Islam was referred to as Professor Emeritus of the Department of Philosophy at Dhaka University. In fact, he is Supernumerary Professor in the said department. The error is regretted.

Minar Mahmud laid to rest

BSS, Dhaka

Minar Mahmud, editor of the now defunct weekly news magazine 'Bichinta', was laid to rest at Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard in the city's Mirpur yesterday.

He was buried after his third namaz-e-janaza held at Bardhanbari Mosque adjacent to the graveyard after Zohr prayers.

The second janaza was held at Alipur graveyard mosque in Faridpur town yesterday morning where Labour, Employment and Expatriates Welfare Minister Engineer Khondoker Mosharraf Hossain attended.

His body was brought to his native home in Alipur on Friday evening and was taken to Faridpur Press Club where the local journalists paid their last respects to him.

Minar Mahmud was found dead in a residential hotel in the city on Thursday.

GOVT, NON-GOVT SERVICES

Digitisation to end hazards, exploitation: Mosharraf

BSS, Faridpur

Labour, Employment and Expatriate Welfare Minister Engineer Khondoker Mosharraf Hossain yesterday said the full implementation of the present government's digitisation process would bring an end to the hazards and exploitation by the various intermediary groups in taking services from different government and non-government agencies.

Inaugurating a four-day Digital Innovation Fair-2012, organised by Faridpur district administration at Ambica hall in Faridpur, the minister said the digitisation process had already brought relief from sufferings for the rural people.

PS-1 to prime minister and National Project Director of Support to Digital Bangladesh Md Nazrul Islam Khan said 20,000 offices of districts, upazila and unions would go for automation by June this year, aimed at ensuring all public services at the doorstep of the people.

Other speakers said that e-service centres had already been providing hassle free

online services to the people, replacing the traditional cumbersome system. Digitisation had saved time, money and labour of the rural people, who earlier faced troubles in getting services in the old manual system, they added.

BSS City Editor and Focal Point of BSS - A2I Media Campaign Ajit Kumar Sarkar said education, knowledge, information and communication were the core of human progress.

"The digitisation process has made it possible to build a knowledge-based society and ensure empowerment of people", he added.

The inaugural session was presided over by Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur Helaluddin Ahmed.

It was also addressed by Additional Deputy Commissioner and Focal Point of Faridpur district e-service Md Jahangir Hossain, Bangladesh Computer Council Executive Director Dr Gayanandra Nath Biswas and Bangladesh Computer Samity President Faezulla Khan.

Obituary

METRO DESK

Abul Masood Sayeed, a former additional secretary, passed away at his residence in the city on Friday at the age of 92.

He left behind his wife and two sons.

A doa mahfil will be held after Maghrib prayers today at his residence at Triumph Tower, 6/1 Eskaton Garden, said a press release.

Shamsuddin Ahmed

UNB, Dhaka

Shamsuddin Ahmed, a philanthropist and social worker of Kotchandpur upazila in Jhenidah, passed away due to old age complications at Jessore Sadar Hospital on Thursday night at the age of 92.

He left behind his one son and five daughters.

He was buried in his family graveyard following two namaz-e-janazas held at Solemanpur Mosque and Madrasa after Juma prayers on Friday.

2 killed in road accidents

METRO DESK

Two people were killed and eight garment workers injured in separate road accidents in Feni, Jessore and Chittagong yesterday.

Our Feni correspondent reports: A 12-year-old boy was killed in a road accident in Baktra Munshi Dak Bangla area of Sonagazi upazila yesterday.

The victim Md Sujan was the son of day labourer Rafique Mian of Palgiri village in the same upazila.

A tractor ran over Sujan while he was walking on a road, leaving him injured critically, police said.

He was rushed to Feni Sadar Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries two hours after admission.

Our Benapole Correspondent adds: A man was killed on the spot as a truck hit his battery-run three-wheeler (locally known as Easybike) on Navaron -Sathkira Road at Ulasi Bazar in Jessore yesterday evening.

The deceased was identified as Sujon ali, 24, son of Mostofa Ali of Panburi village in Sarsa upazila of Jessore, said police.

Our Chittagong correspondent adds: Eight workers of Tax Line Garments were injured critically as their staff-bus skidded on to a road island at Sagarika Road in Pahartali of the port city yesterday.

The injured are Ramjan, 25, Marjahan, 22, Aklima, 23, Jharna, 20, Nargis, 20, Fatema, 20, Rani, 20, and Aklima, 20.

They were rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital. The bus skidded on to the road island as the driver tried to save two pedestrians who were jaywalking across the road, said police.

DHAKA TODAY

Public lecture
Bangladesh Authority Samity will arrange a public lecture; Venue: Engineers Institutions, Bangladesh; Time: 4:00pm.

Rally
Bangladesh Diploma Nurses Association will organise a protest rally; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar; Time: 11:00am.

Discussion
The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) will hold a discussion; Venue: Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel; Time: 1:00pm.

Seminar
Equitybd will arrange a seminar; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 10:30am.

The Daily Star

অদম্য চট্টগ্রাম

দি ডেইলি স্টার-এর আয়োজনে চলছে ৯২ দিনব্যাপী চট্টগ্রামের বৈচিত্র্যের সেরা উৎসব 'অদম্য চট্টগ্রাম'। এতো আয়োজন, এতো উৎসব, আপনি আসলেই জমবে!

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