



Journalist Shila passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Journalist Shila Afroza passed away at her Pallabi residence in the city yesterday at the age of 37. She had been suffering from brain cancer for the last seven years.

She left behind her husband and two daughters Arshi, 9, and Urvashi, 5, and a host of relatives, friends and well-wishers to mourn her premature death.

After completing honours and masters in mass communication and journalism at Dhaka University, Shila devoted herself to journalism. In 1997, she joined the Daily Bhorer Kagoj. In 2004, she started working in the Daily Amar Desh but could not continue her career three years after she was diagnosed with brain tumor.

Her passion for journalism and hard work earned her different awards, including the best reporter award of Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). An ever-jolly and kind-hearted person, Shila got the two prestigious awards in 2006.

On information from her journalist husband ATM Sayeeduzzaman that Shila breathed her last at around 11:00am, her friends, former colleagues and relatives rushed to Pallabi to pay their last respects to her. A number of former and present cricketers also gathered there to console sports journalist Sayeeduzzaman, who is a special correspondent of the Daily Kaler Kantho.

After her namaz-e-janaza at a local mosque, the body was taken to her father-in-law's village in Chandpur wherewasburied.

Dhaka Reporters Unity, Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association and Bangladesh Sports Press Association expressed deep shock at the death and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 16th death anniversary of Salahuddin Ahmad, the first managing director of Hotels International Limited, owner of Sonargaon Hotel.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil and destitute feeding programme will be held.

Salahuddin held the position since the inception of Sonargaon Hotel in 1977.

Dr Ashikul Alam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 15th death anniversary of central leader of Jatiya Ganotantrik Front, Dr Ashikul Alam.

On the occasion, Ashikul Alam Foundation, his family and Jatiya Ganotantrik Front chalked out various programmes including, placing wreaths to his grave, holding discussion and offering doa.

Dr Captain Abul Kashem

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 13th death anniversary of former lawmaker and freedom fighter Dr Captain Abul Kashem.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held at Baro Masjid adjacent to Katalganj graveyard at Panchlaish upazila in Chittagong.

He died on the day in 1999.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with the recipients of the National Film Award 2010 at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

CONVICTED BANGLADESHIS Pashchimbanga will exchange prisoners

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

The Paschimbanga government has appointed a nodal officer to collect information to help repatriate Bangladeshis, who have been convicted and are in various jails in the state, to their country to serve the remaining part of their prison term, sources said here yesterday.

India and Bangladesh had in August 2010 agreed to exchange sentenced prisoners so that they could serve the rest of their term in their respective countries.

The Indian Home Ministry had asked the Paschimbanga government to appoint a nodal officer to identify Bangladeshi nationals lodged in correctional homes in the state. They will be repatriated through a nodal point identified by the Indian and

Bangladeshi authorities.

Similarly, a list of Indian nationals undergoing prison terms in Bangladesh will also be prepared. Both sides will exchange their respective citizens later.

"An agreement between India and Bangladesh has been signed on transfer of sentenced prisoners with the objective to facilitate the social rehabilitation of persons who have been convicted and sentenced as a result of their commission of a criminal offence. This treaty provides an opportunity to such convicted prisoners to serve their sentence within their own country," reads a letter sent to Paschimbanga Chief Secretary Samar Ghosh by Indian Home Ministry's Joint Secretary Sambhu Singh.

The letter was dispatched on February 10.



PHOTO: PID

Dr Nitish Sengupta, chairman, Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises, India, calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office in the city yesterday.

20,500 multimedia classrooms by 2013: Nahid

UNB, Dhaka

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday said the government would introduce 20,500 multimedia classrooms in secondary schools across the country by 2013.

"Some schools have already introduced digital classrooms on their own initiative. It'll bring about a radical change in teaching

methods in the next few years," he added.

He said this while inaugurating digital classrooms at Bir Shreshtha Nur Mohammad Public College and Bir Shreshtha Munshi Abdur Rouf Public College, both run by Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

Digital multimedia touch-screen projectors have been installed in 25 classrooms in each of the two colleges.

Stop 'irregularities' in CU teachers' recruitment

Demand pro-BNP-Jamaat teachers

CU CORRESPONDENT

The Chittagong University teachers backed by opposition BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday demanded a stop to all "irregularities" in the teachers' recruitment process immediately.

They alleged that the university authorities recruited some teachers on political consideration at the last syndicate meeting on March 15, disregarding the existing rules of recruitment.

Their another demand was bringing back congenial educational atmosphere after ensuring accommodation of resident students in the halls and release of all innocent students who were arrested unlawfully.

The authorities have created an unstable environment at the university by barring resident students from entering Shah Jalal and Shah Amanat halls, they alleged.

The pro-opposition teachers put the demands at a press conference at the university's central library auditorium yesterday, attended by some 30 teachers.

Prof KM Golam Mohiuddin, convener of Pro-BNP-Jamaat teachers' panel, read out a written statement at the conference.

The teachers warned that they would stage a sit-in in front of the vice chancellor's office on April 8 if they did not get any declaration from the administration within April 7 regarding their demands.

NAT'L FILM AWARD DISTRIBUTED PM for good movies

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the filmmakers to portray the rich history, tradition and culture of the Bangalee nation in their films to contribute in building a good society.

"The competition should not be for money, but should be in selecting the right subject and its portrayal," she said while distributing the National Film Awards 2010 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) in the afternoon.

The prime minister said the government has decided to declare the film as an industry and expressed her hope to establish a welfare fund for the artistes.

This year 25 people have been awarded in 25 categories for movies released in 2010.

She said industries, trade, education and culture are all now facing open competition as it is the era of ICT and satellite. "The competition is a bit higher in the field of film and the filmmakers need to be aware of that."

Apart from making good quality films, she urged the movie house owners to improve the environment in the movie houses.

Mentioning that around one crore expatriates are now living abroad, Sheikh Hasina said good films would create demands and these Bangalee expatriates can also create a bridge between them and their homeland.

She also called upon the media to encourage good movies.

Mentioning that the government has also ensured implementation of the Copyright Act as well as stopped making and display of obscene films, Hasina said, "The local films have started regaining their lost glory."

She also said her government has

decided to observe April 3 as the 'National Film Day' to recall the contributions of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman towards developing the country's film sector.

Hasina said the Awami League government is giving donations to six filmmakers every year, including two of child films, apart from increasing the amount of donation. "We've also taken initiatives to provide donation to short and documentary filmmakers."

In the National Film Award 2010, seasoned film actor Anwar Hossain received lifetime achievement award, while Sakib Khan for the film "Bhalobashlei Ghar Badha Jay Na" and Purnima for "Ora Amake Bhalo Hotey Dilo Na" received the best male actor and the best female actor award respectively.

The film "Gohine Shabda" was declared the best film while Khalid Mahmood Mithu the best film director for the same film.

MA Alamgir was named the best actor in a supporting role for the film "Jibon Moraner Sathi", while Romana was named the best actress for a supporting role in the film "Bhalobasley Ghar Badha Jay Na".

Sujoy Shyam was named the best music director for the film "Obujh Bou", while Emdadul Haq Khokon was named the best dance director for the songs "O Jibon Tuchha" in the film "Mughal-e-Azam".

SI Tutul was declared the best male singer and Shammi Akhter as best female singer, both for the same film "Bhalobasley Ghor Badha Jay Na". Sheikh Sadi Khan was announced as the best music composer for the film "Bhalobasley Ghor Badha Jay Na" and Kabir Bakul was named the best lyricist for the film "Nissas Amar Tumi".

Awards were also given to the best costume designer, cinematographer and art director.

RU student barred from entering her hall

RU CORRESPONDENT

A female student of Rajshahi University, who was expelled from its Rokeya Hall at very short notice on March 19, was not allowed to enter the hall to bring her necessary things yesterday.

Bhagabati Rani Roy was among a number of the hall students who on March 12 protested the serving of unhygienic food after some 30 students fell sick after taking such food at the hall.

Rani alleged that she was not allowed to enter the hall to bring necessary things from her room while she sought permission from the hall provost.

"The hall provost told me that you are not permitted to enter your room. If you want to take your necessary things from your room, you may send your friends but you will not be allowed," she alleged.

Refuting the allegation, Rokeya hall Provost Saeda Akter told The Daily Star that Rani was asked to come to the hall to take her necessary things by 11:00am today (Wednesday).



Workshop

National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh, Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) and IMSE-India will arrange a workshop; Venue: Brac Centre Inn Auditorium, Mohakhali; Time: 9:30am.

Launching ceremony

Executive Committee of Bangladesh Solar & Renewable Energy Association (BSREA) will organise its launching ceremony; Venue: Ruposhi Bangla Hotel; Time: 4:00pm.

Prize giving ceremony

Bangladesh Shishu Academy will arrange the prize giving ceremony of Jatiya Shishu Puraskar Protijogita 2012; Venue: Osmani Memorial Auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

সম্মানিত ক্রেতা সাধারণের অনুরোধে শেল্টেক্ বসতি মেলা ২০১২-এর ১৫% ডিসকাউন্ট অফার আগামী ১৪ এপ্রিল ২০১২ পর্যন্ত বহাল থাকবে।

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