

NEWS IN *brief*

Enamul Bari new air chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Air Vice Marshal Muhammad Enamul Bari has been appointed chief of air staff of Bangladesh Air Force for the next three years from June 12, 2012 to June 12, 2015, said an ISPR press release yesterday.

He will replace Air Marshal Shah Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, who retires from the post on June 12, 2012. A notice on the appointment was issued from the defence ministry, read the press release.



MoU signed for mothers, children

METRO DESK

Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING), will work jointly with the government to improve health and nutrition status of pregnant and lactating women and children aged under two.

The USAID funded SPRING and the health ministry signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in this regard yesterday, said a press release.

Dr Makhduma Nargis, additional secretary at the health ministry, Dr Md Ekhlashur Rahman, director of Institute of Public Health and Nutrition and Elizabeth Isimhen Williams, country manager of the SPRING, signed the MoU in the capital.

Odhikar's sedition worries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Odhikar, a rights body, yesterday expressed concern over the fact that the opinions of some citizens are being termed “seditious” in an attempt to bar freedom of expression.

A statement, signed by the body's Secretary Adilur Rahman, said the example of accusing somebody of sedition came so easily from the judiciary that it even brought the charge against the Speaker.

Such practice will push the country towards instability and anarchy. Besides, it is an offence to indiscriminately bring sedition charges against a person, it said.

The statement also demanded nullifying all laws which bar freedom of expression through using the threat of issuing sedition charges.



Discussion

Bangladesh Enterprise Institute will organise a discussion; Venue: its conference room; Time: 3:30pm.


Human chain

Transparency International Bangladesh will hold a human chain; Venue: before Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Rally

Shikkhak Karmachari Oikyajote will organise a rally; Venue: before Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

Unveiling ceremony



WEATHER TODAY

Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Barisal, Khulna and Dhaka divisions with moderately heavy falls at places in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Khulna division and it may continue, Met Office said.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The highest maximum temperature is likely 37-38 degree Celsius and lowest minimum temperature is 22-23 degree Celsius.

**The sun sets in the capital today at 6:45pm and rises tomorrow at 5:10am.**

Country's highest temperature 38.8 degree Celsius was recorded today at Chuadanga and lowest 22.2 degrees at Comilla.

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	31.8	23.2	74	67
Chittagong	30.5	23.0	98	79
Rajshahi	35.0	23.4	71	78
Rangpur	32.2	23.5	89	72
Khulna	36.5	29.6	84	81
Barisal	32.6	25.5	81	82
Sylhet	31.8	24.6	88	69

# DU now has two pro-VCs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Shahid Akhtar Hossain and Prof Nasreen Ahmad have been made pro-vice chancellors and Dr Kamal Uddin treasurer of Dhaka University.

President Zillur Rahman, who is also chancellor of the university, made the appointments last evening, a day into the resignations of Prof Harun-or-Rashid from the post of pro-VC and Prof Mizanur Rahman from the post of treasurer.

This is the first time two pro-VCs have been appointed since the university was established in 1921.

“Appointments of two pro-VCs have been made for the first time in the university's history following the Dhaka University Order 1973,” DU Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique told the Daily Star.

He said two pro-VCs were appointed as overall activities of the university increased.

As per section 13(1) of the order, “The Chancellor may, if he deems fit so to do, appoint [one or more pro-vice chancellors] on such terms and conditions and for such period as he may determine.”

Sources said the newly appointed pro-VCs and treasurer belong to the pro-Awami League blue panel.

The resignation of Prof Harun and Prof Mizanur came two weeks after the pro-government blue panel of teachers lost the university syndicate election to the opposition-backed white panel.

## 3 hurt in BCL factional clash at Buet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least three Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists were injured in a factional clash at Buet early yesterday.

There was a dispute between BCL Buet unit president Mithu Bishwas and general secretary Tonmoy Ahmed over seat possession at Ahsanullah Hall, said witnesses.


Three leaders in Tonmoy's group injured in the clash were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Around 2:00am, the rival groups again clashed at DMCH and ransacked its emergency and doctors' rooms.

Buet VC SM Nazrul Islam told The Daily Star that a three-member committee was formed to investigate the incident.

## Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram



Badruzzaman Mia, Bir Pratik, died of cardiac disease at National Cardiology Institute in Dhaka at 8:30pm Tuesday night.

He was 75. He left behind a daughter, son, and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death.

Working as an organiser during the Liberation War, Badruzzaman united people of Phulbari thana under Kurigram to fight in the war. He was later given charge Base 11 under Sector 6.



The residents of Amanat Khan Road in Pathantuli area of Chittagong city have been suffering for long due to the slow pace in the expansion work of the road and construction of a culvert. The road expansion is being carried out by Chittagong Development Authority and Chittagong City Corporation is constructing the culvert. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

# Pranab for connecting with neighbours

UNB, New Delhi

Indian Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee yesterday held deliberations with chief ministers of seven northeastern states and Sikkim of the country to give a push to the government's renewed northeast policy and key infrastructure projects linking neighbouring countries with rail and road.

Some of the projects that are likely to facilitate trade and connect northeast with South-East Asia include India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway, the Trans-Asian Highway, India-Myanmar Rail linkages and the Myanmar-India-Bangladesh gas pipeline, reports The Times of India.

The chief ministers of the northeastern states--Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur, Assam, Mizoram and

Sikkim--raised the issue of lack of resources to contribute to the central schemes. For all central schemes in the North-East, the government provides 90 percent funds and these special category states are required to contribute 10 percent.

The CMs urged the finance minister to make central schemes 100 percent funded by the government, as they are facing resource crunch and are unable to contribute their share leading to many schemes not being rolled out.

These projects are important for India's Look-East policy to improve its trade with Association of South East Asian Nations. Constructions of transport corridors are important part of this policy, as the northeast connects India with the sub-continent.

# NY rally against India's river linking

METRO DESK

Bangladeshis in the US have demanded cancellation of the Indian River Linking Project (IRLP), which is aimed at diverting the course of the Brahmaputra and the Ganges rivers away from Bangladesh and toward western and southern India.

Drawing attention of the international community, they said the river project contravenes the 1997 UN Convention on Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses. It even violates the 1996 Indo-Bangladesh Ganges Water Sharing Treaty.

The expatriate Bangladeshis raised the demand at a rally held in front of the UN headquarters in New York on May 25. It was organised by Bangladesh Environment Network (BEN), the global network of non-resident Bangladeshis and their international friends.

The rally urged the Bangladesh government to oppose the Indian project more vigorously, and if necessary, raise the issue in appropriate international forums.

The rally sent a memorandum to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon; Indian Ambassador to the USA Nirupama Rao, Indian Consul General in New York Pravru Dayal, and Permanent Representative of India to the UN Puri Singh.

# MOVE AGAINST JUSTICE MANIK Speaker taking a day or two

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speaker Abdul Hamid would give his ruling in a day or two on High Court Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik's “derogatory” remarks about him.

Deputy Speaker Shawkat Ali told this in parliament yesterday in response to lawmakers' demand for passing a resolution in the House requesting the president to remove Justice Manik through the Supreme Judicial Council.

“I talked to the Speaker yesterday [Tuesday] about the issue. He told me he will deliver a ruling on the issue. He is now preparing for it,” said Shawkat Ali, who was presiding over the sitting at that time

when some ruling alliance MPs demanded passing the resolution.

“Not today, you have to wait one or two days for his ruling. He is now examining constitutional provisions and other laws,” the Deputy Speaker said.

During a hearing Tuesday, Justice Manik observed that the Speaker had committed an offence tantamount to sedition by commenting on a High Court order in parliament. He also said the Speaker was completely ignorant about the apex court and the constitution.

Infuriated by the remarks of Justice Manik, legislators on Tuesday in parliament said Justice

Manik had violated the constitution by making “derogatory remarks” about the Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad. They demanded his removal through the Supreme Judicial Council.

Yesterday, Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon raised the issue and sought to know what decision was made in this regard.

“It's a matter of dignity, privileges and sovereignty of the parliament. So, the entire nation wants to know the decision of the chair,” Menon said.

In response, the Deputy Speaker informed the MPs about the Speaker's decision to give a ruling.

But the deputy speaker's reply did not satisfy them. Former rail-

way minister Suranjit Sengupta took the floor and said: “It is not a matter of ruling. It is a matter of passing a resolution in the House.

“We want to pass a resolution unanimously in the House and it will be sent to the president so that he can direct the chief justice to form the Supreme Judicial Council to take action against Justice Manik,” Suranjit said.

Echoing the same view, Awami League MP Tofail Ahmed said Justice Manik “humiliated” the Speaker, the parliament, MPs and the people overall by making “derogatory remarks” about the Speaker. “So, we will have to pass a unanimous resolution,” he said.

The Deputy Speaker again said the Speaker would deliver a ruling on the matter.

**MOUDUD FOR RESTORING ARTICLE-96**

Urging the government to restore Article-96 of the constitution as it was in 1972, senior BNP leader Moudud Ahmed yesterday said parliament should be empowered to impeach judges.

“According to the constitution, parliament is sovereign. The constitution didn't empower any court to dictate parliament. So we have to protect the sovereignty of the House at any cost,” he told a discussion meeting at the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.



লেখক্টোন্ট জেনারেল (অবঃ)  
ডাঃ এ.কে.এম.জাফরুল্লাহ সিদ্দিক  
কনসালট্যান্ট  
জেনারেল ও ল্যাপারস্কপিক সার্জারী



ত্রিগেডিয়াৰ জেনারেল  
প্রফে. এম. জাহাঙ্গীর হুসেইন (অবঃ)  
কনসালট্যান্ট  
জেনারেল সার্জারী



ডা. আবু সাদ্দ এম. এম. রহমান  
কনসালট্যান্ট  
জেনারেল সার্জারী



প্রফে. (ডাঃ) জাহিদুল হক  
কনসালট্যান্ট  
জেনারেল ও কোলরেকটাল সার্জারী



ডা. মোহা. ডব্লিউ আশরাফী  
কনসালট্যান্ট  
জেনারেল সার্জারী



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ইউনাইটেড হসপিটালের  
জেনারেল ও কোলরেকটাল সার্জারী ডিপার্টমেন্ট

দেশ ও বিদেশের বিখ্যাত হসপিটালে অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন, দক্ষ ও অভিজ্ঞ সার্জনবৃন্দের সার্বিক তত্ত্বাবধানে, অত্যাধুনিক অপারেশন থিয়েটার ও সর্বাধুনিক প্রযুক্তির চিকিৎসা যন্ত্রপাতির সমন্বয়ে যে কোন ধরনের জটিল সার্জারির জন্য **আপনার পাশে রয়েছে**



United Hospital

ইউনাইটেড হসপিটাল লিঃ

প্লট ১৫ রোড ৭১ গুলশান ২ ঢাকা ১২১২  
ফোন : ৮৮৩৬০০০ ৮৮৩৬৪৪৪  
ইমার্জেন্সি : ০১৯১ ৪০০১২৩৪

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