

NEWS IN *brief*

United Airways to restart Ctg-Kolkata flights

UNB, Dhaka

United Airways (BD) Limited, a private airline, will restart flights on Chittagong-Kolkata route from June 18. It will carry passengers from Hazrat Shah Amanat International Airport, Chittagong, says a release. Weekly three flights will be operated on Friday, Monday and Wednesday. The flights will depart from Chittagong at 1230 hrs. The one way special fare for Chittagong-Kolkata is Tk 9,815 and return fare is Tk 19,110 (inclusive of all taxes).

New train service on Sylhet-Ctg route: Quader

UNB, Habiganj

Communications Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said a new special train service will be introduced on Sylhet-Chittagong route. He said this while visiting Shayestaganj Railway Junction in the morning. Admitting crisis in the sector, he said 146 railway stations of the country are now closed. It would require 12,000 employees to reopen those stations, he added. Quader said stringent measures have been taken to stop black marketing of railway tickets. Now it is very important to strictly maintain the schedule of trains, he added.

ALPP meeting tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A meeting of Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) will be held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan tomorrow. AL Parliamentary Party leader and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will chair the meeting to be held on ninth floor of the Jatiya Sangsad at 4:00pm, said a press release of the parliament secretariat.

Chapainawabganj Samity executives

METRO DESK

All the members, including the President Engineer Mahtab Uddin and General Secretary Engineer Nurul Islam, of the executive committee of Chapainawabganj District Samity, Dhaka re-elected unopposed on Friday, said a press release. Other office bearers include Md Mainul Haque and Md Abdul Latif (vice-presidents), Anwar Haque (organising secretary-Sadar), Md Zahirul Islam (publicity and publication secretary), Sujatul Alam Kallol (sports and cultural secretary) and Mahfuza Tohida (women affairs secretary).

Worker electrocuted in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An electrician was electrocuted while working in an under-construction building in Chittagong city early yesterday. The deceased was identified as Bachchu Mia, 40. Mrinal Chakma, a nayek at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) police outbox said, the incident occurred when Bacchu was working in the building of Regent Garments in Road-3 area at Chittagong Export Processing Zone. He was rushed to the CMCH where doctors declared him dead.



PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Makeshift vegetable shops have sprung up beside rail lines in Sholoshahar Railway Station adjoining Gate Number-2 area in Chittagong city. Every day Chittagong University shuttle trains and trains on Hathajari and Dohajari routes ply these rail lines. Despite the threat of accidents and laws that forbid setting up of such shops, those swarm the area due to the authorities' lack of care. The photo was taken recently.

VISIT TO TIPAIMUKH SITE

Journalists return with only bird's eye view

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Ten Bangladeshi journalists, who went to visit the Tipaimukh dam site on the Barak river in India's north-eastern Manipur state on June 6, only got a bird's eye view as the helicopter carrying them could not land.

"The Indian Air Force (IAF) said that the helipad at Tipaimukh is not fit for landing of the chopper. Therefore, the team could not visit the site," said Ranjan Mandal, media liaison officer of the central ministry of external affairs to Times of India on June 7.

In July 2009, a Bangladeshi parliamentary delegation led by Abdur Razzak, on a fact-finding mission arranged by the Dhaka and Delhi

governments, met a similar fate when heavy rains barred their landing. The Times of India ran a report headlined "Bangladeshi scribes' dam mission fails to take off" in its Guwahati issue on June 8.

The report said the Indian government flew the journalists to the site on an IAF helicopter from Silchar airport at Kumbhirgram, Assam on June 6.

But the copter could not land at Tipaimukh due to "technical reasons", said the report.

The next morning, the journalists once again expressed their keenness to visit Tipaimukh, situated at a distance of 78 kilometres from Silchar hotel and 100 kilometres

from Manipur's capital Imphal.

But the IAF authorities failed to take them to the spot for the same reasons as the previous day, read the report.

However, the journalists had an opportunity to look at the congruence point of the Barak and Tuivai rivers and the Tipaimukh dam site from 1,200 feet above the ground for over 20 minutes during the 70-minute chopper ride, it said.

Sources told the Times of India that the journalists understood that India was yet to make any construction at the proposed site, added the report.

The journalists, led by Bangladesh Foreign Affairs Publicity Wing Deputy Director Md Zashimuddin, had reached Silchar hotel on June 6 and left

via Kolkata on the afternoon of June 7. They arrived in Dhaka on June 8.

Earlier, they had met Union Water Resources Minister Pawan Kumar Bansal and Water Resources Secretary Dhruv Vijay Singh in New Delhi and were briefed about the project.

Meanwhile, Committee of People and Environment, a body of environmental activists and some anti-dam organisations based in South Assam, staged a demonstration in front of Silchar hotel on the morning of June 7.

Earlier, four local non-government organisations, in a joint statement in Imphal on June 7, observed that it was not possible for the journalists to assess the environment and social impacts of such a

NISHAT KILLING
Detectives suspect hitmen aimed to kill mother too

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives suspect that the three unidentified men who strangled Nishat Banu before her mother in their Topkhana residence in the capital on the night of June 5 were hired to murder the duo.

"The elderly woman is lucky to be alive," Inspector Fazlur Rahman of Detective Branch (DB), the investigation officer of the case, told The Daily Star last evening.

"The criminals might have been hired to kill the duo. After beating the mother, they might have left her for dead," he said.

The criminals looted Tk 35,000 and six of Nishat's property deeds and left the tied up 76-year-old mother, Khaleda Banu, beside Nishat's body at around 3:30am on June 6.

With no one within hearing distance, nearly a day and a half went by before Khaleda was able to untie the cloth binding her and call out to the neighbours for help.

Yesterday, DB personnel detained four staff of Appayan Restaurant, adjoining the building where the murder took place.

The detainees are the restaurant's manager Pankaj Dey and staff Zaman, Alauddin and Khokan.

Earlier, Khaleda had told police that she suspected two brothers, who grabbed her property 20 years ago and built the restaurant on it, had planned the murder to seize her remaining properties.

The brothers, Selim Talukdar and Saiful Talukdar, the restaurant's owners, were detained by DB personnel on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the murder case Khaleda filed with Shabbagh Police Station on Thursday accusing the brothers and three unidentified people has been transferred to DB.

Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Binapani Sarker, an eminent citizen and cultural personality of Joypurhat district, died of old age complications at her residence early yesterday.

She died at the age of 101, her family members said.

Binapani received several honours from government and various non-government organisations for her outstanding contribution in spreading education among poor people. She spent her entire life for well-being of the people in the district.

She left behind seven children including four daughters, and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn the death.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the second death anniversary of Md Anwar Ullah, former admin manager of Bangladesh Textile Mills Ltd. On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at his residence in Tongi after Asr prayers, says a press release.

Qulkhwani



Qulkhwani of Prof Muhammad Muqaddesar Rahman will be held today after Asr prayers at his residence at Green Orchard, House # 05, Road # 23-B, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212, says a press release. All of his well-wishers, friends and relatives are requested to attend the qulkhwani. He passed away at his residence due to old age complications on June 7.



Visitors feast their eyes on a collection of Asian kites in an exhibition organised by Dhakabashi at National Museum in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

NILUFAR MURDER
Killer's punishment demanded

RU CORRESPONDENT

Over one hundred people at a human chain in Rajshahi city yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to the killer of school teacher Nilufar Yasmin.

Nilufar, a teacher of local Brac school, was allegedly murdered by her husband Abdur Razzak at a rented house in the city's Darampur area over dowry after five months of her marriage on August 15, 2000.

Following the incident, Nilufar's mother Nurbanu filed a murder case with Motihar Police Station accusing Razzak who is now serving as an employee of Rajshahi sugar mill. The verdict of the case would be declared tomorrow, said the speakers.

ATTACK ON JU SANGSKRITIK JOTE
New probe body soon

JU CORRESPONDENT

A new probe committee will be formed soon to investigate the recent attack on the activists of Jahangirnagar University (JU) Sangskritik Jote, said the university Vice-Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain.

The accused students found as per the investigation must be punished immediately, the VC also said while addressing a view exchange meeting with JU Journalist Association at his office on the campus yesterday.

A new probe committee is needed since the current probe body, formed during the tenure of former JU VC Prof Shariff Enamul Kabir, showed no progress in their investigation of the incident.

On April 28, some Bangladesh Chhatra League men assaulted the cultural activists, who were protesting against the irregularities of the former VC, on the campus, sources said.

Responding to a query, Prof Anwar said JU authorities are going to take measures to stop leasing out of the university's lakes and properties with an aim to renovate the campus as a green campus.

Different species of fruits and environment-friendly trees will also be planted at different points on the campus, he added.

The VC also said JU authorities have held dialogues with students, who were earlier ousted from the university for their political involvements, and are planning to take steps with regard to completion of their education.

Two housewives kill themselves

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two housewives allegedly committed suicide by hanging themselves in the capital's Jatrabari and Mirpur areas yesterday.

In an incident, Rahela Begum, 20, wife of Shamsul Haque of Jatrabari, hanged herself from a ceiling fan in her room around 10:00am following a family feud, said Mazharul Islam, inspector for investigation at Jatrabari Police Station.

Quoting relatives of Rahela, Mazharul said, "Abuses by her husband and his family members might provoke her to commit suicide."

Nasima Begum, elder sister of Rahela, told The Daily Star that private car driver Shamsul married to Rahela five years back. But Shamsul used to beat her regularly for various reasons.

"Shamsul made a phone call to me yesterday night [Friday night], and said that he will divorce Rahela as he can not tolerate her. This morning, I came to know that my sister committed suicide," she said. "Shamsul may provoke my sister to

commit suicide," she added.

Nasima filed a suicide provocation case accusing Shamsul, his brother Mahbubul Haque and their mother Parul Begum with Jatrabari Police Station in this connection.

Police arrested Parul while the other accused went into hiding after the incident. Meanwhile, Jesmin Aktar of Mirpur-6 area allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from a ventilator of her bathroom following a family feud.

Police said a small shop owner Anwar Hossain married Jesmin about six years back.

Maniruzzaman, sub-inspector (SI) at Mirpur Police Station, said that Jesmin might commit suicide following a family feud on Friday night.

Quoting Anwar, the SI said, "Jesmin wanted to work at a garment factory, but her husband did not allow her to work there leading the feud between the husband and wife."

An unnatural death case was filed with Mirpur Police Station in this connection.

DHAKA TODAY

Discussion
Steps Towards Development will hold a discussion; Venue: Cirdap Auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

Reception
Manabdhikar O Paribesh Sangbadik Songstha will accord a reception to elite and arrange a discussion; Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum; Time: 5:30pm.

Workshop
Bangladesh Jatiya Mohila Ainjibi Samity will organise a workshop; Venue: Hotel Purbani International, Dilkusha; Time: 3:00pm.

Discussion
Bangabandhu Prokoushali Parishad will hold a discussion; Venue: IEB old

WEATHER TODAY

Heat wave may continue

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna divisions in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places over Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions, Met office said.

Mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Khulna and Barisal divisions and the regions of Dhaka, Tangail, Faridpur, Chandpur, Rajshahi and Pabna and it may continue. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged nearly unchanged over the country. The highest maximum temperature is likely to be 38-39 degree Celsius and lowest minimum temperature may be 23-24 degree Celsius.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:46pm and rises tomorrow at 5:10am.

Country's highest temperature 39.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and lowest 23.5 degrees at Rangpur.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
Dhaka	36.7 29.0	70 65
Chittagong	32.8 28.4	81 76
Rajshahi	38.8 28.8	80 84
Rangpur	33.1 23.5	98 84
Khulna	38.5 29.5	79 81
Barisal	36.2 28.7	78 74