

NEWS IN *brief*

NU exam rescheduling demanded

RU CORRESPONDENT

Graduate students of National University (NU) 2008-09 academic session yesterday demanded rescheduling of an exam date so that they can taken a written test for the sub-inspector (SI) post of police.

An examination of NU's master's final year and the written test for the SI post are scheduled at same time on July 14.

The students, at a press conference at Rajshahi University Journalists Association office, said they would go for tougher programmes if their demand was

Pak national held with foreign cigarettes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A Pakistani national was apprehended at Osmani International Airport in Sylhet yesterday with 337 cartons of foreign cigarettes.

Airport police said Md Zahid, 37, hailing from Karachi, arrived from Dubai with three different

Two factories fined Tk 9 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Department of Environment (DoE) team yesterday fined a textile dying factory in Fatullah Tk 8.5 lakh for dumping untreated effluent into Shitalakhya River.

The factory owner had been running the factory for about 15 years without an environment clearance certificate. With no Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP), the factory released around 26 lakh litres of untreated effluent within this period, said DoE Director Mohammad Munir Chowdhury.

The factory owner, in an undertaking to the DoE team, pledged to set up an ETP within three months, he added.

Meanwhile, a mobile court yesterday fined a drinking water plant, "Neon Drinking Water", in Bagghona area of Chittagong city Tk 50,000 for producing drinking water in an unhygienic environment, having no water testing facilities and using Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution's logo illegally.

The court, led by District Executive Magistrate Jannatul Ferdous, also sealed the factory for four months and took an undertaking from its owner. On October 29, 2011, another mobile court had fined the factory the

Trader mugged in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers snatched Tk 11.74 lakh from a trader at gunpoint at Malibagh Chowdhury Para in the capital yesterday afternoon.

Police said nine muggers on three motorcycles intercepted the scooter of the victim, Sagir Hossain, a garment accessories supplier, on DIT road at around 4:00pm while he was heading towards Motijheel after withdrawing the money from a



Foreign Minister Dr Dipu Moni, centre, speaks at a national consultation preparatory to the "International Conference on People's Empowerment and Development Model" in Cirdap auditorium in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Dhaka's traffic system to be upgraded

Says environment minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Work to modernise Dhaka's traffic signal synchronisation system and to install solar panels for countdown timers and traffic lights are going on to speed up vehicular movement and reduce air pollution, Environment and Forest Minister Hasan Mahmud told parliament yesterday.

A feasibility study to install new street signals at 41 important intersections is going on and another plan to modernise the parking system here will be prepared, he added.

"Feasibility study will be carried out on rescheduling bus and bus rapid transit routes," he added.

He also said Tk 2,100 crore has been allocated for the Climate Change Trust Fund in last three fiscal to implement six projects.

Balanced use of water must for Bangladesh

Says expert

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshi people should maintain a good balance in using underground water and surface water for irrigation purposes to ensure the country's water security in future, said noted water scientist Dr Mac Kirby.

"It is very much important to understand the availability of underground water and surface water, and its sustainable use," said Dr Kirby, a scientist of Australia-based Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), while talking to reporters after a seminary yesterday.

Australian High Commission in Dhaka and CSIRO jointly organised the seminar styled "Solving water challenges - Water and food security: Experiences in Australia, Asia and Bangladesh" in Brac Centre Inn auditorium in the capital.

Water security in Bangladesh can be threatened by climate change, over population and other factors, said Dr Kirby, stressing the need for more research and accurate information for addressing the country's water challenges.

Addressing the seminar as chief guest, Water Resource Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen said the government will finalise the Water Act-2012 soon.

CSIRO in coordination with Bangladeshi partners - Institute of Water Modelling, Bangladesh Water Development Board, Water Resources and Planning Organisations, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, and Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services - had been conducting research on the overall water situation in Bangladesh since last year.

The research initiative titled "Bangladesh integrated water resources assessment project," funded by AusAID, was launched in July last year.

Ramesh hoped that the research will help to understand the complex issues of water management and to formulate policies, plans and programmes in this regard.

Acting Australian High Commissioner in Dhaka Tim Bolotnikoff said, for the fiscal year 2012-13, Australian aid to Bangladesh stands at US \$100.5 million and it is likely to increase in the next fiscal.



The three rescued Bengal tiger cubs, which were kept under the safety of Hatirpool Platinum Gym and Mini Zoo in the capital, taking a nap inside the cage, while people, inset, crowd the premises despite a notice prohibiting visitors yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



JUDGE'S REMOVAL SC lawyer's application sent to law ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The President's Office has sent an application that seeks removal of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik, a High Court judge, to the law ministry, asking the law secretary for taking measures as per relevant rules in this connection.

Advocate Md Mozammel Haque, a Supreme Court lawyer, submitted the application to the President on June 5, requesting removal of the HC judge through Supreme Judicial Council.

On June 9, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed told reporters at a programme that the request of Mozammel was unexpected and illogical.

Moreover, an HC bench on June 12 issued a contempt of court rule against Mozammel for damaging the dignity and authority of the apex court by making derogatory remarks against the judge in the application.

Jannatun Nayeem, senior assistant secretary at Bangabhaban, sent the application to the law ministry on June 7.

'Inadequate allocation for Dalits in budget'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Dalit communities yesterday said the allocation for their development in the next budget is very poor.

Allocating Tk 14.61 crore is not sufficient for about seven million people of the community in the country, they said.

Urging the government to ensure proper utilisation of the allocation, they said previous allocations had put very little impact in the lives of the Dalits.

They made the remarks at a press conference jointly organised by Self Help Association for Rural People through Education and Entrepreneurship (Sharee), Oxfam, and Bangladesh Dalit Women Movement at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

DHAKA TODAY

Discussion

Jatiya Shahitya Prokashani will hold a discussion; Venue: Mukti Bhaban, 2 Comrade Moni Singh Road, Purana Paltan; Time: 5:00pm.

Seminar

A seminar will be organised by equitybd; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Discussion

Revolutionary Workers' Party of Bangladesh will hold a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Discussion

Campaign for Good Governance will hold a discussion; Venue: Cirdap auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

Human chain

Bangladesh Narimukti Sangsad will form a human chain; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:30pm.

Blood donation

Stamford University Bangladesh will hold a blood donation programme; Venue: its Siddeswari campus; Time: 9:30am.

Fair inauguration

Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh will inaugurate a fair; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 10:00am.

Seminar

WEATHER TODAY

Temperature may remain unchanged

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions till 6:00pm Today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions, Met Office said.

Mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Khulna division and the regions of Tangail, Rajshahi, Pabna, Patuakhali and Khepupara and it may continue.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The highest maximum temperature of the country may be 37-38 degree Celsius and lowest minimum temperature may be 24-25 degree Celsius.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:47pm and rises tomorrow at 5:11am.

Country's highest temperature 38.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 25.1 degrees at Sylhet.

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	35.7	28.7	63	65
Chittagong	32.7	27.5	82	89
Rajshahi	36.7	26.0	77	60
Rangpur	34.5	27.0	76	74
Khulna	38.0	28.5	75	75
Barisal	35.7	27.9	74	69

8 killed, 6 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Eight people were killed and six others injured in separate road accidents across the country yesterday.

In Jessore, a school student was killed when a truck hit his bicycle in Gangra area in Monirampur upazila of Jessore.

The deceased was identified as Rocky Hossain, 15, son of Abdul Halim of Hajrakati village and a class X student of Gangra High School.

Police said Rocky was on his way to school when a goods-laden truck hit him leaving him dead on the spot.

A case was filed.

Our Brahmanbaria correspondent reports: a former union council member died when the auto-rickshaw he was in suddenly upturned while going uphill on Nabinagar - Rasullabad road at Khagatua village in Brahmanbaria.

The deceased was identified as Sadhan Mia, 45, son of Suna Mia of Mulla village in Nabinagar.

In Dinajpur, a housewife was killed when a shallow run three-wheeler hit her while she was crossing a road in Dinajpur Sadar upazila.

The victim was identified as Rubina Akhter, 20, wife of Rafiqul Islam of Uthrail village in Dinajpur.

Injured Rubina died at Dinajpur Medical

College Hospital.

According to BSS, a mother and her son were killed and six others injured when a passenger bus collided with a truck and fell in a roadside ditch at Gupinathpur bus stand in Gopalganj on Dhaka-Khulna highway.

The deceased were identified as Ratna Begum, 25, and her son Tamim, 6, hailing from Perchandrighalia village of Gopalganj.

Among the injured Shefali Begum, 56, Mini Begum, 25, Arjina Begum, 45, and Inamul Haque, 60, were admitted to Gopalganj General Hospital.

Both drivers fled the scene.

A case was filed.

In Sylhet, two people were killed in a head-on collision between trucks on Dhaka-Sylhet highway.

One of the deceased was identified as Golam Mostafa Azad, 50, of Tatikona village in Sunamganj.

In Chittagong, a man was killed when a microbus hit him while he was crossing a road at city's Salt Gola Crossing.

The identity of the victim could not be known immediately.

He died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

The microbus was seized and its driver detained.

Polls without consensus to create political conflict

Says Dr Akbar Ali Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

If the next election is not held with the participation of all political parties, the country's democracy will face tougher political conflicts, said former adviser to a caretaker government Dr Akbar Ali Khan yesterday.

"As the political parties blend the party with the government when they come to power, it hampers the development of democracy," he also said at a discussion at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Prakton Chhatra League Foundation organised the discussion in observance of the historic Six-Point Day and in remembrance of Shaheed Manu Miah.

On June 7, 1966, people of the then East Pakistan observed a general strike in support of Awami League's Six-Point demand of autonomy declared by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Manu Miah was among the 11 martyrs who were killed in police firing during the strike.

Prakton Chhatra League Foundation President Nur-e-Alam Siddiqui said Jatiya Sangsad was not active since the ruling and opposition parties were failing to reach a consensus centring political issues.

He also expressed concern over holding the next election within the parliamentary system.

Former Bangladesh Chhatra League leaders at the programme condemned the recent activities of the AI backed student organisation's current leaders and demanded punishment to those destroying its goodwill.