

NEWS IN *brief*

Ensure higher education for women: Nahid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday said barriers for women at higher level education should be removed to ensure equity among men and women.

The minister said this while inaugurating a two-day long conference organised by the Gender and Development (Gad) Alliance at Chhayanat auditorium in the capital, said a press release.

Executive Director of Ain o Salish Kendra Sultana Kamal and Chairperson of Steps M Habibur Rahman

Numismatic exhibition in capital

METRO DESK

A 12-day long numismatic exhibition will be inaugurated in the capital today.

Bangladesh Bank, Bangladesh National Museum and HSBC Bangladesh are jointly organising the exhibition titled "Abohoman Banglar Mudra O Kagoji Note Prodorshoni" at the Nalinikanto Bhattashali Gallery of the museum in the capital, said a press release

Minister for Information and Cultural Affairs Abul Kalam Azad will inaugurate the exhibition, which will be open for all.

BIAA distributes relief to landslide victims in Ctg

METRO DESK

Bangladesh Indenting Agents' Association (BIAA) distributed relief to the victims of landslide and water-logging of Sholokbahar slum area in Panchalish upazila in Chittagong on July 3. Rice, pulse, potato, edible oil, salt and sugar were distributed among 300 families, said a press release.

Shahab Uddin Khan, president and BIAA director-in-charge of the Standing Committee on CSR, Selim Reza, Mostafa Sorwar, ABM Kaiser, Moyeen U Khan, Nurul Abser Meah, directors, participated in the programme under the leadership of AKM Azad, vice-

Prof Syed Masud Husain made first VC of BUFT

METRO DESK

Professor Dr Syed Masud Husain joined BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology (BUFT) as the first Vice-Chancellor (VC) on July 1.

Before joining BUFT, he was a selection grade Professor in the Department of Accounting & Information Systems of Dhaka University, said a press release.

Prof Husain was also the dean of Business at Southeast University. He is life member of various educational and charitable organisations, including Dhaka University Accounting Alumni (DUAA) and Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA).



Govt will fund dev schemes by itself: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Laying emphasis on making the country self-reliant, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government will implement its development projects with its own resources.

She asked the authorities concerned to formulate and implement development projects bringing the entire picture of the country under consideration.

In this context, she emphasised formulating development projects and budgets to implement education, health and infrastructure programmes to certain level.

Hasina was speaking at a meeting with the leaders of Prokrichi, an organisation of engineers, doctors and agriculturists, at her office.

Prokrichi President Engineer M Nurul Huda and Secretary General AFM Bahauddin Nasim led the delegation. PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad briefed

reporters after the meeting.

The prime minister stressed the need for decentralisation of the administration to ensure balanced development of the country.

She said desired development is unlikely to be achieved as long as decision-making process remains centre oriented. "Decisions on some particular issues should be completed at upazila and district levels."

Hasina advised the authorities concerned to take into consideration the presence of adhoc doctors in their workplaces while regularising their service.

Giving them a patient-hearing on various problems of the professional groups, the prime minister said their problems would be resolved soon through a committee comprising representatives of all stakeholders.

Adviser to the Prime Minister HT Imam, Secretary General of Prokrichi AFM Bahauddin Nasim and Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Sheikh Wahid Uz Zaman

NETHERLANDS AID LIST Bangladesh among top 15

BSS, Dhaka

The Netherlands listed Bangladesh as one of the top 15 countries where it would provide cooperation and assistance on priority basis for the expansion of the emerging economies.

"Our support to Bangladesh will be in the fields of water management, food security, food safety, environment, climate change and higher education," said outgoing Netherlands ambassador to Bangladesh Alphons Hennekens.

He was paying a farewell call on President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban yesterday.

During the meeting, the president thanked the envoy for successfully completing his assignment in Bangladesh.

The president stressed the need to exchange more trade and investment between Bangladesh and the Netherlands to increase commerce relations.

Alphons Hennekens lauded the Bangladesh government's role in the country's recent rapid economic growth. "Bangladesh is moving fast with respect to its economy and I believe it will be a middle income country by 2021," he observed.

He also appreciated Bangladesh's role in the United Nations peacekeeping missions as it was the country to send



Mahbub Anam's 11th anniversary of death today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 11th death anniversary of eminent journalist and author Mahbub Anam, former editor of The Bangladesh Times.

In a distinguished career as a journalist, he also served as a senior executive of the then Pakistan Observer and senior vice-president of the Bangladesh Editors Council.

He was actively involved with Bangladesh Sangbad-patra Parishad, Bangladesh Press Council and Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha Porichalona Board.

Mahbub Anam, for contributions to journalism, received the Swadhinata Padak, Sher-e-Bangla Gold Medal, Moulana Akram Khan Gold Medal, Kaloddhani Padak and Tribhuj Gold Medal.

Besides, in a long and successful professional career, he also served as the general manager of Jamuna Oil Company and director of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation.

Mahbub Anam was actively involved in politics from his student life.

In addition to being the general secretary of Salimullah Muslim Hall of Dhaka University in 1954-55, he was appointed acting publication secretary of Jukta Front on behalf of Awami League in 1954.

Mahbub Anam actively took part in the Language Movement of 1952.

He was jailed several times for his role in the movement as general secretary of Tamaddun Majlish, Mymensingh unit, joint secretary of the Rashtrabhasha Sangram Parishad and general secretary of Salimullah Muslim Hall.

In recognition of his contribution to the language movement, he was awarded the "Bhasha Andoloner Bir Sainik Padak" by the then president, Ziaur Rahman, and Matribhasha Padak (posthumously) by Tamaddun Majlish.

Mahbub Anam authored a number of books on the cultural and political identity of Bangladesh including "Amra Bangladeshi Amra Bangalee" and "Itihasher Shikriti Bonam Bikriti".

He also served as the president of Nattayamancho Bangladesh and Bangladesh Sahitya Sangskriti Kendro and was actively involved with Bangladesh Film Censor Board and Bangladesh Public Library Special Committee.

Mahbub Anam was the second son of eminent litterateur, journalist and politician late Abul Mansur Ahmad and elder brother of



(From left) Suzanne Siskel, executive vice president and chief operating officer of The Asia Foundation; Carla Koppell, senior coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, USAID; acting British High Commissioner Nick Low; Deputy Leader of the House Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury; and Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury at the 2012 South Asia Women Parliamentarians' Conference at Radisson Blu Hotel in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Scheme on population management urged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A population management scheme is necessary for the country's overall development, said speakers at a debate competition yesterday.

Debate for Democracy and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) jointly organised first round of the debate competition -- World Population Day 2012 Parliamentary Debate Competition -- held at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Speakers said population growth is a central issue that concerns the country's development.

UNFPA Country Representative Arthur Erken said such debate competitions would facilitate the young generation to think about population growth and the country's development.

Hasan Ahmed Kiron, chairman of Debate for Democracy, said, "We have young spirits and energetic intelligentsia who would guide us in future if we provide them proper technical knowledge. Today's debaters are the future leaders of the nation."

He said Bangladesh, with an estimated population of over 150 million, is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Close to 1,000 people live in one square kilometre area.

Creative questions to be applied in math exams

Says education minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After the successful application of creative question method in 21 subjects at secondary level, the government has decided to introduce the question method in mathematics and higher mathematics in future, said Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday.

"The creative system has had a positive impact on the education system," he said while speaking at a workshop organised by Secondary Education Sector Development Project (SESDP) held at National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) in the capital.

Nahid said the students and teachers are no longer afraid of the question method.

The system was introduced in a bid to stop students from depending on memorising, he said, adding that questions that still

remain about the teaching and formulation of the creative question method can be addressed in the coming days.

"Although there was scepticism among some people about the method but now they are happy as the method has brought a positive change in education in the country," Nahid added.

Sources said the ministry would apply the method in mathematics and higher mathematics on the basis of the recommendations of the workshop.

In 2010, the method was introduced in two subjects -- Bangla and Religion Studies -- in the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination and now the method is being applied in 21 subjects.

The method will be introduced in Chemistry, Civics, and Business Policy in 2013 and in 2014 it will be applied in eight more subjects.

DHAKA TODAY

Roundtable
Sushil Forum will organise a roundtable; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 10:30am.

Dialogue
Desh TV will hold a dialogue; Venue: Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, Dhaka University; Time: 3:00pm.

Publication ceremony
Bangladesh Awami League will organise a publication ceremony; Venue: Bangabandhu International

Conference Centre; Time: 4:30pm.

Human chain
Tamak Birodhi Nari Jote will form a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Report unveiling
ActionAid and CARE will arrange a report unveiling ceremony; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:00pm.

Project launching
Bangladesh Association of Software & Information Service (BASIS) will organise a project launching ceremony;

WEATHER TODAY

Heavy rains likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rangpur and Rajshahi divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.

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

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:50pm and rises tomorrow at 5:18am.

Country's highest temperature 35.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 24.8 degrees at Sandwip.

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	32.3	25.8	78	86
Chittagong	31.4	25.5	85	83
Rajshahi	35.0	26.6	89	77
Rangpur	33.2	27.0	76	62
Khulna	32.2	26.3	96	83
Barisal	31.5	26.6	89	83



The 48 men rescued by Rapid Action Battalion while being trafficked to Malaysia through the Bay of Bengal and the two arrested traffickers, standing, in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

48 men rescued from trafficking

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-7) rescued 48 men, who were told that they would be sent to Malaysia, and arrested two persons in this connection from Kadamtali area of Chittagong city early yesterday.

The arrestees were Mohammad Suruzzaman, 43, running human trafficking business through Al-Bismillah International Travels, and his nephew Md Jahirul, 39, both from Enayetpur area of Chauhali upazila in Sirajgonj district.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-7 conducted raids on four hotels, rescued the men and nabbed the traffickers, said Major Rakibul Amin, deputy director of Rab-7 and company commander of Crime Prevention Specialised Company of the battalion.

The rescued were from Sirajganj, Tangail, Naogaon, Jhenidah, Magura and Pabna, Rab sources said.

Most of them were weavers and others were farmers, grocers and unemployed persons.

The rescued men told Rab personnel that Suruzzaman had taken money from them by assuring them that they would be sent to Malaysia and provided with jobs there.

Suruzzaman said he would just make arrangement for the 48 men to board a ship yesterday morning and did not know what would happen afterwards.

He has been living in Malaysia since 1996 and is in human trafficking business across Sirajgonj and other adjoining districts for the last two years, told Suruzzaman to The Daily