

NEWS IN *brief*

Bar council election held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The election to Bangladesh Bar Council, a statutory body regulating lawyers, was held yesterday to elect 14 executive members of the council.

Votes were cast at 77 centres across the country and at least two or three days will be needed for compiling the results, said bar council Secretary Enyaet Fazlur Rashid, adding that 56 lawyers contested in the election.

Three panels- Sammilito Ainjibi Samannoy Parishad, Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Oikya Panel and Ainjibi Oikya Panel-mainly contested in the election. Other

Body of woman found in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of an unidentified woman, stuffed inside a carton, was found on the footpath near GPO in the capital's Gulistan yesterday.

Police said the deceased, aged around 30 years, was wearing salwar and kamiz while her hands and legs were tied with nylon ropes.

Police suspected that the woman was strangled two to three days ago.

Train runs over boy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A student, who appeared in the HSC examination this year, was killed as a train ran him over at Moghbazar in the capital yesterday afternoon.

Shariful Islam, 18, living with his parents at Sonalibagh, Moghbazar, was walking on the rail track and speaking over a mobile phone when the train ran him over, said witnesses.

The witnesses said they repeatedly tried to alert

Man sentenced to death

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his aunt and uncle in October 17, 2006.

The victims, Afsar Uddin and Tamiza Begum, residents of Purbas Basabo Patwarygoli in the capital's Sabujbagh, were killed in their residence as they refused to give the convict, Jahangir Shawkat Jewel, money to buying a mobile phone.

Afterwards, the victims' son, AKM Shahjahan, filed a murder case against Jewel.

Judge Mohammad Anisur Rahman of the Fifth Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka

Abducted man rescued, 5 held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion rescued an abducted man and arrested five persons from Feni yesterday for kidnapping the man on Monday.

A team from Rab-7 arrested Mohammad Mamun, 32, Roni, 23, Saiful Islam, 23, Shahadat Hossain, 23, and a CNG-run three-wheeler driver Nazmul Haq, 20, and rescued Jane Alam, 38, a resident of Sitakunda upazila in Chittagong, from the residence of Roni at

Kuakata antique boat to be excavated

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The antique boat that recently surfaced from beneath the Kuakata beach in Patuakhali will be excavated and restored during winter when the sea water recedes, archaeologists and experts in Dhaka said yesterday.

Meanwhile, a police camp has been set up on the site of the wreck to prevent theft and looting. Additional Deputy Commissioner of Patuakhali Amol Krishna Mondol told The Daily Star.

The ancient boat, which is believed to be belonging to the first Rakhine settlers from Arakan province in Myanmar over 200 years ago, was found on June 29 during low tide.

The Department of Archaeology officials in Dhaka confirmed that they have urged the concerned ministry for forming a technical committee to oversee the excavation and restoration of the boat.

"Our team that visited the site recently has assessed a cost of Tk 2 to 3 lakh to excavate the boat and we have accordingly informed the ministry," said an official of the department requesting not to be named.

EXTORTION CASE HC extends Tarique's bail for six months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday extended bail for six months to BNP leader Tarique Rahman in an extortion case filed during the regime of military-backed caretaker government.

The HC bench of Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury and Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah passed the order following a petition filed by Tarique through his lawyers seeking the bail extension.

Amin Ahmed, owner of Al-Amin Construction, a concern of Amin Mohammad Foundation, had filed the case with Gulshan Police Station on March 8, 2007, against Tarique on charge of extorting Tk 1 crore.

In 2008, the HC granted bail to Tarique in this case and later on extended the order of bail at different times. The HC's latest extension order of bail was scheduled to end today.

Tarique, senior vice-chairman of the main opposition BNP and son of its Chairperson Khaleda Zia, is now in London for treatment.

Advocate AHM Kamruzzaman appeared for Tarique before the court.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Abdul Kadir Mollah City College in Narsingdi rejoice as the institution secures the second position under Dhaka Education Board in terms of their Higher Secondary Certificate examination results this year. Inset, students of Mymensingh Girls Cadet College, all of whom secured GPA-5, with their teachers. The cadet college secured the third position.



HSC, EQUIVALENT EXAMS

PM hails students for good results

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has expressed her satisfaction over the excellent results achieved in this year's HSC and equivalent examinations and congratulated the students, teachers and all concerned.

She received the results from Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid at a ceremony in her official residence Gono Bhaban yesterday.

Terming education as the tool for poverty alleviation, Sheikh Hasina asked all concerned to take more initiative to ensure education for all.

"The change of education system has yielded the positive results," she said adding that the students of the country are meritorious and her government is implementing various programmes to

ensure hundred percent pass in the public examinations.

Referring to the announcement of the results online while talking with the people of Rajshahi through video conference, the prime minister said, "Digital Bangladesh has been built as pledged in our election manifesto."

Earlier, she pressed a button on a designated computer, and then results of the examinations of the country's ten boards were published online.

After the publication of the results online, Hasina talked through video conference with the mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation, Rajshahi divisional commissioner, deputy commissioner, and students and teachers of the Rajshahi Government College and Rajshahi Government Women College.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid was also present.

INTERNATIONAL MATH OLYMPIAD Wizards return home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's five young mathematics wizards yesterday returned home after displaying their talents at the 53rd International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), with one of them bagging a silver medal in the olympiad for the first time in Bangladesh's history.

Dhananjoy Biswas, one among the five-member Bangladesh National Mathematical Team, won the medal.

Sourav Das and Nur Muhammad Shafiullah of the team also bagged bronze medals at the IMO that concluded on Sunday at Mar del Plata in Argentina.

Musa Ibrahim, the first Bangladeshi to conquer the Mount Everest, received the team at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital yesterday where the olympiad participants briefed journalists about their experiences.

Bangladesh Mathematical Olympiad Coach Dr Mahbub Majumder led the team at the IMO while its General Secretary Munir Hasan was the deputy team leader.



Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid hands over the results of this year's HSC and equivalent examinations to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Gono Bhaban in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

SCHOOL CURRICULUM Gender, social equality to be added as subject

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new subject will be added in the curriculum for class VIII students from next year to teach children about gender and social equality, revealed a convention of education specialists yesterday.

Dr Siddiqur Rahman, consultant at National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB), made the announcement in response to a call of gender sensitisation of textbooks, at a meeting organised by Bangladesh Nari Progoti Shangha in the capital.

He stated that the new subject, called "Professional and Life-related Education", aims to eradicate gender discrimination and social hierarchy.

"We want to teach children that rickshaw pulling is just as respectable a profession as being a doctor or engineer," said Siddiqur Rahman. "We also want to make them gender sensitive and believe both genders are equal," he said.

The subject will also include crucial topics such as puberty, as well as reproductive and sexual health.

Manusher Jonno Foundation urged the government to include more indigenous representations.

WATERLOGGING IN SOUTHWEST REGION Proper implementation of TRM projects urged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Procedural delay and mismanagement by local administrations in implementing the Tidal River Management (TRM) projects have triggered the persistent waterlogging in the country's southwest region, said local lawmakers and local people yesterday.

They were speaking at a seminar styled "Drainage Congestion in the Southwest Region of Bangladesh" jointly organised by Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), Delta Alliance Bangladesh Wing, and Bangladesh Water Partnership in the capital's Biam auditorium.

Urging the government to implement the TRM projects soon, they said the government should find a permanent solution to the problem.

They also demanded easing of the process of compensation disbursement given by the government.

"The government must implement the project to save the people from permanent

waterlogging," said Shaikh Abdul Wohab, a ruling Awami League (AL) lawmaker from Jessore-6 constituency.

Tipu Sultan, another AL lawmaker from Jessore-5 constituency, said the government should involve locals in implementing the project.

Speaking on the occasion, Water Resources Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen said the government will implement the project soon and make easy the compensation disbursement process.

Prof M Monowar Hossain, executive director of IWM, chaired the seminar while State Minister for Water Resources Mahbubur Rahman, KAM Shahiduzzaman, director general of Bangladesh Water Development Board, among others, also spoke.

The TRM is an indigenous water management system that allows tidal water to flow into the wetlands and river basin, and rolling back of the water when the tide subsides.

10-YR-OLD RAPE ACCUSED

HC orders boy's release from safe home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to release a 10-year-old child from his illegal detention in a Gazipur safe home, in connection with a rape case, and send him to his parents.

While hearing a rule to examine the legality of the detention as per a July 9 writ petition, the court, however, said the case filed against the child will run in accordance with relevant laws.

The authorities of National Juvenile Development Centre, where the child was sent on June 27, produced the child before the HC bench of Justice M Moazzam Husain and Justice Md Habibul Gani yesterday as per its July 9 order.

A July 4 report on Bangla daily Jugantor said police arrested the child on June 17 over the case filed with Begumganj Police Station under the Women and Child Repression Prevention Act.

The petition, filed by Sultana Kamal, executive director of Ain O Salish Kendra, as public interest litigation, stated that the detention was illegal as a child cannot be implicated and detained in any case as per relevant laws and rules.

On July 9, the court had also issued a rule upon the government officials concerned asking why the detention should not be declared illegal as the child had not attained sufficient maturity of understanding to judge the nature and consequence of his conduct.

Procession
Gonotantrik Bam Mocha will organise a protest procession; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:30pm.

Human chain
Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Sangskritik Dal will form a human chain; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

Discussion
Nagorik Forum will organise a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Programme
Bangladesh Dance Artist's Association will

hold a programme; Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy; Time: 6:30pm.

Roundtable
Journalism Training and Research Initiative will organise a roundtable; Venue: Level-12, TK Bhaban, 13 Karwan Bazar; Time: 10:00am.

Human chain
Bangladesh Garment Workers Unity Council will form a human chain; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:30am.

Seminar
Bangladesh Economic Association will

WEATHER TODAY

Rain or thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

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

Moderately heavy to 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 6:48pm and rises tomorrow at 5:23am.

Country's highest temperature 33.6 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and Satkhira and lowest 25 degrees at Teknaf and Rangamati.

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	30.9	25.3	84	93
Chittagong	28.0	25.5	95	92
Rajshahi	31.6	26.0	99	81
Rangpur	30.0	26.2	87	84
Khulna	33.5	28.0	90	100
Barisal	33.5	26.4	87	97
Sylhet	29.3	25.8	91	97