

NEWS IN *brief*

Complaints on consumer rights violation invited

UNB, Dhaka

The National Consumer Rights Protection Department has invited complaints from consumers for violation of their rights.

Those, who intend to lodge their complaints, can send these to the Director General of the department, 1 Karwan Bazar, TCB Bhaban, Dhaka. Fax: 8189425, 8189045, SMS: 01713436360, 01715205930, and 01711408790, Email: dncrp@yahoo.com, info@dncrp.gov.bd

The complaints will have to be lodged along with evidence within 30 days of the violation of right, said a handout. Complaints can be lodged with magistrate at the district level.

If the allegation is proved right, the complainant will get 25 per cent of the fined money realised from

Two students 'commit suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two students allegedly committed suicide in two separate incidents at Mirpur and Khilgaon in the capital yesterday

In Mirpur, Shamima Akhter, 24, a BBA student of Shah Ali Mohila College, hanged herself following an altercation with her husband Masud Karim over money, said police.

Masud rushed her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in an unconscious state where doctors declared her dead.

Meanwhile, university admission seeker Jannatul Ferdous Ananna, 17, hanged herself at her house in Sepahibagh of Khilgaon after her mother scolded her for rearing pigeons in the balcony of the house, said her neighbour Azimunnisa.

Rural people to get free telemedicine services

BSS, Dhaka

The government is going to introduce telemedicine services in the country's 4,501 union information service centers (UISCs) in phases to provide healthcare facilities to the rural people for free through videoconference.

National Project Director of Access to Information (A2I) Programme of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Md Nazrul Islam Khan told a MoU signing ceremony at PMO.

The MoU was signed between the A2I Programme and Aysha Memorial Specialized Hospital to provide the services through UISCs.

The telemedicine services will be given at 30 UISCs of three districts--Jessore, Brahmanbaria and Panchagarh within next three months.

Chairman of the hospital Priti Chakraborty and

Farid president, Shyamal secretary general of CJA, B

UNB, Dhaka

Farid Hossain, bureau chief of the Associated Press in Dhaka and Shyamal Dutta, editor of Bhorer Kagoj, have been elected president and secretary-general of the Bangladesh chapter of the Commonwealth Journalists' Association (CJA,B) at its general meeting. CJA,B held its general meeting on Thursday, said a

One of the six journalists who were assaulted by Dhaka Medical College Hospital interns when they went to the hospital to cover an agitation by the interns yesterday.

PHOTO:
FOCUS BANGLA



DMCH interns assault journos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) interns yesterday assaulted at least six journalists when they went to DMCH premises to follow-up on an agitation by the interns.

The injured are Banglavisian reporter Rassel Hasan, cameraperson Uzzal Das, ETV reporter Mujahid Ahmed, and DMCH correspondents--Azimuddin Chowdhury of ABC Radio, Abaduzzaman Shimul of Sokaler Khobor and Kazi Shafiqul Islam Al-Amin of NTV.

Al-Amin told The Daily Star that when journalists went to the hospital to cover the news, the interns swooped on them and beat them up.

Shahbag police told The Daily Star that police went to the spot after being informed about the incident.

The interns were protesting recent media reports published on July 19 regarding an incident where a senior doctor of DMCH surgery ward assaulted a patient.

According to the reports, Ariful Haque Chowdhury Ripon, who was injured in a road accident, was admitted to DMCH on June 29.

The doctor pulled Ripon off his bed, slapped him and discharged him from the hospital after an altercation between Ripon and a female intern over dressing his wound on July 17.

On July 21, the interns staged demonstrations protesting the published reports. They also held the same programmes yesterday.

Following the incident, leaders of Dhaka Reporters' Unity and Crime Reporters' Association Bangladesh held a meeting with DMCH Director Brig Gen Mostafizur

HUMAYUN AHMED'S WAKE DMP guidelines for reaching venue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) yesterday gave traffic guidelines to people for paying respects to popular fiction writer Humayun Ahmed.

The dead body of the storyteller will be kept at the Central Shaheed Minar from 11:00am to 2:00pm today.

Humayun's second namaz-e-janaza will be held at the National Eidgah at 2:30pm before burial.

One option for his relatives, friends and fans is to enter through Doel Chattar and exit through Jagannath Hall or Shibbari Crossing. Another one is to enter through the fronts of Dhaka Medical College (DMCH) and Rumana Chattar and exit through Jagannath Hall or Shibbari Crossing.

Barricades will be set up on the Doel Chattar, Shibbari Crossing, Jagannath Hall Crossing, in front of the outdoor gate of the DMCH.

For entrance to the National Eidgah, all traffic will have to enter through the main gate of the High Court, DMP said.

HIGHWAYS, TERMINALS Govt to form local committees to stop extortion: Shahara

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will form committees in the country's district and upazila level to prevent extortions on highways and public transport terminals during the month of Ramadan and ahead of Eid.

The local committees will also monitor the ferry terminals to stop overtaking of vehicles so that traffic congestions are not created at the terminals.

Home Minister Shahara Khatun said these at her office in the capital after a meeting with the leaders of Bangladesh Sramik Federation yesterday.

Asked about the reports that surfaced of extortion on highways where police were also allegedly involved, Shahara said the committees will be formed consisting of local police officers, administration and union leaders.

So, the committees will detect who extort money and take steps, she said.

Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan, State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku, and chiefs of police, highway police and Dhaka metropolitan police, among others, also attended the meeting.



PHOTO: BSS

A delegation from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation meets Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid at Bangladesh Secretariat in the capital yesterday.

VANDALISM CASE 25 pro-BNP lawyers get bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted permanent bail to 25 pro-BNP lawyers charged with vandalism of the metropolitan sessions and district judges' courts in May.

Second Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Shahidul Islam Faruque passed the order after defence lawyers submitted separate petitions seeking permanent bail in the case.

The court fixed August 30 for hearing on charge framing against the accused lawyers.

On May 22, members of Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum, a platform of pro-BNP lawyers, boycotted all the judges' and magistrates' courts in the capital and vandalised the courts, protesting a court order sending BNP lawmaker Mahbub Uddin Khokon to jail in an arson case

Abidul Islam, a sub-inspector at Kotwali Police Station, also the investigation officer of the case, placed the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court in Dhaka on May 31.

The 25 lawyers are -- Mohammad Borhanuddin, Sanaullah Miah, Mohsin Miah, Golam Mostafa Khan, Khorshed Alam, Iqbal Ahmed, Masud Ahmed Talukder, Helal Uddin, Omar Faruque, Abdul Nur Bhuiyan, Abdul Khaleque Milon, Jamal Ahmed Dulon, Mohammad Nuruzzaman, Masud Rana, Monir, Jibon, Jakob, Didar (1), Didar (2), Ershadul Haque, Fardin, Mahmudur Rahman Romel, Kamal Hossain, Simki Imam and Shamima Akhter Shammi.

Earlier, the lawyers got interim bail from the High Court until June 3, and later they got ad-interim bail from the trial court until July 22.



WEATHER
TODAY

Moderately heavy rains likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Rangpur 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 6:46pm and rises tomorrow at 5:24am.

Country's highest temperature 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 23.7 degrees at Feni.

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	32.0	27.2	75	79
Chittagong	30.2	25.2	85	83
Rajshahi	34.6	26.5	80	89
Rangpur	31.5	26.6	81	77
Khulna	32.6	26.5	88	87
Barisal	32.2	26.4	79	81



A cobbler busy making shoes in a factory at Madarbari of Chittagong city. Even though Eid-ul-Fitr is a little less than a month away, people from the low and middle-income groups begin buying these shoes, ranging from Tk 250 to 500, from the advent of the month of Ramadan. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS