

NEWS IN *brief*

**Two electrocuted in capital**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two persons, including a woman, were electrocuted in the capital's Purba Badda and Naya Nagar Badda areas yesterday.

In Burba Badda, a woman was electrocuted while she was hanging a clothe on a clothesline which came in contact with an electric wire at her residence around 7:00am.

The victim, Achhia Begum, 48, wife of Mojnu Mollah, was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where the doctors pronounced her dead.

In Naya Nagar Badda, a construction worker came in contact with an electric wire while he was taking a bath near an electric water motor at around 1:00pm.

The worker, Abdur Rahim, 22, was declared dead

**Expatriate 'kills himself' in Ctg**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An expatriate allegedly committed suicide in Hathazari upazila of Chittagong on Sunday.

The deceased, Mohammed Ekram, 28, son of Kabir Ahmad, had been living in the United Arab Emirates.

Hathazari police said Ekram hanged himself from a tree in a hilly area close to Sandwip Colony of the upazila.

Police recovered the body, which could not be identified by the locals, around 11:30pm.

**CVASU admission test on Nov 29**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The admission test for the honours programme of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) for the academic year 2012-13 will be held on November 29.

A total of 185 students will be enrolled under three faculties-- veterinary medicine, food science and technology and fisheries faculty.

The application forms, at Tk 800 each, will be available online from September 10 to October 15.

**Wi-Fi in Rajshahi city soon**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) yesterday decided to bring three main areas of the city under Wi-Fi network coverage within a month to encourage people's involvement in information technology.

The network installation would cost around Tk 5 lakh and after installation people would have free access to Internet, said Ashrafal Haque, chief engineer of RCC.

One-kilometre radii around Rajshahi City Bhaban, Boro Kuthi Recreation Spot and Rajshahi Government College would be brought under Wi-Fi coverage, he said.

The decision was taken at a meeting of RCC standing committee for Science, Information Technology



Bangladesh Projonmo Academy, a pro-BNP body, forms a human chain in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday protesting propaganda against Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus.

PHOTO: STAR

**Dhaka gets \$12.5m WB climate fund**

BSS, Dhaka

The World Bank (WB) will provide US\$ 12.5 million to Bangladesh as grant to support communities in increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change.

To this effect, Economic Relations Division (ERD) Additional Secretary Arastoo Khan and acting head of WB Dhaka office Christine Kimes signed an agreement at NEC-II conference room in the capital yesterday.

The project will channel funds to NGO-implemented sub-projects to build the capacity of communities to increase their resilience to flood, drought and saline water intrusion risks through the implementation of community-based climate change adaptation activities.

This is the first and lone project to be financed by the Bangladesh Climate Change Resilience Fund (BCCRF).

The BCCRF has two windows - 90 percent of its funds are allocated to public sector projects, while 10 percent of the funds will be channeled through NGOs.

The governing council of BCCRF designated Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) to be the implementing agency for the NGO window, and it will manage the US\$ 12.5 million grant for the Community Climate Change Project.

Speaking on the occasion, Christine Kimes said the project has the potential of fundamentally changing the lives of thousands of people by reducing their vulnerability to climate change risks.

**Rab arrests six robbers**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested six people, allegedly members of a gang that drugs and then robs people, from the capital's Mohakhali, Abdullahpur, and Bhogra bypass in Gazipur early yesterday.

The arrestees are Habibur Rahman, 40, Shamim Hossain, 28, Moklesur Rahman, 36, Shahidul Islam, 22, Madhu Akand, 38, and Saiful Islam, 32.

Ahmed Ullah Alam Mazumdar, captain of Rab-1, said acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-1 led by Lt Commander Daud Kawsar Mahmud detained Habibur at Mohakhali kitchen market around 12:30am.

Following information extracted from him, Rab personnel rescued two victims, still unconscious, from the area and sent them to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Later, Rab personnel caught the other five of the gang from the city's Abdullahpur, and Bhogra bypass in separate drives that ended around 7:00am.

Rab also recovered drugs used to make people unconscious.

**Caab driver held with smuggled drugs**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested a driver of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) with smuggled medicines worth about Tk 10 lakh from the capital's Dakkhinkhan yesterday.

Atiqur Rahman, senior ASP of Airport Armed Police Battalion (AAPBn), said AAPBn personnel took position at the entrance of cargo godown of Hazra Shahjalal International Airport.

When a microbus with the medicines came out from the godown around 2:30am, police asked its driver to halt it.

But the driver fled the airport with the microbus. Later, police chased the microbus and halted it in Dakkhinkhan area around 3:00am.

They caught microbus driver Ali Hossain, also a driver of the civil aviation authority, and seized the medicines.

Others members of the gang managed to flee the scene.

A case was filed with Dakkhinkhan Police Station in this connection.

In primary interrogation, Ali Hossain said some staff of customs and Bangladesh Biman are involved in the smug-

**Young woman found dead**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of an unidentified young woman in the capital's Kakrail area yesterday.

Abdur Rahim, sub-inspector of Ramna Police Station, said they recovered the body of the woman, aged around 25 years, from a footpath near Kakrail intersection around 7:30am.

He said the body, bearing injury marks in the head, was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy, he added.

Morgue sources said the woman might have been killed in road accident.



Foreign Minister Dipu Moni addresses a press conference at the concluding day of the two-day international conference on "People's Empowerment and Development" at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the capital yesterday. Indian Minister for Rural Development, Drinking Water and Sanitation Jairam Ramesh was also present.

PHOTO: STAR

**HUMAYUN AHMED His creations to be cherished forever**  
*Says Sust VC*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Humayun Ahmed's writings were immensely popular and those would be cherished by millions forever, said Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) Vice-Chancellor Prof Saleh Uddin yesterday.

There is not a single family which has not read the charismatic storyteller's books and the eminent litterateur gave new life to Bangladesh's publication industry, he said.

He was addressing as chief guest a memorial meeting on Humayun Ahmed organised by Sust at its central auditorium.

Humayun Ahmed presented the 1971 Liberation War to the youths in a unique way, most notably through "Aguner Parashmoni", said Prof Saleh.

Speaking at the programme, writer Anisul Haque said Humayun Ahmed uniquely created the habit of reading in people.

Humayun Ahmed's younger brother, Prof Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, said their father had predicted that Humayun would one day be a great man and people would be proud of him.

Humayun Ahmed's mother Ayesha Fayz and daughters Shila and Bipasha were present at the meeting.

**Halting militancy needs equality-based society**  
*Says Farooq Sobhan*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Halting the proliferation of militancy requires a society to be free from inequality, deprivation, suppression and poverty, said Farooq Sobhan yesterday.

Lack of the rule of law, violations of human rights, ethnic, national and religious discrimination, political exclusion, socio-economic marginalisation and lack of good governance also contribute to create conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, he added.

Farooq Sobhan, president and CEO of Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, was presenting a keynote at an international conference, "People's Empowerment and Development", in the capital's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel.

People should be empowered through the mitigation of critical domestic issues like poverty, inequality, deprivation and exclusion, he said, adding that Bangladesh wit-

nessed a rise in Islamist militancy between 1999 and 2005.

The counter-terrorism strategy in Bangladesh includes law enforcement and intelligence agencies, the judiciary, relevant stakeholders of the government, the media and civil society, added Farooq Sobhan.

Senior Secretary CQK Mustaq Ahmed said local militants had no links with international militant organisations.

Militancy or terrorism can be created based on a wide range of issues like religion and politics backed by insurgency and criminalisation, he added.

He said there is a free flow of information in the country and thousands of non-government organisations enjoy freedom in conducting their activities.

Uruguay's Ambassador to Bangladesh, Cesar Walter Ferrar, was in the chair while Sri Lanka Foreign Minister Prof GL Peiris was present at the conference.

**Dhaka TODAY**

**Discussion**  
Bangabandhu Parishad will hold a discussion; Venue: Multi-purpose Auditorium, Institution of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh; Time: 3:00pm.

**Discussion**  
DPDC Shramik Karmachari League will organise a discussion; Venue: Bidyut Bhaban (second floor), Abdul Goni Road; Time: 3:30pm.

**Rally**  
University of Information Technology & Sciences (UITS) will arrange a rally; Venue: UITS campus, Jamalpur Twin Tower, Baridhara View; Time: 11:00am.

**Discussion**  
Bangladesh Adivasi Forum and nine other organisations will hold a discussion; Venue: Girap Auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

**Discussion**  
Bangladesh Kindergarten Shikkhak Samity will arrange a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

**Rally**  
Sheikh Russel Jatiya Shishu-Kishore Parishad will organise a rally and discussion; Venue: Auditorium, Jatiya Kirirha Parishad Tower Bhaban; Time: 11:30am.

**Discussion**

**WEATHER TODAY**

**Change in temperature unlikely**  
UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions 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 6:37pm and rises tomorrow at 5:31am.**

Country's highest temperature 35 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 24.3 degrees at Srimongal.

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	31.8	26.4	77	82
Chittagong	30.2	25.5	92	92
Rajshahi	35.0	26.4	86	92
Rangpur	32.0	26.8	73	67
Khulna	31.6	26.2	90	94
Barisal	31.5	26.5	83	94
Sylhet	32.6	26.0	96	91

**Enforcement of house rent control act urged**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With a 15-point demand, including enforcement of Premises Rent Control Act, 1991, National Tenants' Council staged a sit-in and conducted a mass signature collection campaign in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday.

The other demands include formation of a high-powered commission to regulate house rent, taking necessary steps to place a bill in parliament to hold a discussion on house rent and making it compulsory for landlords to provide receipts to tenants.

The signatories numbered over 1,000 and the council would start collecting more signatures from those who express solidarity with the demands from around the capital from September 1, said the council General Secretary Meer Mofazzel Hossain.