

NEWS IN *brief*

Two commit suicide in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two people committed suicide by taking poison over family dispute in Chittagong early yesterday.

In an incident, Md Lokman, 35, son of Sona Mia, of Silaigara village in Anwara upazila, committed suicide by taking poison after an altercation with his mother around 1:00am.

Police said Lokman died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

In another incident, Mukta Begum, 20, wife of Md Kumkum of Dharmapur village in Satkania upazila, committed suicide by taking poison over a family dispute yesterday.

Police said Mukta's body was found at the bank of a pond near to their house. A bottle of poison was also recovered from the spot.

Police suspect that Mukta took poison after an altercation with her husband.

Sust admission test on Nov 24

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The admission test for the first year honours courses at Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (Sust) for the academic session 2012-13 will be held on November 24.

The decision was taken at the academic council meeting of the university on Sunday.

A total of 1390 students will be enrolled at 25 departments under six faculties of the university.

Prof Narayan Shaha, dean of School of Agriculture & Mineral Sciences Faculty, was selected president of

3 held with counterfeit notes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested three persons including a woman and seized 18 counterfeit Tk 500 notes from them in Rangunia upazila in Chittagong Monday night.

The arrestees are Rezaul Karim, 35, his wife Seheru Akhter, 24, and Monirul Islam, 35, all from Chakaria upazila of Cox's Bazar.

Police nabbed the trio when they tried to use the counterfeit notes to pay for goods during shopping, said Manjurul Morshed, officer-in-charge of Rangunia Police Station.

"They are members of a gang which produces and distributes counterfeit money," said the OC.

A case was lodged in this connection.

Yaba tablets seized, 6 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Six men were arrested with 505 pieces of Yaba tablets and 90 bottles of phensedyl from different areas in Chittagong city on Monday and early yesterday.

Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) Deputy Director Mukul Jyoti Chakma said a DNC team caught Md Nizam, 25, and seized 300 Yaba tablets from his possession in Khulshi area on Monday evening.

In Double Mooring area, Sujit Bhaumik, 23, and Dibakar Barua, 24, were held with 100 Yaba tablets around 8:00pm on Monday, Mukul said.

In Bandar area, Tajul Islam, 45, was caught with 105 Yaba tablets around 1:00pm yesterday, he said.

In Hazari Lane area, Md Azim, 38, was held with 10 bottles of phensedyl around 12:30am yesterday, Mukul said, adding that all the accused were, later, handed over to police.

Kotwali police said they arrested Tapan Acharjee, 40, with 80 bottles of phensedyl in Hazari Lane area around 1:00am yesterday.



During the pre-lftrar rush hour desperate commuters are fighting to get on a bus and finding no space inside climb on to the roof on Monday. The scene has been a regular one on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the capital in this month of Ramadan.

HR boss pushes for graft-free ministers, MPs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Like the prime minister, the ministers and lawmakers should declare that they and their family members are not involved in any corruption, the chief of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) said yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently said in parliament that she and her family members were never indulged in any sort of corruption.

Referring to the incident, NHRC Chairman Prof Mizanur Rahman said the ministers and lawmakers should do the same to make the country corruption-free.

He was addressing a workshop titled "Universal periodic review: Follow-up to the recommendations on economic, social and cultural rights" organised by NHRC at Brac Centre Inn in the capital.

Mizanur Rahman said the government should ensure economic, social and cultural rights of the citizens, as proper development of a country was not possible without ensuring the rights.

"We have been listening that we are poor and our resources are limited. We don't want to hear this sort of speech any more. We want to see that the government is serious to ensure the economic, social and cultural rights of the citizens," he added.

Judge of the Appellate Division of Supreme Court, Justice M Imman Ali, said the government should ensure the rights of children, as they could not demand their rights. Child marriage is punishable in the country, but it should be banned, he said.

"The government as well as the society should work together to stop sexual harassment. Moreover, the government should ensure the food security of every family so that children can go to school instead of working outside," he added.

Information Commissioner Prof Sadeka Halim said the people were still struggling for their economic freedom, though they fought for it in the Liberation War in 1971.

She demanded the government ensure basic needs of the indigenous people.

Khushi Kabir, executive director of Nijera Kori, demanded the government introduce land reform programme as rich people had been grabbing land of the poor ignoring laws.

"All of the basic rights have been subjected to commercialisation. It seems that the industrial police was introduced to strip the garment workers of their fundamental rights," she added.

Ctg civil society stands by Yunus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Grameen Bank should not be made into a state-owned bank, members of Yunus Shurid (Friends of Yunus) demanded yesterday.

They organised a rally and a human chain on Chittagong Press Club premises to press home their demand.

Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus is the pioneer of microcredit through which many poor people in Bangladesh overcame poverty. He also created a good reputation for Bangladesh in the world, speakers said at the programme.

Prof Muhammad Sekandar Khan, convener of the organisation and also vice-chancellor of East Delta University, said, "Approving new ordinance, the government is trying to make Grameen Bank a state owned bank. They [government] also made false allegation against Grameen Bank about charging high interest from its clients."

Freedom fighter Farque E Azam Bir Pratik, also secretary of Yunus Shurid, Dr Imran Bin Yunus, former principal of Chittagong Medical College, Dr Shamsul Hossain, former deputy curator of Chittagong University Museum and Advocate Salehuddin Hayder Siddiki, former president of Chittagong District Lawyers Association, were present at the programme.

Rare turtles recovered at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police seized 108 turtles of a rare species at Shahjalal International Airport early yesterday.

The reptiles were about to be smuggled to Thailand by a Bangkok Airways flight.

A team of the Armed Police Battalion (APBn) also arrested two persons -- Kibria, 35, of Murshidabad in India, and Khairul Alam, 40, of Tangail.

The seized reptiles, known as "Shila turtles", are black.

They are endangered due to poaching and shrinking habitat, said SMA Rashid of CARINAM, an NGO working on turtles.

Tipped-off, the APBn team made the seizure and arrests at embarkation terminal around 12:45am.

Atiqur Rahman, APBn assistant superintendent of police, said they recovered the turtles from two bags.

The bags had tags bearing the name of one Afsana and her cell phone number.

Police said they had tracked that the last two numbers Afsana called belonged to Amena Khatun, a security operator of the Civil Aviation Authority, and Abdur Rashid, an assistant revenue officer.

A case has been filed under the Special Powers Act against the two arrestees, and Amena and Abdur.



On the occasion of Janmashtami, the birth anniversary of Lord Sri Krishna, leaders of Sri Sri Janmashtami Udjapan Parishad and Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad present a bouquet to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Gono Bhaban in the capital yesterday.

BANGABANDHU'S KILLERS Fugitives will be caught : Shahara

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Steps are underway with the assistance of Interpol to bring back from abroad the six absconding killers of Bangabandhu to face execution, said Home Minister Shahara Khatun yesterday.

She made the comment at a discussion marking the 37th death anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Dhaka Metropolitan unit (North) of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), a pro-AL student body, organised the programme at Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh in the capital.

Bangabandhu, along with most of his family members, were assassinated on the fateful night of August 15, 1975.

Of the 12 condemned killers of Bangabandhu, five were executed on January 27, 2010 while another convict died while seeking political asylum in Zimbabwe in June 2001.

The remaining six killers Lt Col Khandaker Abdur Rashid, Lt Col Shariful Haque Dalim, Lt Col SHMB Nur Chowdhury, Lt Col AM Rashed Chowdhury, Capt Abdul Mazed and Risaldar Mosleuddin Khan remained absconding abroad.

DoE fines ceramic factory Tk 14 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) yesterday fined a ceramic factory and a poultry farm Tk 16.62 lakh in Gazipur and Dhaka on charges of polluting environment.

A DoE team found that the Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) of Grade Wall Ceramic Industries was closed at Shreepur in Gazipur on August 2, says a press release.

DoE Director (enforcement) Mohammad Munir Chowdhury fined Tk 14.62 lakh and realised the money yesterday as liquid waste emitting from the factory was polluting cultivable land.

He directed the factory owner to remove all liquid waste from the land before August 15 and collect DoE clearance certificate and use the Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) during its operation.

Meanwhile, the DoE fined Avon Animal Health Tk 2 lakh at Uttara Sector No-7 in the capital for using a residential building as a poultry farm, says another press release.

The DoE fined the organisation as it was found polluting the environment of the area.

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DHAKA TODAY

Human chain hold a discussion; Venue: Dhaka Reporters' Unity; Time: 11:00am.

Views exchange meeting Parbatya Chattagram Anchaik Parishad will organise a views

Discussion Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote will

WEATHER TODAY

Rain likely

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 Rangpur, Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions in 24 hours 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 6:37 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:32am.

Country's highest temperature 34.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 24.8 degrees at Cox's Bazar.

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	27.0	85	75
Chittagong	30.2	25.5	83	90
Rajshahi	34.5	26.0	87	86
Rangpur	32.5	26.5	81	71
Khulna	32.6	26.8	84	92
Barisal	32.0	26.6	86	96