

NEWS IN *brief*

Buet admission test on Dec 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) authorities yesterday set December 1 for holding the first year admission test for 2012-2013 academic session.

The date was fixed at an academic council meeting where Vice Chancellor Prof SM Nazrul Islam was not present showing due to illness.

The form distribution will begin on October 10 and continue till October 22, said the academic council members.

Aspirants can fill the forms on the university's website: www.buet.ac.bd

The teachers, students, and staff of Buet had been agitating for over two months demanding resignation of the VC and his deputy, casting an uncertainty

Bangladesh Deputy Speaker to address Swedish parliament today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Deputy Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad Shawkat Ali will address a discussion about Liberation War of 1971 and speedy trial of war criminals at Swedish parliament today.

He will also deliver his speech on the current activities of opposition political parties and bilateral issues.

Shawkat Ali will meet the deputy speaker of Swedish parliament in a courtesy call, says a press release.

Shawkat Ali is also scheduled to participate in seminars on the Liberation War affairs in France and

2 die from electrocution in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two men died after being electrocuted in two separate incidents in the capital's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar and Hazaribagh yesterday.

In Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, a construction worker was electrocuted while working in an under-construction building in Agargaon.

The dead, Mohammad Siddique, 28, hailed from Netrokona.

Siddique was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, said Saidul Islam, co-worker of the victim.

In Hazaribagh, a leather tannery worker was electrocuted after accidentally touching a wire connected to an electric motor.

Mohammed Sohag, 28, died on the spot.

The body was sent to Sir Salimullah Medical

World Habitat Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

World Habitat Day-2012 was observed yesterday in the country as well as across the globe with a call for ensuring safe housing and other facilities for the urban poor.

The theme of the day this year was "Changing Cities, Building Opportunities."

The United Nations has designated the first Monday of October every year as the World Habitat Day.

The idea is to reflect on the state of towns and cities to ensure the people's basic rights sheltering all of them and raise awareness about the need for improving urban planning to deal with the growing



UN Under Secretary General for the Department of Field Support Ameerah Haq meets Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York on Sunday.

PHOTO: PID

Attack on Buddhists condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent citizens and different organisations yesterday condemned the torching and vandalism of 12 Buddhist temples and monasteries and over 50 houses in Ramu upazila of Cox's Bazar early Sunday by a mob.

In separate statements, they demanded exemplary punishment to the perpetrators of the violence, apparently triggered by a Facebook posting of a photo defaming the holy Quran.

A total of 28 eminent citizens alleged that a vested quarter fuelled the recent Rangamati clash between indigenous people and Bangalee settlers to foil the war crimes trial and lead the country into communalism.

In a statement, nine eminent citizens said the government should punish the lawmaker, administrative officers and law enforcement agency members if they were found to have been negligent to their duties during the incident.

In a separate statement, 19 Dhaka University teachers, including the vice chancellor, demanded punishment for the culprits who tried to hurt the country's communal harmony.

Ektatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee said, "Jamaat-backed militants were creating safe dens at Cox's Bazar and Chittagong Hill Tracts to train their militants since the four-

party alliance regime.

"Their plan is to establish an Islamic country with Rakhine-dominated Arakan state and a portion of the hill tracts. We have found many proofs of Jamaat's engagement with these Rohingya fundamentalists and collected names of 17 organisations more or less involved with the party."

Ain o Salish Kendra urged locals and the administration to remain alert so that none could carry out subversive activities anywhere.

Bangladesh Human Rights Commission condemned the law enforcement agencies' role, stating that prompt action could have prevented the attack.

Protesting the attack, Parbatya Chattagram Pahari Chhatra Parishad and Bangladesh Adivasi Chhatra Sangram Parishad organised a rally at Dhaka University's Aparajeya Bangla.

Indigenous Students' Association of Jahangirnagar University also brought out a silent procession on the campus, participated by JU Student Union and Jahangirnagar Sangskritik Jote.

Bangladesh Udichi Shilpigosthi will organise protest cultural rallies in all of the country's districts tomorrow.

Seventeen other organisations also condemned the attack.

Keep in mind ICT's harmful side

Says information minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

While taking part in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) revolution, threats to sentiments concerning children, gender, individuals and religion should be taken into consideration, said Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu yesterday.

He was referring to the Ramu violence early Sunday, centring a Facebook posting of a photo defaming the holy Quran, while addressing a seminar, "Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting (DTTB)", in the capital's Bangladesh Television (BTV) office.

The government never wanted to block YouTube but had to so as to avoid hateful incidents, he said. "The block on YouTube is not permanent and the government will always be with digitalisation."

BTV Director General M Hamid urged the necessity to migrate from analogue transmission system to digital transmission system.

The seminar saw illustrations on two DTTB formats -- Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting-Terrestrial (ISDB-T) and Digital Video Broadcasting-Terrestrial 2 (DVB-T2) -- regarding future BTV transmission.

Y Teramura, a Japanese ICT expert, illustrated the feasibility of using ISDB-T, the most advanced international standard broadcasting format, which is cost effective and had the potential to create new telecommunication and broadcasting services.

ICT expert from Singapore Allen Kho Yew Luen described the measures of DVB-T2, mostly used in Europe.

RAMU VIOLENCE
NHRC to give its proposals to govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Human Rights Commission Chairman (NHRC) will submit its recommendations to the government about what steps could be taken regarding the Ramu violence, which erupted on Sunday centring a Facebook photo "defaming the Holy Quran".

"We don't think that we have the capacity to investigate such a massive incident occurred in Ramu, given our workforce size. But it's our duty and we will place proper recommendations to the government understanding the gravity of the incident," NHRC Chairman Dr Mizanur Rahman told reporters after visiting a Rangamati violence victim in a Dhaka hospital.

In Ramu upazila, Cox's Bazar, a mob destroyed 12 Buddhist temples and monasteries and more than 50 houses on Sunday, protesting posting of the photo blamed on a Buddhist man.

The NHRC chief said the incidents in Ramu and Rangamati were interconnected though separate. On September 22, a clash between Bangalees and Adivasis left about 20 people injured in Rangamati town.

"Whoever be involved in the incident (in Ramu) will have to be identified and brought to book immediately," said Prof Mizanur, urging the home minister to take action against the culprits without wasting time.

"We thank him [home minister] for his prompt visit to Ramu but we believe his effort will not end with just the visit. We want to see how he solves the problem and punishes the culprits."

Regarding the Rangamati victim, he said, "His hands and legs were broken, his veins severed and eyes severely hurt." The way they tortured the man was barbaric, and no civilised people could do that, he said.

Govt to launch pneumonia, diarrhoea vaccination

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque yesterday said the government was going to introduce a vaccination programme on pneumonia and diarrhoea to cut child deaths.

The government has brought many upazilas under the health ministry to reduce health complications of children and give maternity services, he told the inaugural session of a weeklong programme marking World Children's Day and Child Right's Week-2012.

Bangladesh Shishu Academy is hosting the programme at National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, which will conclude on October 7. The World Children's Day is celebrated across the globe on the first Monday of October every year.

Different socio-cultural organisations arranged a wide range of programmes on the occasion.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury and chairman of parliamentary standing committee on the ministry Meher Afroz Chumki, among others, addressed the weeklong programme at Shilpakala Academy.

On the occasion, Aparajeyo Bangladesh, an organisation working for disadvantaged children, brought out a colourful procession in the capital from Matsya Bhaban to Shilpakala Academy, while Bangladesh Centre for Human Rights and Development and Kendrio Khelaghar Asar formed a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club.



The iron cover on the sewerage line under the capital's Shyamoli link road has collapsed, causing accidents on the road almost every day, while the authorities seem quite indifferent to the situation. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Hajj flights from Ctg begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Biman Bangladesh Airlines has started its Chittagong-Jeddah hajj flights from Shah Amanat International Airport in Chittagong early yesterday.

A DC-10 aircraft with 312 devotees took off at about 1:45am and landed at Jeddah airport in scheduled time, said a press release.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Faruk Khan inaugurated the flight yesterday.

Seven more direct hajj flights from Chittagong will take place till October 20, the release said.

About 3800 passengers will travel from Chittagong to Jeddah directly through the eight flights, said Dilip Kumar Chowdhury, district manager of Biman in Chittagong.

Two Saudi Arabian airlines will carry 56,500 hajj pilgrims, out of a total of about 1.13 lakh, from Bangladesh this year while the remaining pilgrims will be carried by Biman.

LOWER COURT JUDGES
SC gives one more month to govt to raise salaries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday gave one more month to the government to raise salaries and other facilities of lower court judges as per recommendations of the Judicial Service Pay Commission (JSPC).

In 2008, the JSPC suggested providing allowances to the lower court judges equal to basic of their monthly salaries and increase other facilities.

During hearing of Masdar Hossain Case, popularly known as judiciary separation case, the Appellate Division of SC yesterday directed the government to submit a report to it by November 4 after implementing the recommendations.

On July 19, the apex court had directed the secretaries to the ministry of finance and

cabinet division to implement JSPC recommendations by October 1 (yesterday).

Earlier on different days it had gave the similar orders to the government.

Yesterday, the seven-member full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain expressed dissatisfaction over the government's "dilly-dally" in executing its order.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told the court that the government has been working for enhancing salaries and other facilities of judicial officials in accordance with the SC directives.

The SC said the government has no progress in compliance with its order, which is not decent.

Barrister M Amir-UI Islam appeared as an intervener of this case.

DHAKA TODAY

National dialogue
Samunay will hold a national dialogue; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Discussion
Deshpremik Janoganer Mancha will hold an open discussion; Venue: Gono Sangskriti Kendra, Shahbagh; Time: 5:00pm.

Seminar
Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIIS) will

organise a seminar; Venue: BIIS, 1/46, Old Elephant Road; Time: 11:30am.

Discussion
Jatiya Ganotantrik League will hold a discussion; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 4:00pm.

Human chain
Biplobi Nari Sanghati will form a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Discussion
Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Sangskritik

WEATHER TODAY

Rain likely
UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Khulna 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 5:45pm and rises tomorrow at 5:52am.

Country's highest temperature 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and lowest 23.5 degree Celsius at 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	34.4	26.8	69	63
Chittagong	32.6	26.0	80	82
Rajshahi	34.4	25.0	91	77
Rangpur	32.8	24.7	89	86
Khulna	34.2	26.0	84	90
Barisal	33.7	26.5	82	88