

NEWS IN *brief*

Birdem introduces dental care

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Patients who have been suffering from different teeth related diseases will now get modern dental implant, braces and other teeth related treatments at Birdem Hospital in the capital.

The hospital's dentistry department has recently introduced the treatments. Treatments for missing teeth replacement, mal-aligned abnormally placed teeth and jaws respectively will be available from now, said a press release.

Specialized dental surgeons trained at home and abroad will provide the services with affordable prices from 7.30am to 2.00pm every day except

College student dies from electrocution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A college student died after being electrocuted in the capital's Gendaria yesterday.

The deceased, Kazi Shahed Ahmed Sagar, 20, was a first year student of Ideal College in Dhanmondi. Jabir Hossain, the victim's cousin, said Shahed was electrocuted while plugging in his computer.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital

Boy dies falling from building

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 5-year-old boy died after falling from a six-storey building in the capital's Jurain yesterday.

The deceased, Al-Amin Shuvo, is the son of Kamrul Islam, a private service holder.

Shuvo went to the roof of their building without informing them and fell off while playing, Kamrul Islam told journalists at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

"After hearing people scream we went out of the building and found him lying on the ground," he added. Shuvo was taken to DMCH where doctors

Five Shibir men held in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Five activists of pro-Jamaat-e-Islami student organisation Islami Chhatra Shibir were arrested from Dewanhat intersection area in Chittagong city on charge of their alleged involvement in hurling cocktails and torching a bus during hartal on September 23.

The arrestees are Delwar Hossain, 18, Md Shahriar, 19, Jubaer Islam, 19, Abdul Halim, 21 and Shamsul Mawla Sharif, 18.

Police said they conducted drives at different private-run students' messes in the area and nabbed the persons around 6:00am.

Earlier, police also arrested eight people in this connection.

On September 23, picketers torched a BRTC double-decker bus in Badamtali intersection and hurled 7 to 8 cocktails in Barapul intersection area in Chittagong during a dawn to dusk hartal enforced by



PHOTO: PID

Indian Army chief General Bikram Singh calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Gono Bhavan yesterday.

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

Cut dependence on govt: Prime minister

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the public university authorities to become self-reliant in running the institutions rather than fully depending on government allocations.

She told a function marking the distribution of "Prime Minister Gold Medal Award 2010" held at her office. The University Grants Commission (UGC) organised the function.

Hasina said the well-off section of society and the members of alumni associations of different public universities could play an active role in the development of the universities through donating funds. "If that happens, the public universities won't have to depend on the government and they'll be able to enjoy their autonomy," she said.

She said the government will also take steps so that the donation to be given to the universities can enjoy income tax exemption.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid also spoke at the event presided over by UGC Chairman Prof Dr AK Azad Chowdhury.

The prime minister said her government

has decided in principle to constitute a higher education commission to ensure accountability of the universities as well as turning those into high standard ones.

She said steps have been taken to form an independent accreditation council to assess the standard of education of the private universities.

Hasina said her government has established seven public universities and draft laws to establish five more public universities have been prepared. These are Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Maritime University, Islami Arbi Affiliating University, Digital University Bangladesh, Khulna Agriculture University and Barisal Marine University.

The gold medals were given to 82 university students for their brilliant performances in honours examinations.

Of the 82 students, 10 are from Dhaka University, eight from Rajshahi University, six from Bangladesh Agricultural University, five from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet), five from Chittagong University and four from Jahangirnagar University.

ATTACK ON BUDDHISTS

Couldn't happen without intelligence knowledge

Says NHRC chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Head of National Human Rights Commission Prof Mizanur Rahman yesterday said the attack on Buddhists in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong was pre-planned and could not take place without prior knowledge of the intelligence agencies.

"The government must investigate the incident, as the violent attack and vandalism of temples could not occur without the knowledge of the intelligence agencies and the local administration," he told a seminar, "Universal Periodic Review: Rights of the People's of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT)", at Dhaka University Senate Bhavan.

He also said, "The violence on Buddhists has demeaned us before the world and questioned the spirit of secularism in the constitution. The pictures of the ruined statues of Gautama Buddha published in the newspapers represent a bloodstained face of Bangladesh."

Pointing to the fifteenth amendment to the constitution, Prof Mizanur said such incidents were taking place due to paradoxical provisions in the constitution because secularism and the state religion could not go together.

Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director, Transparency International Bangladesh, demanded a judicial probe into the Ramu violence.

Dhaka University Professor Meshbah Kamal, Manusher Jonno Foundation Executive Director Shaheen Anam, and NHRC Honorary Member Prof Niru Kumar Chakma, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Indian army chief meets premier

UNB, Dhaka

Visiting Indian Army Chief General Bikram Singh met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Gono Bhavan yesterday and discussed issues of mutual interests.

PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad briefed reporters after the meeting.

During the meeting, they emphasised that the armies of both the countries can exchange knowledge, expertise, and views in disaster management.

Hasina recalled the contributions of India to the Liberation War in 1971.

Bikram Singh praised the leadership of Hasina in strengthening relations between the two countries.

Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Pankaj Saran, Principal Staff Officer of Bangladesh Army Lt Gen M Abdul Wadud and PM's Military Secretary Maj Gen Mia Md Jainal Abedin were also present.

India invites 100 Bangladeshi youths

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

India, for the first time, invited a 100-member Bangladesh youth delegation to an eight-day visit to India to strengthen people-to-people contact and exchange between the two countries.

The Indian High Commission in Bangladesh and the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Indian government took the initiative, says an Indian High Commission press release.

The delegation, comprising young doctors, engineers, management graduates, business people, entrepreneurs, journalists, musicians and students, are expected to call on Indian President Pranab Mukherjee and Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Ajay Maken.

They will also visit New Delhi, Gurgaon, Agra, Kolkata, Shantiniketan, prominent cultural and historical sites and educational, business, IT and technological institutions.

One held with looted drugs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday arrested an agent of several gangs of drug robbers from Manikganj with drugs looted from three covered vans of pharmaceutical companies on a Habiganj highway in July and September this year.

Kohinoor Miah, 35, of Singair in Manikganj was arrested following complaints by the authorities of Square Pharmaceuticals, Ibn Sina Pharmaceuticals and Biopharma Laboratories. DB police also recovered some looted drugs worth Tk 11 lakh from a warehouse near his house.

Assistant Commissioner of DB Md Jahidul Haque Talukder said some robbers looted a covered van loaded with drugs of Biopharma on a highway at Bahubal Upazila of Habiganj on July 4.

Two other medicine-loaded covered vans—one of Ibn Sina and another of Square—were robbed from Sayestaganj on July 15 and Silaji of the district on September 9 respectively.

Kohinoor told police that he is an agent of several gangs of robbers involved in drug robbery. He sells the drugs to some drug traders at Babu Bazar in the capital at a lower price.

He also told police that some staff of drug companies are involved in the gangs, who leak information about the location of such medicines-loaded covered vans.

The seized medicines were handed over to the respective companies.



A mobile court dumps ice cream making ingredients seized from Jham Jham Ice Cream Factory at the capital's Mirpur-2 yesterday. The factory owner was fined Tk 1 lakh in default to serve six months in jail on charges of making and marketing ice cream without BSTI approval.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

No cattle market on roads, highways before Eid

Decides inter-ministerial meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday decided not to allow makeshift cattle markets on roads and highways to avoid traffic gridlock ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, one of the two largest religious festivals of Muslims.

The decision came at an inter-ministerial coordination meeting, to ensure safe and smooth passenger movement centring the festival, in the capital's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh.

The meeting discussed about increasing the holiday by one more day, taking it to 5, from October 24 to 28, and keeping compressed natural gas stations open round-the-clock during this period.

It also decided to keep law enforcement agencies on alert to end extortion from cattle traders, form vigilance teams to monitor the

capital's bus terminals, keep wreckers on stand-by at highways and to keep Bangabandhu Bridge's toll booths open.

A nine-member monitoring team comprising Road Division and Roads and Highways Department officials was formed to keep highways fit for vehicular movement during Eid rush, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader informed the meeting.

Obaidul also announced that Meghna and Gomti bridges will remain closed from 10:00pm to 6:00am on four days -- October 6 and 20 and November 3 and 17 -- for maintenance.

The alternative route for Dhaka-Chittagong vehicles will be Dhaka-Jatrabari-Kachpur bridge-Rupganj (Tarabo Mor)-Narsingdi-Bhoirab-Ashuganj-Sarail Biswa Road intersection-Bramhanbaria-Moynamoti-Chittagong.

Unexplained death of a housewife

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife who was recovered from the capital's Shahjahanpur Jhil in a senseless condition died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) early yesterday.

The deceased was Jinnat Sultana Sonia, 35, wife of Manir Hossain Badal, of Khilgaon area.

Quoting Manir, Shahjahanpur Police Station Sub-Inspector Masud Alam said Sonia committed suicide jumping into the jhil around 2:30am.

Locals recovered Sonia in a senseless condition from the jhil and rushed her to a local hospital. Later, she was shifted to DMCH where doctors declared her dead, he said.

Sonia's brother Rasel, however, claimed that Manir killed Sonia for dowry.

"My sister filed several general diaries with Shahjahanpur and Motijheel Police Stations against her husband. But police did not take any action. The man beat my sister to death for dowry," he claimed.

Police detained Manir in this connection. The body was handed over to Sonia's family members after an autopsy, SI Masud Alam said adding that he did not know about the general diaries. "I have not checked it out yet," he said.

Documentary festival
Liberation War Museum will organise a documentary festival; Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbagh; Time: 5:00pm.

Memorial meeting
Bangladesh Sammilito Peshajibi Parishad will hold a memorial meeting; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:00pm.

Discussion
Alliance Fancaise de Dhaka will organise a discussion; Venue: its premises; Time: 6:00pm.

Free health treatment
Leo Club of Dhaka Central Rajdhani will provide free health treatment; Venue: Popular Medical College and Hospital, House 25, Road 2, Dhanmondi; Time: 9:00am.

Seminar
SME Foundation will organise a seminar; Venue: its premises; Time: 10:30am.

Human chain
Dhaka University Teachers' Association will form a human chain; Venue: at the base of Aparajeya Bangla, Dhaka University; Time: 11:00am.

Agro fair
Ministry of Agriculture will organise an agro fair; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 3:00pm.

Convention
Bangladesh Jubo Maitree will hold its

Temperature fall likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Dhaka divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Heavy to very heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.

Day and night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:43pm and rises tomorrow at 5:52am.

Country's highest temperature 34.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and Chuadanga and lowest 23.2 degree Celsius at Sylhet.

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	33.0 27.2	75 87
Chittagong	27.8 25.0	97 90
Rajshahi	34.0 26.4	83 72
Rangpur	32.7 24.6	85 91
Khulna	31.5 26.0	85 86
Barisal	29.2 25.5	94 98