Khaleda Zia leaves for China today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will leave the capital for China today on a seven-day visit at the invitation of Chinese Communist Party.

She will meet leaders of both Chinese government and the communist party, BNP sources said.

The visit is important for BNP as it is trying to get support from international community to rise pressure on the government for restoring the caretaker government system, they said.

BNP standing committee member Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain and Mahbubur Rahman, vice chairman Shamser Mobin Chowdhury and Selima Rahman, chairperson's adviser Sabihuddin Ahmed, among others, will accompany her during the visit.

Rescued tiger cubs taken to Safari Park

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The forest department yesterday took the three tiger cubs, which were rescued from a wildlife smuggler's house at the capital's Shyamoli four months ago, to Dulahazra Safari Park in Cox's Bazar.

The department also suspended 11 officials in connection with smuggling of the baby tigers.

The cubs, now around six months old and weighing about 20kg each, are kept in a cage in the safari park and will be transferred to a large enclosure later. They no longer feed on milk and have switched to meat.

The Bengal tigers will be released in a deep forest when they will be one and a half years old, said a press release of the forest department. The Rapid Action Battalion rescued the cubs on June 11.



City

Noted water expert **Dr Ainun Nishat** speaks at a consultation meeting on "Framework for Cooperation on South Asian Transboundary Waters" at the capital's Spectra **Convention Centre** yesterday. Bangladesh Environmental **Lawyers Association** (Bela) organised the event. Shafqat Kakakhel of Pakistan, far left, Dipak Gyawali of Nepal, second from right, and Partha J Das of India, far right, were among the speakers.

CHILD KIDNAPPING 'RUMOUR' 3 women, 4 cops hurt in mob attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mob beat three women up suspecting them "child kidnapers", and assaulted four policemen after cops rescued them in the capital's Khilgaon area yesterday.

Police took the victims Taslima Begum, 35, her son Sakib Al Hassan, 3, sister Alfatun Begum, 28, and neighbour Hena Begum, 32, in custody, while injured cop ASI Fazlul Haque was admitted to Rajarbagh Police Lines Hospital.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Motijheel Division Anwar Hossain said the three women and the child of Ibrahimpur went to West Nandipara in the morning to find Alfatun's husband who went into hiding after his second marriage, and was living in the area.

When they were in the area, a woman wanted to know the child's identity, he said.

Before child's mother could answer, the woman started

shouting that the victims were child kidnapers. Hearing her screams hundreds of people rushed there, he added. A police team patrolling in the area rushed to the spot and

rescued the victims from mob beating, and took them to Khilgaon Police Station, Anwar Hossain said.

After a rumour spread that the women were freed on the way to the police station, the mob swooped on another team of law enforcers when they were on duty in the area, and confined them to a building for around an hour, the DC said.

4.5cr contact foodborne diseases a year

Discussion told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 4.5 crore people of Bangladesh get infected with foodborne diseases at least once a year mainly due to consuming contaminated food, claimed a paper of a food and nutrition expert.

Foodborne illness causes long-lasting damage to health, including death and disability, huge economical loss and affects physiological development of children, it said.

Shyamal Kanti Barman, also director of Sustainable Development Associates, presented the paper yesterday at a discussion on "Safe food", marking the occasion of World Food Day (October 16) organised by Progotishil Krishibid Kendra at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

Using of pesticides, growth promoters, components of packaging materials, enzymes in food processing, artificial ripening, food and colour additives, formalin are the main reasons for food contamination, he said.

Addressing the discussion, agriculture experts stressed the need for political commitment, social movement and stronger government bodies to check food adulteration.

In many countries, soft drinks are banned as they harm health, said Dr Akhtaruzzaman, professor of Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, Dhaka University. So consumption of these drinks should be checked in Bangladesh, he added.

Prof MA Jalil of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University viewed that the nation would be devoid of talent if food contamination was not checked.

All political parties should unanimously launch a combat against food adulteration, said Dr Jahangir Alam, former director general of Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute. He also demanded inclusion of topics on food adulteration in school text books, featuring its adverse impacts.

Cultural and media personality Abdun Noor Tushar opined for strengthening Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) to check contaminated food and for discussing the issue in parliament.

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council Director Dr Abul Kashem moderated the discussion.

NEWS IN brief

Bus set afire by 'unknown' people in Savar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A bus was set ablaze by "unknown" people on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar yesterday.

The vehicle was burned partially as locals doused the fire within a few minutes. Sub-inspector of Savar Police Station Sazzad

Rumon said police were yet to know who set fire to the bus. that two possibilities were being looked into. According to some witnesses, he said, students of College of Finance and Management set fire to it after a scuffle with the bus staff over fare.

Another possibility is that a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal students of Jahangirnagar University

Noted personalities accorded reception in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Six eminent personalities of the country were accorded a reception in Rajshahi city on Friday evening.

They are economist Dr Abul Barkat, writerjournalist Shahriar Kabir, historian Muntasir Mamun, language movement veteran Abul Hossain, former Rajshahi University vice chancellor Prof Abdul Khaleque and Kazi Mukul, a leader of the movement for war crimes trial.

Some 23 social and cultural organisations of Rajshahi including Muktijuddha Pathagar organised the reception for their contributions in strengthening moral values of citizens and the ideologies of the country's Liberation War.

City Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton, and lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha attended the function at Rajshahi Medical College Auditorium.

Envoy in Dhaka happy at EU's winning Nobel Peace Prize

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Head of the EU Delegation in Dhaka Ambassador William Hanna yesterday expressed his delight at the European Union's wining Nobel Peace Prize.

In a statement, he said, "I am delighted to hear the news. I am proud to represent an organisation which works tirelessly for peace and democracy in Europe and throughout the world."

"Here in Bangladesh we will continue to support all efforts for peace and democracy, notably the CHT peace process," he added.

The EU won the Nobel Peace Prize for its historic



The International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and Munich Re Foundation signed in Bonn, on October 9, terms of reference for a new joint research and resilience building project in Bangladesh. (From left) Thomas Loster of Munich Re Foundation, Bangladesh Ambassador to Germany Mosud Mannan, Dr Saleemul Huq of ICCCAD, and Prof Jakob Rhyner of UNU-EHS. PHOTO: COURTESY

WEATHER

Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two 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

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:33pm and rises tomorrow at

Country's highest temperature 34.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at

Rajshhai and lowest 21.4 degrees at Sayedpur. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities

and towns yesterday were: Humidity in City/Town Temperature in Celsius percentage Max: Min: Morning Evening 25.3 76 89 Dhaka 85 30.6 24.4 Chittagono Rajshahi 90 77 34.3 23.4

22.8

25.6

25.0

32.5

31.7

Rangpur

Barisal

80

83

75

86

94

Miscreants slit two Adivasis' throats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

immediate arrest of the attackers.

Local miscreants slit the throats of two Adivasi men at Polashi village in Godagari upazila of Rajshahi yesterday.

The victims, Robi Das Mardi, 30, and Foni Kisku, 34, of the village, were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) in critical conditions.

Locals, victims' relatives and police said two youths -Nabin Khan and Jahangir Alam - of the village, in a drunk state, were creating nuisance in the area around 2:00am, disturbing the sleeping villagers.

When Robi asked them to stop the nuisance, the duo got angry and slit his throat entering his house, the sources said.

When Robi's neighbour Foni tried to save him, the miscreants also attacked Foni with the sharp weapons they were carrying, the sources added. Hearing the hue and cry, locals thronged the house and

rushed Robi and Foni to Premtoli Health Complex from where the duo was shifted to RMCH around noon. Locals said Nabin is the nephew of Upazila Parishad

Chairman Ataur Rahman and is a BNP activist while Jahangir

is an activist of Awami League. Meanwhile, Jatiya Adivasi Parishad President Rabindranath Soren, Adivasi Sangskritik Unnayan Sangstha Executive Director Rajkumar Sao, Mahle Sangskritik Unnayan Sangstha Executive Director Jakarias Dumri, and Sammilito Adivasi Nari Jote President Kolpona Tirki, in a joint statement, condemned the incident and demanded

Four addl HC judges' appointment confirmed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Zillur Rahman yesterday confirmed the appointment of four additional High Court judges, law ministry sources said. They are Justice Ruhul Quddus, Justice Md Khasruzzaman,

Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Farid Ahmed. The law ministry will issue a gazette notification on the appointments today, the sources said.

The president appointed Ruhul Quddus and Khasruzzaman as additional judges to the HC on April 11, 2010. Nazrul Islam Talukder and Farid Ahmed were

appointed as additional HC judges on November 1, 2010. The then chief justice ABM Khairul Haque administered oath to all the four additional judges on November 4, 2010.

Roundtable Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad wil

arrange a roundtable on climate fund; Venue: Bangladesh Aurthonity Samity Auditorium, Eskaton Garden Road Time: 3:30pm.

Seminar

Peace and Progressive Foundation will arrange a seminar on protection of rivers; Venue: Cirdap Auditorium; Time:

Human chain

Paribesh Bachao Andolon will form a human chain demanding proper

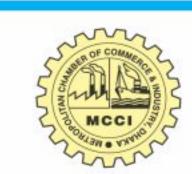
management of sacrificial animals' waste; Venue: Nagar Bhaban (Dhaka South); Time: 11:00am.

Workshop

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh, British Council and ActionAid Bangladesh will start a twoday workshop on universitycommunity relationships; Venue: Ruposhi Bangla Hotel; Time: 11:00am.

Roundtable

Dhaka University IT Society will organise a roundtable on rules of online media; Venue: Seminar Room, Centre



DISCUSSION

JOB CREATION: AN EFFECTIVE MEANS TO POVERTY REDUCTION

The single biggest challenge for today's economy is to create new jobs and better jobs, what the World Bank says double job challenge. The economic crisis has added 27 million new unemployed, leading to a total of 200 million unemployed worldwide. In context of Bangladesh, one of our principal development challenges is also the creation of jobs for 1.8 million new entrants into the labour market and a great many who are currently underemployed.

During the last decade, the economy of Bangladesh attained moderately high rate of growth. The country has also been able to achieve significant reduction in poverty. Yet poverty is found to persist at a high level. Various studies show that the employment intensity of economic growth especially in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors has been declining. It also shows that a significant number of workforces remain unemployed and underemployed in addition to nearly 1.8 millions new workers enter in the job market every year. Therefore, job creation remains as one of the biggest challenges for the country.

Against this backdrop, Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (MCCI) has been pursuing to focus on the issue of job creation in Bangladesh and will organize a fruitful discussion on the 16th October 2012 highlighting the importance of job creation with the ultimate objective of poverty reduction in the country.

The outcome of this discussion is expected to provide an incredible opportunity for a genuine policy dialogue towards shaping a new and stronger development agenda. The discussion will facilitate to generate an environment on creation of new jobs, better jobs and quality of jobs which are fundamental for more inclusive and sustainable growth.

A global expert on Job Creation from International Finance Corporation under the World Bank Group, Washington D.C. has been invited to deliver the keynote speech. Besides, there will be a few more renowned speakers from home and abroad.

The Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of Bangladesh has kindly consented to

remain present during the discussion.

We expect all our invited members to attend the discussion and give their inputs.