

NEWS IN *brief*

Bangladesh Betar wins prize for documentary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Betar won the Radio Special Jury Prize 2012 of Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) on October 16 for its documentary "Thorns on the Way". The state-run radio station broadcast the documentary to raise public awareness on female and children trafficking. Bangladesh Betar Deputy Regional Director (Dhaka) Mohammad Mustafizur Rahman produced the documentary, which was announced the winner at the 49th general conference of ABU in Seoul. Bangladesh Betar Director General Kazi Akhtar Uddin Ahmed received the award on the radio station.

Jatiya Press Club's founding anniversary events end today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The month-long programmes arranged by Jatiya Press Club to mark its 58th founding anniversary will conclude today through a cultural function. The function will start with a dance of Nritanchal led by Shibli Mohammad and Shamim Ara Nipa in the evening. Later, renowned singer Sabina Yasmin will perform. Then singer Selim Chowdhury will render folk songs of Hason Raja and Abdul Karim, says a press release. Earlier of the event, a cake will be cut around

NU honours exams start on Nov 12

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 4th year honours examinations of 2010 under National University (NU) will now begin on November 12. The NU authorities yesterday announced the new schedule which is available on its website: www.nu.edu.bd. The schedule can also be found in

Int'l confce on English through technology at DU on Oct 20

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An international conference titled "Teaching and Learning English through Technology" will be held at Dhaka University on October 20. The university's English department will organise the daylong programme to be held at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban. Dr Helen Bond of Howard University in Washington will present the keynote speech. She will also hold a two-day workshop for the English department faculty members. Anyone interested in teaching with technology can participate in the programme. For further informa-

2 workers die from electrocution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two welders died from electrocution at a workshop in the capital's Kadamtali yesterday. The victims are Awal Hossain, 20, of Barisal and Litan, 22, of Chittagong. Zahid Hossain, a co-worker, said Awal and Litan were electrocuted while switching off the welding machine at SH Engineering Workshop at Sarail crossing around 2:00pm. Awal was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital while Litan at Sir Salimullah Medical College

Illegal water plants unearthed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A surveillance team of Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) yesterday discovered eleven illegal factories, which were supplying water in the capital, and destroyed 218 jars of water. BSTI Assistant Director SM Talat Mahmud led the team in Tejgaon, Gulshan and Mohakhali areas, says a press release. These factories had been supplying jars of water to different tea stalls and restaurants without having the



Truckloads of sacrificial animals, mostly cows, have started arriving in the capital from across the country ahead of Eid-ul-Azha on October 27. The photo was taken at Gabtoli Cattle Market yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

PUJA, EID SECURITY
DMP to bar hide-laden trucks' exit from capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police will not let trucks carrying hides of sacrificial animals go outside Dhaka from October 27, Eid day, to October 31 to prevent smuggling of the animal skins, said Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Benazir Ahmed yesterday. He was addressing a press briefing in the capital's DMP Media Centre regarding DMP's security measures marking Durga Puja and Eid-ul-Azha. Two police control rooms were set up to monitor law and order situation from October 14 to 31, when the religious festivals would take place, while a three-tier security measure

would be in place till October 29, he said. Police will also take special security measures from tomorrow to October 24 for puja. Police introduced additional patrol teams and installed closed circuit television cameras to keep an eye on 206 puja mandaps, 27 makeshift cattle markets, shopping malls, National Eidgah and Baitul Mukarram National Mosque, he said. "Cops in plainclothes and additional police in uniform will be deployed on the spots," he said. Temporary police camps will be set up at bus terminals, river ports and train stations while some counterfeit money detectors will be set up at cattle markets, he added.

WAGE FOR NEWSPAPERS, AGENCIES
50 percent dearness allowance declared

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday announced monthly 50 percent dearness allowance (DA) of the basic salary fixed under the 7th wage board for the journalists, employees and other staff of newspapers and news agencies. As per the section 146(1) of The Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006, the 8th Wage Board yesterday declared the dearness allowance for the interim period with effect from July 1, 2012 ahead of announcement of the new wage board, said a handout. The dearness allowance will be adjusted with the new salary structure to be fixed under the 8th Wage Board. On June 18, the government formed the 8th Wage Board with retired Judge of the Supreme Court Justice Kazi Ebadul Haque as its chairman to recommend increased wages for the journalists, employees and press workers after reviewing the 7th Wage Board Award.

FOREIGN FRIENDS IN 1971
61 to be honoured tomorrow

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will confer awards on 61 more foreign friends tomorrow for their outstanding contributions to the country's Liberation War 41 years ago. President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will ceremonially hand over "Muktijuddho Moitri Sammanana" to them at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital. The 61, most of them from India, are receiving the state honour in the third phase. Earlier, Bangladesh's government honoured a number of foreign friends in July 2011 and March this year. The foreign friends' support came when Bangalees stood up against the atrocities and genocide and contributed to the eventual emergence of sovereign Bangladesh through a nine-month war. Among the recipients this time is a former Indian army officer Col (ret'd) Ashok Tara who rescued Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and other family members from the captivity of Pakistani troops from their house in Dhaka in 1971. Col Tara, now 70, also took part in several deadly battles with Pakistani troops in the war. Late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was the first foreign friend to be conferred with the honour. Her daughter-in-law and Congress President Sonia Gandhi received the honour on her behalf on July 25, 2011. In the second phase, Bangladesh awarded 83 with "Bangladesh Liberation War Honour" and "Friends of Liberation War Honour" on March 27.

REDRAWING JS CONSTITUENCIES
EC to talk to political parties after eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) will hold talks with political parties after the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha to seek their opinions on redrawing the boundaries of parliamentary constituencies, said Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad yesterday. "We hope all the political parties will join the talks and give us important suggestions on redrawing the boundaries of parliamentary constituencies," the CEC told reporters on the EC Secretariat premises. In light of their suggestions, he said, a free and fair parliamentary election will be held in the coming days. This will be the EC's first talks with registered political parties since it was constituted in this February. Earlier, the EC led by Rakibuddin held talks with civil society personalities and senior journalists seeking their opinion on the issue. Asked whether all political parties will be invited to sit together at talks with the EC, the CEC said, "You [reporters] will know when we will finalise the talk schedule." Responding to another query, the CEC said the EC would use electronic voting machines in the Rangpur City Corporation polls, which will be held by December 25.

Snapped rail link restored

Two staff of derailed train suspended

STAR REPORT

Rail communications between Dhaka and Chittagong, Sylhet, and Noakhali, which were suspended following derailment of a freight train resumed after nine hours yesterday. The train was derailed at Kasba of Brahmanbaria around 3:00am, for which the railway authorities had to cancel three pairs of trains scheduled for yesterday. The suspended trains, Chattala Express and Mohanagar-Godhuli, run on Dhaka-Chittagong route and Paharika Express on Dhaka-Sylhet route. All the other trains on the routes were also delayed by several hours, causing immense sufferings to thousands of passengers. The rail service resumed by the afternoon as a salvage train managed to remove the derailed locomotive and two wagons from the railway tracks, reports our Brahmanbaria correspondent quoting a railway official who led the rescue operation. Following a primary probe, the authorities suspended driver Shahjahan Mollah and his assistant Mahmud Ali of the derailed train for their negligence, reports our Chittagong correspondent quoting a top official of Bangladesh Railway. On Wednesday, rail communications between Chittagong and other parts of the country remained disrupted for five hours after a train coach had derailed in Feni. The top official said derailment of a train among 172 others running for the east zone is a normal matter.



Dry weather likely
UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country in 24 hours till 6:00pm today. Light fog is likely to occur over the river basins of the country during late night till morning, Met Office said. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:29pm and rises tomorrow at 5:58am. Country's highest temperature 35.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and lowest 20.6 degrees at Sayedpur. 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	34.2	25.7	60	49
Chittagong	32.5	25.5	83	82
Rajshahi	32.8	21.6	79	71
Rangpur	31.6	21.8	69	72
Khulna	33.5	24.5	76	75
Barisal	33.2	24.3	83	90

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WATER KINGDOM 10% Code: 2006	bridal moment 30% Code: 1014	HOTEL THE COX TODAY 55% Code: 5027	Cwell Park RESIDENCE 40% Code: 5005	LONG BEACH HOTEL 50% Code: 5003	Seagull Hotels Ltd 50% Code: 5004

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