

NEWS IN *brief*

KOICA-KBAA arranges free medical camp

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and KOICA-Bangladesh Alumni Association (KBAA) arranged a day-long free medical camp for poor people in the capital's Hazaribagh area yesterday. A 30-member volunteer team consisting of Korean and local doctors and nurses provided medical consultation and treatment to 300 people.

Two crushed under train wheels

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Two passengers were crushed to death under the wheels of a running train in Narayanganj Sadar upazila yesterday. The victims Bachhu Miah, 40, and Jahangir Hossain, 26, were residents of Fatullah. Police said the duo were travelling by clinging on to the door of a Narayanganj-bound over-loaded train from Dhaka. They fell off the train when the train hit a furniture laden pick-up van at a crossing in Esdair.

Worker dies falling from roof

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A construction worker died after falling from the roof of an under construction building at Dewanhat in Dohazari area of Chandanaish upazila in Chittagong yesterday. The deceased was Mohammed Abul Kashem Raju, 28. He was rushed to Chittagong Medical College.

Summerfield Int'l School signs up for DigiClass

METRO DESK

Summerfield International and Tiny Tots School has inked an agreement with Core Knowledge Limited for implementing DigiClass solutions at the school, says a press release. Core Knowledge is providing DigiClass an ICT-based solution which will enable teachers to transform traditional classroom settings into interactive sessions. It will help students learn in a multimedia-

The Aga Khan School organises science fair

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Showcasing their innovations and creativity in the field of science, the students of The Aga Khan School organised the annual science fair at the school's campuses in Dhaka yesterday. The fair demonstrated diversified practical science experiments in the fields of biology, chem-



President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with guests after conferring awards on 61 of Bangladesh's foreign friends at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: BSS

Foreign friends' contributions invaluable

Says President Zillur Rahman at award conferring ceremony

BSS, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday termed invaluable, inspiring and precious the contribution of foreign personals to the country's War of Liberation.

"Today, I remember with great respect the outstanding contribution of our foreign friends, who rendered whole-hearted support and cooperation to our War of Liberation from their respective positions," he said.

The president was addressing the award conferring ceremony of Bangladesh Liberation War Honour and Friends of Liberation War Honour on distinguished personalities and eminent citizens of different countries for their contribution to the War of Liberation.

Earlier, the president and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina conferred the honours on 61 foreign friends or their representatives at the ceremony at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital.

Zillur Rahman said the people of Bangladesh are really grateful to the foreign friends for their outstanding contribution to the War of Liberation in 1971.

"Therefore, today's occasion is indeed a historic and momentous event for all."

"Your endless generosity will remain in our hearts for ever. As friends of ours, I believe, you would continue your valuable support and cooperation in our development process in the years to come," he said.

With the passage of time, he said Bangladesh has achieved many significant progresses both at national and international arena.

Ahead of the Golden Jubilee celebration of the country's independence in 2021, the president said the present government has set a "Vision 2021" for transforming Bangladesh into a middle-income country.

Those who were honoured

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh yesterday conferred awards on 61 of its foreign friends for their outstanding support and contribution, which helped the country emerge as an independent nation 41 years back.

The friends include military officers, journalists, social workers, politicians, poets, authors, musicians, educationists, photographers, physicians, cultural activist, rights activist, government official, and priest.

They were honoured with "Bangladesh Liberation War Honour" and "Friends of Liberation War Honour" awards.

Of the total recipients, 50 are from India, three from UK, two from USA, two from Sweden, and one each from Nepal, Italy, Australia and Vietnam.

Twenty-four of the foreign friends received the awards by themselves. The rest were represented by government officials, relatives or family members.

The "Bangladesh Liberation War Honour" award went to two friends--IK Gujral, former prime minister of India, and late Girija Prasad Koirala, former prime minister of Nepal.

The rest were conferred the "Friends of Liberation War Honour" award.

The recipients from India are Sashanka S Banerjee, former Indian ambassador to UK; Dilip Chakraborty, journalist; Narayan Bhai Desai, social

worker; Manas Ghosh, journalist; Afzal Hossain, social worker; Ahammad Hossain, photographer and social worker; Hiranmay Karlekar, journalist; Anjali Lahiri, social worker; Dr Ashoke Mitra, politician and economist; Pankaj Saha, journalist; Capt (retd) MNR Samant, Indian Navy; Prof Tarun Sanyal, journalist and professor; Pabitra Sarkar, educationist; Robin Sengupta, journalist and photographer; Brig (retd) Sant Singh, Indian Army; Col (retd) Ashok Tara, Indian Army; Upen Tarafdar, cultural activist; late Mansur Ali, former deputy minister, Tripura; late Begum Gauri Ayub, professor and social worker; late Kaifi Azmi, poet and lyricist; late Dipendranath Bandyopadhyay, author and journalist; late Sibnath Banerjee, politician; late Anil Bhattacharee, journalist; late Bhupendra Dutta Bhaumik, journalist; late Dr Sisir Kumar Bose, physician; Nirendranath Chakraverti, poet; late Nripen Chakraborty, former chief minister and leader of the Communist Party (Marxist), Tripura; late Maitreyi Devi, novelist and social worker; late Bidhu Bhushan Datta, professor and social worker; Shaheed Lance Naik Albert Ekka Param, Indian Army; Santosh Kumar Ghosh, journalist; Dr Phulrene Guha, educationist and social worker; late Bhupesh Gupta, former member of Rajya Sabha; Gobinda Halder, lyricist; late Kalpana

Datta Joshi, social worker; late Moulana Abdul Latif, social worker; late Gouri Prassanna Majumdar, lyricist; late Dilip Mukharji, politician and professor; late Santosh Mukherjee, former government official and social worker, Tripura; late Brig (retd) Kailash Prasad Pande, Indian Army; late Babu Jagjivan Ram, former deputy prime minister and defence minister; late Chandra Rajeshwar Rao, former general secretary, Communist Party of India; late Prof Nihar Ranjan Ray, professor and historian; late Capt Williamson A Sangma, former chief minister, Meghalaya; late Pranabesh Sen, cultural activist; late Dr Triguna Sen, former minister; late Amiya Tarafdar, photographer; Sree Aweek Sarkar, journalist; and Ramesh Chandra and World Peace Council. The recipients from other countries are Sir William Mark Tully, journalist and writer, UK; Anthony Laurence Clifton, journalist, UK; late Donald Chesworth, politician, UK; Joan A Dine, politician and social worker, USA; Thomas A Dine, politician and social worker, USA; Lars Leijonborg, politician and human rights activist, Sweden; Sven Stromberg, journalist and television coordinator, Sweden; Father Marino Rigon, priest and social worker, Italy; late Dr Geoffrey Davis, physician, Australia; and Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, former leader of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam.

29 to vie for each seat in Sust admission tests

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Twenty nine aspirants will contest for each seat in the admission tests for the first year honours courses at the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) this year.

A total 40,881 students applied for 1385 seats in two units, Sust sources said.

Of the applicants, 19,056 students will vie for 590 seats in the social science faculty (unit A), while 21,825 will contest for 795 seats in the science faculty (unit B).

The admission test for unit A will be held at 10:00am, while the test for unit B will be at 3:00pm on November 24.

AL, BNP feudal lords: Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday said though multi-party democracy was supposed to take root firmly in the country, it could not flourish for many reasons.

The two-party rule is the main reason, he told a discussion on Current Political Context at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital's Segunbagicha.

Termining the ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP "feudal lords," he said the people have become their subjects. "This can't happen in a democracy."

In a democratic country, people are the source of power, not one or two parties, mentioned Kamal. "I don't see anything in political science about the two-party system.... Those who dream of democracy never dream of a two-party democracy."

Asked about a third political alliance, he said there might be one or more alliances, but that is not the question. The question is, "Should not the parties outside the two political alliances take part in the election?"

The former AL leader said he along with former president Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury would clarify everything at a programme today at Hotel Radisson.

Muktachinta Forum hosted the discussion. A release of Bikalpadhara Bangladesh said the two leaders will formally make a call for forming a national unity. Political leaders, civil society members and foreign diplomats will be present.

ATTACK ON BUDDHISTS

Facebook users advised to safeguard accounts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Young Buddhist leaders yesterday advised Facebook users to take utmost security precaution for their accounts, as abuse of an account can bring irreparable social havoc.

An account holder must design the privacy settings of his or her account in a way that he or she cannot be tagged in unconsented, offensive and provocative content, said Sukarna Barua, an assistant professor at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet).

The users should also avoid posting very personal photographs on the Facebook, he told a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity, organised by Dhaka University Buddhist Students' Union as part of a campaign against the misuse of Facebook, a social networking site.

Sukarna said the September 29 attack on Buddhists showed how manipulation of such a networking site could lead to unthinkable disasters. There are 33.20 lakh Facebook

accounts in Bangladesh, of which 3.20 lakh are fake, said Subarna Barua, a lecturer at Dhaka University.

On September 29-30, a Facebook photo insulting the Quran led to an unprecedented communal attack on Buddhists in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong.

Meanwhile, a Buddhist organisation yesterday demanded a proper investigation into the attack and adequate security to the Buddhist community.

Bangladesh Buddhist Samaj Sangkar Andolon made the demand at a human chain before Chittagong Press Club, reports our Chittagong correspondent.

In a separate statement, Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Kalyan Trust demanded an investigation committee led by a former chief justice.

Our another correspondent from Chittagong reports: Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad demanded the report of the government investigation into the attacks in Ramu and other places be made public.

DHAKA TODAY

Reception
Natunhara Foundation will accord a reception to Col (retd) Ashok Tara; Venue: Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban; Time: 3:00pm.

Memorial meeting
Afsar Ahmad Smrity Foundation will hold a memorial meeting marking the 11th death anniversary of former lawmaker Afsar Ahmad; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:30pm.

Memorial meeting
Sandwip Young Association, Dhaka will organise a memorial meeting marking the 11th death anniversary of former lawmaker Mustafizur Rahman; Venue: Institute of Diploma

Engineers, Bangladesh; Time: 3:00pm.

Memorial meeting
Liberation War Museum will organise a memorial meeting marking the

WEATHER TODAY

Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Light fog may 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 5:27pm and rises tomorrow at 5:59am.

Country's highest temperature 34.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sandwip and Kutubdia and lowest 19.5 degrees at Chuadanga.

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	32.6	24.3	63	59
Chittagong	32.5	25.2	80	80
Rajshahi	32.8	20.2	84	64
Rangpur	30.8	21.6	79	67
Khulna	32.8	23.6	59	87
Barisal	33.2	23.8	68	89