

## NEWS IN *brief*

### Novo theatre gets two 3D films

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has recently imported from Japan two 3D documentary films for Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo Theatre.

"Smart Game and Smart Step Floor" depicts the beginning and evolution of the universe, while the second one is titled "Grand Canyon". The films were screened during their inauguration at the planetarium yesterday.

State Minister for Science and Technology Yeafesh Osman said, "These two films have been imported for arousing students' interest in science."

Students of Scholastica School viewed the films

### DU Rokeya Hall reunion Dec 18

METRO DESK

The second reunion of Dhaka University Rokeya Hall Alumni Association will take place on December 18 on the dormitory premises, says a press release.

For renewal of membership or signing up as new member, the hall alumni have been requested to contact the alumni association office at DU Senate Bhaban between 12:30pm and 4:00pm every day (except Friday) from November 7-11.

For further details, the alumni can contact Dr Jishan Ara Arafunnesa (01552324629), Moushumi Dash Purokayosto (01680172366), and Syeda

### Boy dies in boat capsized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A boy died as a boat capsized in the river Buriganga at Keraniganj in Dhaka yesterday morning.

The victim is Tusher, 6, son of Selim Akand of Sabupara village in Bauphal upazila of Patuakhali district.

The victim's uncle Md Sumon said Tusher drowned as Dipraj-2, the launch they boarded, hit a small boat, they got in from the launch in the middle river to reach Ispahani Kheaghat in South Keraniganj.

### BB official, wife die from electrocution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladesh Bank (BB) high official and his wife died from electrocution at Shahjahanpur in the capital early yesterday.

The deceased were Krishna Chandra Chanda, 50, joint director of the bank, and his wife Sipra Rani Das, 40.

Their son Likhon, 14, was injured in the incident at their house.

The victims' neighbour Taposh Karmakar said first Likhon was electrocuted as he touched the gate, which somehow came in touch with a live electric wire, to open it when his parents returned from a doctor around 12:00 midnight.

Sipra was electrocuted when she tried to save her son. Later, her husband got electrocuted to



With constant rain in the capital all day long yesterday, children and their parents suffered as schools remained open. A man is taking his children to school after dressing them in rain coats to protect against the weather. The photo was taken from Dhaka University area yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## Dhaka Wasa launches helpline for services

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) for the first time introduced a hotline called "Wasa Link" yesterday to increase the quality of service.

Anyone can call the hotline on 16162 through any mobile phone operator to make service-related complaints or know billing and other necessary information.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu inaugurated the service at the capital's Sonargaon Hotel by calling 16162 and taking some information from the helpline.

Wasa Managing Director Taqsem A Khan said the members of Wasa Helpline would receive the complaints and deliver them to the officials concerned immediately so that the problems could be fixed within 24 hours.

"If the officials concerned fail to solve the problem within the time due to technical reasons, they will inform it to the

subscriber and will try to fix it as early as possible," he said.

If the officials do not pay any heed to the complaint, it will automatically reach the higher officials, he added. "We will take action against the officials who will show negligence in providing services."

The Wasa MD also said they had started giving training to the officials in this regard.

Anybody will be able to make complaints to the call centre round the clock though the call centre will remain open from 7:00am to 10:00pm.

The information minister called "Wasa Link" a nice initiative and said all organisations, especially the government ones, should introduce the service.

Local Government Division Secretary Abu Alam Mohammad Shahid Khan laid emphasis on proper implementation of the service, saying its outcome would depend on the officials who would provide the service.

## Two pro-BNP leaders killed

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A Krishak Dal leader and a Jubo Dal leader were killed by criminals in separate incidents in Gazipur yesterday.

BNP's front body Jatiyatobadi Krishak Dal of Bagerhat district unit former president Atiar Rahman, 50, was found dead in a rented house in Nagpara area.

Earlier on Monday evening, Atiar along with an unidentified woman and a man rented the house, police said quoting locals as saying.

But around 12:00am, some other tenants of the apartment found Atiar's body lying on the ground in a room of the house when they went to get introduce with the new comers.

Police suspect that Atiar was killed by poisoning, and they looking for his partners.

Meanwhile, pro-BNP Jubo Dal of Konabari unit union level leader Mostafa Kamal, 39, was found dead near a bush in Hatimara area yesterday.

In a primary investigation police found that Mostafa was killed following a previous enmity, and his body was dumped in the bush, police said.

Police arrested Surma Akhter, 28, and Shafiqul Islam, 40, in this connection.

## MISSING ILIAS ALI BNP declares fresh agitation in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

BNP and its front organisations yesterday announced a three-week long agitation from November 8 in Sylhet demanding whereabouts of the party's missing leader M Ilias Ali.

The programmes include collection of signatures from November 8 to November 30, mass rallies from November 9 to November 16 in the three thanas under Sylhet-2 constituency, doa mahfil at mosques on November 16, a five-hour long hunger strike on November 17, and a 21km long human chain on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway on December 1.

The agitation programme was announced at a press briefing at Ilias Ali's Sylhet residence in Shahjalal Uposhahar.

BNP leaders said Ilias Ali is a victim of polluted and autocratic politics of the ruling Awami League.

AL chief Sheikh Hasina herself assured Ilias Ali's family of finding out him but her government has failed to do so even though about seven months have passed, they said.

More than 25,000 activists of the opposition were indicted in fake cases filed against them after the much talked about disappearance, they said.

Ilias Ali and his driver Ansar Ali went missing on April 18 from the capital's Banani area.



A crater caused by caved in road near the roundabout in front of the Board of Investment causes hazards for vehicles in the capital's Motijheel area. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Food act, BSTI law lack integration

### Manufacturers tell discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Relevant laws on safe food and standard of other products lack integration, said manufacturers at a discussion yesterday.

Consequently, they said, manufacturers and retailers face harassment by different authorities whose different standards for products differ from each other.

Omor Faruk Chowdhury, the state minister for industries, held the discussion with the manufacturers of mostly consumer products at Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) head office in the capital to hear about the problems they face in business.

Lack of integration between the Bangladesh Pure Food (Amendment) Act 2005 and BSTI law results in punishment of manufacturers and retailers, said Ilias

Mridha, a director of Pran Group.

There are instances when mobile courts under the pure food act filed cases against products certified by the BSTI, said Anup Kumar Saha, a director of ACI Group.

Shakti curd is an example, speakers said. Local government bodies, including the city corporations, enforce the pure food act while BSTI determines the standard of certain listed products under its own law.

AK Fazlul Ahad, director general of BSTI, said the government is updating the pure food act.

Representatives from Nestle Bangladesh demanded BSTI capacity building for speedy clearance of imported goods while those from Square Group suggested setting standards for sanitary napkins and diapers.

## RANGPUR CITY POLLS JP backs Ranga

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party yesterday extended support to its Presidium Member Mosiur Rahman Ranga for contesting the Rangpur City Corporation election set for December 20, said a party press release.

Mosiur was appointed as the party's convener of Rangpur city unit, said the release signed by the press secretary of Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad.

Earlier in October, Ershad, in another release, said his party will not extend support to any of the party's aspirants in the Rangpur City Corporation polls as it is a local level election.

Several of its leaders have expressed interest to contest the polls, putting Jatiya Party in a dilemma.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission on Monday announced that the Rangpur City Corporation election is scheduled to be held on December 20.

Over 3.57 lakh voters will choose a mayor and 44 councilors, including 11 women, via the polls.

Aspirants for the election must submit their application seeking candidacy by November 18. The last day for withdrawal of candidacy is November 29.

**DHAKA TODAY**

**Discussion**  
Sammilito Awami Samarthak Jote will hold a discussion on Muktiyoddha Soinik Hatya Dibas; Venue: Awami League office, Bangabandhu Avenue; Time: 11:00am.

**Discussion**  
Bangladesh Jatiyatobadi Front will hold a discussion on significance of November 7; Venue: Jatiya Press Club;

**Debate festival**  
The UNFPA, Bangladesh and the

Debate for Democracy will organise the grand final of a debate festival on "The International Day of Girl Child 2012"; Venue: Level-8, Bashundhara City, Panthapath; Time: 11:30am.

**WEATHER TODAY**

**Change in temperature unlikely**  
UNB, Dhaka

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

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The highest maximum temperature is likely to be 32-33 degree Celsius and the lowest minimum temperature may be 21-22 degree Celsius.

**The sun sets in the capital today at 5:16pm and rises tomorrow at 6:09am.**

Country's highest temperature 32.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 21.2 degrees at Rangpur and Srirongal.

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	24.5	21.8	94	91
Chittagong	30.8	23.8	82	83
Rajshahi	23.5	21.6	100	99
Rangpur	28.8	21.2	86	82
Khulna	23.5	23.2	94	95
Barisal	28.0	23.7	91	97