

NEWS IN *brief*

CU admission test begins today

CU CORRESPONDENT
The admission tests for first year honours courses under the academic session 2012-13 of Chittagong University (CU) will begin today, and continue till November 18.
The examinations will be held in two sessions starting at 10:30am and 2:30pm.

Lecture on green technology at Buet Tuesday

METRO DESK
Buet Chemical Engineering Alumni Association will host a talk on "Green Technology and Chemical Engineering" on the occasion of its Eid Reunion Dinner on Tuesday.
The dinner will be organised at Buet Central Cafeteria at 7:30pm, says a press release.
It will be preceded by the lecture by Prof Khaliqur Rahman, former head of the chemical engineering department at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.
Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu will

Biplob memorial award announced

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The daily Banik Barta authorities yesterday announced a photojournalist award for every year and a welfare trust in memory of its photojournalist Kazi Biplob, who died on November 2 following a road accident on October 28.
"Kazi Biplob would never be lost from our memories and he would remain alive until this daily (Banik Barta) will run," Dewan Hanif Mahmud, editor of the daily, said at a meeting, Shoker Biplob Shaktir Biplob, held at the newspaper office.
Nirapod Sarak Chai Chairman and actor Ilias

Media not covering all govt achievements: Hasan Mahmud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
Environment and Forests Minister Hasan Mahmud yesterday alleged that the country's mass media were not publishing all of the incumbent government's achievements.
He told the 12th regional convention of diploma engineers of Chittagong organised by the district unit of Institution of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh (IDEB) at the LGED auditorium.

Call to speed up war crimes trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CTG
Speakers at a discussion in Chittagong city yesterday evening urged the government to expedite the ongoing war crimes trial.
Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD)organised the discussion at MS Huq Auditorium at Pahartali marking "Pahartali Killing Day".

DHAKA TODAY

Human chain Time: 5:30pm.
Maasranga Television will form a human chain demanding trial into the murder of journalist couple Sagor-Runi; Venue: before its office; Time: 11:30am.

Workshop
SME Foundation will hold a workshop "The Current State and Future Directions for Small and Medium Enterprises in Manufacturing Sector of Bangladesh"; Venue: its premises; Time: 11:00am.

Exhibition
Incrux School of Design will organise an exhibition titled "Building in a Nutshell"; Venue: Dhaka Art Centre;

Discussion
Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad will

WEATHER TODAY

Light fog likely
UNB, Dhaka
Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.
Light fog may occur over the river basin of the country during early morning, Met Office said.
Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.
The lowest minimum temperature is likely to be 15-16 degrees Celsius and highest maximum temperature may be 30-31 degrees Celsius.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:14pm and rises tomorrow at 6:11am.
Country's highest temperature 30.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and Teknaf and lowest 15.2 degrees at Dinajpur.
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	28.7	17.4	62	69
Chittagong	28.5	20.0	70	59
Rajshahi	28.4	16.0	89	81
Rangpur	27.4	16.6	70	77
Khulna	29.0	17.5	73	80
Barisal	28.4	17.5	83	95
Sylhet	29.0	17.6	68	80



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia takes a look at the damaged idols at Buddha Bihar in Ramu upazila of Cox's Bazar yesterday. The temple came under bigots' attack on the night of September 29. (Story on Page 1)
PHOTO: BNP

New story book launched

METRO DESK
A new release of the UPL, "Good Night, Mr. Kissinger and Other Stories", was launched at the capital's Red Shift Café on Friday.
A collection of nine stories tracing the evolution of Dhaka city, the book will be showcased at Hay Festival Dhaka on November 15-17.
It was authored by K Anis Ahmed, a co-founder of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB).
Mohiuddin, founder of the University Press Ltd (UPL), unveiled the book at the launch jointly hosted by the UPL and Bengal Lights, a new literary journal.

Alternative dispute resolution still unknown

Say business leaders
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A lack of knowledge on alternative dispute resolution (ADR) is barring local traders from taking its advantage both at home and abroad, stated business leaders at a dialogue in Chittagong city yesterday.
Business-related cases take time to be resolved in courts, creating frustration among litigants. ADR helps emerging economies like that of Bangladesh to take off and generates confidence in investors, including those from abroad.
The dialogue, "Arbitration at BIAC for settling commercial disputes", was jointly organised by Bangladesh International Arbitration Centre (BIAC) and Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) at the latter's premises.
Commerce Minister Ghulam Muhammed Quader, at the event, admitted the lack of awareness on ADR and asked trade bodies to spread the idea.
Traders should forward suggestions on ADR to the government, he said.
BIAC Chairman Mahbubur Rahman said they settled 22 out of 46 cases from April 2011 till date and the rest would be resolved soon.
BIAC CEO Toufiq Ali gave a presentation and lawmaker MA Latif, CCCI President Murshed Murad Ibrahim and Senior Vice President Mahbubul Alam and BGMEA First Vice President Nasir Uddin Chowdhury also spoke at the event.

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION
Member countries urged to work together to attain MDGs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Politicians and development activists at a conference yesterday recommended cooperation and political will among developing countries to make use of reproductive health and population control gains and settle other development problems.
They urged the South-South Cooperation's 25 member-countries to work together in attaining its goals alongside UN's Millennium Development Goals.
The inaugural of the two-day "International Inter-Ministerial Conference on Evidence for Action: South-South Collaboration for ICPD beyond 2014" was held in the capital's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel.
Partners in Population and Development (PPD), an intergovernmental alliance of 25 developing countries promoting South-South Cooperation, and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare organised the conference.
Some 100 ministers, politicians and health activists from 24 countries shared knowledge and discussed challenges and opportunities on population control, family planning and reproductive health in the conference.
South-South Cooperation describes resource, technology and knowledge exchange among developing countries for balanced and sustainable development by addressing reproductive health, population and development problems.
Addressing as chief guest, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said Bangladesh's population growth rate should be zero by 2040 as it came down from 3 to 1.34 percent in 40 years while the fertility rate reduced from around 7 to 2.3 percent.
He said healthcare, family planning and population management

must be together. "The second thing is to take the services door-to-door" while commitment on various fronts was most important, he said.
Ghulam Nabi Azad, the health and family welfare minister of India, said population control and family planning were central to achieving the International Conference on Population and Development's (ICPD) goals by 2014 and MDGs by 2015.
Ajaratou Isatou Njie Saidy, vice president of Gambia's women's affairs ministry, said population control was not all about numbers but a question of political will and improving life quality.
Health and Family Welfare Minister AFM Ruhul Haque chaired the ceremony and Chen Li, vice minister of National Population and Family Planning Commission, China, also spoke.



Green activists form a human chain before the fine arts faculty of Dhaka University yesterday demanding a stop to illegal grabbing and pollution of the Buriganga river.
PHOTO: STAR

Road accidents kill 7

METRO DESK
Seven people were killed in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Chittagong, Pabna and Gazipur yesterday.
Our Staff correspondent reports, a rickshaw-puller died instantly as a speeding bus rammed a number of rickshaws including his one while running down the Khilgaon flyover in the capital last night.
The deceased is Akbar Hossain, 40, of Sundarganj in Gaibandha.
Our staff correspondent from Chittagong reports, a boy was killed as a microbus hit him while he crossing the road near the Toll Plaza of Karnaphuli Bridge at around 12:45pm yesterday, said Karnaphuli police.
The dead is Aliraj Sumon, 10, son of Md Ilias of Patiya upazila.
Local people rushed him to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where the on-duty doctors declared him dead, said the hospital outpost police.
Meanwhile, a boy was killed as a

microbus hit him from behind on Hasna Road in Bakalia area of Chittagong city at around 12:30pm yesterday.
The dead is Habib, 8, son of Md Latif of Bogarbil area in Bakalia.
Our Pabna correspondent reports, a Nosimon (human hauler) plunged into a ditch beside Ataikula-Demra road at Haripur bridge in Ataikula area of Pabna early yesterday.
The victim is Md Jalal Uddin, 35, of village Boroi Bari in Ataikula.
Meanwhile, a man was killed as a human hauler fell into a ditch beside Dhaka-Pabna highway in Toilkupi area yesterday noon.
The dead is Mongol Sheikh, 60, of village Vobanipur in Ataikula.
UNB from Gazipur reports, two motorcyclists were killed as a truck hit the motorbike in front of National Park in sadar upazila yesterday afternoon.
Shaon, 24, and Raju, 28, of Nayanpur village in Rajendrapur upazila, died instantly.

Indo-Bangla relations stronger than before
Says Indian minister

UNB, Dhaka
Visiting Indian Health and Family Welfare Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad yesterday said the relations between Bangladesh and India are now stronger than ever before.
He also said there is a scope to expand the cooperation between the two neighbouring and friendly countries in the health sector.
Azad came up with the remarks when he met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Gono Bhaban.
PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad briefed reporters after the meeting, saying the two sides elaborately discussed various issues of common interests.
The prime minister recalled the contributions of India to Bangladesh's Liberation War in 1971.
The Indian minister appreciated Sheikh Hasina's able and pragmatic leadership, and for the tremendous development in the country.
Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque was also present.

Noor Hossain Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The nation yesterday observed the historic Shaheed Noor Hossain Day with due honour, dignity and solemnity commemorating the supreme sacrifice of the pro-democracy activist.
Noor Hossain, a Jubo League worker, was shot dead by police at Zero Point in the capital on November 10, 1987, while participating in a procession against the military regime of HM Ershad.
The revolutionary slogan, "Down with autocracy, let democracy be freed", was inscribed in white paint on his chest and back when the bullet took his life. The killing of Noor fuelled the ongoing movement leading to the fall of Ershad.
Different political and socio-cultural organisations placed wreaths at the Zero Point, now renamed as the Noor Hossain Square, yesterday showing their respect to him.

PM apprises president of her recent visits

BSS, Dhaka
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina apprised President Zillur Rahman of her recent visits to the USA, Vietnam and Laos while calling on him at Bangabhaban yesterday.
She informed of various aspects on her attendance at the 67th United Nations General Assembly in New York and address on September 27.
Hasina said she attended some sideline events including launchings of the second edition of climate vulnerability monitor, education first initiative, equal future partnership, high level meeting of peace building and high level event on rule of law.