

NEWS IN *brief*

Noab meeting tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh (Noab) will hold an emergency meeting at Surma Hall of Dhaka Club at 1:00pm tomorrow (Saturday), says a Noab press release.

Noab President Mahbubul Alam has requested all of its members to attend the meeting.

Koica's free medical camp held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day free mobile medical camp organised by Korea International Cooperation Agency (Koica) was held at Ashulia in Dhaka yesterday.

A 12-member team of Korean doctors, nurses and volunteers provided the medical service and basic hygienic education to the local underprivileged people, said a press release.

About 900 poor people received treatment on internal health problems, 30 got surgery and 30

Registration for Biochemistry

Olympiad begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Registration for the upcoming 4th Biochemistry Olympiad has started.

The Olympiad is scheduled to be held on December 22, said a release yesterday.

Students from class IX to XII and 'O' and 'A' levels can participate in the event.

The students willing to participate can register their names by contacting the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Dhaka University within this month.

Detail information and registration forms are available at the Olympiad website:

Charity concert at Army

Stadium today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A charity concert will be held at the Army Stadium in the capital today to raise funds for the poor people. The concert will start at 2:30pm.

Popular bands--Feedback, Souls, LRB, Nagar Baul, Warfaze, Maqsood o Dhaka, Different Touch, Nova, Ark and Prometheus--will perform at the concert, says a press release.

The funds from the concert will be donated to the Ajar Foundation, a non-profitable fund of Ayesha Memorial Specialised Hospital, which is



Artistes perform a dance at the inaugural ceremony of the three-day Hay Festival Dhaka in the auditorium of the newly-built Bangla Academy Bhaban yesterday. Story on Page 20.

PHOTO: STAR

Cabinet okays drafts of four laws

BSS, Dhaka

sion) Act, 2010 for two more years which expired last month.

Two other drafts are--Double Taxation Avoidance and Revenue Evasion Prevention Agreement with Kuwait and Bilateral Capital-Investment Development and Protection Agreement with Belarus.

The secretary said the Double Taxation Avoidance and Revenue Evasion Prevention Agreement with Kuwait has been aimed at strengthening trade relation with Kuwait and improvement of investment climate between the two countries.

He said Dhaka inked the Bilateral Capital-Investment Development and Protection Agreement with Belarus during the recent visit of Belarus Prime Minister Mikhail V Myasnikovich in Dhaka and the cabinet has given nod to the agreement.

The cabinet yesterday okayed drafts of four laws, including Bangladesh Legal Practitioners and Bar Council (Amendment) Act, 2012.

The approval was given at the weekly meeting of the cabinet held at Bangladesh Secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan said the draft of Bangladesh Legal Practitioners and Bar Council (Amendment) Act, 2012 has brought amendments to a number of key areas of the existing laws, including the committee for enrollment of the lawyers for legal practice.

Musahrraf Hossain said the draft of the Power and Energy Quick Supply (special provision) (amendment) Act, 2012 has been approved for extension of the Power and Energy Quick Supply (special provi-

15 RMG workers hurt in clash with cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 15 workers of a garment factory were injured when they clashed with ansar and police personnel at Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ) in Ashulia yesterday.

The workers also blocked Chandra-Bypail road in front of DEPZ for an hour from 9:00am, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Moktar Hossain told The Daily Star.

Witnesses said the clash started after on-duty ansar members barred a pregnant worker of D-Stylet, a garment factory, from entering the DEPZ area by a rickshaw van around 8:30am and misbehaved with her.

ASP Moktar Hossain said when the news spread, the D-Stylet workers rushed to the spot and got locked into a quarrel with the ansar members leading to the clash.

At one stage, the angry workers blocked the Chandra-Bypail road halting traffic movement in the area.

On information, Industrial and Ashulia police reached the scene, charged batons on the protesting workers, and managed to free the road around 10:00am, said ASP Moktar.

After a halt of around two hours, the workers joined their work, he added.

Australia Awards Bangladesh Alumni Association launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Australian High Commission in Dhaka launched "The Australia Awards Bangladesh Alumni Association" at a hotel in the capital yesterday.

Finance Minister AMA Muhiith attended the ceremony as the chief guest.

During his speech, he thanked the Australian government for awarding education scholarships to Bangladeshi students. The finance minister also talked about female education in Bangladesh.

He said the increase in female students attending schools was heading the country towards development.

"The female education is getting importance all over the world. The recent progress of women's education has been playing key roles for Bangladesh's successes in different fields," he told a programme.

Muhiith said the enrolment rate of female students in both primary and secondary schools was higher than that of male students, and it was one of the country's successes in the education sector.

Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi appreciated the Australian government's training and higher education assistance to Bangladeshi.

Some 7,000 Bangladeshi are now studying in Australia, said Australian High Commissioner in Dhaka Greg Wilcock.

GRAFT CHARGES ACC sues eight BIWTA officials

UNB, Dhaka

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday filed a case against 10 people, including eight officials of the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA), on charge of misappropriating nearly Tk 4 crore in the name of river dredging.

ACC Assistant Director Amirul Islam filed the case with Motijheel Police Station in the capital, ACC Public Relations Officer Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya told the news agency.

The accused in the case are superintending engineer (Dredging Department) of BIWTA SM Mashuqul Alam, executive engineer (Dredging Department) M Sultan Ahmed Khan, assistant engineer ASM Mashrequl Arefin, deputy assistant engineers M Zakir Hossain, Ganesh Chandra Shil, Abdul Mannan and AKM Mohammad Ali Bakaul, technical assistant M Iqbal Hossain, chairman of M/S Banga Dredgers Limited M Saiful Islam and its managing director M Abdul Latif.

According to the case statement, the BIWTA Dredging Department dredged 4.7 lakh cubic meters of soil on the Mongla-Ghachikhal Khal and Kumarkhal River during 2010-11 fiscal year but all the accused illegally showed in the documents that they dredged some 8.4 lakh cubic meters of soil from the river routes and misappropriated about Tk 3.77 crore together.



WEATHER TODAY

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain is likely at one or two places over Chittagong division in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country, Met Office said.

Light fog may occur over the river basins of the country during late night till morning. Night temperature may rise slightly over Chittagong and Barisal divisions and it may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:12pm and rises tomorrow at 6:15am.

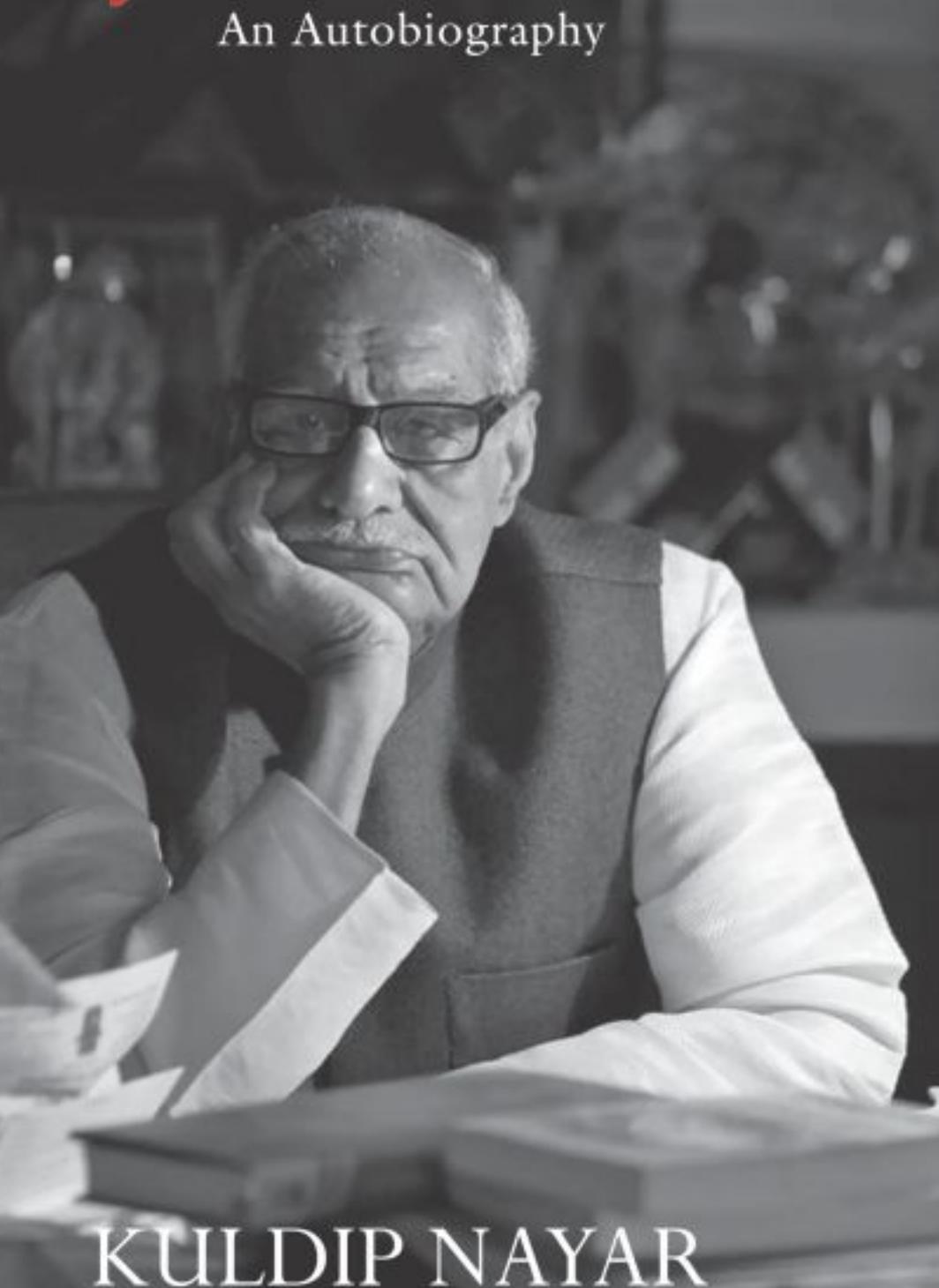
Country's highest temperature 31.3 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Bogra and lowest 13.3 degrees at Dinajpur.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	29.5	17.7	64	71
Chittagong	28.7	18.2	85	75
Rajshahi	30.0	15.5	77	72
Rangpur	30.0	15.6	72	64
Khulna	29.5	18.0	74	64
Barisal	29.2	17.2	81	89

Beyond The Lines

An Autobiography



www.thedailystar.net/books

Launching Daily Star Books

The Daily Star launches its book publication wing, Daily Star Books, with the famous Indian journalist Kuldip Nayar's autobiography, *Beyond the Lines*

Nayar will launch his book **TODAY** at the New Auditorium of Bangla Academy at 6:00pm.

Come and grab your copy at the programme on a special 30% discount.

Price: Tk 600 (Paperback), Tk 1000 (Hardback)

Available at:

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Aziz Super Market, Shahbag, Dhaka 1000
- **Pathok Samabesh**
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Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh
- **Kiosk**
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Daily Star Books



Beyond The Lines

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Preface of this book

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12-day event on 'cross perspectives' starts at AUW

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The opening ceremony of a multidisciplinary programme styled "Cross Perspectives" was held at Asian University for Women (AUW) in Chittagong yesterday.

French Ambassador to Bangladesh Michel Trinquier was present at the inaugural ceremony as chief guest with AUW Vice Chancellor Dr Fahima Aziz as special guest.

AUW and Alliance Française de Chittagong have jointly organised the programme.

Following the inaugural ceremony, a conference styled "Gender and the revolutions: democracy and citizenship in the context of the Arab Spring" was addressed by Dr Stephanie Latte-Abdallah, an eminent French historian and a political scientist working on seclusion and imprisonment of Palestinian people.

A book offering perspectives on Arab Spring by French scholars, writers and photographers was unveiled at the programme.

The 12-day programme will feature cultural programmes and music concerts both in Alliance Française de Chittagong and Dhaka.

It will end on November 26 at District Shilpakala Academy with a concert by famous artiste Abaji, the organisers said.