

Office time from 9:00am to 3:30pm in Ramadan

UNB, Dhaka

The office hours during the month of Ramadan have been fixed from 9:00am to 3:30pm for all government, semi-government, autonomous, and semi-autonomous organisations. The decision was taken at the regular weekly meeting of the cabinet held at the parliament on Monday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan said some organisations like banks, insurance and financial institutions could fix their office hours at their convenience.

There would be a 15-minute prayer break from 1:15pm to 1:30pm, he added.

The Supreme Court would separately fix the office hours for the courts during Ramadan.

4 CITY POLLS RESULTS EC publishes gazette

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) on Monday published a gazette notification on the results of recently-held four city corporation polls.

The gazette will be considered effective from last Monday, said EC Senior Assistant Secretary Forhad Hossain yesterday.

As per law, the newly elected mayors and councilors will have to take oath within one month of issuing of the gazette.

Elections to Sylhet, Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal city corporations were held on June 15. BNP-backed candidates were elected as new mayors of the corporations.

BB ex-governor Lutfar Rahman Sarkar passes away

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra



Lutfar Rahman Sarkar, former governor of Bangladesh Bank, died of old age complications at Apollo Hospitals in the capital on Monday. He was 80.

He served the central bank as its sixth governor from 1996 until 1998. He was also a part-time teacher of Dhaka University.

He was buried at his family graveyard in Bogra yesterday.

He left behind his wife, four daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.



PHOTO: STAR

A bulldozer demolishing structures on the encroached upon land of the Turag river in Ramchandrapur of the capital's Mohammadpur. The drive was jointly carried out on Monday by Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority and the Dhaka district administration.

Cabinet okays National Agriculture Policy 2013

UNB, Dhaka

The cabinet on Monday approved the draft of the "National Agriculture Policy 2013" with focus on agriculture production, alleviating poverty through generating jobs, and highlighting food security.

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

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan said there had been changes in the local and international perspectives after the formulation of the existing Agriculture Policy 1999.

"So, there was a need to update the policy, and the ministry concerned held review meetings with different stakeholders and took opinions from various ministries for the update," he added.

Musharraf Hossain said the agriculture ministry usually dealt with the crop sector, but agriculture was a multi-sectoral subject that also included fisheries, livestock, forests and agro-processing sectors.

The cabinet secretary said the draft policy would prioritise agricultural production, job creations and poverty alleviation and thus ensure food security. Agro-processing, marketing, role of women in agriculture, and financing will also get priority, he added.

7 illegal structures on Turag demolished

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A joint team of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority and the Dhaka district administration on Monday demolished seven structures of a giant construction firm, which encroached on the Turag river in Ramchandrapur of the capital's Mohammadpur.

The illegal structures included an asphalt plant, a one-storey office building, two semi-concrete and two tin-roofed buildings, a stone crusher and ready-mixed concrete maker of the construction company, Abdul Monem Ltd.

Dhaka River Port officer Saiful Islam said the structures were built within the river beyond the demarcation pillars, and the eviction was carried out in line with the High Court order for saving the Dhaka rivers.

Those were on the path of a proposed 2km walkway between Ramchandrapur canal and Aminbazar Bridge and were obstructing the construction work, he said.

Saiful said they served notices on the company twice, but to no avail. "We reclaimed at least two bighas of river land from the encroachment," he added.

Saiful said they also auctioned off two piles of sand of unauthorised traders on the nearby foreshores for around Tk 3 lakh during the drive. Shafiqul Islam, assistant general manager of Abdul Monem Ltd, said they set up the plant and stackyard on a four-acre land, of which one acre lay within the river. "But we have the environment department's clearance," he said.

AMNESTY FOR FOREIGN WORKERS Bangladeshis throng Saudi embassy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshi workers seeking consular services to enjoy facilities of general amnesty declared by Saudi Arabia have thronged the embassy and consulate offices ahead of the July 3 deadline.

"More than two lakh Bangladeshis have already received consular services from Riyadh and Jeddah. The figure will increase by the deadline," said Emdadul Haque, counsellor of Bangladesh Embassy in Riyadh.

He said despite the increased manpower at the embassy and consulate offices, it might be difficult to bring the seekers under the process within the deadline.

Declared on May 10, the amnesty allows irregular foreign workers to have their job status legalised or return home without being penalised.

AMINBAZAR KILLING Charge framing hearing deferred until July 8

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court has deferred until July 8 the hearing on charge framing against 60 people accused in killing six students at Aminbazar on the outskirts of the capital in 2011.

The court on Monday passed the order after the prosecution submitted a petition seeking adjournment of the hearing.

Of the 60 accused, 30 are now on bail while 24 are on the run and six in jail custody.

In the petition, the prosecution said three of the six accused now in jail were not produced before the court on Monday.

On July 18, 2011, a mob beat the six students to death and injured another at Bardeshi village.

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

SQ Chy claims prosecution charged him for his politics

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

War crimes accused Salauddin Quader Chowdhury on Monday told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that the prosecution charged him simply because he is a political follower of his late father.

"All charges depend on the proposition that I was political follower of my father, late AKM Fazlul Quader Chowdhury, who was president of Pakistan Muslim League (convention) in 1971 and a supporter of a federation of Pakistan," he said.

He said, "None of these charges are supported by mens rea (a legal term referring to

criminal intention or knowledge that an act is wrong) except for the genetic and biological connection between myself and father."

To strengthen his claim, the war crimes accused, quoting English author Samuel Johnson, said, "Truth, Sir, is a cow which yields no milk to the prosecution, so they are now gone to milk the bull."

However, the real line from Johnson's book "Boswell's Life of Johnson" is, "Truth, Sir, is a cow which will yield such people no more milk, and so they are gone to milk the bull." The line is intended for sceptics.

The proceeding of the case was adjourned until today.

REHAB
SUMMER FAIR
2013
CO-SPONSOR
STALL # 06
VENUE: HOTEL RUPOSHI BANGLA
DATE: 26 - 29 JUNE, 2013

Amazing Discount

SHOPS
Gulshan South Avenue
(Police Plaza Concord)
Mirpur
Khilkhet
(Lake City Concord)

APARTMENT
Baridhara
North Gulshan
Gulshan
Banani
Dhanmondi
Lalmatia
Siddheshwari
Hatkhola
Mirpur
Uttara
Ashulia (Bungalows)
Khilkhet (Lake City Concord)

OFFICE SPACE
Gulshan Avenue
Gulshan South Avenue
(Police Plaza Concord)
Kemal Ataturk Avenue
Banani Road 11
Hatkhola
Khilkhet (Lake City Concord)

01914602907 | 01922120642 | 01914602908
CORPORATE OFFICE: Concord Centre
43 North C/A, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212
Fax: 88-02-8823607, E-mail: sales@concordgroup.net

CONCORD

Welcome Back
to the Internet world!

Now enjoy additional free **5 MB** data
upon activation of Minipack 1 MB package

All Grameenphone customers (excluding BS Postpaid)
who had used less than 1MB Internet during the month of May, 2013
are eligible for this offer

To activate the package dial *500*80#
Or SMS click & send to 9999

• Total validity of data usage will be 5 days and customer will be
charged BDT 2.5 taka

go beyond

See inner for details

**NOKIA ASHA
SMARTPHONES
GIVE YOU MORE GAMES**

PLAY MORE, WITH 40 FREE EA GAMES

**ASHA 311
MRP BDT 10,700**

**ASHA 309
MRP BDT 8,500**

**ASHA 306
MRP BDT 7,300**

FREE
with every
Nokia ASHA
Touch phone

* Offer valid till stocks last.
© 2013 Nokia. All rights reserved. Data charges may apply. All trademarks and copyrights are the property of their respective owners.
Google is a trademark of Google Inc. Screen images are simulated and actual screens may vary from the ones shown.