



This is Chaktai canal in Chittagong city, one of the major storm water outlet that flows in the Karnaphuli River. Due to filling up of its bed over the years the canal has already become very narrow and incapable of containing much water during monsoon. Last year almost the entire city went under water during monsoon. This year there is an added danger caused by blocking of its mouth by silt dredged from the Karnaphuli but was not removed elsewhere.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

EDUCATION IN MOTHER TONGUE FOR INDIGENOUS CHILDREN

Appoint, train teachers to meet Jan 2016 deadline

Speakers urge govt from seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers must fast be appointed and trained if the government is to start providing indigenous children education in their mother tongue from January 2016, speakers told a national seminar yesterday.

Committees of the Department of Primary Education, and National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB), formed to introduce the new education system at primary level, must also expedite their activities, they said.

Without teachers, books, syllabuses and schools will be rendered useless, said Socialist Party of Bangladesh central member Razezzaman Ratan.

Titled "Introducing primary education through indigenous children's mother tongue: current context and duty", the seminar was

jointly organised by Bangladesh Adivasi Forum and Kapaeng Foundation with assistance from Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) in the capital's The Daily Star Centre.

The number of teachers required is yet to be estimated, said Prof Dr Sourav Shikder of Dhaka University.

Lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha said steps to publish books required in class I must also be taken since the pre-primary level graduates would be needing those in 2017.

The chairman of the parliamentary caucus on indigenous peoples said education in mother tongue was a must as the language connects a child with his or her culture and literature and aids intellectual development.

Gyanendra Nath Biswas, additional secretary of the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, said initially the education would be

provided in five languages including that of the Chakma, Marma, Tripura and Garo.

NCTB Chairman Prof Dr Narayan Chandra Paul said publishing of pre-primary level books was nearly at the final stage. He urged indigenous people to provide suggestions on books meant for class I students.

Mathura Bikash Tripura, executive director, Zabarang Kollyan Samity, in his keynote speech, stressed the need for specific budgetary allocation for the new education system.

MJF Director Dr Shameem Imam, Mass Signature Campaign Deputy Director Tapon Kumar Das and Kapaeng Foundation Executive Director Pallab Chakma also spoke while Bangladesh Adivasi Forum General Secretary Sanjeeb Drong moderated the session.

SEE PHOTO ONLINE



The main road of Goainghat and its adjoining areas in Sylhet continue to be inundated yesterday due to incessant rains in Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura in India for several days.

PHOTO: STAR

Visa applications for Malaysia go electronic Monday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Malaysian Immigration department has said applications for foreign worker visa and health status clearances will go fully electronic next Monday.

In a statement on Tuesday, Immigration director-general Datuk Mustafa Ibrahim said the foreign workers centralised management system would rely on the capture of biometric data when the workers undergo health screenings.

Under this, foreign workers are required to go to the registered clinics equipped with the biomedical system to weed out incidences of fraud, reports Malaysian English daily The Star.

The immigration chief Mustafa added that immigration counters would no longer accept manual applications following the implementation of these two new modules, including electronic submissions for visa applications.

"All manual counters will remain open during the transition period for 15 days before they are closed from July 1," the daily quoted him as saying.

The use of electronic visa with reference will be compulsory, he said, adding that no additional service charge would be imposed under the new regime.

Slew of protests

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made within their 24-hour deadline.

Imran Hossain, a teacher of accounting and information systems department, said such attacks occurred as perpetrators of similar past incidents were not handed down exemplary punishment.

Progressive Students Alliance, a platform of four left leaning student bodies, brought out another procession around 1:00pm.

Statements were also issued by the Rajshahi University Association of Law Finders; Rajshahi University Journalist Association; Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Biplobi Chhatra Moitree of RU unit; Rajshahi University Drama Association; and TSSC Director Prof TMM Nurul Moddaser Chowdhury.

The VC said the guilty would be expelled. Police said they were trying to arrest Saddam while Basudev plans lodging a complaint with Motihar Police Station.

SAHR welcomes

FROM PAGE 3

SAHR commended the prime ministers of Bangladesh and India, and expressed its concern over the lack of progress in resolving the dispute regarding the equitable sharing of all international rivers, particularly the Teesta.

NEWSINbrief

Rizvi to be grilled at jail gate

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday allowed police to interrogate BNP leaders Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed at jail gate within three working days in a vandalism and arson case.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Maruf Hossain rejected both his remand and bail petitions when he was produced before it with a 10-day remand prayer.

Police filed the case against Rizvi, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, and 34 others on the charge of their involvement in damaging and torching vehicles on last December 29. Rizvi, who was arrested on January 31, was shown arrested in a dozen of cases.

Mitford hospital employees observe work abstention

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Class III and class IV staff at the capital's Mitford Hospital yesterday observed work abstention from 11:00am to 1:00pm demanding that the number of quarters and sick beds for the staff be increased, and 40 percent of the recruitment in this category be made from the staff wards.

Hospital sources said the staff, including ward boys, sweepers and office assistants, have been demonstrating on the hospital premises since June 6, halting ticket sale at outdoor and emergency, and causing immense sufferings to the patients. The demonstrators said they have only 70 houses and two beds for a staff of 790. Brig Gen Zakir Hassan, director of the hospital, said they are discussing the matter.

Road crashes kill 3, injure 3

CITY DESK

Three people were killed and three others injured in road accidents in three districts yesterday.

In Rangpur, Sujon Mian, 20, of Kashempur-Sarkerpara village was killed when a truck hit his bicycle on Jaygirhat-Moyenpur road in Mithapukur upazila.

In Chittagong city, Zakir Hossain, 25, of Bhola was killed and two others were injured as a covered-van hit a three-wheeler in Bandar area.

In Dinajpur, Rakibul Islam Rony, 25, of Paharpur village was killed and his co-rider injured when a truck hit his motorcycle on Dinajpur-Dhaka highway at Beajmor in Parbatipur upazila.

Man killed in wall collapse in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man was killed and two others were injured as a boundary wall collapsed on them at Dewan Bazar DC Road in Bakalia of Chittagong city yesterday.

Md Faridul, 50, of Comilla, was a rickshaw-van puller.

Police said the 5.5 feet-high wall collapsed on them around 10:00am when they were standing beside it.

They were rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctors declared Faridul dead around 11:00am.

BYLC leadership training programme ends

CITY DESK

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) hosted the graduation ceremony for its signature programme "Building Bridges through Leadership Training", at the BRAC Centre Inn in the capital yesterday.

Forty-four students were selected for the programme where they went through a rigorous training on the theoretical and practical concepts of leadership.

Among others Ejaj Ahmad, BYLC founder and president, and Supun Weerasinghe, CEO of Robi Axiata Ltd, were present at the closing ceremony.

CU goes on 45-day vacation on Tuesday

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong University (CU) will go for a 45-day vacation from Tuesday on the occasions of monsoon, Ramadan and Eid-ul-Fitr.

Classes will remain closed till July 30 but the pre-scheduled examinations will be held during the vacation, said Forhad Hossain deputy registrar of CU Information and Photography Office.

However, the authorities have not yet made any decision on the administrative activities.

The authority issued a notice declaring the vacation on June 8.

REMOVE

FROM PAGE 3

auto-rickshaw drivers and owners at Chittagong Circuit House, Quader told the owners to apply for registration which will be given in phases.

A three-member committee, led by CCC Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin, was formed in the meeting, organised by Chittagong District Administration, to solve problems related to the auto-rickshaws and battery-run rickshaws.

Emajuddin doesn't like Indo-Bangla deals

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former Dhaka University vice chancellor told a discussion on the visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, organised by "Desh Bachao, Manush Bachao Andolon" at Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

The government is giving all to India, he

said adding that all doors to Bangladesh have been opened wide for India by the agreements. He also said the country's people expected that all outstanding issues including Teesta and border issues, would be discussed during Modi's visit but they were disappointed as those were not discussed.

Nurse attacked at Barisal hospital

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for prayers, the OC said.

On return, on-duty physician Dr Masud Mollah sent the patient to the medicine ward where he was declared dead. The patient's some other relatives claimed that they had to

wait for 15 minutes at the emergency ward.

Some staff of the hospital said the maximum required time was three minutes to do the job at the emergency ward.

Masud Mollah claimed that he returned from prayers within several minutes.

Carry out new child labour census

FROM PAGE 3

Central Public Library where Israfil Alam, member of the parliamentary committee on labour and employment affairs, said although the constitution and law ensure child protection, children are being tortured and engaged in risky jobs.

Rasheda K Choudhury, executive director of the Campaign for Popular Education, said overall development cannot be achieved leaving children

uneducated.

Shaheen Anam, MJF's executive director, said it is the failure of the people, the society and the state that children have to work instead of studying. She suggested strong monitoring to ensure the budgetary allocations for children's development are spent rightly.

Ten child labourers, who are getting education under different NGO projects, yesterday were given prizes

for an art competition held last week.

Wahida Banu, Aparajeyo Bangladesh executive director; Jamila Sultana, SOHAY executive director; Tahmina Jesmin Mita, SEEP deputy-executive director; Kazi Rajib Iqbal, Nabolok deputy chief executive; Dr Abdul Kaium Laskar, VAFWSD executive director, and Moslema Bari, Community Participation and Development executive director, spoke among others.

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