

OIC chief due today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT



Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Secretary General Iyad

Ameen Madani arrives in Dhaka this afternoon on a three-day official visit as part of his visit to some other member countries. He is expected to meet President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Officials said Madani will also meet Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali and Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque.

He may be urged to take steps to resolve the long-standing Rohingya refugee issue. Dhaka will try to convince Madani, a former Saudi minister, to resolve the labour issues in the KSA, and request him to use his office in allowing Bangladeshi workers to the middle-eastern countries. He will leave Dhaka Monday morning.



This is the state of a road in Shantinagar as it is around the capital with the recent rains increasing the suffering faced by commuters. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

NEWS IN brief

Worker dies in workplace accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A worker died after hitting an iron pipe while working in a project of Chittagong Wasa (Water Supply & Sewerage Authority) at Modunaghat in Hathazari upazila of Chittagong yesterday morning.

Md Manik, 20, son of Abdul Aziz of Netrakona, was installing a pipeline when he lost balance and hit the pipe, said police at Chittagong Medical College Hospital Police Camp.

Manik was declared dead at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Mohammad Iqbal's exhibition begins at Galleri Kaya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A solo exhibition of artist Mohammad Iqbal will be inaugurated today in Galleri Kaya in the capital's Uttara, said a press release.

Cultural Minister Asaduzzaman Noor will inaugurate the exhibition at around 6:00pm, while eminent artist Prof Rafiqun Nabi and Japanese Ambassador Masato Watanabe will be present.

The exhibition titled "Outside of the Social Bondage" will contain 30 recent works done in oil on canvas and mixed medium on paper, said the release.

The exhibition will be open to the public from 11:00am to 8:00pm till September 5.

India extends Taslima Nasreen's visa by a year

PTI, New Delhi

Author Taslima Nasreen's Indian visa was extended yesterday for another year, effective from July 23, following an intervention of Home Minister Rajnath Singh based on the 52-year-old's request, said a home ministry official.

In her reaction, Taslima said she was very happy even though she was expecting her visa to be extended by more than one year.

Taslima, living in exile since she left Bangladesh in a cloak of secrecy in 1994 in the wake of threats by fundamentalist groups, has stayed in the US and Europe and in India since 2004. A citizen of Sweden, the writer had to leave Kolkata in 2007 following violent street protests by a section of Muslims against her works.

Sylhet BCL men stab two schoolboys

RU canteen worker beaten by expelled activist

STAR REPORT

Some activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) stabbed two schoolboys in Sylhet city and an expelled activist of the pro-ruling party student organisation beat up a canteen worker at Rajshahi University on Thursday night.

With stab wounds in the hands and legs, Jahan, 14, and Shayek, 15, were admitted to MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, reported our Moulvibazar correspondent.

They study in class IX and X respectively at Sylhet city's Scholars Home School and College.

Police and locals said Nazmul and Shahed, BCL activists at the college, attacked the boys because they refused to join their faction.

Manirul Islam, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Shahporan Police Station, confirmed the attackers' identity and said the assault took place in Baluchar area at 8:00pm.

The attackers went into hiding and police are looking for them, he said.

The Daily Star contacted Nazmul over the phone but he denied the allegations.

Shahed was not available to comment.

Our RU correspondent reported that expelled BCL activist Abu Khayer Mostafa alias Rinnet beat up a canteen worker at Shah Makhdam Hall after the latter demanded Tk 11,500 in dues which Rinnet did not pay in the last one year.

Joyanal Abedin, 30, the injured worker and a younger brother of canteen operator Belal Hossain, was treated at the university medical centre.

On Thursday night, when Joyanal asked for the money after Rinnet had dinner, he was asked to go to room no. 254.

Joyanal was tortured there mentally and physically for about one

hour by Rinnet and three other BCL activists, said the victim.

"They brandished sticks, iron rods, and sharp knives and threatened to kill me. At one point, they gagged me... and started clobbering me with sticks. I was released around 12:00 midnight," he said.

Rinnet's phone was switched off. He was expelled in August last year over sexual harassment.

BCL President at RU Mizanur Rahman Rana said the organisation would not take responsibility for an expelled member's action.

But when asked why Rinnet was seen in BCL's programmes including its procession on National Mourning Day, Rana avoided an answer.

Proctor Prof Tarikul Hasan said he would take stern action against the accused.

Police said no complaint was lodged.

CCC to dig new canal

Shahadat Hossain, Ctg

Chittagong City Corporation is preparing to excavate a new canal to mitigate the city's waterlogging problem.

Sources in the city corporation said the project would cost approximately Tk 326.84 crore; Tk 245.13 crore would come from the government and the remaining from the city corporation.

Contacted, Rafiqul Islam, superintendent engineer of CCC and also the project director, said the new canal would be excavated from Bahaddarhat Baraipara to the Karnaphuli river.

He hoped the land acquisition process will begin early next year.

According to CCC sources, the Executive Committee of National Economic Council (Ecne) approved the project on June 24, 2014. The implementation period of the project was fixed between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2017.

They said 25 acres of land need to be acquired for the 3km long and 65 feet wide canal.

ACC set to be digitised

UNB, Dhaka

The Anti-Corruption Commission plans to start work on its automation project next January, aiming to bring transparency and accountability in its works.

"The Asian Development Bank has already decided to provide financial support to the commission. The bank's official procedure to provide the fund will be complete by this year and we will hopefully be able to start the automation work in January," ACC Commissioner Dr Nasiruddin Ahmed told the agency yesterday.

He said the ADB has assured the commission of providing half a million US dollars as grant to implement the ACC's automation project.

"But we have requested the ADB to provide more money and its officials assured us that they will put forward the proposal," the ACC commissioner said, adding that the automation work will be completed within two years.

On October 21, 2014, the commission decided to introduce automation system so that its capacity could be strengthened by establishing a "digitised system" which would be paperless. Presently, the ACC conducts probes into graft allegations manually but with automation, the commission's officials can work without using paper.

Dr Nasiruddin said automation is very important for the ACC as it is quite impossible to ensure transparency and accountability in the anti-graft body without introducing automation. He said the ACC conducts probes within a timeframe and once the automation is introduced, it will be easier to know about the status of inquiries and investigations the commission carries out.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Power Division Power Cell Biddyt Bhaban (9th Floor) 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR UPDATE OF GAS SECTOR MASTER PLAN (GSMP)

Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Development II (RERED II) Project
Credit No. 5158-BD

No. 27.71.0000.002.12.049.15-930

Dated: August 19, 2015

1. The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a fund from the International Development Agency towards the cost of the Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Development II (RERED II) Project and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payment under the contracts for "Consulting Services for Update of Gas Sector Master Plan (GSMP)".

2. Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. The short-listing criteria are:

- Age of firm
- Availability of key professionals
- Experience of the firm in similar task
- Total experience of the firm
- Resources & Support services of the firm

While indicating information relating to (c), it shall be made clear whether responsibility of the firm was in capacity of a principal firm (lead partner) or as an associated firm (sub-consultant/JV partner).

3. Consultants are requested to submit the following supporting documents against the above mentioned criteria: (a) Registration paper of the firm (s); (b) JV agreement/letter of intent (if applicable); (c) Firm's brochure; (d) Audited financial reports for last three years; (e) Service experience record (d) Short Biography of Key Professional.

4. Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. Consultant will clearly mention the form of the association in the EOI, i.e. joint venture or sub-consultancy.

5. Detail scope of work will be available in the Terms of Reference (TOR) which can be downloaded from the website of Power Cell (www.powercell.gov.bd) from the date of publishing of EOI.

6. A consultant will be selected under QCBS method in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines.

7. Interested consultants may obtain additional information from the office at the address below during office hours i.e., 0900 to 1700 hours BST, Sunday to Thursday.

8. Expression of Interest (2 copies) must be delivered to the address below by September 17, 2015.

(Mohammad Hossain)

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A civet being released in Sylhet's Khadimnagar National Park yesterday noon after it was caught venturing into a house in Gotatikor of Dakkhin Surma in Sylhet city on Wednesday night.

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

Two girls raped in Savar

FROM PAGE 3

Afterward, the little girl went home and told her mother what happened. The alleged rapist fled the spot, said Jalal Uddin.

The girl was taken to Kushtia General Hospital for treatment. However, the UP member and the father brought her back saying they would settle the matter.

On information, police rescued the girl and sent her back to the hospital for treatment, said the OC.

Police are trying to arrest the culprit, he added.

Meanwhile, Dipok Chandra Shaha, OC of Ashulia Police Station, said police sent the rape victim to Dhaka Medical College Hospital's

One Stop Crisis Centre and arrested the alleged rapist, reports our Savar correspondent.

The OC said locals handed the accused over to police after giving him a beating.

A case was filed.

Meanwhile, residents of Satkhira town beat up a madrasa teacher and handed him over to police for molesting a boy, reports UNB.

Police said the teacher of Darul Ulum Kawmi Madrasa called the victim to his room and molested him around noon.

Hearing the boy's screams, nearby people rescued him and beat up the teacher, they said.

A case was filed.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 27th death anniversary of freedom fighter Dr Sayed Anwar Ali, said a press release.

He was one of the broadcasters of the proclamation of independence of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 26 in 1971 from Kalur Ghat in Chittagong.

Special prayers will be offered at his grave in the capital's Banani Graveyard, and Qurankhwani and a milad mahfil will be held in his children's residence.

