



The ongoing countrywide flood has crept into the outskirts of the capital too. The Dhaleshwari River has spilled over flooding houses and brick kilns situated on its banks. The photo was taken from Dhaka-Mawa highway at Keraniganj yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

DEMAND FOR SEPARATE PAYSCALE

Public univ teachers strike for third day

Further programmes may come from Sept 5 meeting; students fear session jam

STAR REPORT

Teachers continued demonstrations and observed a three-hour work stoppage at public universities across the country yesterday demanding cancellation of the proposed eight national payscale and a new one for them.

It was the last three-hour strike after the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association (FBUTA) on August 11 had announced to observe it on every Sunday throughout the current month.

The teachers of 37 public universities went on strike yesterday, confirmed FBUTA secretary general Maksud Kamal.

They sought reformation of the proposed eighth payscale until implementation of the new one for them.

The demonstrators also demanded that the government equalise the salaries, benefits and status between university teachers

and bureaucrats.

Equality should be brought between professors in selection grade and senior secretaries, and between professors and secretaries, they said, adding that the university teachers have to be included in the warrant of precedence.

The teachers have been conducting movements since May 14 rejecting the proposed payscale through different programmes, including signature campaigns, human chains, and press conferences.

They also submitted memorandums to the high officials of the government.

Dr Khandakar Shariful Islam, president of Bangladesh Agricultural University Teachers Association, told The Daily Star that a senior secretary would get a salary of Tk 84,000 as per the proposed payscale, while the professors in selection grade

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Dr Kamal unveils 11-point charter for national unity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday stressed the need for electing honest and competent public representatives through a fair and inclusive election free of black money, and announced an 11-point "charter for national unity".

The noted jurist was addressing a briefing at Jatiya Press Club where he put forward the charter.

Noting that people in the country are now living in an "abnormal situation", Dr Kamal said corruption has become part and parcel of the society.

According to the charter, while a free and fair election is the first step towards achieving democracy, sustaining democracy requires that democratic institutions function effectively and a culture of democracy is consciously promoted.

The charter also focuses on freeing educational institutions from political parties' negative influence and from criminal activities.

In the charter, Dr Kamal urged for making the administration and the police force free of political influence so that they can carry out their jobs in a neutral manner.

The charter went to add that freedom of judiciary must be ensured at all levels of the state. Dr Kamal said they would conduct various programmes and would also go door-to-door to create opinion in favour of the charter.



Principal Staff Officer Lt Gen Md Moinul Islam of the Bangladesh Armed Forces Division, and Deputy Commanding General of the US Army Pacific Maj Gen Gregory C Bilton speak at the launching ceremony of a five-day "Disaster Response Exercise and Exchange" yesterday. A wide range of Bangladeshi and international government and non-government organisations will be engaged during the exercise known as "Pacific Resilience". More than 150 participants are taking part in a phased table-top exercise, and 350 will participate in a field training exercise, says a US embassy press release.

PHOTO: ISPR

USAID chief vows deep engagement

Meets foreign, forest ministers

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT



Alfonso Lenhardt

foreign ministry.

He also congratulated the Bangladesh government for accomplishing enviable successes in attaining many of the MDG goals particularly in the areas of health and women empowerment.

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Reports on govt projects frequently fabricated

Discloses former cabinet secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The reports highlighting the progress of various government projects by furnishing numbers are often misleading as they are usually cooked up to serve unethical purposes, said Dr Saadat Husain, former cabinet secretary and also former chairman of Public Service Commission, yesterday.


In his keynote speech at a seminar, the

bureaucrat said figures provided in some annual performance agreements signed between the cabinet secretary and secretaries concerned, that he saw through, might not reflect the reality.

Instead they camouflage the actual situation, he said.

The Brac Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) in association with

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আবুল মনসুর আহমেদের

১১৭তম জন্মদিন

উপলক্ষে স্মৃতি সম্মেলন

৪ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৫। রোজ শুক্রবার

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সাহিত্যিক, সাংবাদিক ও রাজনীতিবিদ আবুল মনসুর আহমেদ স্মৃতি পরিষদের

উদ্যোগে দিনব্যাপী আবুল মনসুর আহমেদ স্মৃতি সম্মেলন অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচ্ছে।

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সভাপতিত্ব করবেন সৈয়দ শামসুল হক। প্রবন্ধ পাঠ করবেন ড. বিশ্বজিৎ ঘোষ।

মুখ্য আলোচক: হাসান আজিজুল হক। আলোচক: অধ্যাপক আব্দুল্লাহ আবু সায়ীদ, সেলিনা হোসেন ও ড. মোরশেদ শফিউল হাসান।

● দ্বিতীয় অধিবেশন (সাংবাদিক): দুপুর ২:৩০মি.-বিকাল ৪:২৯মি.

সভাপতিত্ব করবেন ড. রফিকুল ইসলাম। প্রবন্ধ পাঠ করবেন ড. মো. চেল্লীস খান।

মুখ্য আলোচক: মুহম্মদ জাহাঙ্গীর। আলোচক: শামসুজ্জামান খান, সৈয়দ আবুল মকসুদ ও আবুল মোমেন।

● শেষ অধিবেশন (রাজনীতিবিদ): বিকেল ৪:৪৬মি.-বিকাল ৬:৪৫মি.


সভাপতিত্ব করবেন এমিরেটাস অধ্যাপক আনিসুজ্জামান। প্রবন্ধ পাঠ করবেন ড. নূরুল আমিন।

মুখ্য আলোচক: ড. মিজানুর রহমান। আলোচক: সিরাজুল ইসলাম চৌধুরী, আবুল আহসান চৌধুরী ও হাবিব আর রহমান।

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