

Poet Rafiq Azad hospitalised

BSS, Dhaka

Rafiq Azad, one of the most prolific and versatile poets of the country, was shifted to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) yesterday for better treatment.

He is kept at the intensive care unit of the hospital and undergoing treatment.

Earlier, the poet was admitted to Anwar Khan Medical College Hospital in the capital on Thursday night, following a brain haemorrhage.

Bangladeshis

FROM PAGE 3

cards and identity cards provided by employers, it says.

Bangladeshis facing any untoward situation are advised to contact the embassy's hotline number +218-916994207.

Around 40,000 to 50,000 Bangladeshis are working at different sectors in Libya. The government has banned migration of Bangladeshis to the war and conflict-torn African country since August due to clashes among different groups.

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Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon distributes winter clothes among the poor at a programme, organised by Bangladesh Photojournalists Association in cooperation with Joyjatra Foundation, at the association's Purana Paltan office in the capital yesterday.

Dhaka's unclean water

FROM PAGE 3

"Though we have failed to clean the water bodies so far, our routine mosquito control drive is going on," he said, adding that they conducted two drives in October and November.

Mahbubur said they had made a map of breeding grounds of Culex mosquito, which serves as the vector of several diseases. He said they divided the whole area into three zones -- red for high infestation, yellow for moderate infestation, and green for low infestation.

Seeking anonymity, an official of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) said they would clean the water bodies soon and then start spraying larvicide and adulticide in them.

DNCC will keep spraying adulticide in two wards at a time over one week, and in this way all areas will be covered, he said.

The official said there were 2,276 bighas of water bodies in DNCC, of which 1,200-1,300 bighas needed cleaning.

Chief Health Officer of DNCC Dr SMM Saleh Bhuiyan said they were conducting regular anti-mosquito drives in the breeding grounds, but they might face problems in cleaning the water bodies which were owned privately.

DENGUE

Over the last nine years, the number of

dengue attacks was the highest in 2015. Experts blamed long periods of intermittent rains and high temperatures for the rise in cases.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), 3,101 dengue cases were detected in 2015, 375 in 2014, 1,713 in 2013, and 671 in 2012.

The death toll from dengue fever was six in 2015, nil in 2014, two in 2013, and one in 2011.

Saif Ullah Munshi, associate professor of virology at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), said, "Mosquito larvae should be destroyed in April-May before the start of monsoon to control its breeding early."

DSSC Chief Health Officer Dr Mahbubur said they would continue awareness building campaigns about Aedes aegypti mosquito, the carrier of dengue virus, because it bred in fresh water.

The campaigns will involve schools, mosque imams and ward councillors, he added. DSSC will control the breeding of the mosquito this year to prevent the rise of dengue cases.

The first case of dengue was reported in the country in 2000, and at least 98 people died from the disease between 2000 and 2003, according to DGHS data.

RA Ghani laid to rest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee member Dr RA Ghani was buried in his wife's grave in Dhaka's Banani graveyard yesterday.

His third and last namaz-e-janza was held before BNP's Nayapaltan headquarters where the party's senior leaders and activists were present.

The first janaza was held in Dhanmondi Eidgah Mosque and the second one at the South Plaza of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

Dr Ghani died at Square Hospital early yesterday after suffering from old age complications for a long time.

Meanwhile, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia expressed deep shock at his death.

Acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir expressed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Roadmap to be made for e-government

BSS, Dhaka

The government has taken initiatives to prepare a 10-year ICT roadmap under Bangladesh National Enterprise Architecture to operate e-government activities smoothly.

The World Bank financed Leveraging ICT for Growth, Employment and Governance (LICT) project of Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) under ICT Division is implementing it. The LICT project has already appointed the UK based firm 'Ernst and Young' to prepare the 10-year ICT roadmap, said official sources.

Primarily the food procurement system of food directorate and pension giving system of the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education are being digitised, the sources added.

State Minister for ICT Zunaed Ahmed Palak said that the 10-year roadmap is being done in such a structured way that other ministries, divisions, departments and directorates could use it as a model.

Gonojagoron Mancha to lay siege to Pak mission Jan 20

DU CORRESPONDENT

A Gonojagoron Mancha faction led by Imran H Sarker yesterday announced laying siege to the Pakistan high commission in Dhaka on January 20 protesting Pakistan's request to withdraw a senior diplomat and denial of the 1971 genocide.

Starting off around 3:00pm, the programme is to protest "instigation of military and breaching of diplomatic norms" by Islamabad, said Imran H Sarker, spokesperson of the anti-war criminal platform, at a rally in the capital's Shahbagh protesting "government inaction".

On January 5, Pakistan asked Bangladesh to withdraw Moushum Rahman, counsellor (political) and head of Chancery at the Bangladesh mission in Islamabad, in 48 hours.

The move appears to be countering the withdrawal of Pakistani diplomat Farina Arshad on December 23 last year after Bangladesh accused her of terror financing.

'Criminal' injured in 'gunfight' with cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An alleged criminal was injured in a "gunfight" with police in the capital's Sutrapur area yesterday evening.

Ajoy Shill, 27, was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with a bullet wound in his left thigh.

Tapan Kumar Saha, officer-in-charge of Sutrapur Police Station, said, based on information that five criminals had gathered on Patla Khan Lane with firearms, a team of police rushed to the spot.

Sensing police presence, the criminals fired four rounds, forcing cops to retaliate, leaving Ajoy injured.

His accomplices, however, managed to flee, he added.

Police recovered a firearm from the spot.

Faculty Search

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Application deadline: January 31, 2016

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