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PUBLIC UNIVERSITY ADMISSION TESTS

VCs' body delays them

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

Admission tests of public universities would be delayed due to the country's coronavirus situation.

Earlier, the majority of the public universities had decided to hold honours first-year admission test for 2020-21 academic session in June-July.

Bangladesh Bishwabidyalaya Parishad, an association of vice-chancellors of public universities, yesterday sat in a virtual meeting and discussed delaying of the entrance test.

Barishal University VC Prof Sadequl Arefin and Shahjalal University of Science and Technology VC Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed said holding of the test would be deferred.

"We [Bangladesh Bishwabidyalaya Parishad] will sit for another meeting after Eid to fix the admission [test] dates of public universities," said Farid.

Usually, the parishad sits and fixes tentative dates for the tests so that the dates do not conflict with those of other universities.

Public universities usually follow that tentative dates while finalising their admission test procedures. The parishad in February sat and set tentative dates for the entrance test of all public universities.

Most of the universities started their admission form distribution and submission process.

But as the Covid-19 situation worsened in the country, Dhaka University has already deferred their admission test dates.

On April 29, the DU authorities said the admission test for "Ka" unit will be held on August 6, "Kha" unit on August 7, "Ga" unit on August 13, and "Gha" unit on August 14,

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With Eid-ul-Fitr coming up, many factories in and around the city have gone into overdrive to produce the amount of "shemai (vermicelli)" needed during the festival. In almost every household across the country, vermicelli is made as a special dessert. For years, this dish has been a staple for big occasions. The photo was taken in Char Khalpar area of the capital's Kamrangirchar.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Sundarbans fires still burning

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Forest fires are still burning in Sarankhola Range of the Sundarbans.

Firefighters suspended their operation for the night around 5:00pm yesterday before darkness fell.

Unless overnight rains put out the fires, the officials will resume the operation from this morning, firefighters said.

Forest department officials are staying in the Daser Bharani area, where the fires are, to watch over the situation, said Joyal Abedin, assistant conservator of forests at the Sundarbans East Forest Department.

"The fire that started around Monday noon was put out by Tuesday afternoon. But columns of smoke were billowing the next morning from several places a little south of the original site of the fire. Soon, the fires broke out in different places. The fires are still raging in many places," he added.

Golam Sarwar, assistant
SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

160 migrants return from war-torn Libya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One hundred and sixty Bangladeshi migrant workers, including a woman, returned home yesterday from war-torn Libya under a repatriation programme arranged by the Bangladesh mission there.

International Organisation for Migration (IOM), which facilitated the latest repatriation, says at least 2,942 Bangladeshi migrants have returned home from the North African country under its Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) programme since 2015.

A special flight of Buraq Air carrying the 160 migrant workers touched down at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka around 10:15am, said Fakhru Alam, assistant director of Probashi Kalyan Desk at the airport.

The chartered flight also carried the body of a migrant worker. Fakhru, however, could not immediately confirm the identity of the deceased.

According to a Facebook post of the Bangladesh embassy in Tripoli, the Buraq Air flight left Libya's Benina International

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100m-yr old dinosaur bones found in Meghalaya



INDIA TODAY ONLINE

Researchers have identified fossil bone fragments of sauropod dinosaurs dating back to about 100 million years from an area around West Khasi Hills District in Meghalaya.

The yet-to-be-published findings were made during a recent field trip by researchers from the Geological Survey of India's Palaeontology division in North-East.

The GSI researchers noted that this is the first record of sauropods of probable Titanosaurian origin discovered in the region.

Sauropods had very long necks, long tails, small heads relative to the rest of their body, and four thick, pillar-like legs. They are notable for the

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Man held for raping 10-yr-old girl in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police yesterday arrested a man for raping a minor girl in Hakimpur upazila of Dinajpur.

The arrestee Rabiul Islam, 25, is of Jilapipotty village in the upazila.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Hakimpur police, arrested the man from Basudebpur village around 9:00am yesterday.

A court sent the man to jail after he was produced before it in the afternoon.

Police said Rabiul on April 21 took the 10-year-old from his area promising her Tk 10 to buy chocolates. He then raped her at a secluded place in the area.

Later in the day when the girl's parents learnt about the matter, the father filed a complaint with Hakimpur Police Station, said the OC.

ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

US Senate unit asks Pakistan arms cutoff

MAY 6, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

BATTLE OF TELIAPARA

A heavy fight broke out today at Teliapara, Sylhet. Pakistani Army in the guise of Indian BSF breached the defences of Bangladesh force and were in firing position. They formed an inner circle. However, the Bangladesh force, under the command of KM Shafiqullah Bir Uttam, fought the Pakistan army back. The enemy, over two companies strong, made a hasty retreat. The battlefield of Teliapara was left littered with dead bodies of the enemy. The Bangladeshi force also lost a number of men.

STOP ARMS AID TO PAKISTAN, SAYS SENATE BODY

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee called unanimously for an immediate suspension of American military aid and arms sales to Pakistan until the conflict there was resolved and the distribution of relief supplies was resumed.

By a voice vote the committee approved a resolution sponsored by Senators Clifford P Case, Republican of New Jersey; Walter F Mondale, Democrat of Minnesota, and 14 other senators. In so doing it overrode state department objections that the language of the resolution was too imprecise to be applicable.

The resolution, which would now go to the Senate, had no force in law. However, if approved, it would reflect growing concern in Congress over the protracted fighting in East Pakistan during which,

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RAYHAN'S DEATH IN CUSTODY PBI press charges against 5 cops, one youth

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) yesterday submitted a charge-sheet against six people, including five police officials, in a case filed over the custodial death of Rayhan Ahmed.

PBI Special Superintendent Mohammad Khaled-uz-Zaman said that the charge-sheet was submitted to the prosecution section of the police, who will place it before a virtual court.

In the charge-sheet, PBI has accused Bandarabazar police outpost's suspended in-charge and sub-inspector Akbar Hossain, assistant sub-inspector (ASI) Ashek-e-Elahi, constable Harunur Rashid, constable Titu Chandra Das, sub-inspector Hasan Uddin, and local youth Abdullah Al Noman.

Among the accused, all except Noman are in jail.

Rayhan Ahmed, 33, a youth of Neharipara area in Sylhet city, was tortured at Sylhet's Bandarabazar Police Outpost on early October 11 and died an hour after he was admitted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical Hospital by police personnel.

WHAT'S IN THE CHARGE-SHEET
The 1,962-page charge sheet listed 69
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Most of the people at this street shop in the capital's Baitul Mukarram Mosque area are seen without face masks. Although a mobile court has fined various shopping malls for not complying with hygiene rules and social distancing, many people, mostly customers, are still not maintaining any of those. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

India's Covid surge spreads to Nepal

Says Red Cross as top scientific advisor warns further waves 'inevitable' in India

AGENCIES

Nepal is being overwhelmed by a Covid-19 surge as India's outbreak spreads across South Asia, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said yesterday.

"We need to act now and we need to act fast to have any hope of containing this human catastrophe. This virus has no respect for borders and these variants are running rampant across Asia," said Alexander Matheou, Asia Pacific director for the Geneva-based agency representing the global humanitarian network.

Nepal is now recording 57 times as many cases as a month ago, with 44% of tests now coming back positive, the statement said.

Nepalese towns near the Indian border could not cope with the growing number of people needing treatment, while only 1% of the country's population was fully vaccinated.

"What is happening in India right now is a horrifying preview of Nepal's future if we cannot contain this latest Covid surge that is claiming more lives by the minute," said Netra Prasad Timsina, chair of the Nepal Red Cross.

"It is beyond distressing to see that people cannot say goodbye to their loved ones as cremations are taking place at record levels due to these new Covid variants, which are

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PRAYER TIMING MAY 6

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
3:58	12:45	5:00	6:33	8:00
JAMAAT	4:08	1:15	5:15	6:43
8:30				

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN MAY SEHRI IFTAR

23	6	6:33
24	7	3:52
25	8	3:51

evaly

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN MAY SEHRI IFTAR

23	6	6:33
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