

Hasina pays homage to Bangabandhu

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday paid tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, marking the 74th founding anniversary of the ruling Awami League.

She paid homage to Bangabandhu by placing a wreath at the portrait of the Father of the Nation at Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi-32 in the morning.

After laying the wreath, the prime minister stood in solemn silence for some time as a mark of profound respect to the memory of Bangabandhu.

Later, flanked by senior party leaders, Sheikh Hasina, also president of the AL, paid tributes to Bangabandhu by placing another wreath at the portrait of the Father of the Nation on behalf of her party.

Sheikh Hasina along with AL General

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina pays homage to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing a wreath at the portrait of the Father of the Nation at Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi-32 in Dhaka yesterday, marking the 74th founding anniversary of the ruling party.

PHOTO: PID

‘DISCLOSING IRREGULARITIES’ Wasa DMD removed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Deputy Managing Director of Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority Syed Golam Yazdani has been removed from his post after he disclosed irregularities within the agency to journalists.

Dhaka Wasa Managing Director Taqsem A Khan did not take Yazdani’s actions well and initiated the dismissal, said insiders.

Without even giving an opportunity to defend himself, Yazdani was dismissed on Thursday, said sources at Dhaka Wasa board.

The MD and the DMD of Dhaka Wasa had a strained relationship for some time because of multiple issues. The rift between the two key officials was also affecting the functions of Wasa, sources said.

While some board members opposed Yazdani’s dismissal during the 305th board meeting at Wasa Bhaban, the final decision was left to the MD.

The proposal to dismiss Yazdani was included in the agenda of the 304th board meeting. However, the board members vetoed the decision, stating that it was unacceptable to remove someone without providing them an opportunity to defend themselves, said sources.

Eventually, during the 305th board meeting, the Wasa MD and the chairman made the decision to dismiss Yazdani.

Contacted, Sujit Kumar Bala, chairman of Dhaka Wasa board, refused to make any comment over the issue.

Yazdani also chose not to comment and suggested

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

The people’s historian

Say speakers on Serajul Islam Choudhury at event marking his 88th birthday

DU CORRESPONDENT

The uprising of 1969 played a pivotal role in sowing the seeds of liberation, leading to the crucial 1970 election that ultimately culminated in the nation’s independence in 1971, said Emeritus Professor Serajul Islam Choudhury yesterday.

The eminent intellectual of the country was speaking at an event commemorating the uprising of 1969, held to celebrate his 88th birthday.

The event was held at Sishu Academy in the capital.

Prof Choudhury highlighted the significance of this uprising, drawing parallels with the Indian Sepoy Mutiny that propelled India towards independence from the British colonial rule.

“Our first Liberation War was the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857 against the British rulers who had governed us for two centuries,” he said.

Expressing gratitude for the overwhelming support and well wishes conveyed through a profusion of floral tributes, the esteemed academician likened the experience to passing an exam.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



Attendees greet Emeritus Professor Serajul Islam Choudhury at an event, marking his 88th birthday yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

DENGUE OUTBREAK

A checklist for EID VACATION

Faster spread feared after holiday

HELEMUL ALAM

As many residents are expected to leave Dhaka for the Eid vacation, experts are concerned about the potential increase in dengue breeding grounds that may emerge during this period of vacant households. Without adequate measures in place, the empty houses become potential hotspots for stagnant water accumulation, the ideal breeding habitat for Aedes mosquitoes.

Experts are urging all residents to keep all containers dry before leaving, ensuring no water is left

“Individuals experiencing dengue-like symptoms, such as high fever, severe headache, joint and muscle pain, must seek medical advice and undergo appropriate diagnostic tests. City corporations should increase their anti-mosquito drives around bus terminals, to prevent the migration of infected mosquitoes to other districts through vehicles.”

ENTOMOLOGIST GM SAIFUR RAHMAN

THINGS TO DO
Keep containers dry before leaving home
Eliminate any existing stagnant water sources
Turn Pots and containers upside down
Cover commodes with appropriate lids or using plastic wrap
Apply mosquito repellent creams

stagnant in or around households. Cleaning activities within the premises are also strongly advised to eliminate any existing stagnant water sources and minimise potential breeding sites.

Besides, they suggest that all pots and containers should be turned upside down, preventing water accumulation. Also, covering commodes with appropriate lids or using plastic wrap can help prevent the formation of stagnant water within toilets.

“Everyone should clean their house properly and observe so that no container remains left with water, before leaving their home for Eid vacation,” said entomologist GM Saifur Rahman of the National University.

“By eliminating potential breeding sites, individuals can significantly reduce the chances of Aedes mosquitoes finding suitable conditions to lay their eggs,” he said.

He also said that applying mosquito repellent creams, lotions, or sprays can provide an additional layer of protection against mosquito bites and minimise the risk of contracting dengue.

Furthermore, Saifur Rahman expressed concern about the potential spread of dengue virus within and beyond Dhaka as a result of the mass movement of people during the Eid-ul-Azha celebrations. He warned that asymptomatic dengue patients, unknowingly carrying the virus, may travel to different districts to join their loved ones, thereby increasing the chances of local transmission in those areas.

To mitigate this risk, Saifur Rahman emphasized the importance of early detection and prompt medical attention for suspected dengue cases. He urged individuals experiencing dengue-like symptoms, such as high fever, severe headache, joint and muscle pain, to seek medical advice and undergo appropriate diagnostic tests.

He also emphasised the necessity of conducting proper mosquito

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

AUG 17 BOMB BLASTS

Convict working as video editor held after 18 years

STAR REPORT

A JMB man, who was sentenced to life in prison for carrying out serial bomb blasts in Jhenidah on August 17 in 2005, was arrested from Dhaka’s Teigaon area on Thursday night.

A team of Rab arrested Tuhin Reza, who had been hiding for about 18 years, Lt Col Arif Mohiuddin Ahmed, commanding officer of Rab 3, told a press briefing at Rab media centre yesterday.

After the bomb attack, Tuhin took shelter at a camp of JMB, a militant group banned by the government later on.

Tuhin later came to Dhaka and started living in indifferent areas. In 2021, he rented a house in

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

‘Hindus leaving country for lack of security’

Alleges Gayeshwar

UNB, Dhaka

BNP standing committee member Gayeshwar Chandra Roy yesterday alleged that the Hindus, the largest religious minority in Bangladesh, are gradually leaving the country for lack of security.

“People of all classes and professions, regardless of religion and caste, came together in 1971 to fight for the independence of the country, firmly believing that persecution, exploitation and discrimination against caste and religion by Pakistanis are not conducive to a healthy political state,” he said.

He, however, regretted that the members of the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

PROBASHI KALYAN BANK

Migration loan sees brisk growth

Officials say easy payment terms, interest rates helping migrant workers

JAMIL MAHMUD

The overall loan disbursement of Probashi Kalyan Bank has seen a significant increase from 2021-2022 fiscal after it opened at least 37 new branches across the country since mid-2020.

The majority of the amount was disbursed in “migration loan”, which is collateral-free and given at a nine percent interest rate.

According to the bank’s annual report for 2021-2022, in that fiscal the bank disbursed Tk 900.22 crore in loan among 39,225 people.

Of the amount, Tk 668.22 crore was disbursed in migration loan among 30,921 people.

In the previous fiscal, the overall loan disbursement was Tk 267.96 crore among 11,532 people, shows the report.

In the first half of the current fiscal, the bank disbursed Tk 367.98 crore in loan among 17,023 people, according to a report of Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), which cites the

bank’s data.

Of the amount, Tk 294.01 crore was disbursed in migration loan among 14,366 people, the RMMRU report says.

However, the migration loan was disbursed against the backdrop that aspirant migrants in Bangladesh spend much higher than the government-fixed cost to finance their migration abroad.

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Officials at the bank’s head office and branch offices said alongside launching new branches, increased publicity also helped them reach more migrant workers.

They said, to reach migrant workers,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



Though a road crossing is merely a metre away, pedestrians hurdle over a fairly high median on the Mohakhali-Gulshan link road amid speeding vehicles yesterday. The waist-length medians were constructed recently to prevent such actions. This photo was taken near the Brac centre.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN