

Inconclusive

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amendment was put to vote and rejected by the House.

Nurul Huq's amendment proposed two grounds for the vacation: a) if the member resigns from the party with whose ticket he is elected and (b) if he fails to vote in the House with that party. Dr Kamal Hossain accepted the amendment in principle but suggested a consequential amendment qualifying the inability of the member concerned to cast his vote with his party in the House.

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER CALLS ON PM

Canadian High Commissioner Gordon Riddell calls on Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at his chamber at the Constituent Assembly building today. He called on Bangabandhu yesterday too.

INVESTIGATION IN MANY CASES COMPLETED

The War Crimes Investigation Agency has completed investigation of a large number of cases against the Pakistani occupation forces including top-ranking officials, informs a spokesman of the agency. Asked about the nature of the charges, the spokesman says those include genocide, murder, torture, rape, loot, wanton destruction and waging war against the people of Bangladesh.

He refers particularly to the alarming number of rape cases estimated at about two lakh. Many families are also reluctant to disclose rape cases and other atrocities, he adds. SOURCES: November 3, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

Erfan

FROM PAGE 12
Detective Branch of police, prayed for another five-day remand in the case filed with Dhanmondi Police Station.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Ziaur Rahman granted two-day remand for each.

Dhaka-7 lawmaker Haji Salim's son Erfan, 37, suspended DSCC ward-30 councillor, and his bodyguard Zahidul, 35, were placed on a three-day remand each on October 28.

Navy officer Lt Wasif Ahmad filed the case with Dhanmondi Police Station naming four people.

The two other accused are AB Siddique Dipu, 45, protocol officer of Haji Salim's Madina Group, and Mizanur Rahman, 30, the driver of the car Erfan was in.

All four are now behind bars. Mizanur was on a one-day remand and admitted his role in the assault, police said.

Dipu was placed on a fresh two-day remand on Saturday after completion of the previous three-day remand.

According to the case statement, a vehicle, with the plate "Dhaka Metro-Gha 11-5736", rear-ended his motorcycle in Dhanmondi area when he and his wife were returning to their Dhaka Cantonment home from Nilkhet around 7:45pm on October 25.

A man came out of the SUV and verbally abused them and left the spot. When the car stopped at a nearby traffic light, Wasif knocked on the car's window and introduced himself. At that, all the passengers got off the vehicle and started hurling abuse and assaulting him, the complainant said.

When his wife came to save him, they also assaulted her. They then abandoned the car and left the scene.

Some witnesses got the incident on video, which later went viral on social media. In the video, injured Wasif is seen describing the incident to bystanders.

Earlier, police said the incident was not recorded by any CCTV cameras in the vicinity but they have proof of the assault and that they would now look into the roles of the accused and to what extent they were individually involved.

On October 26, Erfan and his bodyguard Zahidul were sentenced to one year in prison for illegally possessing walkie-talkies and foreign liquor, after the Rapid Action Battalion, assisted by an executive magistrate, conducted a raid on Haji Salim's building -- "Chan Sarder Dada Bari" -- at Debidas Ghat Lane in the capital's Chawkbazar area.

Besides, four separate cases were filed against Erfan and Zahidul with Chawkbazar Police Station for carrying illegal firearms and possessing narcotics.

An officer at Chawkbazar Police Station told this correspondent that they have sought a 14-day remand each for Erfan and Zahidul. The hearing will be held on November 4.

China starts once-a-decade census of world's largest population

AFP, Shanghai

Millions of census-takers yesterday began knocking on doors across China for a once-a-decade head count of the world's largest population that for the first time will use mobile apps to help crunch the massive numbers.

Around seven million community workers and volunteers will drive the two-month data-collection effort, visiting homes ranging from residential skyscrapers in downtown Shanghai to remote Tibetan mountain villages.

Mere accidents or murders?

FROM PAGE 1
"It's as if every road is turning into a killing trap. People of all ages are getting killed on the roads, even the people standing beside the road are not safe from reckless bus drivers.

"The procession of death on the roads is getting longer..."

About the convicts the court said they had thrown him into the Fuldi river, although he was alive at that time.

"We do not know how many people are getting killed like Payel," the court added.

At least 37,170 people were killed and 82,758 injured in 26,902 crashes since 2015, according to Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity.

According to a report Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) submitted to the High Court in July last year, 4.79 lakh vehicles without fitness certificates are on the roads across the country.

Around 20 percent of 19,000 kilometers of roads under the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) are in "poor, bad or very bad" conditions, according to an RHD survey, published in July this year.

THE SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS

The judge said it would be possible to reduce the number of road accidents if the drivers followed traffic laws.

In the first observation, the court said drivers, supervisors and helpers must undergo a dope test before they are allowed to board vehicles. The tests should be carried out at departure, resting and at destination points.

Recently, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also asked the authorities concerned to bring drivers under a dope testing system.

Transport workers must be polite and courteous to the passengers. They need to be given training on how to drive and deal with passengers, it said.

Bathrooms and toilets with modern facilities should be installed at every three kilometres on the highways for transport workers and passengers. Transport owners will have to pay an annual subscription for it.

Monitoring systems should be beefed up through installing CCTV to watch over traffic movement on the highways, it added.

'There's no alternative'

FROM PAGE 12
The devolved governments of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have already imposed partial lockdowns.

Britain's infections surged past one million on Saturday.

Just minutes after Johnson, Portugal's Prime Minister Antonio Costa announced a partial lockdown with 70 percent of the population going back under restrictions.

Also on Saturday, Austria brought in a second lockdown of its own, while Greece declared a partial one. The new measures came just a day after France started its second lockdown and Belgium said it would tighten its measures.

Italy has also already reintroduced some restrictions.

This time around in Europe, there have been sometimes-violent protests against the measures.

"This city will go bust. There

will be nothing left of it," Roger Stenson, a 73-year-old pensioner in Nottingham, said ahead of Britain's lockdown announcement, echoing widespread concerns about the economic impact.

"You know, closed shops... There will just be nothing left of it, that's the problem."

The United States remains the worst-hit country in the world, with 9.1 million infections, more than 230,000 deaths and fresh spikes in many parts of the vast nation.

Covid-19 has been one of the dominant campaign issues ahead of the presidential election on November 3, with millions of jobs lost and Donald Trump facing intense criticism over his handling of the pandemic.

Trump himself got Covid-19, as did members of his family and staff, but he has been critical of lockdown

Turkish FM in Azerbaijan as tensions mount over Karabakh

AFP, Baku

Turkey's foreign minister arrived in Azerbaijan yesterday for talks over the breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh after Baku's arch-enemy Armenia requested security assistance from Russia.

"We are once again in Baku with our brothers to renew our strong support for dear Azerbaijan and exchange on the latest developments in Nagorno-Karabakh," Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said on Twitter.

On Saturday, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan formally asked Russian President Vladimir Putin to begin consultations on security assistance, invoking the two countries' defence pact.

Pashinyan said hostilities were approaching Armenia's borders and reiterated that Turkey was backing Baku.

Moscow's defence pact with Armenia does not extend to Nagorno-Karabakh and Russia said Saturday

that "necessary" help would be provided if the fighting reaches Armenian territory.

At the same time, Russian foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said "concrete formats" of assistance to Armenia would be discussed.

Armenia's request for assistance from Moscow further raised fears of Russia and Turkey getting sucked into the decades-old conflict over Karabakh.

Armenia and Azerbaijan have been engaged in fierce fighting for more than a month over Karabakh, a region of Azerbaijan controlled by Armenian separatists in the wake of the break-up of the Soviet Union.

Fighting continued overnight and Sunday morning, the warring sides said.

The Karabakh separatist leadership accused Azerbaijan of striking civilian settlements including the strategic town of Shusha.

Doctor duped

FROM PAGE 12
the popular folk tale about Aladdin and his wish-granting genie that appears when it is rubbed.

"The cheats had struck a deal for much more but the doctor had paid about seven million rupees (\$93,000)," Amit Rai, a senior officer told AFP.

He said the men were arrested on Thursday and were remanded in custody ahead of charges being filed.

"The wife of one of these men was also involved in the fraud. She is on the run," Rai added.

In his complaint filed last Sunday, Khan said one of the men pretended to be an occultist and made a "jinn" -- a supernatural figure -- appear from the lamp, local media reported.

But when Khan asked if he could touch the genie or take the lamp home, they refused, saying it might cause him harm, the complaint stated.

Eventually they sold the lamp to him, promising it would bring health, wealth and good fortune.

Khan stated that he later realised the "genie" was actually just one of the men in disguise.

Imported onions

FROM PAGE 12
He added that unloading of imported onions started at Chattogram port a week ago.

"We have the target to import four lakh tonnes so that we can serve the domestic markets until the next harvesting season," Munshi told The Daily Star.

S Alam Group, TK Group, Meghna Group and City Group have also been importing onions along with the TCB, the minister said.

The country has a demand of over 25 lakh tonnes of onion a year. Nine lakh tonnes have to be imported, mostly from India.

At yesterday's event, 15 reporters of different print and electronic media outlets were awarded for best performance in their respective fields. ERF leaders Saif Islam Dilal, Shamsul Huq Zahid, S M Rashidul Islam, Kazi Faisal Bin Siraj and coordinator of the jury board for the award Serajul Islam Quadri also spoke.

It was just

FROM PAGE 12
Kabir, director (complaints and enquiry) at the NHRC, said they visited the scene of the incident, Burimari Jame Mosque and adjacent areas, and took testimony of witnesses and locals since yesterday morning.

"After talking to the imam and the khadem at the mosque, we are convinced that the victim, Jewel, did not desecrate the Holy Quran," he said.

Some of the witnesses gave different versions of the incident and it is being investigated whether the incident was pre-planned or not, mentioned Kabir.

"A rumour about Jewel desecrating the Holy Quran spread... we are working to get answers to a number of questions. The whole thing will be clear to us as soon as we get the answers."

He further said it is also being probed why outsiders were at the scene and where did they come from.

"We are investigating and will submit a report to the commission within a week," he added.

Jewel was beaten up and burnt to death by the mob at Burimari Bazar in Patgram upazila in the district after a rumour about desecrating the Holy Quran inside the mosque spread in the area on Thursday evening.

Jewel, who was from Rangpur, had worked as a librarian at Rangpur Cantonment Public School and College. He had graduated from Dhaka University.

On behalf of his family, police and Burimari Union Parishad filed three cases over the incident. Law enforcers are conducting drives to arrest those involved in it.

Meanwhile, Jewel's family members buried his charred remains at his ancestral home in Pirgachha village yesterday.

A legacy to lean on

FROM PAGE 12
There was a time when doyens like Anisuzzaman, Shamsur Rahman and Syed Shamsul Haque used to write in the Sangbad's literary section, under Hasnat's editorship.

Those who used to read that page back then can still recall Syed Shamsul Haque's column "Writikolomer Tane", which he wrote regularly.

There were so many writers who wrote in the section and Hasnat was the man behind their inspiration. The Kali O Kalom magazine has also been published for the last two decades keeping, maintaining the high standard under his leadership.

While talking about editor of a literary section, the name of Ahsan Habib will come to our mind first. Despite that, the literary pages of the Sangbad under the editorship of Abul Hasnat has occupied a unique

place in our hearts. We can debate over certain things, but in the history of Bangladeshi newspapers, the importance of the Sangbad's literary section will remain and Hasnat will be remembered as its shining star.

All the writers in the country respected his editorial position. He never judged a write-up by the name associated with it but only by the merit of it.

He had many friends in the poet circle like Nirmalendu Goon and he would write poetry under pseudo name Mahmud Al Zaman.

He was a critic of the arts and had many friends in that field. Critical opinion in the field of arts was one of the main features of the Sangbad's literary section. It is said that perhaps different newspapers of the country followed suit.

He has written and edited many books -- "Jyotsna and Durbipak",

"Kono Akdin Bhubandangay", "Steamer City Diye Jay", "Tuku O Somudrer Golpo", "Youddya Diner Dhushor Dupure", "Ranur Dhokha-Bhalobasha", "Rabindra-Chitrakalan", "Muktijudder Golpo", "Haronno Shirir Chabir Khoje" and "Chotoder Abraham Lincoln", and many more.

He was a quiet sort of man but lived his life on his own terms. He always tried to improve on other's literary works and perhaps for that he was never attentive about his own.

Hasnat was also a key organiser of Chhayanaut.

I had an opportunity to travel with him.

It was probably 2007 or 2008 and we were travelling to New York. During the 18-hour long flight, he spoke few words and responded to fewer questions. He was obsessed with the book he was reading.

We went there to attend the two-day seminar. While most of us met friends and relatives during the breaks at the seminar, he was the only person who did not go out.

He was a man of principle his entire life.

Hasnat was buried at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard yesterday afternoon. His namaz-e-janaza was held at the Baitul Aman Mosque in Dhanmondi.

Bangla Academy, Bengal Foundation, Gyantapas Abdur Razzaq Foundation, Jatiya Kobita Parishad, Chhayanaut and Sayamilito Samajik Andolon have condoned the death of Abul Hasnat.

In separate messages, the organisations prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family members.

3 raped in Chattogram, Bagerhat

FROM PAGE 12
Abdul Karim, officer-in-charge of Boalkhali Police Station, said the 35-year-old domestic help worked at Fazal's house at Charkhijirpur. Fazal asked her to come to her house on Friday night in the name of giving her "Tabarak" of Eid-e-Miladunnabi.

"In the kitchen room, the man raped the woman. She called 999 after being freed," said the OC, adding that

police arrested Fazal from his house.

In another incident, the 12-year-old schoolgirl was raped by Shimul Dey, a painter, in Barua Tek Para area on Saturday when she was playing outside her house, said the OC.

The victim's mother filed a case against Shimul in this connection.

OC Karim said both the victims were sent to One-stop Crisis Centre at Chattogram Medical College Hospital

for medical tests.

In Bagerhat, police held stepfather Ebadat Sheikh, 32, after a rape case was lodged by victim's mother with Bagerhat Model Police Station.

Police arrested him in Bhattapratap area of Bagerhat Sadar upazila, said OC of the police station KM Azizul Islam.

According to the case statement, the victim was alone at home on Saturday afternoon as her mother was away.

Private project with state

FROM PAGE 12
minister for the Ministry of Chattogram Hill Tracts Affairs, and his brother-in-law Kwe Shwe Hla, who is also the chairman of BHDC, according to the university's website.

Although the university claimed to be the country's first public-private partnership university on its website, the website of University Grants Commission (UGC) listed it as a private university.

Dr Fakrul Islam, director of Private University Division at UGC, said confirmed The Daily Star that Bandarban University is a private university which has been registered under the Private University Act, 2010.

Visiting the university, this correspondent found that two retaining walls and a drain were already set up cutting hills to construct a dam for the water supply channel.

Asked, Mong Oyai Ching Marna, assistant engineer of the project, said, "BHDC spent Tk 1.35 crore to construct this dam at Sualok union area. Currently, the dam doesn't have enough water but it will be available in future.

"The higher authorities undertook this project considering the water supply channel of Bandarban University."

Asked whether the district council could take up such huge amount project for a private university, ATM Kawsar Hossain, chief executive officer of Bandarban Hill District Council (BHDC), said, "We have taken up this dam project following the approval of the Chattogram hill tracts affairs ministry."

Contacted, SK Mohammad Rezaul Islam, additional secretary (development) of the CHT affairs ministry, said, "I don't know anything about this. I have to know the details."

Chattogram Hill Tracts Affairs Minister Bir Bahadur U Shwe Sing could not be reached after repeated attempts over his phone.

Minister brushes

FROM PAGE 12
According to rights group Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), the number of extrajudicial killings has dropped significantly as only nine such cases were recorded since August.

EDCL ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka- 1208

Local Re-Press Tender Notice

Tender ref.: EDCL(Bogura)/PUR/Microbus/LT/2020/300 **Dated. 01/11/2020**

Purchase of 01 (one) No. Re-Conditioned Microbus for EDCL, Bogura.

Well reputed authorized Microbus dealers/importers are invited for submission of best competitive price offer for supply of following vehicles on urgent basis:

S.L No.	Name of Vehicles	Qty
01.	Toyota Microbus (Re-Conditioned)	01 No.

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited(EDCL), Dhaka on Cash payment basis. Schedule Value Tk. 1,250.00 (Taka. one thousand two hundred fifty) as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The interested bidders may drop their offer along with relevant papers to the tender box kept at the purchase Department of EDCL, till 12.00 PM on 15/11/2020, which will be opened on same day 15/11/2020 at 12.15 PM. Price should be kept valid for 60 (sixty) days from the date of opening of the tender should accompany an earnest money @ 2.5 % through pay order in favour of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka from any Schedule Bank which will be converted as security deposit for the successful Bidder.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

General Manager
Procurement Department
For : Managing Director