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# BANGABANDHU KILLERS

## Suspend their gallantry awards

### HC orders government

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the government to suspend the state gallantry awards for four convicted killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of his family members.

The four are: Nur Chowdhury, Shariful Haque Dalim, Rashed Chowdhury and Moslehuddin Khan.

Nur Chowdhury was awarded the title Bir Bikram, Shariful Haque Dalim Bir Uttam, and Rashed Chowdhury and Moslemuddin Khan were awarded the title Bir Protik for their contributions during the Liberation War in 1971.

The then government had given them the awards in 1973 and also issued a gazette notification to this effect on December 15 of the same year.

According to the gazette notification, seven valiant freedom fighters were awarded the title Bir Shrestha, 68 Bir Uttam, 175 Bir Bikram and 426 were awarded the title Bir Protik for their contributions during the Liberation War.

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Traffic has been single file on Rokeya Sarani in the capital's Mirpur for the last three months since Dhaka Wasa excavated a part of the road for development work. The thoroughfare had already been narrowed down by work on the metro rail project. Rokeya Sarani used to have three lanes a side.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

**'Sheikh Mujib never compromises'**

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman laying the foundation of the National Memorial at Savar on December 16, 1972.

December 16, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

**BANGABANDHU'S VICTORY DAY SPEECH**

Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman reasserts in unambiguous terms today that the trial of war criminals must be held on Bangladesh soil. Addressing a huge crowd at the Suhrawardy Udyan on Victory Day, the prime

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GANG-RAPE IN NOAKHALI

## PBI charges Delwar, 13 others

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) yesterday submitted charge sheet before court against 14 persons in a case filed over gang-rape and torture of a woman in Noakhali's Begumganj upazila.

The charge sheet was submitted to the court of Noakhali Chief Judicial Magistrate Utpal Chowdhury.

Of the accused, two are still on the run, said

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## RECRUITMENT SUSPENSION

# RU will want to know why

### Says VC embroiled in controversy

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR and ARAFAT RAHAMAN

Rajshahi University authorities would want to know from the education ministry the reasons for postponing all kinds of appointments to the university until further notice.

RU Vice Chancellor Prof M Abdus Sobhan yesterday also said he would talk to the media later regarding his steps to relieve Prof Abdul Bari from the post of university registrar.

"We will respond to the orders regarding the recruitment policy," Sobhan said while talking to reporters after a programme on the campus.

He made the comments as the ministry in an order on December 10 postponed all kinds of appointments to RU

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## Bride, 6 others drown in trawler capsized

BSS, Noakhali

At least seven people, including a bride, died after a trawler carrying members of a wedding party capsized in the Meghna river in Noakhali's Hatia yesterday.

"Seven bodies were recovered. However, 20 to 25 wedding guests managed to swim ashore," Tankir Ghat police in-charge Humayun Kabir said.

The incident took place near Kearingchar area around 1:30 when the trawler carrying around 45

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# 'Democracy prevailed'

### Says Biden after Electoral College confirms his win; Putin congratulates

REUTERS, Lansing

President-elect Joe Biden delivered a forceful rebuke on Monday to President Donald Trump's attacks on the legitimacy of his victory, hours after winning the state-by-state Electoral College vote that officially determines the US presidency.

"In this battle for the soul of America, democracy prevailed," Biden said in a prime-time speech from his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware. "Now it's time to turn the page, as we've done throughout our history - to unite, to heal."

Monday's vote, typically a formality, SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

**PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 16**

	Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5:20	12:45	3:45	5:22	7:00
JAMAAT	5:55	1:15	4:00	5:25	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## JOURNO KAJOL PROBE

# HC unhappy with cyber tribunal, IO over delays

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday expressed grave dissatisfaction that neither the investigation officer nor the cyber tribunal has explained the delay in concluding investigations into two cases filed against photojournalist Shafiqul Islam Kajol under the Digital Security Act.

The court had sought explanation in this regard three weeks ago.

Neither the investigation officer nor the cyber tribunal has submitted any report to the HC on whether the investigation officer has taken permission from the cyber tribunal to probe the cases more than 75 days after they were filed, which the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman termed very unfortunate.

Justice Enayetur Rahim said the investigation officer, who appeared

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## ROHINGYA TRAFFICKING NETWORK

# They sell dreams, deliver violence

### AFP investigation reveals operations worth millions

AFP, Cox's Bazar

Auto rickshaws slip easily past barbed-wire checkpoints at the world's biggest refugee camp, their drivers among the smallest players in a complex human trafficking network involving high-seas extortion gangs, corrupt police and drug lords.

Aboard the spluttering rickshaws are small groups of young men, women and children hoping to escape the misery of life with other members of their stateless Rohingya group who are crowded into shanties in Cox's Bazar.

Nineteen-year-old Enamul Hasan was aboard one of the rickshaws early this year, taken to the coast and then by small boat into a bigger fishing vessel anchored in the Bay of Bengal where he joined hundreds of other Rohingyas hoping to reach Malaysia.

"I was told I'd get the opportunity to finish my studies and earn money

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