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Which is true?

The North South University (NSU) in a press release yesterday drew attention to a news item which stated that "Ridoy" was a student of BBA programme at NSU. Ridoy was apprehended at F.H. Hall of Dhaka University for alleged immoral activities and later handed over to police by the DU authorities.

But the NSU claimed, "After a thorough review of records it was determined that no student by this name studies at NSU."

The report published in The Daily Star was based on a DU press release which said Ridoy was a student of NSU.

38 outlaws surrender

PABNA, July 27: Thirty-eight members of different outlawed parties surrendered to police here today, reports UNB.

The activists led by Golam Mostafa Kafil, Atiqul Alam DU Anisur Rahman also laid down 26 arms and 36 ammunition to Additional DIG of Rajshahi Kazi Shafiqullah.

Of them, 22 were from Sarbahara Party, seven from Biplobi Communist Party and the rest from Purbia Banglar Communist Party.

The arms included 13 pipe guns, seven shutter guns, two revolvers and three guns.

Gold seized at ZIA: Purser arrested

By Staff Correspondent

Customs surveillance team seized 59 gold bars worth about Tk 36 lakh at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) Monday night.

According to customs officials, the surveillance team recovered the gold bars which arrived at the airport by a Biman flight from Singapore via Bangkok.

The gold bars each weighing 10 tolas were seized from BFCC car.

Customs at the airport caught one Tosadek Hossain Milan, a Biman purser for his alleged involvement in the smuggling. He was later handed over to Cantonment thana police.

A departmental case was lodged in this connection.

Dhaka to get wheat worth \$27m from WFP

The World Food Programme (WFP) will provide 1,25,040 tons of wheat worth US \$26.91 million (approximately Tk 132 crore) to Bangladesh for implementation of a WFP assisted project, reports UNB.

A letter of understanding to implement the project, Emergency Assistance to Post-flood Rehabilitation and Recovery, was signed in Dhaka yesterday.

ERD Secretary Dr Mashiur Rahman and WFP representative Werner Kiene signed the LoU.

Hemingway sung in city

By Ziaul Karim

Niaz Zaman, Professor and Chairperson, Department of English, Dhaka University chaired the third session with papers from Mahmud Shah Qureshi, Professor and Head of the Department of Language, Communication and Culture, Gono Bishwabidyalay, Tahmina Ahmed, Assistant Professor of English, Dhaka University and Nuzhat Amin, Assistant Professor of English, Dhaka University.

The title of the session was *Hemingway and Gender*. Prof. Qureshi -- who had frequented the places in Paris that Hemingway's book *A Moveable Feast* describes -- gave a rather dull paraphrase of the book; he could have punctuated his personal experiences that certainly would have made it all the more interesting to the audience.

The most interesting piece of the session was undoubtedly

presented by Nuzhat Amin who had argued why she finds herself struggling to plough through Hemingway's works that leave no space for women aesthetics. "His works show male power epitomised in bull fight and hunting and etc."

In her closing remarks, Professor Niaz Zaman put one piercing question -- "What kind of a man is Hemingway who likes women older than him?"

The fourth and the final session was chaired by Fakrul Alam, Professor of English, Dhaka University, with papers coming from Zerin Alam, Assistant professor of English, Dhaka University, Syed Manzoorul Islam, Professor of English, Dhaka University and Rebecca Haque, Associate Professor of English, Dhaka University.

Entitled *Grace Under Pressure*, the session saw a deconstructive reading of Hemingway

from Syed Manzoorul Islam. Quoting from Ludwig Miss Van der Rohe, he showed where the beauty and the strength of Hemingway's prose lies. "His prose can be summed up by the now famous motto less is more."

The United States Information Service, Dhaka Sheraton Hotel and American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh also helped the organisers of the seminar.

It was as intellectually exhilarating and multi-layered and thought-provoking as the great American writer's works are.

The Hemingway Centennial Seminar held yesterday in the city -- organised by the Department of English, Dhaka University, and Bangladesh Association for American Studies -- played an excellent platform for exchange of ideas on the man who wrote *The Old Man*. See page 11 Col 6



Inaugural session of the Hemingway Centennial Seminar at Sheraton Hotel yesterday. —Star photo

Rubel's father cross-examined

By Court Correspondent

Cross-examination of the complainant of the Shamim Reza Rubel murder case started at the Third Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's court yesterday.

On the first day yesterday, the complainant, Rubel's father Abdur Rob made his deposition on the case. The defence lawyers will cross-examine the complainant today.

Ten of the 14 accused in the case including AC Akram, were produced before the court at about 10 am yesterday. The rest four -- SI Nurul Alam, constables Mong She Oen, Abul Kalam Azad and Zakir Hossain, have been absconding since the incident.

Shamim Reza Rubel, 24, a BBA student of the Independent University, was picked up by a team of Detective Branch police from near his Siddheswari residence on July 23 last year and was allegedly tortured to death in custody the same day.

Confinement of Shathi: Showcause on govt

By SC Correspondent

The High Court yesterday directed the government to show cause within two weeks why an order should not be made to produce Shathi and her infant daughter Sahiba of Tanbazar, Narayanganj before the court to prove that they are not being confined illegally.

A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Md Fazlul Karim and Justice Md Ali Asgar Khan passed the order upon a writ petition filed by Khadija Akhtar, mother of Shathi, 'leader' of the inmates of Tanbazar brothel in Narayanganj.

On July 24 at about 4 am, Shathi along with about 400 girls and women were forcibly evicted from the brothel and taken to a government vagrant home at Kashimpur in Gazipur.

It was stated in the petition that Shathi is a daughter of a well-known freedom fighter, Aduluddin, son of Daliluddin of Bagerhat area who after the war

of liberation and upon independence of Bangladesh got embroiled in litigations over his immovable property resulting in lengthy disputes.

His enemies enticed his minor daughter Shathi, brought her to Dhaka and sold for prostitution. She was forced to be a prostitute. She supplemented her father's income with her earnings and contributed to the marriage and education of her brothers and sisters, the petition stated.

It was alleged in the petition that Shathi was beaten and taken to a bus but the authorities did not disclose her whereabouts.

The way Shathi and other sex workers were evicted cannot be called a step for rehabilitation, the petition submitted.

Deputy Attorney General Obaidur Rahman Mustafa on behalf of the government prayed for time upto this morning to explain the position of the government.

After hearing both the sides, the court issued the rule on the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Secretary, Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Children Affairs, Inspector General of Police, Director General of the Department of Social Services, Deputy Commissioner of Narayanganj and the Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali police, Narayanganj.

Advocate Sigma Huda moved for the petitioner.

Corruption charge

CHITTAGONG, July 27: The Bureau of Anti-corruption today filed two cases against four officials of the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) accusing them of misappropriating 484 tonnes of salt worth about Tk 26 lakh, reports UNB.

The accused are Mirza Mohammad Abdullah Abu Robbani, Mohammad Mohsin Ali Mia, Golam Mohiuddin Chowdhury and Arun Roy.

Cabinet meeting today

By Staff Correspondent

Cabinet Meeting which was due to be held yesterday has again been rescheduled for this morning at 9:30 am.

Sources said, the scheduled weekly Cabinet meeting, normally held on Monday, was first rescheduled for Tuesday as the prime minister left for Morocco to attend the funeral of King Hassan. It was again rescheduled for this morning at the request of the prime minister who felt tired after her trip abroad.

Bus bomb kills 7 in Pak-held Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, July 27: A bomb exploded on a bus in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir Tuesday, killing seven people and wounding 25 others, police and witnesses said, reports AP.

The bus, traveling from Rawalpindi to the Kashmir town of Kotli, was destroyed by the blast around 12:20 pm (0620 GMT) near the town of Sehensha, 35 kilometers (21 miles) from its destination.

Local police official Sabir Hussain called it an act of terrorism that he claimed had been carried out by agents of the Indian government.

At least 40 people were aboard the bus. The Associated Press of Pakistan news agency quoted sources as describing the cause of the explosion as a high-intensity bomb. A bomb disposal squad rushed to the scene to collect evidence.

Four people were killed instantly, while three others died en route to hospitals. Several of the injured were hospitalised in critical condition.

Boat capsizes: 3 feared drowned in Meghna

LUXMIPUR, July 27: Three people were feared drowned when a fishing boat capsized in the river Meghna at Kalkini in Ramgati thana here today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the mishap took place at about 1:15 pm when MV Taiyab Shah sank in the river amid high wind.

The missing people are Monir Hossain, Abul Kalam and Giasuddin. The boatmen of another boat in the river rescued 16 people from the spot.

5 hurt in bomb blast in city

At least five people, including two policemen, were injured in a bomb blast in the city's Agargaon area last night, reports UNB.

Police and local people said, some unidentified people hurled the bomb in front of the Broadcasting House of Bangladesh Betar at Agargaon at about 9 pm.

Of the injured, three were rickshawpullers. The injured policemen are identified as constable Mafjuddin and Arshad Ali.

All the injured were sent to Pangu Hospital.

জীবনের জন্য বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি

বাইশতম জাতীয় বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি সপ্তাহ

কেন্দ্রীয় প্রতিযোগিতা ও বিজ্ঞান প্রদর্শনী

উদ্বোধন করবেনঃ **শেখ হাসিনা**

মাননীয় প্রধান মন্ত্রী, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

পুরস্কার বিতরণ করবেনঃ **লেঃ জেনারেল মোহাম্মদ নূর উদ্দীন খান, পিএসসি (অবঃ), এম.পি**

মাননীয় মন্ত্রী, বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়

স্থানঃ ওসমানী স্মৃতি মিলনায়তন

তারিখঃ ২৯ জুলাই - ০১ আগস্ট '৯৯

প্রদর্শনীর সময়ঃ সকাল ৯.০০ - ১.০০ টা ও বিকাল ৩.০০ - ৮.০০ টা

সিনোজিয়ামঃ

একবিংশ শতাব্দীর চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবেলায় বাংলাদেশের বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তির গবেষণা ও ব্যবস্থাপনা

বোলা ৯-০০ টা থেকে ১১-০০ টা

কৃষিক্ষেত্রে শংকর-বীজ প্রযুক্তির প্রয়োগ

বিকাল ৪-০০ টা থেকে সন্ধ্যা ৬-০০ টা

তারিখঃ ৩০ জুলাই, ১৯৯৯

স্থানঃ ওসমানী স্মৃতি মিলনায়তন, ঢাকা

মোঃ হাবিবুর রহমান চৌধুরী

সঙ্গ-সচিব

বাইশতম জাতীয় বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি সপ্তাহ জন্মদায়ক প্রতিষ্ঠান

আপনি আমন্ত্রিত

আয়োজনেঃ বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়ের পক্ষে জাতীয় বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি জাদুঘর

০২-১৬৫৩৫-২৭/৭ ০২-১৩৯১

Anti-govt demonstrations on August 3

From Page 1

She also argued that the people should vote her party to power in the next general elections for a better future of the country.

Painting a bleak picture of the country's economy, she said, "The government has failed to ensure revenue collection. Failing this, it has regularly been borrowing money from the banks to pay salaries of the government officials and employees. As a result, the

businessmen are not getting adequate loans."

She also blasted the government for repeated devaluation of taka and imposing fresh taxes on the people. Awami League was least bothered about the lot of commoners and future of national economy.

Turning to agriculture, Khaleda referred to an election pledge of the ruling AL. "The party had promised people that it would ensure the price of jute

at Tk 500 per maund, but it did not bother to live up to the commitment," she said. "The government has failed to ensure fair price of all agricultural products. The farmers have therefore become unable to pay back agricultural loans in time. They are now exposed to thousands of certificate cases."

The BNP chief also came down heavily on the government for "its plan to sell natural gas to foreign country". "It is

a shame that the government is planning to sell gas to outsiders when millions of farmers in the country cannot get adequate power supply and fertiliser for agricultural production."

She assured the people that BNP, if voted to power again, would utilise the gas reserves for generating electricity and producing fertiliser.

Khaleda also said that the ruling party leaders are busy handing over the country's oil and gas fields to foreign powers only to make money by receiving commissions from foreign companies. "But remember, people are the owners of whatever natural resources we have. So, we won't allow the party to do whatever it loves to do with the national wealth."

On the issue of industrialisation, the opposition leader said that the AL had promised a better future for the industrial workers, but the government has not even formed the Wage Commission to recommend increase in the workers' salaries over the last three years.

Accusing the government of failing to set up new factories, she said hundreds of factories set up during the BNP rule has gradually been closed down.

"The government has opened up borders. As a result, Indian goods are capturing our markets, pushing our factories to a state of destruction. Thus, Hasina's government has made many workers unemployed, instead of improving the lot of the workers."

BNP leader said that the party had promised the nation a peaceful academic atmosphere in the educational institutions. "In a bid to counter our programme, the AL had announced that it would make education of girls free up to twelfth class. In practice, the party has just forgotten the pre-election announcement, while it has turned the education institutions into safe havens for criminals."

Khaleda alleged that the party in power is using the law-enforcing agencies as its front organisations. "Hundreds of BNP leaders and activists including party MPs KM Obaidur Rahman and Alamgir Kabir have been implicated in false cases, while the police ignore crimes committed by AL members."

Criticising the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Treaty, she told the gatherings that there was no peace in the region. "Under the treaty, one-tenth of the country's territory has been handed over to the terrorists. The treaty has downgraded thousands of Bangladeshis living in the areas to second class citizens."

On the Ganges Water Sharing Treaty with India, she said, "We are still deprived of water when necessary."

Others who addressed the rallies included BNP leaders M Saifur Rahman, Anwar Zahid, MK Anwar, Dr Moyeen Khan, Sadeq Hossain Khoka and Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu.



Khaleda Zia, on a "road march", speaks at a public meeting at Moktarpura, Netrokona, yesterday. —Star photo by Sk Enamul Haq

Foreign air travel tax has to be paid while collecting tickets

By Special Correspondent

Airlines and travel agencies will collect Foreign Air Travel Tax (FATT) while issuing tickets to passengers from September 1, a notification by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) has said.

The order came in the wake of a recommendation by the Public Administration Reforms Commission (PARC) which was mentioned by the finance minister in his budget speech in the Jatiya Sangsad on June 10.

The modalities of collection, checking the payment and depositing the taxes were also outlined by the NBR in a Statutory Regulatory Order on July 6, which simplifies the process for airlines and travel agencies.

FATT will be collected by airlines at the time of sale of tickets within Bangladesh to Bangladeshis nationals holding Bangladeshis passports. If the passenger buys the ticket from a

travel agency, the FATT will be collected by the agency and reported to the airlines concerned in the normal sales report.

In case of sale abroad, all airlines will be required to inform their respective head offices about collection of FATT at the time of sale of tickets to passengers holding Bangladeshis passports.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines will take up the matter with the IATA to have the FATT and Embarkation Fee published in the IATA Tariff Books around the world to ensure collection of the tax by the airlines not operating in Bangladesh.

Any airline which carries interline passengers from Dhaka who hold Bangladeshis passports will be responsible for ensuring collection and deposit of FATT as per the procedure given in the circular. Such airlines will make arrangements with their interline

partners.

Transit passengers travelling through Bangladesh will be exempted from payment of FATT.

FAATT if the break of journey is not more than 24 hours. If the transit time is more than 24 hours, Bangladeshis nationals holding Bangladeshis passports will be required to pay FATT.

The tax collected by an airline during a month will be deposited by its office or GSA in Bangladesh with the Bangladesh Bank under the head '1103/0001/0911-Travel Tax' by the 20th of the following month. After depositing the tax amount, a statement will be sent to the Commissioner of Taxes, Tax Zone-1, Dhaka by the 30th of every month. The statement shall have to be authenticated by the Country Manager/Deputy General Manager (revenue) of the airline or by any competent person of the GSA.

IT SEMINAR

The Daily Star and APTECH Computer Education are jointly organizing a seminar titled "Moving Forward with Information Technology."

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- Identify steps to be taken both by the govt and the private sector.
- To give a road map & vision to people who aspire a career in IT

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Speakers: Opinion-leaders and policy-makers from government and private sector.

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Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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