

## National Day for Girl Child today

UNB, Dhaka

The National Day for Girl Child will be observed toady with a fresh vow to raise awareness about the rights of girl children.

The theme of the day is 'Entity of Girl Child: Equality and Security'. Different child rights organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to mark the day.

The Girl Child Advocacy Forum will bring out a procession at 9:30am today from Bangladesh Shishu Academy premises that will end at Jatiya Press Club. Prime Minister's Adviser for Primary and Mass Education Prof Jahanara Begum will lead the procession.

A discussion meeting will be held at the National Press Club at 10:30am.

"The right of girl children to live is now almost ignored and they lack security in our society. Crimes against girl children are on the rise as the laws are not being enforced properly," said Rowshan Jahan, a child rights activist, at a press conference yesterday.

## Vietnamese envoy presents credentials

UNB, Dhaka

The newly appointed Ambassador of Vietnam to Bangladesh Ngo Van Hoa presented his credentials to President Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Welcoming the ambassador, President Iajuddin said Bangladesh and Vietnam have the potentials to increase the volume of bilateral trade.

He mentioned that Vietnam could import pharmaceuticals, jute and jute products, leather, garment accessories and textile materials from Bangladesh.

## Non-eligibles asked to quit Eden College dormitories

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

The Eden College authorities are expelling students unlawfully occupying rooms at the dormitories, following a report published in The Daily Star on September 12.

Although a number of such occupants have left, many of them are still staying at the dormitories, college sources said adding that they are introducing themselves as second-year or third-year resident students.

Some JCD (Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal) leaders, who had been distributing seats in exchange for money at the dormitories, are now trying to do the same by changing the names and academic particulars of the non-eligible students.

The college authorities issued a notice directing the illegal occupants at the dormitories to quit by September 20, but a large number

of them are still staying, sources said.

About 150 first-year students had been given 'allotment' of seats by the JCD leaders of the college unit in violation of rules.

Salina Sultana Nishita, JCD convenor of the college unit, told the Daily Star that she would help the college administration to clear the dormitories of illegal occupants. She admitted that some JCD leaders were engaged in the illegal business of dealing out seats.

Principal of the college Dilara Hafiz said a number of illegal occupants, who had been staying at the dormitories with the support of the JCD leaders, have left.

Those who had been staying in the TV and prayer rooms illegally have been expelled by the college authorities, she said. "We need more dormitories to accommodate

the students," the principal observed.

"I will take necessary steps to evict the students staying illegally at the dormitories of the college," the principal said. "There are complaints against some JCD leaders of the college unit which would be looked into in due course of time," she added.

"We have ousted Nasima Akther Keya, JCD convenor of the college unit, who had been 'selling' dormitory seats and was facing many other charges as well," Dilara said.

The first-year students are not authorised to stay at the halls, as there is shortage of seats, she said.

"To ensure security of the students and eliminate irregularities at the dormitories, we will form a 15-member committee comprising non-political resident students," the principal added.

## Edn minister to attend Unesco confce

UNB, Dhaka

Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk left for Paris on Sunday night to attend the 32nd general conference of Unesco.

An eight-member delegation including the education minister, Science and ICT Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan, Vice-Chancellor of North South University Hafiz GA Siddique and Secretary of Bangladesh National Commission for Unesco Syed Jaglul Pasha will represent Bangladesh in the conference.

The education minister will speak on the general policy and quality improvement in education on October 3-4 and Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan on information, communication technology and society and global development on October 9-10, said an official release.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Fakirapool Government Primary School took out a procession in the city yesterday demanding steps to protect the school from land grabbers.

## Students wary of Shibir's indefinite siege call

CU CORRESPONDENT

Tension gripped Chittagong University (CU) as a faction of students led by Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) enforced an indefinite siege programme on campus demanding cancellation of grading system.

Split into two factions, a group of students wants to shift into new grading system while another allegedly led by the ICS wants revival of previous class system in evaluating answer scripts.

Academic activities at the CU were disrupted yesterday. Striking students put all faculty and administrative buildings under lock and key and brought out several processions on the campus during the second day of the programme. However, administrative activities resumed at 11:00am.

Meanwhile, Chittagong University Teachers Association (CUTA) at an executive committee meeting expressed deep concern at the situation and condemned the siege. The CUTA also urged teachers to boycott today's Academic Council Meeting (ACM) scheduled to discuss the grading system crisis and urged authorities to create

congenial atmosphere on the campus.

Earlier, the faculties submitted separate and, reportedly, conflicting recommendations to the vice-chancellor for revision of grading system.

## Two shops gutted in Sylhet fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two shops were gutted in a devastating fire that broke out in the city's Mohajanpatty area on Sunday night.

The loss is estimated at about Tk 50 lakh.

A crockery shop, PM Brothers, and the godown of Faruque Cloth Store were damaged in the fire that started at around 11.15pm.

The cause of the fire could not be ascertained immediately, but it is suspected that an electrical short circuit sparked off the fire.

The fire also spread to three adjacent houses.

The fire fighters brought the blaze under control after two hours of frantic efforts.

## Three alleged hijackers arrested, autorickshaw recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police recovered a hijacked autorickshaw and arrested three alleged hijackers in less than two hours of the incident from the city on Sunday night.

They hijacked the CNG-run autorickshaw from Chowdhuripara under Chandgaon thana at around 7.30pm.

On information, police in an immediate raid at FIDC area under the same thana arrested the hijackers with the vehicle at around 9.00pm.

They were identified as Md Kafil Uddin, 18, Md Mominul Islam, 28 and Md Wasim, 17.

Police also arrested two alleged frauds involved in a sensational cheating case in the city.

With the help of sub-post office staff, police arrested the two from the post office at around 11.30pm the same day.

They were identified as Md Rashid Ahmad, 27, son of Abdus Sattar of south Brahmandanga under Satkania upazila and Mohammad Ali, 30, son of late Idris of Purba Sholoshahar Baroipara under Chandgaon.

According to sources, the arrested criminals along with other members of thier syndicate recently invited applications offering 'lucrative Jobs' for some four thousand posts through advertisements in local dailies under the false name of Heno Bangladesh.

They grabbed lakhs of taka through postal orders attached with the applications which they collected reportedly bribing the local post office peon, sources said.

They said as the forgery came to light, the concerned sub-post office in a letter appealed to the higher authorities for cancellation of the postal orders addressed to 'Heno Bangladesh'.

The staff of the post office caught the frauds when they went there to collect the postal orders on Sunday night and handed over them to the police.

The other members of the syndicate went into hiding.

## 2,794 killed in nine months

### BHRB report says

UNB, Dhaka

A total of 2,794 people were killed in separate incidents of violence across the country in last nine months.

In the current month alone, 351 people were killed in terrorist incidents all over the country, according to a report released by Bureau of Human Rights Bangladesh (BHRB) yesterday.

Of the total, 421 people were killed in terrorist incidents while 404 died due to repression on women and children.

Besides, 160 women were killed after rape by miscreants and 112 housewives died in dowry related violence. Some 102 people were also killed in inter-party and intra-party conflicts during the period, the reports said.

It also said 126 people were killed in mass beating, 61 in bomb blasts, 58 in police torture, and 37 in Indian BSF firing and 823 in conflicts centring past enmity.

Moreover, 490 were killed in robbery, theft, hijacking and other incidents during the period.