

## Hasina tells BCL

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International Conference Centre.

Her reminder on the BCL's glorious track record came in the wake of reports involving the name of the organisation.

Bangladesh Chhatra League, the student wing of the AL, arranged the discussion in memory of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib.

With BCL President Mahmud Hasan Ripon in the chair, the meeting was also addressed by Dr Abul Barkat and Mamta Latif. BCL General Secretary Mahfuzul Haider Chowdhury Roton moderated the discussion.

Hasina urged all the BCL supporters to be attentive in studying and dedicate themselves to the betterment of the country's people.

"Only a well educated and brave leadership can uphold the glorious history of Chhatra League," she said.

She also laid emphasis on maintaining congenial atmosphere in every educational institution of the country.

The AL president said success of the present government-sponsored Vision 2021 mainly depends on young community of the country, and in this case, BCL can play the most successful role.

She said that to build up a developed Bangladesh, the rural economy would have to be given the top-most priority.

"After examinations, every

## BSF kills 2

STAR REPORT

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) killed two Bangladeshi nationals at Meherpur and Benapole on Sunday and yesterday.

The victims are Ershad Ali alias Engine, 32, a cattle trader of Khalshi village in Benapole, and Sariful Islam, 30, of Ishakhal village in Meherpur.

BSF troops of Angrai camp caught Ershad Ali yesterday at Benapole when he was returning from Bongaon and beat him up and tortured with electric shock that left him dead, BDR sources said.

BDR later recovered the body.

In another incident, BSF shot Sariful Islam dead at Ishakhal border on Sunday. BDF took away the body after the incident.

BSF informed BDR of the incident Sunday night.

A BSF team of Taipur camp at Tehatta thana in Murshidabad opened fire on him when he was crossing the border about 4:30am, BDR sources said.

### DEATH IN ROAD CRASH Pabna students go on rampage

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Pabna

Students of Pabna Edward College went on the rampage following death of a fellow student in a road accident yesterday and damaged at least 40 vehicles.

Salim Reza, a fourth year student of Pabna Edward College, was hit by a Chatmohar-bound bus in front of the college at around 8:30pm on Sunday. He was rushed to Pabna General Hospital where he died yesterday morning.

Hearing the news, students of the college brought out a procession in the town and damaged at least 40 vehicles including passenger buses, private cars and minibuses.

Police dispersed the agitating students and arrested three of them.

Immediately after the incident, transport owners and workers jointly took out a procession in the town demanding punishment to the students who damaged the vehicles. They also put up barricades on different roads, halting traffic in the district headquarters.

In the afternoon, Transport Owners and workers Association called an indefinite transport strike in the district demanding arrest and punishment of the students responsible for damaging vehicles and security of vehicles on all roads in the district.

President of Pabna Motor Owners Association Babi Islam said the transport strike will continue until our demands are met. He claimed that the students damaged at least 60 to 70 vehicles and ransacked a number of shops in the town.

Officer-in-charge (OC) of Pabna Sadar Police Station Md Motiur Rahman said additional police have been at different points of the district headquarters to avert any further incident.

### Himalayas

FROM PAGE 16

covering a total area of 5,310 square kilometres. He also mentioned that since 1964, there had been 13 cases of Glacier Lake.

During his presentation, Andreas Schild, director general of International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal said, "We have to have trans-boundary cooperation to tackle the problem. If we do not know how the climate change is having its impact beyond the edge, it might cause additional concerns in maintaining the ecosystem."

Delegations from Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, and the Maldives and also experts from Kyrgyzstan and Venezuela are attending the conference.

Apart from some government selected and independent experts from Bangladesh, an all-party parliamentary group led by lawmaker Saber Hossain Chowdhury is attending the conference.

Saber Hossain will chair a session today on 'Climate Change Impacts on the Himalayas'.

During the conference, Purushottam Mheghera, joint secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Nepal and chief of the climate change cell, said they are trying to make a united voice of South Asian countries for tabling the international negotiations.

In all other municipalities of other districts the prices have been increased 2.5 times.

The new land prices will remain effective till December 31, 2011, according to a government gazette notification issued on August 25.

## First swine flu

FROM PAGE 1

dengue fever at a private hospital in the capital on August 20 and it became a complicated case, said Prof Mahmudur.

The authorities also said, as per the guidelines of the World Health Organisation, people need not waste time with testing for A (H1N1) since the virus has already spread widely. Rather, they should start symptom management treatments and isolating the patients with symptoms.

However, different hospitals, including some of the hospitals provided with special training by the government, are sending patients to test and confirm swine flu without giving them any cautionary messages or treatment.

Talking to The Daily Star at IEDCR, a resident of Uttara said she sought treatment at Uttara Adhunik Medical College and Hospital Sunday after suffering from flu-like symptoms for three days.

"But after moving me around from one table to another for some time they asked me to test for swine flu. They did not give me any other message or symptomatic treatment," said the lady.

Another woman who went to Bangladesh Medical College had similar complaints. "We are now wasting time in the name of testing instead of getting treatment," she said.

Prof Haider Ali, head of the department of medicine at Uttara Adhunik Medical College, said they received training on dealing with swine flu patients and they have started their work from Sunday.

"A two-bed isolation unit has been set up but we are yet to receive the anti-viral drug," he said, adding that the primary symptoms of swine flu and seasonal flu are common and that is why they cannot start treatment for swine flu without being sure.

He said they set up a separate outdoor section for patients with flu-like symptoms.

Visiting different hospitals in the capital The Daily Star correspondents yesterday found out that wards opened up exclusively for swine flu patients are very hard to locate.

In some hospitals the wards were dirty or locked from the outside.

Doctors and nurses as well as the patients in most government hospitals of the city were seen not wearing masks or gloves as precautionary measures.

The doctors said they have patients with influenza-like symptoms and are taking special care of them. If they suspect anyone to be infected with swine flu, they immediately refer them to the IEDCR.

Midford Hospital: Brig Gen Kamidul Islam Muhammad Iqbal, director of the hospital, told The Daily Star that they have opened a ward with eight beds a week ago. They will increase the number of beds if the flow of patients increases.

He said, "We have received all the necessary equipment from the government to detect swine flu patients and cure them. The doctors and nurses concerned have been trained as well."

However, Health Minister Prof AFM Ruhal Haque at Bangladesh Secretariat told journalists that there is nothing to be panicked about.

"The county has enough stock of the anti-viral drugs and if treatment starts at primary stage, the death risk will be reduced," he said, adding that what is needed most is to maintain personal hygiene and flu etiquette.

"We should cover our mouth while sneezing or coughing. At the same time wearing mask will be helpful to contain the virus," he added.

## Govt to stagger

FROM PAGE 1

Meeting sources said the cabinet decided to direct the city schools to run enough buses for their students.

If the schools are required to make it compulsory for students to take buses instead of private cars, it would help cut tailbacks in areas like Dhamondi, Mohammadpur, Shantinagar and Bailey Road.

Besides, the cabinet discussed introducing a toll system for vehicles using certain roads.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury told The Daily Star that the government is looking to take some innovative measures to tackle the ever-worsening traffic situation.

Among other issues, the cabinet talked about appointing neutral persons as directors of the state-owned commercial banks.

Hasina asked the finance minister about the status of the proposal for forming industrial police. Muhith replied he would sit with the ministry officials soon to okay the proposal.

The prime minister instructed the commerce minister to make the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh more active to keep the prices of essentials stable. She also advised him to watch closely the market situation so the prices do not go further up.

She asked offices not to set the air conditioners below 24 degrees Celsius. She requested the officials to wear shirts and

### TAMING OUTLAWS IGP suggests spl policing in southwest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Nur Mohammad yesterday spelt out 'special policing' in outlaw-infested southwestern region to maintain law and order.

While talking to The Daily Star Senior Consultant-in-Charge Arjun Chandra Dey said they have started a separate outdoor corner Sunday for patients with flu-like symptoms and an average of 10 people with flu-like illness are seeking treatment there everyday.

He also said IDH has a stock of 5,000 anti-viral drugs for treating 500 patients.

Dhaka Medical College and Hospital: A 10-bed isolation ward for swine flu patients has been set up at the administrative block of the hospital but doctors said it would be moved to the second floor soon.

However, they confirmed that an average of 20 patients a day with flu-like symptoms come for treatment at the outdoor section but no patient has been admitted yet.

Suhrawardi Medical College and Hospital: The swine flu ward, which was opened up about a week ago, remains closed after 2:00pm. There were no directions to the ward for patient making the ward extremely difficult to find.

The Daily Star correspondents eventually found the ward around 3:00pm and it seemed dirty to them after having a peek inside through the window.

Patients and their attendants of other wards said the doctors and nurses leave the ward around 2:00pm.

Emergency Medical Officer Anwarul Kadir of the hospital told The Daily Star that they have been instructed to refer the patients they suspect to be infected with swine flu to the Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR).

Dhaka Shishu Hospital: A seven-bed special ward has been opened at the second floor of the hospital. The doctors and nurses of this hospital were seen taking precautionary measures.

The doctors said they have patients with influenza-like symptoms and are taking special care of them. If they suspect anyone to be infected with swine flu, they immediately refer them to the IEDCR.

Midford Hospital: Brig Gen Kamidul Islam Muhammad Iqbal, director of the hospital, told The Daily Star that they have opened a ward with eight beds a week ago. They will increase the number of beds if the flow of patients increases.

He said, "We have received all the necessary equipment from the government to detect swine flu patients and cure them. The doctors and nurses concerned have been trained as well."

However, Health Minister Prof AFM Ruhal Haque at Bangladesh Secretariat told journalists that there is nothing to be panicked about.

"We have collected all the information about the incident and nothing unlawful has been done by police," IGP Nur Mohammad said. A probe committee will also be formed to investigate the matter, he added.

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