



Mother of slain garment worker Beauty Akhter calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Gono Bhavan in the city yesterday. Beauty was allegedly killed and then thrown from the eight-storey factory building of the Vertex Garments Ltd at Kalwala Para on Friday. (Story on Page 16)

# 'Form independent body for reliable population census'

BSS, Dhaka

An independent body is a must for post-enumeration cross-checking of the 5th population and housing census 2011 to get reliable information on population size and household data, the basic prerequisite for all development plans.

Dr Kazi Saleh Ahmed, a member of National Statistics Council, told BSS yesterday that academics and researchers of universities and research organisations, having theoretical and practical knowledge about the issue, could ensure authenticity of the census data.

In the past, he said, different local and international bodies expressed doubts about our census data and some of them even went to the extent of saying that the data was not acceptable.

Dr Kazi, also former vice-chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, said, "We are not the only ones saying this. International agencies who are fund-

ing the census also underscored the importance of involving an independent body during the post-enumeration period to ensure reliability, validity and accuracy of the census data."

Professor of Statistics Department of Dhaka University Dr M Ataharul Islam said, "In every census in the past, we made mistakes by showing three percent or higher variation (more so in urban areas) while finalising the data after enumeration."

This happened as data collectors were asked to crosscheck instead of an independent body for evaluating the strength of the data being enumerated, he said.

Prof Islam is a member of the 14-member expert committee formed by Bangladesh Statistical Council to make the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) more efficient by strengthening its core activities.

About the accuracy of the 2011 census to be held in March, he said that the upcoming census is very important for

Bangladesh for adopting future plans to develop the country.

"I think there is no alternative to having an independent body during post-enumeration checking to get reliable data," he added.

The BBS projection for 2001 to 2051 is based on the assumption that replacement level fertility will be achieved by the year 2011 but experts differ. They are of the opinion that there is no such trend and expressed the hope that if the government puts in extra effort it could be achieved before 2021.

According to the projection of BBS, the total population of the country will reach 15.14 crore by 2011, 17.17 crore by 2021 and 19.60 crore by 2031, 20.65 crore by 2041 and 21.87 crore by 2051.

Population scientist Prof Dr AKM Nurun Nabi said coming census is very much important, as it will work as a database, according to UN world population day theme "everyone counts".

Since the population movement

rate is much higher than natural increase, the question of migration is an important component of the main census questioner. Previous censuses of Bangladesh had questions on migration until '74 and but was later dropped. "As a consequence we don't have a continuity of data as well as missing the link in data between urbanisation and population growth, he said.

Prof Nabi, also the founder chairman of Department of Population Sciences, Dhaka University, said, "We should be careful in formulating the questioner so that this important question is not missed again."

For sustainable development, he said, "We need accurate data to ensure accuracy and the execution of the methodologies must be monitored properly and carefully."

To ensure reliable data, Prof Nabi said, "A monitoring team consisting of statistician, population and social scientists, researchers and academics during post enumeration checking is essential."

# Coordinated plan a must to raise fish production

Says President

UNB, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday emphasised taking a coordinated programme, involving the non-government and voluntary organisations and research institutes to increase fish production in the country.

"It's not the responsibility of the government or its Fisheries Department alone to increase fish production," he said while releasing fish fry at 'Singha Pukur' (Lions Pond) at Bangabhaban, marking the National Fisheries Week-2010 in the city.

Addressing the function, the President said apart from the government organisations, the private agencies, voluntary organisations, research institutes, fish-feed manufacturers, fish hatcheries, farmers of fishes and shrimps and all others involved in fish profession would have to come up with a coordinated programme for increasing fish production.

"I firmly believe that all concerned will come forward and play significant role in increasing fish production."

He mentioned that presently there are some 28 lakh hectares of water bodies in Bangladesh that could be utilised to properly preserve and cultivate the indigenous species of fishes.

Zillur Rahman said apart from increasing

production of indigenous fishes, massive self-employment will have to be created to eradicate poverty of the rural people through taking society-based fish management programme.

He said the countrymen should be encouraged to produce and preserve all species of indigenous fishes to help protect the environment and the bio-diversity.

"For this, extension activities will have to be strengthened along with continuing researches on preservation, reproduction and cultivation of fishes through taking pragmatic action plan."

The President mentioned that the government has enacted the Fish Feed and Animal Feed Act 2010 and the Fish and Shrimp Hatchery Act 2010 with a view to increasing fish production in the country. "I hope, we'll soon see the benefits," he said.

Describing fishes as the main supplier of animal protein, he said the fish sector has been playing important role in earning foreign exchange along with creating employment for the rural people.

President Zillur said, "From time immemorial, fish is included in our regular diet list."

Fisheries and Livestock Minister M Abdul Latif Biswas, Director General of Fisheries and Livestock Department Mahbubur Rahman Khan also spoke on the occasion.



President Zillur Rahman releases fish fry at 'Singha Pukur' at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday, marking the National Fisheries Week-2010.

# 60pc rural children under two have anemia

Says study

UNB, Dhaka

Around 60 percent children under the age of two in rural areas of the country are suffering from anemia, said a study that also uncovered other causes besides iron deficiency for the disorder.

The Child Development Unit of ICDDR,B recently conducted a longitudinal intervention study on iron-deficient anemic children identified from 30 villages of Monohardi upazila of Narsingdi district.

Out of 1,237 children under the age of 2 in the study, 60 percent were found to be anemic but only half the number was suffering due to iron deficiency.

The iron-deficient children responded well to short-term iron intervention but understanding the other causes of anemia is important to deliver effective therapy to prevent this early childhood problem, the study observed.

The study stresses for early intervention by determining other causes of anemia because at a younger stage it affects optimum brain development.

Vitamin A deficiency was also common in the children of the study group and is said to contribute to anemia.

Anemia during early childhood affects the immune system, growth and optimum brain development.

# Two killed in road accidents

METRO DESK

At least two people were killed and 60 others injured in separate road accidents in Netrokona, Satkhira and Barisal.

Our correspondent from Netrokona reports: At least one person was killed and 20 others injured when a Netrokona-bound passenger bus fell into a roadside ditch at Gumai on the Netrokona-Kalmakanda road at around 12:30pm yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Akhter Hossen, 35, of village Ranaga of Kalmakanda upazila.

The seriously injured Mirasher Ma, Abu Mia, Nayan Islam and Keramatullah were sent to Mymensingh Medical Hospital. The other injured were sent to local complex.

The accident occurred when the driver of the bus lost control of the vehicle and it fell into the ditch.

Our correspondent from Satkhira adds: An unidentified woman was killed when a Satkhira-bound bus knocked her down at Binerpota on the Satkhira-Khulna road yesterday.

The victim, about 48 years of age, succumbed to her

injuries on the way.

Officer-in-Charge of the Sadar Police Station Shahjahan confirmed the incident.

A correspondent from Barisal says: At least 40 people were injured in a head-on collision between two passenger buses in Gouranadi on the Dhaka-Barisal highway yesterday.

A Dhaka-bound bus from Barisal collided with a Barisal-bound bus from Faridpur at around noon and fell into roadside ditches, said Sub Inspector of Gouranadi Highway Police Mozammel Hossain.

# Five fake Rab men arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) yesterday arrested five fake RAB members from the city's airport and Tongi on the

outskirt of the city.

Rab-1 officials say the arrestees are Saiful Islam, 40, Nabiul Huq, 45, Shahidul Islam, 29, Abdul Karim, 40, and Abdul

Mannan, 55.

Tipped off, Rab arrested them who had been extorting money from those people in the name of giving them jobs in the Bangladesh Army.



Griha Sramik Odhikar Protisththa Network forms a human chain demanding an end to violence against domestic helps at Shahbag in the city yesterday.

# DSEC announces stipend

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Sub-Editors Council (DSEC) yesterday announced stipend for the children of the council members, said a press release.

The students who have passed the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations in the academic session 2009-2010, will be eligible to apply for the stipend.

The students will have to apply through a selected form provided by the council.

The forms can be collected from Sumon Islam (daily Amar Desh), Mamun Farazi (daily Janokantha), Nasima Akhter Shoma (daily Independent), Mohammad Al-Mamun (daily Ittefaq), Emdad Hossain Bhuiya (daily Jayjaydin), Sakhawat Hossain (Boishakhi Television), and Idris Madrazi (daily Nayadiganta).

The last date for submission of the form is August 10.

**The Core Group Alumni Workshop**  
 Hotel Sheraton, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
 July 24, 2010

Organized by:  
 Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (BICF), Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI)  
 Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), BRAC University and KDI School of Public Policy and Management

PHOTO: COURTESY BY BEI

BEI President Farooq Sobhan speaks at a Core Group Alumni (CGA) workshop at Hotel Sheraton in the city on Saturday. Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (BICF), Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI), Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), BRAC University and KDI School of Public Policy and Management organised the workshop. SME Foundation Chairman Aftab Ul Islam was present at the workshop as the chief guest and Laura Anne Watson, programme manager of BICF IFC, was the special guest.

**Stylish Homes @ Gulshan**

Experience an intimate escape in a private world of your own...

0173 002 0499  
0173 002 0433

**Bay**  
The Art of Life

baydevelopments.com

**STAMFORD UNIVERSITY BANGLADESH**  
 Education for tomorrow's world... Admission Fall 2010

Join **MBA**  
 Get smart and be a leader in your profession

Membership of International Accreditation Bodies:  
 AACSB, Association of Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, Kansas, USA

Specialization Areas:  
 ★ Finance  
 ★ Marketing  
 ★ Accounting  
 ★ Management  
 ★ Human Resource Management  
 ★ Bank Management  
 ★ Management Information System

Mode of Study:  
 Full Time & Part Time

Class Time:  
 ★ Evening Class (from 6:30 p.m.)

Do You Know?  
 One of the top 1000 business schools of the world and awarded Certificate of Palms  
 Ref: Eduniversal, Paris www.eduniversal.com

Graded as one of the top universities in Bangladesh by govt.  
 Special batch for students with BBA background

Last Date of Application: August 02, 2010  
 Admission Test: August 06, 2010

Contact Address:  
**Head Office & Dhanmondi Campus**  
 744, Satmosjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka  
 Tel: 9124161, 8156122, 8153168, 9124569, 8119623  
 (Ext - 118, 119, 124, 125, 126, 127 & 128)  
 Mobile: 01713082402, 01675694482, 01675694483  
 E-mail: admission@stamforduniversity.edu.bd, Web Page: www.stamforduniversity.edu.bd

**Siddeswari Campus**  
 51, Siddeswari Road, Dhaka  
 Tel: 8355626, 8355596, 8354577, 8355512-13  
 (Ext - 114, 116, 119, 121, & 122)  
 Mobile: 01937082093, 01937085783