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A group of BCL activists from Dhaka University Jagannath Hall vandalise idols at Ramna Kali Mandir in the city early yesterday.

Ramna Kali Mandir idols ransacked

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) men from Dhaka University (DU) Jagannath Hall vandalised two idols and shops at Ramna Kali Mandir in the city early yesterday over taking control of the shops.

Police arrested three BCL activists in this connection.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Shahbagh Police Station Rezaul Karim said some 70 to 80 BCL activists of Utpal Shah group from the dormitory of the DU minority students, damaged two shops and heads of two idols inside the temple around 12:30am.

Hearing the incident, Shahbagh police rushed in and arrested Ananato Bhowmic, a first-year student of Sankskrita department and Prakash, a master's student of the same department, and Rimon Biswas, a second year student of the Institute of Social Welfare and Research of DU.

Campus sources said activists of Utpal Shaha group ransacked the shops owned by BCL central committee leader Hemonta Bepari and his friend Bipul. Utpal is an organising secretary of the temple maintenance committee.

OC Rezaul said Utpal group launched the attack over a conflict between him and Pankaj over getting posts in the temple maintenance committee, setting up the shops there and spreading unilateral hegemony in the temple area ahead of Kali Puja.

Talks with Pakistan begin today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The fifth round of Bangladesh-Pakistan foreign secretary-level annual bilateral consultations will begin in Islamabad today.

Foreign office sources said Foreign Secretary Mohamed Mijarul Quayes left Dhaka on Saturday to attend the two-day meeting with his Pakistan counterpart Salman Bashir.

Bangladesh will reiterate the issues of Pakistan's apology for the 1971 genocide, repatriation of stranded Pakistanis and sharing of assets. Foreign ministry sources said Bangladesh expects an apology

from Pakistan for the atrocities during the War of Liberation in The consultation to be an ice-melting meeting for the bilateral ties, as the foreign secretaries are meeting for the first time

since the Awami League-led grand alliance government assumed office in January 2009, they added. Diplomatic sources said Dhaka believes a formal apology from Pakistan will be helpful in strengthening the bilateral ties

and in carrying out the current trial of 'crimes against humanity'

of the collaborators of Pakistani troops. Mijarul Quayes is also expected to pay courtesy calls on the Pakistan president, prime minister and foreign minister.

Officials said discussions between the two countries will focus on a wide range of subjects of mutual importance, and regional and global interests. The last round of consultations was held in Dhaka in 2007.

Bilateral trade would also largely feature the talks and Bangladesh is optimistic that Islamabad would offer duty-free access to more of its products the way Bangladeshi jute and tea were treated. Besides, Bangladesh would ask Pakistan to reduce the nega-

tive list of goods under the South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA), to establish the Karachi-Chittagong direct sea link and to increase the frequency of flights between the two countries. Both Bangladesh and Pakistan enjoys cordial relations,

which are based on mutual respect, common religion, history and culture. The meeting will be culminated with the issuance of a joint statement, officials added.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



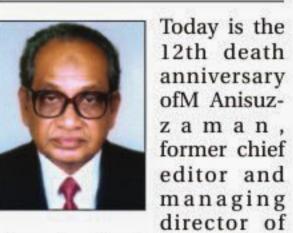
anniversary of National Prof Dewan Mohammad Azraf, says a press

Today is the 11th death

release.

On the occasion, doa and milad mahfils will be held in Dhaka, Sylhet and Sunamganj districts.

M Anisuzzaman STAFF CORRESPONDENT

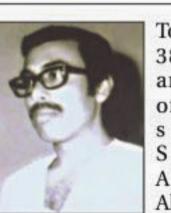


anniversary ofM Anisuzzaman, former chief editor and managing director of

Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS).

On the occasion, relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Sardar Alauddin Ahmed STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 38th death of eminent singer Sardar Alauddin Ahmed. On the occasion, Sardar

Alauddin Ahmed Smriti Sangsad will place wreaths at his Ajimpur graveyard followed by a milad mahfil at his residence after Maghrib prayers, says a press release.

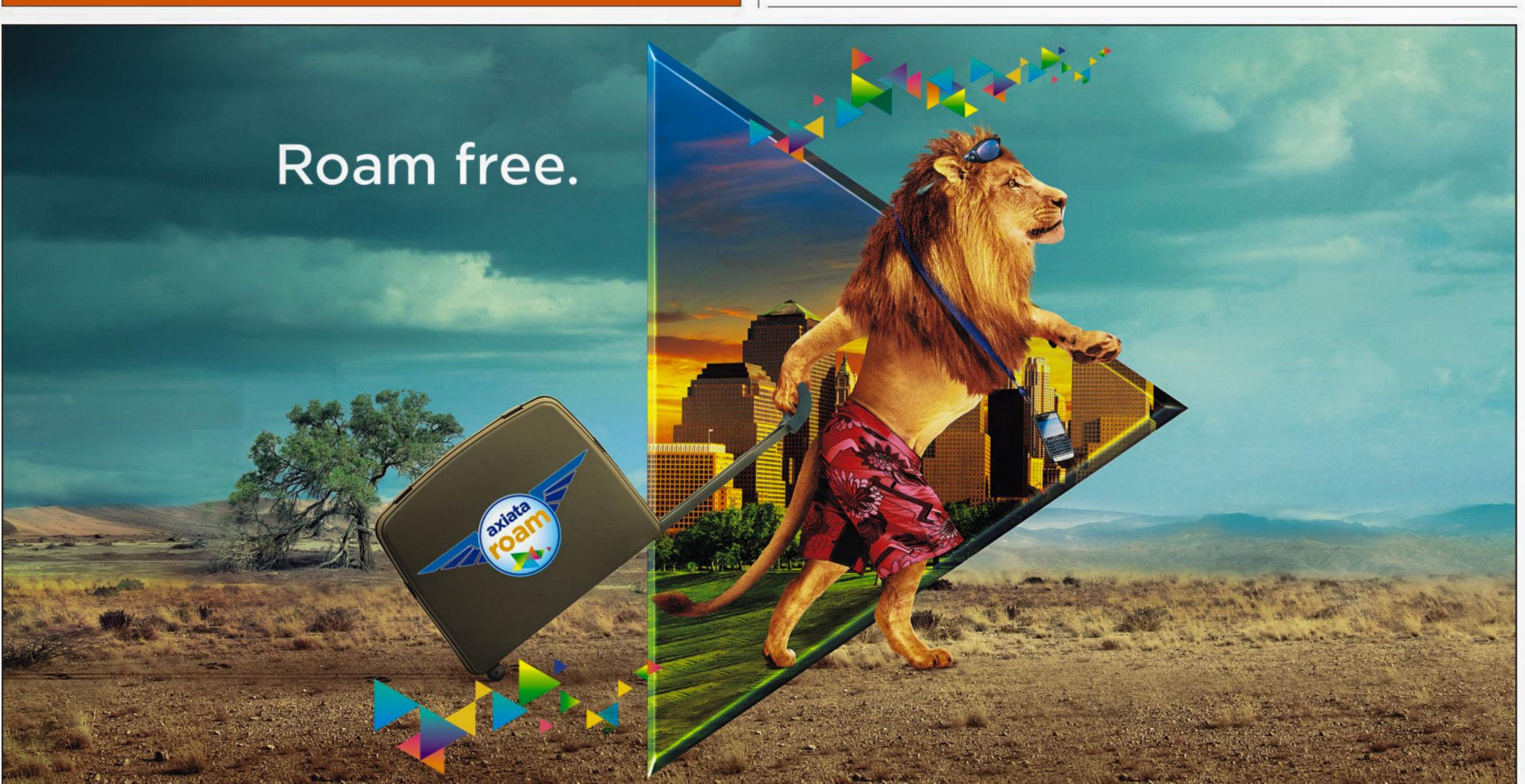
A children's drawing competition will also be organised at the Mohammadpur branch of Sargam Lalitakala Academy on November 5.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Aleya Begum, grandmother of Mukul Talukder, senior sub-editor of The Daily Amar Desh and president of Dhaka Sub-Editors Council, passed away due to old age complications yesterday at the age of 91.

She was buried at her village in Shouldubi of Faridpur district, says a press release.



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