

Enayet Karim made Ecosoc consultant

BSS, Dhaka

Enayet Karim, editor of the weekly The Industry, has been appointed honorary consultant of United Nations Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc).

Also president of Global Economist Forum, he will advise the UN-funded projects on socio-economic development across the world, especially in the developing nations.

Enayet Karim, an economic expert, authored capital, asset, management, earning, liquidity and market sensitivity (CAMELS) rating theory book which is recognised by the World Bank and selected as textbook in different universities abroad.



Upazila chairmen and vice-chairmen from across the country stage a mass hunger strike at Muktagong in the city yesterday with a host of demands. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR

IMAM MURDER

Three arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) police early yesterday arrested three people in connection with the murder of head imam Hafez Mohammad Ishaque of Police Officers' Quarter Jame Mosque.

Ishaque's shackle tied decomposed body was found in an apartment at Shewrapara in the city on January 1.

DB arrested Bayejit Kazi, 42, from Gopinathpur in Kazipara of Gopalganj district; Nazim Uddin, 40, from city's Nayapaltan area; and Uzzal, 21, from Noorer chala of city's Badda area and produced them at a press briefing yesterday.

DB claimed that Ishaque had a feud with his cousin Haji Abdur Rahim while acting as an arbitrator to dissolve a problem between Rahim and another cousin Ilias over the ownership of a salt processing factory two years back.

Rahim, an expatriate of Malaysia, masterminded the killing and hired professional killers for the job, DB claimed.

Police claimed that all arrestees were professionals and they confessed to commit the murder during primary interrogation.

Senior Assistant Commissioner of DB Mohammad Shahidullah, after the press briefing, told The Daily Star that on December 20, Bayzid brought Ishaque to the house, which he rented on December 6 for the murder, to perform milad. Ishaque's brother Mohammad Shuaib told the correspondent that Rahim bought the factory at Potia of Chittagong from Ilias for Tk 1 crore 35 lakh three years ago.

TITAS GAS FIELD

Govt will survey to find out cause of leakage

BSS, Dhaka

Petrobangla will soon start a survey in Titas gas field to figure out the prime cause of gas seepage from the country's largest gas field, says an official.

"We are engaging international consultant to identify the root cause of the seepage of Titas," said Petrobangla Chairman Hossain Monsur.

"We are also trying to engage our local consultants here." The government allocated about Tk 10 crore for this survey, he added.

According to local experts, Titas gas field started facing serious trouble in 2005, but the authority has taken any adequate action as yet.

In 2008, Bangladesh Gas Field Company Ltd (BGFCL) completed a \$10.2m project for sealing the troubled well (No 3) to stop gas leakage.

But it was partially successful to 'kill' well No 3 to save the precious substance from

going up into the air every day.

Titas has 16 wells with 14 currently in operation. Well No 3 was killed in January 2008 and production has been suspended at well No 14 for water onrush.

Geologists assume that Titas field loses one to five million cubic feet gas every day since start of the leakage. The field supplied 4 trillion cubic feet gas in last 40 years.

The authorities did not take any effective measure to stop the leakage, they observed. The gas from the field still accounts for about 22 per cent of national production.

The non-stop leakage of gas from Titas field has been continuing unabated for the last five years. All efforts to contain it have gone in vain.

According to BGFCL, gas was leaking through more than 3,000 big holes, including ones with some 30-foot diameter.

The gas was spreading to paddy fields, water bodies, and the Titas river. Gas being spewed through some holes is burning with leaping flames.

Orientation for NSU freshers held

METRO DESK

North South University (NSU) yesterday held orientation ceremony for its newly enrolled undergraduate students of Spring 2011 semester on its campus in Bashundhara.

The students are from the departments of BBA, economics, environment, architecture, English, computer science, computer engineering, computer science and engineering, ETE, EEE, microbiology, pharmacy and biochemistry.

NSU Foundation Chairman Azim Uddin Ahmed was present as the chief guest with Vice Chancellor Dr Hafiz GA Siddiqi in the chair.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muhammad Yamin, a businessman and brother-in-law of CPB General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim, passed away at a hospital in the city on Friday at the age of 78, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, one son and three daughters. He was buried at his village home at Khalishadah of Bonwarinagar in Pabna after his third namaz-e-janaza.

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

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 12th death anniversary of SM Imam Uddin, a freedom fighter, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at his village at Matlab in Chandpur.

Imam Uddin took part in the War of Liberation under the sector commander Major Jalil and was injured in the war.



North South University Foundation Chairman Azim Uddin Ahmed speaks at an orientation ceremony of Spring 2011 semester on NSU campus in city's Bashundhara yesterday.

PHOTO: COURTESY NSU

2001 ELECTION

Probe report by Jan 25

BSS, Dhaka

The probe commission on post-poll repression in 2001 has finalised its report and will submit it by January 25.

Probe commission chief and former district and sessions judge Muhammad Shahabuddin said this to BSS yesterday.

He said after the 8th parliamentary elections on October 1 in 2001, there were incidents of violence and repression on the opposition activists in different parts of the country.

Govt plans to dredge 53 water routes

UNB, Dhaka

The government has undertaken a plan of Tk 11,500 crore for capital dredging in 53 river routes to ensure smooth water communication across the country.

"With implementation of the plan, the country's rivers will get back the lost glory," said Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan.

"It will become very easy to carry passengers and goods through the water routes," he said while addressing a national workshop at LGED Bhaban in the city yesterday.

The daylong workshop is titled "Sustainability of Mongla-Ghasiakhal Navigation Route and Dredging Problem".

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) and Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) jointly organised it.

Cases against Milon false Says Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday demanded withdrawal of cases filed against former state minister for education Ehsanul Haque Milon and his immediate release, terming the cases as 'false and fabricated'.

BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir was addressing a press conference at the party's central office at Naya Paltan in the city.

Milon's wife Naz-munnahar Babu and daughter Tanjida Nahar Haque were also present at the conference.

Fakhru said Milon's arrest on false cases and detention for the last 11 months is a clear violation of human rights.

Fakhru claimed that complainant of the case, filed with Kachua Police Station, is a fugitive accused of assaulting an AC land in Kachua.

DHAKA TODAY

Human chain
Bangladesh Shipping Workers Federation will form a human chain. Venue: In front of National Press Club, Time: 3:30pm.

Discussion
Economic Reporters Forum will organise a discussion. Venue: National Press Club, Time: 10:30am.

Public lecture
Journalism Training and Research Initiative will arrange a public lecture. Venue: Level-12, T K Bhaban, Karwan

Students ransack buses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five bus passengers were injured, one of them critically, as some students vandalised several vehicles following a dispute with transport workers at the city's Banani yesterday.

Mohammad Sumon, 21, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with critical head injury. Police picked up three transport workers after the incident.

Gulshan police said some transport workers assaulted a private university student following an argument over boarding a bus of Dhaka Paribahan around 12:45pm.

Shortly afterwards, 60 to 70 fellow students swooped on the buses at Kakoli intersection with sticks and bricks, vandalising at least eight vehicles.

Mohammad Adnan, a student of BAF Shaheen College, got the injured to DMCH but did not disclose the university's name.

Rokeya Hall reunion held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former students of Rokeya Hall, one of the oldest female dormitories of Dhaka University (DU), gathered at the hall grounds yesterday for the first reunion ceremony of its alumni association.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique inaugurated the daylong celebration in the morning after which present and former hall members brought out a colourful procession marching various campus streets.

The association honoured three late students of the dormitory, Prof Akhter Imam, Prof Nilima Ibrahim and Prof Noorunnahar Fyzenessa, who subsequently served as hall provosts, for their role in the dorm and society.

Prof Noorunnahar's daughter Sadya Afreen Mallick received the crest of honour while Prof Nilima's daughter Riti Ibrahim received her mother's.

Hall authorities will preserve Prof Akhter's crest, as none of her relatives were present.

National Prof Kabir Chowdhury graced the inaugural session as the chief guest while first vice-president of Rokeya Hall Students' Union Protiva Mutsuddi was the special guest.

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