

## NEWS IN brief

## More eminent citizens stand by Prof Yunus

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Twelve distinguished personalities in a statement here yesterday said some quarters are expressing and publishing opinions and news about Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus, which do not focus the truth.

They said that it seems the quarter is out to damage the image of Dr Yunus who in his long life has done many welfare activities for poor people in the country.

Everyman may have different opinions on the activities of Prof Yunus, but the opinions given by the quarters are destroying the country's reputation across the world, they added. They also said there is no scope to raise any question after the Norwegian government's opinion on the matter.

The eminent persons are: East Delta University Vice Chancellor (VC) Sikandar Khan, Prof Dr Moinul Islam of Economics department of Chittagong University (CU), Prof Mahfujul Hoque Chowdhury of Political Science of CU, former CUVC Abdul Mannan, writer Fahmida Amin, women leader and writer Begum Mustari Safi, ULAB University Prof Mohit-ul-Alam, journalist Abul Momen, Chittagong Press Club President Abu Sufian, Chittagong District Lawyers' Association President Salehuddin Haider Siddique, and freedom fighter Farooque-e-Azam Bir Pratik.

## 8 language veterans honoured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eight Language Movement veterans were honoured by a weekly newspaper, Shamodhara, at a city hotel marking its first anniversary yesterday.

Language veterans Dr Abdul Matin, Dr Mustafa Nurul Islam, Prof MA Mannan, Prof Mirza Azharul Islam, Dr Jasim Uddin Ahmed, Md Lutfar Rahman, Prof Mirza Mazharul Islam, Sabir Ahmed Chowdhury and Rawshan Ara Bacchu received crests of honour by former chief justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim.

## Call to resist stalking

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a debate programme yesterday urged people of all strata to come forward to resist stalking and stressed the need for implementation of existing law and family awareness regarding the offence.

They made the call at the final round of inter-departmental debate competition organised by Victoria Government College Debate Society of Comilla at the college auditorium, says a press release.

## Housewife 'forced' to drink poison after torture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife was beaten up and forced to drink poison allegedly by her in-laws in the city's Badday yesterday.

The in-laws also made her clasp tight some pills to convince others as if she were trying to kill herself.

The victim, Nabila Nusrat Leena, 22, wife of Saudi expatriate Arifur Rahman Sohel, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday.

Nabila told The Daily Star that on October 9 last year, her parents-in-law drove her away from their house but kept Nausheen, her six-month-old daughter, with them.

The local ward councillor along with others took her back to the house yesterday after 'settlements'. As soon as he left, they began torturing her, she alleged.

Nabila said Arifur kidnapped her from in front of Uttar Badda Model High School when she was a student of class VIII seven years ago and married her performing Islamic rituals but with no registration.

Her in-laws did not accept the marriage, but she stayed with them following arbitrations, she said.

Neela said her husband, in Saudi Arabia since 2007, and in-laws now want to keep only Nausheen with them.

Ward Councillor MA Qayyum told The Daily Star that her in-laws were humiliating Nabila for long and urged to settle the matter legally.

Badda police said they heard the incident and would take action after any complaint is filed.

## WEATHER TODAY

## Slight rise in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country during late till morning, Met Office said.

Night temperature may rise slightly over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:00pm and rises tomorrow at 6:22am.

Country's highest temperature 32.2 degree Celsius was recorded today at Sitakunda and lowest 12.9 degrees at Chaudanga.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage		
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.7	19.6	52	30
Chittagong	30.3	16.8	62	52
Rajshahi	30.0	14.0	69	51
Rangpur	29.2	17.0	76	49
Khulna	30.5	15.0	62	56
Barisal	30.5	13.6	66	51

## Govt plans another seaport: PM

## Six more marine academies on cards

Bss, Chittagong

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government has a plan to construct a seaport in between Barguna and Patuakhali to handle the growing external trade, apart from building a deep-sea port in Chittagong.

She said this while laying the foundation stone of Sheikh Mujib Maritime University under the "Enhancing Marine Academy into Maritime University" project at a cost of Tk 260 crore on Marine Academy premises in Chittagong.

About maritime boundary, she said Bangladesh had lodged its submission formally to the United Nations on Friday claiming an area of over 400 nautical miles in the seabed of the Bay of Bengal. Foreign Minister Dipu Moni who is now in the USA made the submission, she added.

The maritime university, which will be established as a regional university in South Asia, will start its academic activities in 2013. It aims at meeting the growing demand of skilled marine human resources home and abroad.

Sheikh Hasina said her government has taken steps to set up six more marine acad-

mies in Barisal, Khulna, Pabna, Rangpur, Narayanganj, and Sylhet at a cost of about Tk 800 crore. She said the government is also procuring full-mission deck bridge simulator and full-mission engine control simulator for Marine Academy that costs about Tk 80 crore under another programme.

Hasina said the university will provide masters, M Phil, and PhD degrees on ship building engineering, shipping management, international and national maritime transportation, and maritime laws.

Earlier, the prime minister attended the Cadet Graduation Parade of 45th batch of Bangladesh Marine Academy and distributed special merit awards of the academy to the cadets for their outstanding performances.

She said the government has so far raised the number of trainee cadets in the academy to 200 from 100 and has a plan to further raise the number to 500.

She also watched a spectacular march past and took salute of the graduating cadets.

On her arrival on the Marine Academy premises, the prime minister was received by the shipping minister and the commandant of the academy.



PHOTO: PMO  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Cadet Graduation Parade of 45th batch of Bangladesh Marine Academy on the academy premises in Chittagong yesterday.

## Obituary

METRO DESK



Shahed Nomani, chairman of Financial Excellence Ltd and former managing director of Dhaka Bank, passed away at his house in Dhanmondi on Thursday due to cardiac arrest at the age of 60, says a press release.

He was buried the next day at his family graveyard in Azimpur. He left behind his wife and two sons. Kulhwani of Nomani will be held at his residence after Asr prayers tomorrow.

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