

## NEWS IN *brief*

### Egg-carrying Hilsa seized

CU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Coast Guard (East Zone) members seized 3,400 kilogrammes of Hilsa, mostly females carrying eggs, worth around Tk 10.2 lakh, from Kumira in Chittagong early yesterday.

Acting on a tip-off, the members from CG outpost in Mirsarai upazila conducted a drive at Kumira-Sandwip Ghat area around 3:00am and recovered the fish, which were later auctioned, says a coast guard press release.

### Assoc fined for hill cutting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Department of Environment (DoE) yesterday fined Badarkhali Cooperative, Agriculture and Colony Association Tk 5 lakh for illegally cutting North Nalbila Hill of Maheshkhali upazila in Cox's Bazar and destroying the surrounding environment.

On Thursday last, a DoE team conducted a drive on the hill and seized two of the association's excavators, being used in cutting the hill. They also directed to stop all work in the area, says a press release.

The association's general secretary and other officials were directed to appear at DoE's Dhaka office yesterday where the fine was handed down.

### Mugger shot in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police shot a mugger in the leg during a shootout with his gang at Gulshan-2 in the capital yesterday.

The injured, Akhter Hossain, 35, is now admitted to National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation under police guard. A revolver and three bullets were recovered from his possession, said Md Shahalam, officer-in-charge of Gulshan Police Station.

Three muggers riding a motorcycle tried to snatch cash and mobile phone from a man on Road-34 at Gulshan-2 around 4:45am. As the man shouted for help, some locals going to mosque for Fazr prayers went to his rescue, and the gang took flight, the OC added.

The fleeing muggers were signalled to stop at a checkpoint on the Gulshan Link Road. As they tried to speed away, the cops opened fire on them, leading to a firefight.

At one point, Akhter, who was riding pillion on the motorbike, was hit in the left leg and fell over. The rest of the gang, however, managed to flee.

Akhter is a member of notorious "Manik Group". He stands accused in at least a dozen cases of mugging with Gulshan Police Station, said the OC.

Earlier on October 10, police caught Manik from Dohar.



This dark substance from a can shows the kind of effluent released by Pakiza Dyeing and Printing Industries in Chhotoboli (Mehr) and ending up in rivers and wetlands of Savar. DoE fined the industry Tk 35 lakh. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Biodiversity festival begins in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A three-day biodiversity festival kicked off in Chittagong city yesterday, featuring quiz competition, painting exhibition, and film screening centering on the theme.

Alliance Française de Chittagong and its Club Biodiversity in association with The Daily Star organised the Chittagong Biodiversity Festival 2011 in its auditorium.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher, The Daily Star, inaugurated the festival as the chief guest, with Alliance Française de Chittagong Director Samuel Berthet welcoming the guests.

Abul Momen, resident editor, the daily Prothom Alo; Somnath Ghoshe, assistant high commissioner of India; Claudio Cambon and Georgia Guldán, teachers, Asian University for Women (AUW); and Alam Khorshed, director, Bishad Bangla, attended the inaugural ceremony.

Addressing the programme, Mahfuz Anam said although human beings are part of the nature, they have now become the cause of its destruction.

"Human beings use it, dominate it, and destroy it", he said, adding that only people's

*The first day of the festival was marked by an exhibition of 153 paintings on landscapes, deforestation, and nature by students of four institutions*

awareness could save biodiversity from destruction.

The first day of the festival was marked by an exhibition of 153 paintings on landscapes, deforestation, and nature by students of four institutions--Little Jewels School, Chittagong Grammar School, Fulki, and Dr Khastagir Girls' High School.

Organisers said the second day will feature presentation and discussion on "How to address biodiversity with the photo media" and screening of a film titled "Baraka".

The third day will feature a screening of "Le Vieil Homme Qui Plantait Des Arbres" and award giving ceremony for the quiz and art competition.

## DU BCL activist found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of an activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League of Dhaka University unit from his Azimpur residence in the city yesterday.

Pronob Dasgupta Bablu, 29, was a senior BCL activist of Jagannath Hall and was a president candidate of the hall unit.

Friends and fellows said unknown miscreants with help of his wife might have killed Bablu while police suspected that he might have committed suicide following family feud.

Sub-inspector Tariqul Islam of Lalbagh Police Station told this correspondent, "We found the body hanging from an window grill with his neck tied with bed sheets".

The deceased's wife, Farah Binte Rashid alias Arpa, told police that they engaged in a quarrel after her mobile phone rang with several calls in early hours of yesterday.

Around 4:00am, they went to sleep in separate rooms, she said, adding that she found Bablu's room locked around 11:00am. As she unlocked the door with an alternative key, she found him dead, said Arpa.

Arpa, a City College student, married Bablu about six months ago, said police.

Bablu's friend Pankaj Baroi claimed that Arpa had had a number of boyfriends even after marriage. He said, "How can a man hang himself with a four-foot high window. Bablu's legs were on the ground while the body was tied to the window".

Bablu, hailing from Laksham, Comilla, was a student of physics.

Police sent the body to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

## Pakiza Dyeing fined Tk 35 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The environment department yesterday penalised a renowned textile dyeing industry Tk 35 lakh for releasing untreated chemical wastes into the river and wetland in Savar.

A team of Department of Environment (DoE) found that Pakiza Dyeing and Printing Industries in Chhotoboli (Mehr) was releasing untreated liquid waste onto nearby land with a bypass drain keeping the outlet of the effluent treatment plant (ETP) shut, said DoE Director Mohammad Munir Chowdhury.

Moreover, he said, several serious defects were detected in the ETP.

An on-the-spot examination revealed that dissolved oxygen in the liquid waste was much lower than the required level, he said.

The industry authorities, however, claimed that the incident of untreated wastes through a bypass disposal line was due to a leakage, DoE sources said.

The DoE authorities ordered the closure of the bypass line within 24 hours and rectification of the ETP within a week.

Munir said the river Bangshai and Bagair wetland were victims of pollution due to chemicals released by the dyeing industry and the pollution has destroyed fish resources in the wetland.

Earlier, the DoE detected the incidents of release of wastes by the industry several times since 1993 and its gas and electricity connections were cut off in 2007 for the offence, he said.

Around 50,000 yards of cloths are printed at the industry a day.

## Ex-Sylhet JP chief joins BNP

UNB, Dhaka

Former Jatiya Party leader of Sylhet district Kunu Mia joined BNP last night expressing support to the 19-point programme of the party.

Kunu Mia, former president of Sylhet district JP, and his associates formally joined the BNP presenting bouquet to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at her Gulshan office.



### Discussion

Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) will hold a discussion. Time: 3:00pm. Venue: BSTI auditorium.

### Regional conference

UNDP will hold the inauguration of a three-day regional conference. Time: 4:30pm. Venue: Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

### Seminar

Department of Livestock Services will organise a seminar. Time: 2:30pm. Venue: Ruposhi Bangla Hotel.

### Discussion

Bangladesh Visually Impaired People's Society will hold a discussion. Time: 4:00pm. Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity.

### Policy Dialogue

ActionAid Bangladesh will hold a policy dialogue. Time: 2:00pm. Venue: Cirdap Conference Hall.

### Seminar

Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) will hold a seminar. Time: 6:00pm. Venue: IEB building (old).

### International Conference

Bangladesh Association of Psychiatrists will organise the inauguration of an international conference. Time: 10:00am. Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

### Discussion

Oxfam will organise a discussion. Time: 10:30am. Venue: Daffodil University.

### Seminar


Ministry of Agriculture will organise a seminar. Time: 10:00am. Venue: Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council.

### Programme

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) will organise a programme. Time: 9:15am. Venue: Shaheed Dr Milon Hall, BSMMU.

### Discussion

Supra will organise a discussion. Time: 3:00pm. Venue: Jatiya Press Club.



## WEATHER TODAY

### No change in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

**The sun sets in the capital at 5:32pm today and rises at 5:57am tomorrow.**

Country's highest temperature 35.4 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 22.2 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

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	34.4	24.7	63	56
Chittagong	32.2	25.0	76	80
Rajshahi	34.0	23.6	76	78
Rangpur	32.8	23.8	80	73
Khulna	34.5	26.0	81	80
Barisal	32.5	24.5	81	88
Sylhet	33.2	24.0	76	76
Cox's Bazar	33.5	24.5	69	83



Visually impaired children take part in a procession at Agargaon in the city yesterday organised by Ministry of Social Welfare and some social organisations marking White Cane Safety Day.

PHOTO: STAR

## Rajuk drive in Gulshan Oct 18

BSS, Dhaka

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) will demolish the unapproved and illegal portions of buildings at two plots in the city's Gulshan area on October 18.

"We have served the notices on Golam Mowla, owners of Plot 18/c on Road 106 and Abdul Hai Sarkar, owner of Plot 26 on Road 104 and they failed to maintain the Rajuk orders," authorised officer M Shafiqul Islam said yesterday.

The monitoring committee at a meeting at Rajuk Mohakhali office yesterday decided to demolish the illegal portions of the two installations and asked the law enforcement agencies to deploy the force to maintain law and order.

Rajuk monitoring teams for different city areas were formed comprising of representatives of different professional bodies including Rehab and land developers to stop illegal constructions in the city.

Shafiqul, member secretary of the monitoring team, said they have served notices giving one week's time on the owners of holding numbers Gha-182, 183, Ta-173/2, Ta-199, Gha-182 and 1839 along with the holding No 186 at Dakkhin Badda, Shahadat Swarani.

## RU student held after clash

RU CORRESPONDENT

Police detained a student of Rajshahi University (RU) Friday evening following clashes between two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League.

Witnesses said a group of students meeting under the banner of Syedpur Thana Samiti were verbally abused by a group led by Palash, supporter of RU unit BCL President Ahmed Ali, who thought they were from the opposition around 7:30pm.

A clash erupted when the Samiti students protested.

Called by one of the students of the samiti, Takin, a supporter of RU unit BCL secretary Abu Hossain Bipu, went to the spot and was beaten up by the followers of Palash.

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All eligible candidates are required to take the admission test.

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**November 18, 2011**  
**Time: 10:00 am**

**Application Deadline:**  
**November 15, 2011**

**Classes start:**  
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The admission application forms and other information are available at [www.bracu.ac.bd](http://www.bracu.ac.bd) or at the admissions office on the ground floor of the University Building at 66 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

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