



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Jagannath University stage a demonstration on the campus yesterday demanding cancellation of development fees for admission.

## Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Today is the 41st death anniversary of Awami League leader MAAziz, says a press release.

On the occasion, special prayers will be offered, milad mahfil will be held and wreaths will be placed at this grave.

Abdur Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 18th death anniversary of Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury, says a press release.

He was vice-president of Salimullah Muslim Hall in Dhaka University in 1948 and played a significant role in the language movement.

On the occasion, doa mahfil will be held and food will be distributed among orphans.



### Seminar

Power and Participation Research Centre will hold a policy seminar. Venue: Cirdap auditorium, Time: 10:30am.

### Rally

Bangladesh Mukti Joddha Sangsad will hold a rally. Venue: Before International War Crimes Tribunal, Time: 11:00am.

### Discussion

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote will hold a discussion. Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity, Time: 10:30am.

### Human chain

Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee will form a human chain. Venue: Before International War Crimes

# Human rights of indigenous people grossly violated

Says report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The indigenous people of the country faced gross violation of human rights last year while the perpetrators enjoyed full impunity even after committing crimes like murder, rape, and arson, a report has said.

It said the Bangalee people made the majority of the attacks on the indigenous people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) and plain lands in attempts to occupy their lands.

At least eight massive communal attacks were made upon the CHT and plain land indigenous communities and seven Adivasis were killed last year, added the Human Rights Report 2011 on Indigenous People in Bangladesh.

"The indigenous peoples in Bangladesh passed 2011, with countless victims facing gross abuses of human rights without access to justice", it read and added, "The perpetrators, irrespective of state and non-state actors, enjoyed full impunity".

Kapaeeng Foundation (KF), a rights organisation working for the country's indigenous people, prepared the report on the basis of newspaper reports and information from KF activists working different districts. It was released at a programme at National Academy for Planning and Development on Monday.

According to the report, the Bangalee settlers in CHT grabbed 7,118 acres of land

belonging to indigenous people last year. During land-related communal conflicts, at least 111 houses of Jumma villages were burnt down in the CHT and 12 others looted and ransacked, it said.

It further said 11 indigenous women were raped and another five were killed after rape in 2011.

Noted educationist Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui said the report could be an eye opener for the overall human rights situation of the indigenous community. "The situation cannot be termed satisfactory", he added.

Mangal Kumar Chakma, an advisor of KF, said the violation of human rights of the Adivasis continues, as the perpetrators stay unpunished. This "culture of impunity" is not only harming the indigenous community, but also the rule of law and democracy of the country, he said.

The report said it is matter of serious concern that thorough investigations are not done into the human rights violations committed by Bangalee settlers with the support of law enforcement agencies in the CHT and by influential land grabbers and criminals with the support of the local administration including police in plain lands.

Kapaeeng Foundation recommended that all the perpetrators be brought to justice and a roadmap be prepared to implement the CHT Accord and solve the land dispute.

## AUG 21 CASE

## Huji leader appeals for discharge

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Mohammad Ujjal alias Ratan, a leader of Harkat-ul Jihad al Islami (Huji), appealed to a Dhaka court yesterday, to discharge him from the August 21 grenade attack cases.

Ratan, Huji Chief Mufti Abdul Hannan and nine others, among the 52 accused in the cases, had earlier confessed to the crimes, narrating how and why they had planned assassination of the then prime minister Sheikh Hasina and her party leaders and activists.

The accused submitted the discharge petitions before the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 when it resumed the hearing on charge framing against the accused, including BNP senior vice-chairman Tarique Rahman.

Earlier on the day, counsel for Mufti Moinuddin Sheikh alias Abu Zandal completed his submissions in support of discharging his client from the charges.

Twenty-four people were killed and around 200 others injured in the grisly grenade attack on an AL rally at Bangabandhu Avenue on August 21, 2004.

Judge Shahed Nuruddin fixed January 16 for the next hearing.

## NOISE POLLUTION City hospital fined

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) yesterday fined Square Hospital Ltd Tk 5 lakh for creating sound pollution at Panthapath in the city.

In a drive, a team led by DoE Director (Enforcement) Mohammed Munir Chowdhury found a high-voltage generator producing noise at 65-75 decibels at the hospital around 10:50pm.

The environment preservation law declares 100 square metres of space around a hospital as silent zone and limits noise level below 35 decibels in those areas at night.

The Square Hospital authorities were warned twice on October 12 and October 18 last year over the allegation.

Md Yusuf Ali Pradhan, general manager of the hospital, at a hearing yesterday admitted the allegation and promised to stop the generator from the very day.

## India launches Tagore web-bibliography

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

In a boost to students and researchers of Rabindranath Tagore, a web-based bibliography comprising his works and literary criticisms on his works published in India and abroad has been prepared by India's national committee set up to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of the poet.

The bibliography, launched on the web by Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee, who heads the committee, here on Monday has been undertaken by Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation.

The work is a result of the compilation work supervised by Tagore experts and scholars, involving as many as 20 libraries across the country for titles. The result is that more than 9,000 books in 42 languages, both Indian and foreign, have been located so far.

This is, indeed, the most comprehensive attempt undertaken for compiling the works by, and on, Tagore, or, for that matter, any literary figure. The bibliography is an endeavour to bring a ready reckoner to scholars and readers of Rabindranath Tagore.

The finance minister said accessing books on this web-bibliography has been made easy—a book can be located by its "Title", "Author", "Editor" or "Genre".

A unique feature of the web-portal is its interactive character. Scholars and readers can interact with the site and provide supplementary information about respective publications.

The website (www.rrrlf.gov.in Tagore Bibliography) also provides an interactive platform to enable scholars, experts, and the public the opportunity to improve and expand the bibliography by submitting names of works not yet included.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Muhammad Ali, managing director of Social Islami Bank, hands over a monthly profit deposit scheme amounting to Tk 5 lakh to the wife and daughter of journalist Dinesh Das, who was killed in a road accident in the city's Kakrail on Sunday.

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## 'Educate rural people on ICT'

BSS, Dhaka

A move is underway to educate rural people on computer using the Union Information Service Centre to create an Information and Communications Technology trained manpower.

This was disclosed at a two-day workshop at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday organised by UNDP funded Access to Information (A2I) programme of the PMO.

Private Secretary to the PM and National Project Director of A2I Nazrul Islam Khan said rural people must be IT literate to get various e-services through the cell phone.

## Govt plans to involve NGOs in FP activities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has planned to involve non-government organisations (NGOs) and private sectors through public-private partnership (PPP) package for family planning services in urban slums and underserved areas of the district level, said Dr Capt (Retd) Mozibur Rahman Fakir, state minister for Health and Family Welfare.

The state minister was speaking as the chief guest at a conference titled "Public Private Partnership Conference" jointly organised by the USAID-funded Smiling Sun Franchise Programme (SSFP) and Chevron at Spectra Convention Centre in the city yesterday, says a press release. USAID Bangladesh's Mission Director Richard Greene chaired the conference.

**পিনক সিটি  
ভিজিয়াস পার্ক**

এমন হতো যদি আপনার ঘর থেকে দেখতে পারেন কাগজি লেইকস অপরূপ সৌন্দর্য অথবা আপনার দুই হাজার জায়গা দিয়ে দেখা যায় লেপটিক কোন ইকোপার্ক, সেখানে প্রকৃতির নানা রূপ আর ৩৬ আপনারকে বিমোহিত করে রাখে প্রতিদিন।

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Corporate Office  
Dizen Garden (Ground Level) 49, Lake Circus, Kalabagan  
Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205, Phone: +880-2-9111319, 9111810,  
9138336, 8123874, 9125808, 9156596, 9112765, Fax: +88-2-9118981