

EU concerned over missing of Ilias Ali

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Expressing concern over missing of BNP leader Ilias Ali, the European Union urged all sides to exercise restraint and solve disputes through dialogue rather than resorting to violence.

"We are concerned about report of disappearances, including the recent case of Ilias Ali and his driver. We expect the authority to conduct a full investigation in this case, as in all other," said Andrew Barnard, Chargé d'Affaires of the EU Delegation to Bangladesh yesterday.

"We urge all sides involved to exercise restraint and to solve possible disputes by dialogue rather than resorting to violence," he said.

The United States and the United Kingdom also expressed their concern over the missing of Ilias Ali.

Tortured youth dies near civil aviation garden

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An unidentified youth, who was tortured elsewhere, succumbed to his injuries beside the garden of the Civil Aviation Authority at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka yesterday.

Police recovered the body, wearing only shorts, at around 7:30am from the spot, said Sub-inspector (SI) Shafiqul Islam of Airport Police Station.

Morgue sources said the man, aged about 35 years, was beaten to death.

Local people said the man came to the place on foot at around 6:30am and sought a glass of water from a roadside hawker.

A rickshaw puller gave him water and within an hour he collapsed to death.

Airport police said they could not unearth who beat the man and why.

The police suspect that he might have been beaten elsewhere and escaping the attackers he came to the spot where he died.

State ministers seek flag in car in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the cabinet secretary to take decision of giving permission to the state ministers use of flags in their car in the capital after reviewing legal aspects, sources said.

The direction came at the cabinet meeting when State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Motahar Hossain requested the premier for permission to use flags in their car in the capital like the cabinet ministers.

They argued that they cannot use flags in cars outside the capital.

The cabinet approved the draft of the "Goods Producing State Owned Industries' Workers (service condition) Act 2012" aimed at implementing the government decision to raise their wages and benefits under a legal framework.

Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan briefed reporters after the meeting.

He said the cabinet also approved the draft of The Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (amendment) Act, 2012.

Chehlum of Shawkat Jamil tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chehlum of Shawkat Jamil, former senior photojournalist at The Daily Star, will be held tomorrow.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at Jamil's ancestral home at Kathpatti Road in Barisal sadar after Juma prayers.

Relatives, friends, and well-wishers have been requested to attend the doa mahfil.

Jamil passed away on March 13, 2012.



Poribesh Bachao Andolon froms a human chain before Faculty of Fine Arts of Dhaka University yesterday to observe 'International Noise Awareness Day'.

PHOTO: STAR

Noise pollution increasingly posing as health hazard

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noise pollution is increasingly posing as a serious health hazard to the urban population and must be curbed through awareness programmes among the masses, said speakers at a seminar yesterday.

The gradual loss of hearing goes unnoticed until permanent deafness occurs. The issue still remains as the least addressed and proper execution of relevant laws is indispensable in this regard, they said.

National Institute of Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) and Teachers' Association of Dhaka Medical College (DMC) jointly organised the seminar in observance of "International Noise Awareness Day" for the first time in Bangladesh.

Presenting a keynote paper, Prof Pran Gopal Dutta, vice chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, said unpleasant sounds

turn to noise, leading to non-auditory effects like headaches, nausea, insomnia, anxiety and stress.

Even the most unnoticed form of noise pollution, like snoring, is obnoxious for children and can hamper their normal growth, he said.

Preventing noise pollution requires monitoring of noise levels, creating awareness on the precautionary measures and keeping records of measurements of noise level exposure, he added.

He also urged doctors to lend mental and societal support while treating hearing impairments in patients.

Humayun Kabir, senior secretary to the health and family welfare ministry, said despite the presence of a law, there are some problems in its execution and the media has a vital role to play in creating awareness about the

issue.

Mesbah ul Alam, secretary to the environment and forest ministry, said a drive conducted by Department of Environment (DoE) found 146 out of 164 points in the city having sound levels exceeding tolerable limits.

"It is a sound crime," he said, adding that awareness should come from the family first and then spread throughout the society.

DoE Director General Monowarul Islam said noise pollution is not being considered as a problem at national and international levels as people are more concerned about air, water and soil pollution.

He stressed the need for stronger partnerships among organisations working on curbing noise pollution.

The association President Prof Khan Abul Kalam Azad and DMC Vice Principal Prof Ismail Khan also spoke.

11,573 BCS hopefuls get time to deposit fee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new timeframe was provided for the 11,573 applicants who failed to deposit the fee for the 33rd Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) exam but received a personal identification number (PIN) after completing the online application.

The fee of Tk 500 should be paid from prepaid connections of Teletalk between 8:00am of April 29 and 10:00pm of May 2.

Public Service Commission (PSC) took the decision yesterday at a special meeting at its office in the capital in line with a High Court order, said AYM Nesar Uddin, PSC controller of examinations (cadre).

"The applicants who received a PIN after applying online will be allowed to take part in the exam as per the court's directive," he told The Daily Star.

The applicants had failed to deposit the fee due to short-comings of Teletalk's servers even after completing the online application by the April 7 midnight deadline.

PSC refused to consider their application and did not issue the admit cards, forcing 20 applicants to file a writ petition with the High Court.

On April 16, the HC stayed the process for holding the exam for three weeks.

Nesar said Teletalk had already sent text messages to applicants, requesting to pay the fees within the new timeframe.

PSC, for the first time, launched the online registration process for BCS exam this year to ease the appointment process. The preliminary examination is scheduled to be held on June 1.

The 33rd BCS aims at filling up 4,206 vacant government posts, comprising 2,905 professional and technical cadres, 582 general cadres and 719 education cadres (607 in general colleges and 112 in teacher training colleges).



PHOTO: PID

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presides over the cabinet meeting at secretariat in the capital yesterday.

Three-day youth leadership summit begins today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A three-day Youth Leadership Summit begins here today to understand existing challenges and opportunities for exercising leadership for development.

The theme of the summit is "Leading Bangladesh into the Future: A Journey of Exploration." It will be inaugurated at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center at 10:00am.

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), the country's first leadership institute, will host the summit to bring together 450 youth delegates from Dhaka, Barisal, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet and national and international speakers, including experts from Harvard University and MIT.

From over 2,100 applications, 450 college, madrasa and university students were competitively selected as delegates to the summit.

The summit features entrepreneurship, leadership, global citizenship, education and career, climate change, women and leadership, politic and new media, said a press release of US embassy yesterday.

Ahead of the summit, BYLC founder and President Ejaj Ahmad at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club yesterday said leadership is the vehicle that can bridge the gap between present and future of Bangladesh.

BYLC Chairperson Barrister Manzoor Hasan said this summit will serve as a platform to unite the young generation to encourage them for creat-

ing a more inclusive society.

The inaugural session will start at 10:00am today with the welcome address by BYLC President Ejaj Ahmad. Three separate sessions-- "Preparing for the Inner Journey of leadership", "Dialogic and facilitative leadership" and "Global Dialogic: A step forward" will be held at 11:15am, 2:00pm and 3:45pm correspondingly on the day.

The US embassy is sponsoring the summit while the youth and sports ministry is the partner.

The gold sponsors of the summit are Rahimafrooz and The Daily Star, and the silver sponsors are FBCCI, Adcomm, Al Arafah Islami Bank and Islami Bank. Robi Axiata Limited, DrikICT and Radio Foorti are the telecom, ICT and radio partners, respectively.



Rokia Afzal, Huda made TIB trustees

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rokia Afzal Rahman, a leading woman entrepreneur and former advisor to a caretaker government and Dr ATM Shamsul Huda former chief election commissioner, have been elected the trustee board members of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB).

With the joining of the two new members, the total number of members of TIB's highest decision-making body now stands at 11.

President of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs, Rokia Afzal Rahman was unanimously elected the board member at the 72nd meeting of TIB Trustee Board on January 17. She gave her consent and participated in the 73rd trustee board meeting on April 19.

Dr ATM Shamsul Huda consented at the same meeting, a press release of the anti-corruption watchdog said yesterday.

The TIB trustee board also includes advocate Sultana Kamal, chairperson; writer Selina Hossen, secretary general; The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam, treasurer, and other members-- advocate Tawfique Nawaz, Prof Muzaffer Ahmad, Prof Khan Sarwar Murshid, Syeda Ruhi Ghuznavi, former adviser to a caretaker government M Hafizuddin Khan, and Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the third death anniversary of Moulana Muhammad Golam Hakkani, former principal of Araibari Islamia Saidya Kamil Madrasa in Kasba upazila of Brahmanbaria.

On the occasion, Qurankhwani and prayers will be held at the Araibari Darbar Sharif, says a press release.

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একটি রবি

The Daily Star উদ্যোগ



An English Language Fair is coming
Schools are singing and kids are humming

মজা চলছে, মজা চলবে!

কারণ, মজার মজার মুভি, গেমস আর দারুণ সব সারপ্রাইজেস নিয়ে আজ বৃহস্পতিবার এবং আগামী শুক্রবার আমরা আসছি তোমাদের স্কুলে! আমাদের এবারের স্কুলগুলো হলোঃ

২৬ এপ্রিল ২০১২

- * খালিয়াজুরি পাইলট উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, নেত্রকোনা
- * শিবগঞ্জ পাইলট উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, বগুড়া

২৭ এপ্রিল ২০১২

- * বানিয়াগঞ্জ সি. টি. উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, নেত্রকোনা
- * মোহনগঞ্জ পাইলট সরকারি উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, নেত্রকোনা
- * কেন্দুয়া জয়হরি স্প্রাই বালিকা উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, নেত্রকোনা
- * নওগাঁ সরকারি বালিকা উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, নওগাঁ
- * চক এনায়েত উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, নওগাঁ
- * জনকল্যাণ মডেল উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, নওগাঁ
- * ঈশ্বরপুর আবদুস সোবহান উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, সাতক্ষীরা

ইংরেজি শেখার মজার এই আয়োজনটি কিন্তু তোমরা একদম মিস করো না!



স্বাক্ষরিত আমবেই