# NEWS IN brief

#### Japan maritime self-defense squadron to arrive on Sept 24

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

As a part of its overseas training cruise, the Training Squadron of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense (JMSDF) will arrive at the Chittagong Port on September 24 on a four-day visit.

This will be the first visit of a JMSDF ship to Bangladesh since the country's independence.

Their arrival commemorates the 40th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Japan and Bangladesh, said a press release of the Embassy of Japan.

JMSDF Commander Rear Admiral Hidetoshi Fuchinoue will lead the Japanese training squadron, consisting of 750 crew and newly commissioned officers, that will be visiting 14 countries across the

#### RMG factory fire injures five

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj** 

DHAKA

Gonosanghati Andolan will organise a

discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club;

Disabled Rehabilitation and Research

Association will hold a workshop;

Venue: Biam Foundation; Time:

Bangalee Jatiyatabadi Parishad will

organise a discussion; Venue: Awami

League's central office, Bangabandhu

Bangladesh Institute of ICT in

Development will hold a workshop;

Venue: Department of Agricultural

Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

05:46am

City/Town

Dhaka

Chittagono

Rajshahi

Rangpur

Khulna

and towns yesterday were:

Discussion

Time: 11:00am.

Workshop

10:00am.

Discussion

Avenue; Time: 11:00am.

Workshop

At least five workers were injured while trying to douse a fire that broke out at an export-oriented readymade garment factory in Masdair Police Line area of Narayanganj town yesterday.

The fire originated at Amena Knitex Garments Factory around 10:00am, said Fatullah Model police, quoting witnesses.

Huge quantity of loin cloths and Jhut kept in the factory warehouse were gutted in the fire, said its owner.

On information, three fire fighting units of Mondalpara Fire Service Station rushed to the spot and doused the fire.

The injured factory workers were given first aid. The fire might have been originated from an

Extension, Khamar Bari; Time:

Brac will organise an awarding

ceremony; Venue: Brac Centre Inn;

Biswa Bangalee Sammelon will hold a

discussion; Venue: Bangladesh Medical

Association Bhaban, Topekhana; Time:

National Human Rights Commission

will organise a seminar; Venue: Pan

Awarding ceremony

11:00am.

Time: 10:30am.

Discussion

Seminar

10:00am.

Convention

WEATH

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or

squally wind is likely at many places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Khulna,

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the

The sun sets in the capital today at 05:59pm and rises tomorrow at

Country's highest temperature 34.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities

25.4

26.5

25.5

Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.

at Sylhet and lowest 24.4 degrees also at Rangpur.

30.2

31.2

30.0

TODAY



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Hajis on the first Hajj flight at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital yesterday.

# JS passes five bills

BSS, Dhaka

City

Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed five bills, including the Vested Property Return (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012 and the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2012.

Three other bills are the Power of Attorney Bill, 2012, Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2012, and the Members of the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Bill, 2012.

Land Minister Md Rezaul Karim Hira piloted the Vested Property Return (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012 in parliament.

With the passage of the bill the period of preparing list of vested property has been extended to another 90 days and period of application for returning the property to 300 days from 120 days.

Earlier, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed piloted the Power of Attorney Bill, 2012, the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2012 and the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2012 in the House.

Pacific Sonargaon Hotel; Time: With the turning of the Power of Attorney

Bill into a law, acts of forgery and cheating in land management, land development, land transfer and land buying and selling will be reduced significantly.

With the passage of the bill, the dilly-dally practices in disposing of all pending civil suits will be reduced significantly.

Besides, passage of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2012 will facilitate setting up courts of chief judicial magistrates, additional chief judicial magistrates and judicial magistrates anywhere in a district.

As per the existing Code of Criminal Procedure Act, 1898, there is no provision of shifting the courts of chief judicial magistrates, additional chief judicial magistrates and judicial magistrates outside the district headquarters.

With the passage of the Members of the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Bill, the commission chairman will get salaries, house allowances and other benefits equivalent to the cabinet secretary's while the members of the commission

### EARTH FILLING IN SAVAR Punish high-ups of Hall-Mark

Demands Poba

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Green activists yesterday demanded punishment for the high-ups of Hall-Mark Group allegedly for filling up water bodies and marsh lands near Hemayetpur, Singair and Manikganj roads in Savar violating law.

They also urged the authorities concerned to remove al establishments set up by the group in the areas.

They made the demand at a press conference organised by Paribesh Bachao Andolan (Poba) at the Jatiya Press Club in the capital, says a press release.

Despite a High Court (HC) order to stop construction work for four months in Savar and Hemayetpur residential areas, the company continues to grab land illegally harassing the land owners, alleged the speakers.

The HC on July 30 issued a four-month injunction on the order of the appellate authority of the environment and

forests ministry that let the group to continue earth filling. Poba also urged the authorities concerned to implement the HC order to save environment. Joint general secretary of

Poba Syed Monwar Hossain also spoke.

#### Road crashes kill 8

METRO DESK

Eight people were killed and 15 others injured in separate road accidents in Chittagong, Naogaon, Brahmanbaria, Bhola and Rajshahi on Sunday and yesterday.

Our staff correspondent from Chittagong reports, Borhan Uddin, 55, of Swandip, was killed as car hit him from behind at GEC intersection in the city yesterday morning.

Meanwhile, Md Rafique, 50, of Fatikchhari upazila, who was injured in a road accident at North Nischintopur in the upazila on Friday, died at the CMCH yesterday.

In Naogaon, Anisur Rahman, 45, of Atrai upazila, died as his motorbike collided head-on with another motorcycle in Gorebaria of the upazila yesterday.

In Brahmanbaria, a CNGrun auto-rickshaw hit Md Siam Mia, 7, son of Abdus Salam of Nasirnagar upazila, on Ashuganj-Fertilizer Factory road at Charchartala village in Ashuganj upazila yesterday, leaving him dead.

UNB from Bhola reports, a three-wheeler ran over Hanufa Begum, 60, of Borhanuddin upazila, on Udaipur road in the upazila yesterday morning, killing her instantly. Meanwhile, a motorcycle from Charfasson upazila hit Shafique, a trader of Lalmohan, on the road beside Minar Mosque on Sunday noon, killing him. BSS from Rajshahi reports, two people died as a bus knocked them on Dhaka-Rajshahi highway in Puthiya area while they were returning their residence riding a

motorbike on Sunday night. They were Emran Ali, 30, and Jahangir Alam, 31.

Meanwhile, at least 15 people were injured as a coach fell into a roadside ditch in Kapasia area in the city on Sunday night.

They were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

## ACC sues 6 for graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday sued three persons including two inspectors of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority in the capital on charge of misappropriating government's revenue.

Khairul Huda, a deputy director of ACC, said two BRTA Dhaka circle inspectors -- Sarwar Khan and AFM Fakhrul Amin -- and Mahbub-ur-Rahman, a Khilgaon resident, were sued. The case statement says World Food Program imported,

duty free, six vehicles -- four Toyota Land Cruiser Jeeps and two microbuses -- that were later sold through open tenders. Mahbub, who was the highest bidder, submitted fake

documents showing that he deposited around Tk 43 lakh in Sonali Bank's Custom House Branch as government duty for the vehicles. The two inspectors, assigned to verify the documents,

submitted reports that the documents were real, said the statement.

Meanwhile, ACC filed another case against three persons with Bandar Police station in Chittagong for laundering money by opening a fake letter of credit (LC).

The accused are Saiful Islam, managing director of Shimul International Ltd, Saiful's business partner Fakir Abdul Hannan and Custom Jetty of Shimul International Sarker Habibur Rahman.

According to the case, the trio opened a fake LC to import compact yarn from Singapore but instead imported a BMW car, an AUDI car, a television and photocopier worth over Tk 1.36 crore.



Swadhinata Forum, a pro-BNP organisation, observes a token hunger strike in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday protesting the failure of law enforcement agencies to trace BNP lawmaker Ilias Ali, who along with his chauffeur, went missing from the capital's Banani in the wee hours of April 18. PHOTO: STAR

### Biman chairman's removal sought in parliament

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party lawmaker Mujibul Haque and the lone independent MP Fazlul Azim yesterday in parliament blasted the government for the recent 'unprecedented' collapse of Biman flight schedule in different international destinations.

The duo held Air Marshal (retd) Jamal Uddin Ahmed, chairman of board of directors of Biman Bangladesh Airlines, responsible for the mismanagement in the national airliner and demanded his immediate removal to save the Biman.

"I went to the airport last night and saw many passengers waiting for hours to go to their respective destinations. I saw many women and children facing huge suffer-

ings in the airport," Mujibul said while speaking on point of order. Taking floor on the point of order Fazlul Azim said the Biman board chairman is a mighty person who does not

listen to anybody; he is a superpower and not accountable to anyone. He is the only man who is destroying the Biman.

Women's Rights in Marriage

### Govt to make no law against religious sentiment: Shafique

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In response to rights activists' demand for an act to ensure women's rights in marital relationship, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday said the government would not formulate any law, which would go against religious sentiment.

"In our country, different familial issues like marriage registration, relationship between husband and wife, and women's rights to property are being determined by religious code. So the government will only formulate law on these issues, if a unanimous decision comes from all quarters," he said.

"In the Hindu Marriage Registration Act-2012, we have kept marriage registration optional, not mandatory, as a section of Hindu leaders are against marriage registration," he told a meeting, "Securing Women's Economic

Rights in Marital Relationship through Law", at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) organised the programme where the organisation placed 29 recommendations, including formulating a "Uniform family Code" to ensure women's economic rights in marital relationship.

Meanwhile, Human Rights Watch has said Bangladesh's discriminatory personal laws on marriage, separation and divorce trap many women and girls in abusive marriages or drive them into poverty when marriages fall apart.

In many cases, these laws contribute to homelessness, hunger, and ill-health for divorced or separated women and their children, the New York based rights body said in a new report released yesterday.

#### Matiur Rahman MP laid to rest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Dr Mohammad Matiur Rahman, a renowned cardiac surgeon and an Awami League lawmaker from Tangail-3 constituency, was laid to rest yesterday.

Following his namaz-ejanazas at Dhaka and Ghatail upazila of Tangail, he was buried at his family graveyard in the upazila's Khilgati village.

Matiur Rahman, also director of Labaid Cardiac Hospital in Dhaka, passed away from heart complications at a Bangalore hospital in India on September 14 at the age of 66.

His body arrived in Dhaka via a flight from India on Sunday. His coffin was bought to his residence in Ghatail upazila yesterday.

### Historic Education Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has paid tribute to the martyrs of 1962 education movement by formulating a pro-people education policy, said Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid.

He told a discussion, organised by National Front of Teachers and Employees (NFTE), at Jatiya Press Club in the

capital to mark the historic Education Day with NFTE chief coordinator Principal Quazi Faruque Ahmed was in the chair. The day was observed yesterday commemorating sacrifices of Mostafa, Babul, Wajiullah and other students killed

Sharif Education Commission formed in 1962. Nahid said still there are many challenges including improvement of quality of education.

in police firing while staging demonstrations against the SM

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique also spoke.

Meanwhile, students' organisations including Bangladesh Chhatra League, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Bangladesh Chhatra Moitree, Bangladesh Students' Union, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Bangladesh Biplobi Chhatra Sanghati arranged various events in the capital to mark the day. The organisations placed wreaths at the memorial at Shikkha Odhikar Chattar.