



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the Teesta Road Bridge on Rangpur-Kurigram highway at Kaunia upazila of Rangpur district yesterday. Former president and Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad, second from left, was also present.

PHOTO: STAR

## PM inaugurates Teesta bridge

*Says Rangpur will get Special Economic Zone*

UNB, Rangpur

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday inaugurated the much-awaited Teesta Road Bridge in Rangpur and said a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) would be set up in the division to spur economic activities in the country.

Demands of people in greater Rangpur have been fulfilled as it has been upgraded to a division, she said at the inauguration of the bridge on Rangpur-Kurigram highway at Kaunia point.

"Steps have already been taken so Rangpur could be turned into a nice city where necessary offices will be set up," she said.

Listing various development activities of the present government, Hasina said now there is no munga and problem of food in the country as her government has ensured food security alongside boosting power generation.

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad, among others, was present.

Later, the prime minister inaugurated the bridge at Lalmonirhat point.

Speaking on the occasion, the premier said she herself had laid the foundation of the bridge on July 1, 2001 to reduce sufferings of people of Kurigram and Lalmonirhat.

The BNP-Jamaat alliance, after assuming power, stopped the work on the bridge, she alleged adding that the present Awami League government resumed the work in 2009 after returning to power.

With construction of the bridge, Hasina hopes the country's trade and commerce would get a boost and more industries would be set up.

The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) implemented the construction work on the 750m long and 12.11m wide bridge over the Teesta river.

With the bridge opening, people will now have easy access to the capital and other parts of the country. Till now, they had to use Teesta Railway Bridge, which is now in a bad shape.

## Tax official arrested for bribery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) officials yesterday arrested an assistant tax commissioner while taking bribe from a businessman at the Segunbagicha office of Tax Zone-5 in the capital.

Maj Emranul Haque Shah, ACC director of Dhaka Zone, told The Daily Star that the held Kazi Ashiqur Rahman 35, following a complain made by businessman Sheikh Mizanur Rahman of the capital's Siddheswari.

"We caught the tax official red-handed while he was taking Tk 50,000 from the businessman. Tk 29,500 was also seized from a drawer of his desk and he could not show any credible source of the money," said Maj Emranul.

Quoting Mizanur, the ACC director said Ashiqur had demanded Tk 1 lakh to move his tax return file but later agreed on Tk 75,000.

Ashiqur, a resident of 121/1 Muradpur High School Road of Jurain, was later handed over to police. A case was filed against him in this connection.

### DESTINY SCAM CASE Hearing on bail cancellation deferred to Sept 27

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday deferred to September 27 the hearing on petitions seeking cancellation of bail of 22 Destiny Group officials, including its managing director, in two money laundering cases.

Judge Mohammad Zahurul Haque of the Senior Special Judge's Court passed the order after the officials' lawyer submitted petitions seeking the hearing adjournment.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam yesterday made his submissions supporting the bail cancellation of the officials.

Three separate metropolitan magistrates of Dhaka had granted the bails on different dates although they have no jurisdiction to deal with money laundering cases.

Granting time, the judge asked the defence lawyers to place their arguments against the cancellation of bail.

The judge court on September 13 stayed the order of his sub-ordinate court that, on September 12, cancelled bail of five of the officials, including Destiny Group Managing Director Md Rafiqul Amin and Director Lt Gen (retd) M Harunur Rashid. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), on August 13 and September 12, filed four separate petitions challenging the legality of the lower courts orders which, violating the provisions of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2009, granted the bails.

On July 31, ACC sued the 22 officials for laundering Tk 3,285.26 crore by cheating investors.

**Income Tax Fair  
6th Day**

## Law making Hindu marriage registration optional condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rights and development activists have condemned the provision making Hindu marriage registration optional in the recently passed Hindu Marriage Registration Act, 2012.

Though it is the country's first ever law on Hindu marriage registration, it will not benefit most of the Hindu women for keeping marriage registration optional, and rather discrimination and repression will persist in society, said a statement sent by Nagorik Uddyog, a forum of several non-government organisations, yesterday. Nagorik Uddyog was formed to prepare the draft of the Hindu Marriage Law.

The statement said the civil society organisations had demanded for making registration mandatory in the act for protecting rights of women. If marriage registration is not made mandatory, Hindu women will not get any benefit from other laws, which have been formulated for resisting repression on women, it added.

The forum believes that rights of both Hindu men and women of Bangladesh will be protected if the act is reviewed and marriage registration is made mandatory.

The organisations of Nagorik Uddyog are Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), PRIP Trust, Banchte Shekha, Steps Towards Development, Nari Pakkha, RDRS Bangladesh, CARE Bangladesh, and EPIC.

## ROW OVER BUS FARE Students vandalise 5 buses in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students of Sharkari Biggyan College (Government Science College) yesterday went on a rampage and vandalised buses for the second consecutive day in the capital's Farmgate area following Wednesday's row with a bus staff over fare.

Vehicular movement on roads in the area were suspended for around 20 minutes due to yesterday's incident.

Police said around two hundred students came from their college and blockaded Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue around 12:30pm. At one stage, they vandalised five buses.

"We reached the spot within a short time and chased the students. They fled that time but again a small group of them gathered under Tejturi Bazar foot-over bridge and tried to block the road. We also chased them," said Omar Faruque, officer-in-charge at Tejgaon Police Station.

Police detained six students from the spot and later handed them over to their teachers.

Locals said some passengers of the buses sustained minor injuries in the incident and took treatment in local hospitals.

On Wednesday, a student of the college suffered minor injuries during a scuffle with a local bus staff inside the bus over fare.

"The matter was settled that day. I do not know why they acted in the same way today," OC Faruque said.

No case was filed in this connection.



PHOTO: STAR

Teachers and employees of non-government high schools and colleges hold a rally before Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday to press home their 21-point demand including nationalisation of the education system.

## NON-GOVT HIGH SCHOOLS, COLLEGES Nationalisation demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers and employees of non-government high schools and colleges yesterday held a rally before Central Shaheed Minar in the capital to press home their 21-point demand including nationalisation of the education system in the country.

Several hundred teachers from different districts joined the rally where they urged the government to enlist their institutions in the government's Monthly Pay Order (MPO) list.

Their other demands include implementation of time-scale, increasing the

amount of yearly increment, medical allowance and house rent.

The rally was held under the banner of Bangladesh Shikkhak Samity.

Speakers at the rally urged the government to take steps to implement the education policy-2010 soon.

They criticised the government for giving them only Tk 150 as house rent and only Tk 100 as medical allowance.

They demanded the prime minister's intervention to end discrimination in the education system.

They also threatened to go for a tougher agitation programme if the demands were not met within September 30.

### Don't make education only certificate based President tells IUB convocation

BSS, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday asked the authorities of all universities to make sure that higher education is not only certificate based.

"It is must to put highest priority in ensuring quality education and expansion of research in higher education level," he said while presiding over the 14th convocation of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) in the capital.

During the convocation, 934 students were conferred graduate and undergraduate degrees from different disciplines. Four students - Raisa Rasheeka, Rafid Haider, M Saiful Islam and SM Saiful Islam received gold medals for their outstanding academic results.

Noted cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor MP addressed the event as the convocation speaker while Raisa Rasheeka as valedictorian. IUB Trustee Board Chairman Towhid Samad and Vice Chancellor Prof M Omar Rahman also spoke on the occasion.



President Zillur Rahman presents an award to a meritorious student at the 14th convocation of Independent University, Bangladesh in Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

## Police impersonator held at Bangladesh Secretariat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed Police Battalion (APBn) arrested a man who went inside Bangladesh Secretariat impersonating a policeman with a walkie-talkie and motorbike yesterday.

Monir Hossain Badal, 35, collected a pass of the housing and public works ministry and entered the secretariat introducing himself as a cop to the guards at the gate, said Officer-in-Charge at Shahbagh Police Station Sirajul Islam.

Because of his suspicious movement, APBn members asked Badal to show his identity card. But he could not show it.

Later, the law enforcers took him to the police camp inside the secretariat and interrogated him. During the interrogation, he admitted that he was not a cop, OC Sirajul said.

## Astronomy & Astrophysics Workshop

October 4- December 13, 2012  
Every Thursday 5.30 – 8.30 p.m.

Registration Fees Tk. 2,000  
All participants will be given certificate

Jointly Organized by:  
**Bangladesh Astronomical Association & Cultural Department, Embassy of the Russian Federation in Bangladesh**

In cooperation with:  
**Theoretical Physics Dept., University of Dhaka & The Daily Star**

Contact for Registration:  
■ Russian Centre of Science and Culture, Dhaka. Phone : 02 9118531  
■ Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed, Physics Department, BRAC University, Dhaka  
■ Theoretical Physics Dept., Dhaka University. Phone : 019 1165 8435

Subscribe to  
**SMS  
EVENING  
NEWS**

Register at:

**2222**  
Day's roundup in your pocket

The Daily Star

For Registration:

Go to message option on your mobile and type start<space>pm & send to 2222

Tariff: Tk. 1/SMS

thedailystar.net  
f /dailystarnews

\*\*For Grameenphone subscribers

REGISTRATION FREE