

# Use technology to boost English skill

*Advises UGC chairman*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman Prof AK Azad Chowdhury yesterday emphasised enhancing English language proficiency through the use of advanced technology to get along with the modern world.

Technological development is constantly offering new and diverse opportunities in the field of education, he told the inaugural session of an international conference on "Teaching and Learning English through Technology".

English teachers have found that technology is an exciting tool for developing their own teaching techniques as well as empowering their students to become more skilled learners, he said.

He also stressed the need for acquiring techniques of using technology properly to improve skills in English as well as Bangla language.

The conference was hosted by the Department of English of Dhaka University at the university's Senate Bhaban with The Daily Star as the communication partner.

Dr Helen Bond, associate professor of Faculty of Education at Howard University, USA, delivered the keynote speech.

Chairperson of the Department of English of DU, Prof Tahmina Ahmed, chaired the session, while DU Pro-Vice Chancellor (education) Prof Nasreen Ahmad and Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam, among others, spoke on the occasion.

In another session, "Web Resources in English Teaching", the department's Supernumerary Professor Niaz Zaman said the DU students were lagging behind in terms of using technology.



University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman Prof AK Azad Chowdhury speaks at an international conference on "Teaching and Learning English through Technology" at Dhaka University Senate Bhaban yesterday. Sitting on his right are Prof Tahmina Ahmed, Prof Nasreen Ahmad, and Dr Helen Bond. The Department of English of DU hosted the conference with The Daily Star as the communication partner.

# Indian home minister visits Indo-Bangla border

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Indian Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde yesterday visited the Indo-Bangladesh border in the Assam state's Dhubri district to review security measures, particularly in riverine areas, following allegations of unabated illegal influx from across the border.

Shinde told reporters that he wanted to review security measures on the country's eastern flank, particularly in the riverine areas.

The visit was made as per his commitment made when he had assumed charge about two months ago, he said, adding that he also wanted to visit the border outposts (BOPs) and interact with the Border Security Force (BSF) personnel posted there.

# Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Noted businessman and social worker **Fazlur Rahman** died of cardiac arrest at a local clinic in Chittagong on Friday. He was 65.

He left behind his wife, a son, a daughter, and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death.

He was buried at his family graveyard after a namaz-e-janaza at Badurtala Jongi Shah mazar mosque after Jumma prayers on Friday.

His qulhwani will be held at his Badurtala residence at 438 Arakan Road after Asr prayers tomorrow.

# Zillur Rahman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Mawlana Zillur Rahman Nadvi, an Islamic scholar, died of old age complications at his residence in Nawabganj upazila of Dinajpur yesterday. He was 99.

He left behind his four sons and three daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

He was buried at his family graveyard in the upazila.

He wrote 39 books on Islam. Of those, 29 books have been published.

# BIWTC's eid steamer service begins today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) will start an 11-day special steamer service today on different routes from Dhaka which will continue till October 31 on the occasion of Eid-ul Azha.

Everyday at least one regular and one special vessel would ply Dhaka-Chandpur, Dhaka-Barisal, Dhaka-Jhalakathi, Dhaka-Hularhat and Dhaka-Mongla routes, said BIWTC Deputy General Manager MA Matin.

The fare would be about 50 per cent less than the private vessels, he added.

Matin said five vessels -- PS Ostrich, PS

Lepcha, PS Mahsud, PS Turn and MV Sela -- would carry passengers under the special service.

The passengers of BIWTC vessels are paying Tk 750 for one first class cabin seat, Tk 450 for one second class cabin seat, and Tk 120 for each deck seat on a single trip of 169km long Dhaka-Barisal route, said Barisal BIWTC Assistant General Manager Sree Gopal Chandra Majumdar.

But the fare of private vessels would be Tk 950 to Tk 1000 for per first class cabin seat, Tk 1500 to Tk 1600 per VVIP cabin seat, Tk 550 to Tk 600 per sofa seat and Tk 240 to Tk 250 per deck seat, he added.

# Newspaper eid holiday on Oct 26-28

UNB, Dhaka

Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh (Noab) will observe holiday on October 26, 27 and 28 on the occasion of Eid-ul Azha.

In accordance with the decision of the executive committee of Noab, no newspaper will be published on October 27, 28 and 29, said a Noab press release.

# Unidentified youths beat up RU BCL man

RU CORRESPONDENT

A pro-Awami League Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activist of Rajshahi University (RU) unit sustained head and chest injuries in an attack by some unidentified youths at Binodpur Bazar, near RU, around noon yesterday.

Police sent the injured Imran Hossain alias David, doing his masters in business administration at finance and banking department, to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital.

RU BCL President Ahmed Ali and General Secretary Abu Hossain Bipu claimed the youths were pro-Jamaat Islami Chhatra Shibir activists trying to

establish supremacy on the campus.

RU unit Shibir General Secretary Sayfuddin Yeahia denied the allegation. "BCL men often beat and drive out our activists from halls but we are silent in this regard," he said.

RU Proctor Chowdhury Mohammad Zakaria said he would look into the matter. Afterwards around 10:30pm, a home-made bomb exploded before Madar Bux Hall, creating panic among students. Over 100 BCL leaders and activists then brought out a procession protesting the incident.

The RU unit BCL president and general secretary blamed Shibir activists for the incident. Shibir RU unit President Ashraful Alam denied the allegation.

# 8 revolutionaries' role remembered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The contributions of eight revolutionaries of the British era were remembered yesterday marking their 100th birth anniversary.

The revolutionaries are Ranesh Dasgupta, Badal Gupta, Prohash Chandra Bol, Anil Mukherjee, Mohammad Ismail, Paritosh Chattopadhyay, Shudhanshu Dasgupta and Mrirtunjoy Bandopadhyay.

Biplobider Kotha, a monthly publication which narrates the biography of revolutionaries, organised the event at the Liberation War Museum in the capital yesterday marking the publication's third founding anniversary.

Justice Habibur Rahman, the convener of the event, said every country should have a

revolutionary political party. But if the party is run by any foreign country or fund, it will be bad for that country, he added.

Haider Akbar Khan Rono, presidium member of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), said our history and our struggle for liberation began long before 1947. Erasing such revolutionaries from textbooks is tantamount to distortion of history, he added.

Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah, convener of the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports, Mujahidul Islam Selim, secretary general of CPB, journalist Kamal Lohani and Anisur Rahman Mollik, secretary general of Bangladesh Workers Party were also present at the event.



Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia consoles the family members of language movement hero and veteran politician Oli Ahad, who passed away yesterday, at Shomorita Hospital in the capital. (Story on Page 20)




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# Obituary

Mrs. Shamim Salam, wife of late Mr. Abdus Salam and daughter of Mr. Fazle Haider and Najiban Haider passed away peacefully at the age of 80 on October 20th, 2012.

She has left behind her six children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and well-wishers to mourn her loss. She will always be remembered, loved and cherished by all who knew her.

May Allah grant her the best of paradise. Ameen.

