

# Police demand end to violence against women

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police personnel formed human chain in Barisal city yesterday with a call to end violence against women.

Both male and female members of Barisal Metropolitan Police (BMP), District and Range Police formed the human chain in front of Ashwini Kumar Hall, organised by Bangladesh Police Women's Network.

Dr Abdur Rahim, deputy inspector general of Barisal Range Police; Shamsuddin Ahmed, BMP commissioner; AKM Ehsan Ullah, superintendent of police; and Runa Laila, assistant police commissioner, among others, addressed the event.

Bangladesh Police Women's Network is a forum to help enhance the capacity of female police personnel, and is part of extensive reform work undertaken by Bangladesh Police with the support of UNDP's Police Reform Programme, said the speakers.

Bangladesh has become the first coun-

try in the sub-continent with the network dedicated to promote the role of women in law enforcement as well as enhance the participation of female police personnel by developing their leadership capacity and other professional skills, they said.

They stressed the need for creating mass awareness as well as socio-cultural-political commitments to end violence against women.

They said the forum would help Bangladesh Police take appropriate measures in responding to the issues faced by female police personnel.

As a professional forum, the network will help ensure women's rights and play a vital role in preventing violence against women in a friendly environment.

Bangladesh Police has implemented a number of important gender related activities, including formulation of gender guidelines and formation of local gender committees, they said.

Later, they brought out a procession which paraded the city's main roads.

# DMCH intern doctors beat up staff

Authorities form investigation committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Intern doctors at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) beat up three class IV employees and six nurses following an altercation over admitting two sick nurses to the hospital yesterday.

Later, some of the employees also beat up two of the intern doctors, witnesses said.

Asaduzzaman Jewel, a nurse of the hospital's burn unit, Abdul Khaleque, president of DMCH employees union, and two others were injured in the incident.

Jewel said two female nurses named Happy and Lipu fell sick when they were taking part in a hunger strike programme under the banner of unemployed nurses' association before Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

An altercation took place as a female intern doctor in the medicine ward refused to admit the nurses, he said.

Dr Mushfiqur Rahman, deputy director of the hospital, said they would take action against those who were involved in the incident.

A six-member probe body has also been formed, he said.

Alleged intern doctors could not be contacted for their comments.

# Confce to end violence against women begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first ever Bangladesh International Model United Nations (BIMUN) conference began in the capital yesterday, aiming to end violence against women.

Around 300 representatives from twenty countries, most of them students, are attending the four-day conference to discuss the issue and eventually reaching an international youth consensus to resist violence against women globally.

The event is underway at the Senate Bhaban of Dhaka University. The participants come from Bangladesh, UK, USA, Malaysia, Portugal, Turkey, Albania, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India, Morocco, Nigeria and Pakistan, among others.

Speaking at the inaugural programme, UNFPA Country Representative in Bangladesh Arthur Erken termed violence against women a violation of human rights and laid importance on awareness campaigning among people to eliminate the crime.

Women are falling victims to different forms of violence, including domestic violence and sexual harassment, in the society, he said.

Bangladesh has to be attentive to establishing human rights, especially the rights of women, said UN Resident Coordinator Neal Walker, as the country is pledge-bound to the UN's human rights charter.

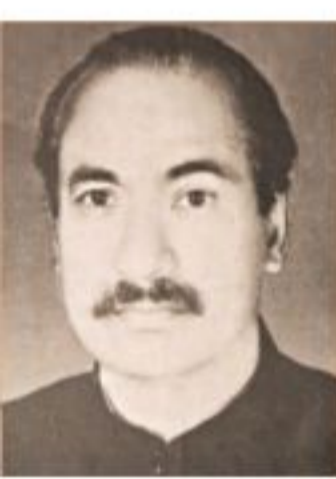
Education, good governance, democracy are the prerequisites for establishing human rights, he said, and Bangladesh has to ensure these for the welfare of women.

The conference is being hosted by the United Nations Youth and Students Association of Bangladesh, United Nations Information Center and UN System, Dhaka University, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh.

It will end on Saturday with a declaration on the consensus of the participants on the issue of violence against women.

# Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



The first death anniversary of Abdur Rouf, a former whip and member of the 1972's constitution draft committee, will be observed in his home town in Nilphamari today.

On the occasion, a prayer and commemorative discussion will be held at the Liberation Square at Bugdokra village under Domar upazila in the district.

His family members have requested his relatives and well-wishers to attend the programmes.

Rouf, also a freedom fighter, had been elected member of the parliament for three times from Nilphamari constituency.

Capt Mozammel Hossain METRO DESK



The 10th death anniversary of valiant freedom fighter Capt Mozammel Hossain will be observed at Hossain Nagar Baitus Mozammel Jame-Mosjid in Savar after Asr prayers today.

On the occasion, Qurankhwani, milad mahfil and a distribution of food among the poor have been arranged, said a press release.

All his relatives, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend the milad and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Renuka Dasgupta

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Today is the second death anniversary of social worker Renuka Dasgupta.

She was the mother of three freedom fighters Ashis Dasgupta, Ajoy Dasgupta, and Ashim Dasgupta.

She was also known as the "mother" of all freedom fighters in Goila, Agailjhara and Gournadi areas of Barisal.

On the occasion, a religious programme and discussion will be held at her residence at Goila village under Agailjhara upazila.

Similar programmes will also be held at the residence of her son Ashim Dasgupta, executive director Bangladesh Bank, in the capital's Banani.



# UNREST IN ASHULIA

(1) Workers leave a readymade garment factory in Ashulia as production got suspended after thousands of workers from around 400 factories in the area took to streets and staged violent demonstrations following a rumour of fire at a Ha-Meem Group factory yesterday. (2) A notice hung by the authorities of Tazreen Fashions Ltd reads the salary for November will be paid on December 1. (3) Empty Jirabo road in Savar amid the unrest. (4) Agitating garment workers vandalising a CNG-run auto-rickshaw at Jirabo. (5) Police patrolling Dhaka-Tangail highway. (6) Anti-riot police chasing away a group of protesters. (7) A worker being evacuated as he fell ill from tear gas fired by police at Jangara in Savar.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



# Govt has taken steps to stop border killing: PM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday told parliament that her government had taken necessary measures to stop killing of Bangladeshis by India's Border Security Force (BSF).

Official data show 206 Bangladeshi citizens have been killed by BSF during the present government's tenure since 2009. Replying to lawmakers' queries, Hasina then said the number of border killing had decreased during her government.

In a scripted answer, she said 95 Bangladeshis were killed in 2006, 87 were killed in 2007, 48 were killed in 2011, and 31 people were killed by BSF in 2012.

The PM did not mention the number of people killed in 2009 and 2010, the first two years of her government.

The then home minister Shahara Khatun had said 67 Bangladeshis were killed in 2009 and 60 were killed in 2010.

The PM said Indian government had assured Bangladesh of taking measures to stop border killing, and measures were taken to bring down the number to zero.

On drug factories in bordering areas, the premier said Bangladesh had asked India to stop the factories. She also said her government had plans to take housing projects at upazila and union level.

# BMA election today

Swachip, DAB panels accuse each other of intimidation, misbehaviour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election to Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) 2012 will be held today amid the two major contesting panels accusing each other of misbehaviour and issuing threats.

The panels are pro-Awami League Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad (Swachip) and pro-BNP Doctors' Association of Bangladesh (DAB), both pledging to, among others, develop medical studies, public health services and medical research.

"Awami League leaders and activists tore down our posters and banners in Rajshahi on Tuesday night," alleged Dr AKM Azizul Haque, president aspirant from DAB.

Dr Iqbal Arslan, secretary general aspirant from Swachip, said, "DAB followers tried to set a banner over our banner

before Jatiya Press Club and threatened our supporters."

Dr Alauddin Sheikh, the election commission president, said the issues had been solved through discussions with both panels.

A total of 32,892 voters, 13,338 in Dhaka, will cast their votes at 67 BMA branches across the country from 8:30am to 5:00pm to elect a 41-member central committee to run BMA for the next two years.

Optical Mark Reader machines will be used in four branches -- Dhaka Chittagong, Comilla and Mymensingh -- while votes will be cast manually in the rest.

Dr Mahmud Hasan is contesting for the president post from the Swachip panel while Dr AZM Zahid Hossain is contesting for the secretary general post from the DAB panel.

# Eight killed, fifteen injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Eight people were killed and 15 others injured in road accidents in Chittagong, Rangpur, Jamalpur, Magura, Panchagarh, and Comilla yesterday.

Our Chittagong correspondent reports, two people were killed in separate road accidents in Chittagong city yesterday.

In an incident, garment worker Rabeya Bashri, 18, was critically injured as a truck hit her at Alankar intersection under Pahartali Police Station around 2:00pm. She died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

Meanwhile, Md Tarek, 12, was run over by a covered van at Salt Gola Crossing intersection around 4:00pm. He also died at the CMCH.

Our Rangpur correspondent

reports, two children were killed and 15 others injured as a school bus plunged into a road side pond in Bahraini area under Kaunia upazila of Rangpur yesterday.

The deceased were Maruf Hossain, 8, and Anika, 8. Both of them were class II students at Marjina Memorial Kindergarten in Mirbagh area of the upazila.

Police and locals said the accident took place as the driver of the school's bus lost control over its steering while it was giving side to a microbus around 8:00am, killing Maruf on the spot.

Our Jamalpur correspondent reports, Harun-or-Rashid, 38, was killed as a truck hit him near Bakshiganj Bus Station in Bakshiganj upazila.

The victim was first rushed to Bakshiganj Upazila Health Complex,

and later shifted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

Our Magura correspondent reports, Saifur Rahman, 52, was killed in a road accident on Magura-Jessore highway in Magura sadar upazila yesterday.

Our Thakurgaon correspondent reports, Delwar Hossain, 65, was killed on the spot as a truck hit him in bypass intersection area at Jamadarpara village under Boda upazila in Panchagarh yesterday.

UNB reports from Comilla, day labourer Habibullah, 25, was killed in a road accident on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Kabila in Burichang upazila yesterday.

Locals said the accident took place as a tractor fell into a roadside ditch after its driver lost control over the wheel around 5:00pm.