

# NEWS IN brief

## NU master's last part admission time extended

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur  
The time for admission to master's last part course (regular) under National University for 2010-11 session has been extended to August 26.  
Aspiring candidates can collect application forms from the NU website and get admitted from August 18, says a press note yesterday.  
Details are available on the website - nubd.info, nuadmission.info, and nuadmission.com/mf-adm.

## Workshop on conflict resolutions ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
A three-day workshop on "Conflict Resolutions: Concepts and Techniques" ended at Police Staff College in the capital's Mirpur yesterday.  
Vice Chancellor of ASA University Bangladesh (ASAUB) Dr Dalem Chandra Barman inaugurated the workshop while Muhammad Golam Rasul, MDS (training) of the college, was in the chair on July 23, said a press release of Bangladesh Police.  
Fifteen students of the two universities and 20 police officials took part in the course organised by Dhaka University, ASAUB and Police Staff College.

## Govt to renovate FFs' graveyards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
State Minister for Liberation War Affairs AB Tajul Islam yesterday handed over a cheque of Tk 1.5 crore to the chief of army staff for the renovation of graveyards for freedom fighters.  
The minister handed over the cheque at an iftar party hosted by Army Chief General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan at Senakunja in Dhaka Cantonment in honour of freedom fighters injured in the Liberation War.  
Around three hundred wounded freedom fighters joined the iftar.

## 14 warehouses gutted in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur  
A fire gutted 14 warehouses of jhut (scraps of fabrics of the garment factory) at Natunbazar in Konabari area of Gazipur city on Wednesday night.  
Four fire fighting units from Gazipur and Kaliakoir fire stations doused the blaze after about two hours.  
Abu Jafar Ahmed, station officer of Gazipur Fire Station, said the fire might have originated from an electric short circuit at one of the warehouses of one Md Farukh and soon spread.

## Man's body recovered in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur  
Police recovered the body of a gold trader from his shop at Salna Bazar in Gazipur city yesterday morning.  
Ranjit Dash, 30, son of Sushil Dash, resided at Mirergaon in Gazipur sadar upazila.  
Joydebpur police Sub-inspector Md Nazmul Hasan said Ranjit was found with the throat slit, adding that police found evidence of looting in the shop.  
The shop employee Bolram of Rajabari in Sreepur of Gazipur has been absconding since the incident, he said.

# Work for development

## Prime minister asks officials

UNB, Dhaka  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the government officials and employees to be more pro-people and engage themselves in overall development of the country.  
"You'll have to be pro-people and have the attitude of sacrifice for the welfare of the nation," she told an iftar event and annual dinner of Bangladesh Administrative Service Association (BASA) at Bangladesh International Conference Centre in the capital.  
She said the government officials and employees should play a leading role in continuation of the development activities, and asked the public servants to be more active for implementing the "vision 2021".  
Sheikh said the success of the government mostly depends on the BASA members.  
PM adviser HT Imam, Cabinet Secretary Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, BASA President Abu Alam Shahid Khan, and BASA Secretary

General AN Shamsuddin Azad Chowdhury spoke at the programme.  
Sheikh Hasina called upon the administrative officials to work with utmost efficiency and the attitude of sacrifice in reaching public services to the doorsteps of people.  
In this regard, she sought their cooperation in implementation of the government programmes undertaken for the development of the country.  
In most cases, the implementation of the government decisions depends on the performance and efficiency of the field officers of the administration, she said.  
Hasina said the country has got its independence crossing many hurdles from the colonial rule to autocratic regime in different forms, including martial law and military backed regime.  
Laying emphasis on the continuity of the democratic system, Hasina said her government wants to develop the country through establishing the rule of law and people.



# Govt wants to hold on to power: Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka  
BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday said the government is trying to hold the next parliamentary election under its own arrangement aiming to cling to power.  
Speaking at an iftar party, she also said the government could not do anything good for the people during its four-and-a-half-year rule.  
Categorically mentioning that the Awami League will not be allowed to hold the election while in power, she said, "The next parliamentary election must be held under a non-party government."  
Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) organised the party in honour of the country's politicians and distinguished citizens at Bashundhara Convention Centre in the capital.  
Khaleda urged the government to reinstate the caretaker government system in the constitution to create a level-playing field during the polls.

"All the political parties will participate in the election if it is held under a neutral government," she said.  
Claiming that holding the parliamentary elections under a non-party caretaker government is now a demand of the mass people, the BNP chairperson said the party which will win the polls under a neutral government will govern the country. "We all have to accept it," she said.  
Mentioning that the country is in a sordid state, the former premier said the government did nothing for development of the country and its people.  
Earlier, BDB chief Badruddoza Chowdhury said the country will be pushed towards a great crisis if the government does not accept the demand for the caretaker government system.  
Krishak Sramik Janata League President Abdul Kader Siddiqui and Nagorik Oikya convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna also joined the iftar party.



# RANA PLAZA CASE

## Savar mayor denied bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT  
A Dhaka court yesterday rejected a bail petition of suspended Savar municipality mayor and BNP leader Refayet Ullah and ordered sending him to jail in connection with violation of the building code blamed for the Rana Plaza collapse on April 24.  
The disaster killed at least 1,132 people, mostly garment workers, while 2,438 people were rescued from the debris.  
Senior Judicial Magistrate Kazi Shahidul Islam passed the order.  
In the forwarding report, Bijoy Krishna Kar, assistant superintendent of police of the Criminal Investigation Department and the investigation officer of the case, said Refayet did not take any step against the irregularities in the approval of the building design.  
CID arrested Refayet in the capital's Malibagh area on Wednesday.

## University student drowns in Dhanmondi Lake

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
A private university student drowned at Dhanmondi Lake near Road-8 in the capital yesterday evening.  
Bangladesh Fire Service and Civil Defence divers recovered the lifeless body of Faisal Ahmed Nipu, 21, around 8:30pm. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.  
The first year student studying software engineering at Daffodil International University went there right before iftar with his friends, said his roommate Syed Mahbulul Alam.  
"In an act of mischief, one friend's shoe was thrown into the lake around 6:45pm. Nipu went into water to retrieve the shoe but drowned," he said.  
Hailing from Mymensingh, Faisal used to live in a mess with Mahbulul in Dhanmondi 15.

## WORKING CHILDREN

# Child domestic workers most abused

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Speakers at a seminar yesterday identified domestic workers as one of the most vulnerable groups among the working children.  
"Child domestic workers are not only abused and killed, but a vast majority are not allowed access to education, adequate rest and recreation and handle hazardous jobs involving fire and sharp objects," said Supreme Court judge Justice M Imman Ali.  
Legally, working children in any profession are entitled to educational and recreational facilities, said Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, addressing the seminar, "Justice for children in Bangladesh: An analysis of recent cases", at the capital's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel.  
However, implementation of the child-related laws is "in a state of limbo" as "there is a manifest lack of knowledge of the laws among the police, magistrates and prosecutors," he said. "Moreover, there is hardly any monitoring mechanism to ensure that the legal provisions are complied with."  
Justice Imman noted that many domestic workers fled the homes of their employers, unable to stand the abuse, and ended up on the street as sex workers. No steps have been taken to systematically document the details of domestic workers by the government, he said.  
The judge recommended that authorities be directed to get child workers registered at the local governance units of their place of origin and their place of employment so that they could be tracked.  
Iqbal Nayyar, deputy country director of Save the Children, which organised the seminar, also spoke.

## TACKLING NATURAL DISASTERS

# New fund created for DCs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Against the backdrop of demands of the country's 64 deputy commissioners (DCs), Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday declared that a special fund was created for them to manage natural disasters and calamities.  
Without disclosing the amount, Muhith said, "Once the fund is activated, the DCs will be able to use it after any disaster."  
He was talking to journalists after emerging from the last day's session of a three-day "DC Conference" at Bangladesh Secretariat's Cabinet Division.  
At the meeting, the DCs pointed out that those involved in outsourcing work online with organisations abroad are facing difficulties in getting payments.  
Muhith replied that the Bangladesh Bank governor had assured him of introducing PayPal, a global e-commerce business allowing payments and money transfers through the internet.  
At another meeting with the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, the DCs demanded that the government ensures un-

interrupted power supply at all districts during the present month of Ramadan and upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr.  
They also pointed out problems in the power supply lines and distribution system.  
The prime minister's energy affairs adviser, Tawfiq-E-Elahi Chowdhury, replied that the secretary to the ministry and its top officials were directed to take necessary steps in this regard.  
At another meeting with the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, the DCs wanted to know ways to tackle investigations and propaganda campaigns by some media, especially those online.  
"We told the DCs about an online policy, the formulation of which is under process," Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu told journalists afterwards.  
On the 8th pay scale for journalists, Inu said the government would formally publish a gazette as soon as possible.  
Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan briefed reporters after the conference's concluding ceremony.

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**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
The International Republican Institute (IRI), a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting democracy worldwide, is seeking proposals from interested applicants for 2 different projects:  
1) A media monitoring project to study media coverage during the campaign period for the upcoming national parliamentary elections; and  
2) An innovative research study project to explore topics related to elections and political culture in Bangladesh.  
For more details and specific proposal requirements, please contact IRI Program Officer, Sonia Rashid, via email at srashid@iri.org  
The final deadline for submission of proposals is August 21, 2013, 11:59pm (Bangladesh local time). C-881

**অফিস স্পেস বিক্রয়**  
জরুরী ভিত্তিতে ১২ সোনারগাঁও রোডস্থ সোনারতরী টাওয়ারের ১৩ তলায় সুসজ্জিত ডেকোরেশন সহ ৭০০ বর্গফুটের (আনুমানিক) অফিস স্পেস বিক্রয় করা হবে। যোগাযোগঃ ০১৭৬৮১২৩২৩৯, ০১৮১৫০৫২৬৪০

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**Request for Quotation**  
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Reference: RFQ-BD-2013-056  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Bangladesh seeks Quotations from interested organizations for Repairing and Reproduction of Project's Signboard under Activating Village Courts Project in various Union Parishad (UPs). All interested organizations may download the Bidding documents (RFQ) from [http://www.undp.org.bd/proc\\_more.php](http://www.undp.org.bd/proc_more.php) through a formal registration process that will register bidders into the participants list, so any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and respective answers can be sent to all bidders.  
**Submission of Quotation:** The envelope should state the tender subject mentioned above and the Quotations must be submitted as per the instructions specified in the RFQ document by the deadline mentioned below to the Registry, UNDP Bangladesh, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.  
The deadline for submission of Quotations is Sunday, 18th August, 2013, 04:30p.m. local time.