

Hasina calls for saving Islam's sanctity

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged all concerned to work in unison to protect the sanctity of Islam and preach for its expansion "so that the people could know about its main message and teachings".

She was talking to a Bangladesh Jama'atul Modarresin delegation which called on and congratulated her at her Gono Bhaban residence for passing the Islamic Arabic University Bill, 2013 on September 18.

Islam is a most liberal religion and no other belief provides people such dignity, she said, adding that only Islam ensured women's rights to both the husband's and father's property but this has been wrongly explained.

"So, I think the Alem-Mashaekh (Islamic scholars) will have to come forward to remove the confusion," she said.

"Islam is a religion of peace and it teaches us for leading a beautiful life. But it is unfortunate that some people hurt religious sentiments and tarnish Islam's image by taking shelter of militancy and terrorism," said Hasina.

On the May 5 countrywide rampage, Hasina said Hefajate-Islam activists joined hands with BNP and Jamaat Terrorists to ignite fires inside Baitul Mukarram National Mosque and torch hundreds of copies of the Holy Quran.

"Such a large number of copies of the Quran were not burnt in the history of Islam," she said, urging everyone to remain alert to prevent recurrence of such an incident.

Hasina said the Awami League (AL) was always devoted to the welfare of Islam. "My government has been working tirelessly for preaching and expansion of Islam," she said.

DB arrests 6 carjackers

FROM PAGE 5

Using information learned during the arrestees' interrogation, the detectives arrested two of their associates in Kalabagan of the capital, he added.

The arrestees are Md Nechhar Hossain, 35, Al-

Amin, 24, Mizanur Rahman, 22, Manjur Elahi, 23, Babu, 22, and Titu Patowari, 30.

The DB officials also recovered six private cars and eight motorcycles from Dhanmondi and Paltan of the capital and from Ashulia, Keraniganj and Gazipur.

Grameen UNIQLO

FROM PAGE 5

Elephant Road and Bansaree in the capital, said a press release.

Being a social business, profits from the stores are re-invested in the business within Bangladesh, to grow the network of stores, giving employment to more and more people, it added.

Grameen UNIQLO produces the collection in Bangladesh using locally sourced materials, providing highly practical items "made by locals, for locals".

Chief Executive Officer of Grameen UNIQLO Tadahiro Yamaguchi, who inaugurated the store at Banani, said, "I believe this store will tremendously help us to attract a

strong customer base of the area."

Launched in 2010, Grameen UNIQLO is a joint venture between Grameen Healthcare Trust and Fast Retailing Co Ltd, a Japanese casual wear designer, manufacturer and retailer. It aims to fight poverty, gender discrimination by creating a sustainable business.

Although Grameen UNIQLO began with door-to-door sales in farming villages that offered affordable, quality clothing to people living below the poverty line, over the years it expanded and set up stores. The stores have a positive effect by creating jobs, said the press release.

4 newborns

FROM PAGE 5

Jahurul Islam and Liton Miah. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare formed and asked a three-member probe committee to submit a report in three working days.

The body comprises Dhaka Divisional Health Director (hospital) Dr Nahin Nasrin, Mymensingh Medical College Assistant Prof (paediatrics) Dr Shafiuddin and Directorate of Health Services Deputy Director (law) Dr Nojabbat Hossain.

Gang mugs

FROM PAGE 5

in the bus at airport and then there were around 15 travelers in it.

When the vehicle reached near BAF Shaheen School and College, all of a sudden, seven people, among them, asked the six to give all of their valuables, he said.

"As we protested, the culprits beat us with sticks after blindfolding and tying our hands and snatched away all the valuables, including my DSLR camera," Kabir added.

When they could free their hands they found themselves at Fulbaria in Savar around 4:00am, he said adding that the driver and helper might have been involved in the incident.

Kabir said they would file a case.



Six carjackers, top, at the headquarters of the Detective Branch of police in the capital yesterday. Detectives arrested them raiding different parts of the city the day before and recovered six hijacked cars, bottom right, and eight motorbikes, bottom left. Story on Page 5

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Prothom Alo Tangail

FROM PAGE 3

miscreants arrived at the scene and seized the car, he added.

Worried, he called his uncle who rushed to the spot, Sudipta said, adding that as soon as Shekhor arrived the miscreants attacked him.

They hit Shekhor with

bricks leaving him seriously injured, Sudipta said, adding that they continued the assault even after learning Shekhor's identity.

Locals claimed two criminals, Reza and Prince, led the attack.

Meanwhile, protesting the attack, journalists in Tangail

declared a three-day programme including a rally, a human chain and a memorandum to the deputy commissioner.

Tangail Superintendent of Police Saleh Mohammad Tanvir assured the injured journalist of arresting the culprits.

UP chairmen demand

FROM PAGE 3

In addition, the village courts must be empowered by allowing it to deal with cases worth Tk 2 lakh at least, said the speakers.

"Currently, the village courts can only accept cases worth Tk 25,000. This means that they can only deal with cases of petty thefts and the like," said Tulu.

Giving an example, he said the village courts could not even deal with a case of a stolen cow, which would cost more than Tk 25,000.

Disempowering the village courts leads to a backlog of cases in higher courts, stated the speakers.

They also urged the government to include UPs in the decision-

making level, while planning projects for the local government bodies.

"Currently, a lot of projects are planned without consulting the UP about the local scenario, which means that resources are often allocated inaccurately, resulting in wastages in some places and shortages in others," said Tulu.

Foreign workers

FROM PAGE 5

(PNMB), a report of Malaysian English daily The Star quoted the minister at a press conference at PNMB's Kuala Lumpur headquarters.

"We are confident that the new cards will ensure

only legal foreign workers are in the country. It will also ensure more effective enforcement," he said.

The initiative, taken by the ministry last month, will ensure legal workers' rights and stop the harassment they face, Labour Counselor

Mantu Kumar Biswas of Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur told The Daily Star recently.

Currently, around five lakh Bangladeshis are working in different sectors in Malaysia.

Villagers set fire

FROM PAGE 3

Masudul Alam, officer-in-charge of Gangni Police Station, said police investigated the matter and found it to be true.

"I had earlier urged the village elders to settle the matter through arbitration," said the OC yesterday.

Robiul and his son were called to appear in the arbitration.

However, when they

refused, villagers set their house on fire and prevented their family members from dousing it.

On information, a team from Gangni Police Station rushed to the spot and brought the villagers under control.

"The villagers returned home after we assured them of arresting the criminal," said OC Masudul.

A case was filed.

Dhaka not yet sure

FROM PAGE 5

and on Thursday sank there, killing at least 114 people as hundreds were dumped into the sea, AP reports quoting officials.

Over 150 people were rescued but about the same number were still unaccounted for.

It was one of the deadliest recent accidents in the perilous Mediterranean Sea crossing that thousands of African migrants make every year, seeking a new life in the European

Union.

Smugglers charge thousands of dollars a head to slip people into Europe aboard overcrowded, barely seaworthy fishing boats, providing no life vests or other safety features.

The 66-foot boat was believed to have been carrying 450 to 500 people, according to the International Organization for Migration.

The boat left from Tripoli with migrants from Eritrea, Ghana and Somalia.

BSF picks up Bangladeshi farmer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) yesterday picked up a Bangladeshi farmer from Ratnai border in Baliadangi upazila of Thakurgaon while he was cutting grass along the border.

The detainee was identified as Khabiruddin, 32, son of Khoka Mahmud of Morolpara village of the upazila.

Bangladesh Border Guard sources said members of Natoyatuli BSF camp picked up Khabiruddin.

BGB sent a protest letter to its Indian counterpart and asked for a flag meeting to return Khabiruddin.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 25th death anniversary of former secretary MA Rashid.

On the occasion, special prayers will be offered at his second son's residence at Gulshan in the capital after Maghrib prayers, said a press release.

Rashid's relatives, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend the programme to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Two more die

FROM PAGE 5

mother had 80 percent, Subhash' brother Kalachan Saha told The Daily Star.

Subhash's two sons -- Sumon Saha and Rintu Saha -- are receiving treatment in the burn unit of DMCH but their conditions are critical, said hospital sources.

The sons are still unaware that their parents and sister are dead.

"The explosion occurred around 3:00am early Tuesday when Subhash lit his cigarette with a matchstick in his house," said Omar Faruque, officer-in-charge of Kaliakoir Police Station, adding that gases might have leaked from a gas cylinder that was in their house.

An unnatural death case was filed.

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