

NEWSIN brief

Iran congratulates Hasina on re-election

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

President of Iran Hasan Rouhani has congratulated Sheikh Hasina for assuming office as the prime minister of Bangladesh.

In his message, the Iranian president also expressed his confidence that under Hasina's leadership, bilateral relationship and multilateral cooperation between the two countries will continue growing, said a foreign ministry press release yesterday.

Muggers shoot two, snatch Tk 8 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers made away with around Tk 8 lakh after shooting two men in the capital's Press Club area yesterday evening. Sohagh Khan and Dowlat Gazi, employees of Siddique Enterprise Ltd located on the High Court premises, are undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Police said four youths in a car waylaid the rickshaw that was carrying the two near Kadam Fuara area and snatched away the bag containing the money after shooting them in their legs.

Dismembered body found in capital identified

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The female body found severed at the waist in two sacks in the capital's Uttara on Friday was identified by her family yesterday.

The deceased, Khadiza Begum, 30, wife of Abdul Quader of Mymensingh, was a part-time domestic help, said Uttara Paschim police.

The body was handed over to the family members after they identified it at Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue.

One was held for interrogation, said police but did not disclose the identity.

Aga Khan Girl Guides distributes warm clothes among needy in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Aga Khan Girl Guides has distributed warm clothes among the needy, residing around Badda area in the capital, at Allatun Nessa Higher Secondary School.

Among other leaders of Bangladesh Girl Guides Association and members of the Aga Khan Girl Guides, Sayeda Rehana Imam, Mahfia Parvin, Amina Khatun, were present during the distribution, said a press release.

Munira Hussein and Al Moeiz Laiwala, members of Aga Khan Council for Bangladesh, were also present.

Apollo clinic offers integrated health checkup packages

CITY DESK

Apollo Master Health Check Clinic has offered integrated health checkup packages which are designed on health risk factors for different ages and their needs.

To diagnose the disease or identify its reasons, each package is designed comprising some required selected tests, says a press release.

The clinic is equipped with 33 different health screening packages and is located on the ground floor of the same hospital block.

For details one can contact at 02-8401600.

Nazrul, Nazneen president, secy general of glaucoma society

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Nazrul

Nazneen

Prof M Nazrul Islam and Dr Nazneen Khan have been elected president and secretary general respectively of Bangladesh Glaucoma Society for 2014-2015.

The election was held in its fifth annual general meeting in a local hotel

SC upholds HC stay on recruitment of medical technologists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court order that had stayed the process of recruiting 2,077 medical technologists.

The five member bench headed by Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain dismissed an appeal filed by the government recently seeking stay on the HC order.

Following a writ petition, the HC on February 20 last year stayed the recruitment process, and also issued a rule upon the government to explain why its advertisement looking to recruit medical technologists should not be declared illegal.

KM Hafizul Alam, a lawyer for the petitioners, told The Daily Star that the HC will now give a final decision after holding hearing on the rule.

The Directorate of health services on January 18 last

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TIB expresses concern

FROM PAGE 3 participation in political party programmes by ACC high-ups can lead to a conflict of interests and barriers to ACC's independence and neutral stance."

However, Badiuzzaman told The Daily Star, "I do not see any conflict of interest here. I went to Laxmipur to attend a personal programme and when officers of the local administration asked me to go with them to the opening ceremony, I went."

About the dinner, he said it was fabricated.

In reply to TIB's concern over the slow pace of probes against current and previous lawmakers, he said, "We just started investigations. It takes time to collect data."

The appointment decision was taken yesterday in an ACC meeting, informed ACC Public Relation Officer Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya.

Khandaker Khalilur Rahman was appointed against Anne, Farid Ahmed Patwary against Parwar and Abdus Sattar against Rejab-ud-dowla.

13, including 6 Ijtema

FROM PAGE 3 killed and his friend injured when a bus hit their motorbike in the city yesterday.

Our Jhalakathi correspondent reports, Kamal Hossen, 35, was killed and two others were injured when a bus hit their motorbike at Brac intersection in Rajapur yesterday.

Our Rangpur correspondent adds, Nurul Islam, 32, died as a bus rammed his bicycle at Mithapukur's Dulhapur yesterday.

Our Chittagong correspondent adds, Md Soheli Narayan, was killed and six others were injured when a truck overturned in Mirsarai upazila yesterday.



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Dhaka City Corporation's open dumpsters cavalierly deployed on a road in Taltola of the capital not only narrow the road, but also fill the area with unbearable stench, render the adjacent footpath unusable, and contribute to the environment pollution. The photo was taken on Saturday.

AMAR EKUSHEY GRANTHA MELA 2014 Suhrawardy Udyan section still not ready

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The portion of Amar Ekushey Grantha Mela 2014 situated in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan witnessed a relaxed mood yesterday afternoon with some spaces for stalls still lying empty and several stalls yet to get decorations, let alone have books on display.

Carpenters were found working inside Kobi Prakashani and Josna Publishers while makeshift curtains covered the stalls of Gotidhara, Rare Books and Bishwa Sahitya Kendra, showing no sign of sales.

A sales representative of publication house Suchipatra said their delay was for the sponsor's withdrawal just the day before the fair's inauguration on Saturday after being barred from putting up advertisements on the stall's interior.

The fair's rules and regulations this year states that failure to start operations in full swing from the inauguration will result in stall allotment cancellation and make the allotment holder non-eligible for participation next year.

Moreover, advertisements which are not relevant to the fair or not in line with its ambience cannot be put up inside stalls.

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CTG ARMS HAUL Bring to book behind the scenes big shots

Demands ex-city mayor Mohiuddin incriminating Khaleda, Tarique
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Awami League (AL) leader ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury yesterday demanded that the government brings to book "the big shots" whose names came up in the verdict in the 10-truck arms haul cases and "who worked behind the scenes and are still out of reach".

The then prime minister Khaleda Zia's silence on being informed of the haul by the then Directorate

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

RESERVED JS SEATS FOR WOMEN EC to announce polls next week

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission is planning to announce next week the schedule for elections to the reserved seats for women in the 10th parliament, said Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz yesterday.

"We will announce the schedule shortly after the ending of the 21-day stipulated time that will expire on February 9," he told reporters at his office.

According to the electoral law, political parties and candidates are entitled to get 21 days to inform the EC whether they would form any alliance with anybody and the number of lawmakers of the alliance, said EC officials.

Regarding the upazila polls, Shah Nawaz said the EC has decided to hold the upazila council polls in several phases to ensure that the polls are held fairly, and to maintain law and order.

Meanwhile, the commission has decided to prepone the elections to 49 upazilas of coastal and haor areas considering the rainy season.

The EC will hold elections to all the 487 upazilas across

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Although Amar Ekushey Grantha Mela 2014 was inaugurated on Saturday, some of these stalls falling in the portion of the fair in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan had not still completed decorations, let alone start selling books. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

CANCER TREATMENT

Poor remain largely undiagnosed

Experts tell Prothom Alo roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is a vast gap between the rich and the poor in terms of accessibility to cancer treatment in the country, said cancer specialists at a roundtable yesterday.

While the rich go abroad or receive expensive cancer treatments at private hospitals, the poor remain undiagnosed until the cancer spreads beyond recovery, they said.

High cost of treatment is the main reason why the treatment is beyond the reach of so many people, they said at the roundtable organised by the daily Prothom Alo at its

office in the capital.

"Cancer treatment is highly expensive. I will talk to the prime minister about providing health insurance for the poor," said Health Minister Mohammad Nasim.

Matiur Rahman, editor and publisher of Prothom Alo, said in Bangladesh only 20 percent of children with cancer are cured whereas in developed countries 80 percent of them are cured.

"It is not possible for the government to develop cancer treatment facilities single-handedly. Partnership between the public

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Court asks cops to return Inqilab's items

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked police to return the items which were seized during a raid on the Bangla daily Inqilab office on January 16.

Metropolitan Magistrate Shamsul Arefin gave the order following a petition filed by advocate Abdullah Al Mansur on behalf of Afzal Bari, a senior reporter of the daily.

The authority had earlier unsealed the daily's press. So, documents seized by police should be returned as the items were important for printing and publishing the daily, said the lawyer in the petition.

Police seized 16 items including three computers of Inqilab after a case was

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Man, daughter killed in Tongi septic tank blast

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man and his daughter were killed when the septic tank of their house exploded in Morkun area of Tongi early yesterday.

The dead were Mostafa Kamal, 60, and his daughter Mukta, 22.

Police said the tank, which was situated below their tin-shed house, exploded around 3:30am.

Ismail Hossain, officer-in-charge of Tongi Police Station, said Mostafa and Mukta were asleep during the accident and Mostafa's wife left the house for ablutions to offer her Fazr prayer.

Kamal, who sustained injuries as a wall fell on him, was declared dead at the upazila health complex.

Locals found the body of Mukta in a nearby under-construction building just minutes after the explosion.

SONALI BANK HEIST

Staff placed on 3-day remand

Truck for carrying looted money seized, helper held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Kishoreganj court yesterday placed Abu Bakar, an MLSS at the Sonali Bank's main branch in the town, on a three-day remand in a case filed over the bank heist.

The order came after Kishoreganj Sadar police had produced him before the court for seeking a five-day remand for him, said Officer-in-Charge Abdul Malek.

Yusuf Munshi, the culprit behind looting the bank through digging a tunnel from an adjacent tin-roofed house, struck up

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