



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

LIFE style

OUR URBAN POET

Works of Ahsan Habib speak of tranquillity and optimism

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'IT COULD ROB US'

Hillary Clinton calls on the senate not to pass new sanctions on Iran

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UPAZILA

ELECTION 2014



AL, BNP fail to get rid of rebels

Last date of withdrawal over, yet rebel candidates stay in many upazilas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite hectic efforts, Awami League and BNP have failed to convince their dissidents to quit the February 19 upazila parishad elections and support the party-backed candidates.

Some of the rebel candidates of the parties, however, stepped aside after negotiations yesterday, the last day for nomination withdrawal, according to information from the returning officers' offices.

A total of 405 aspirants yesterday withdrew nominations at all the 98 upazilas, including the one that is going for polls on February 24. Of them, 234 are chairman, 126 vice-chairman and 45 women vice-chairmen aspirants.

After the withdrawal, 432 are contesting for the posts of chairman, 513 for vice chairman and 329 for women vice-chairman, said Election

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PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Huts are built cutting hills at Lighthousepara in Cox's Bazar town. Illegal huts built this way increase the risk of landslides during the rainy season. Several hundred people have died in the region in mudslides and landslides over the years.

Boost for army

New cantonment to be set up in southern area

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

The government plans to set up a full-fledged cantonment for the Bangladesh Army in the southern part of the country.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina disclosed this at a weekly cabinet meeting at the Secretariat yesterday, according to meeting sources.

The government has not yet decided on the location but the cantonment will be built at a suitable place between Khulna and Barguna, subject to the availability of land, said cabinet sources.

"The prime minister said since there is no cantonment in the far South, we need to build a cantonment there soon," Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury told The Daily Star after the meeting.

The PM discussed the issue with her cabinet colleagues who agreed to the plan.

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NEWS ANALYSIS

The ignored now ignoring

AL, BNP grassroots defy party directives

SHAKHAWAT LITON, RASHIDUL HASAN, and PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Factionalism and fragile chain of command have become apparent in the Awami League and BNP centring the upazila polls. Both the parties had repeatedly directed their grassroots to pick one candidate per post in the upazila parishad polls to improve the chances of victory but in almost every upazila, party mates stand as rivals.

The parties' warnings of stern actions

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VIOLENCE AT RU

AL blames 'intruders', BCL expels 2 leaders

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and BIN HABIB

WASIM

As Bangladesh Chhatra League seems back with campus violence within a month of the new government taking office, ministers and ruling Awami League leaders yesterday rehearsed same old rhetoric.

A day after the activists of Rajshahi University BCL, the pro-AL student body, attacked general students with firearms on the campus, the AL high-ups blamed it all on the "intruders," warning of tough action against them.

Such reactions are identical to those by top AL leaders following recurring campus violence in the past five years.

Meanwhile, Chhatra League yesterday expelled

its RU unit Joint General Secretary Nasim Ahmed Setu and Organising Secretary Samsuzzman Emon over Sunday's violence. The duo was seen brandishing firearms during the violence that left at least 100 people, including eight journalists, injured.

Over the past five years, public universities, medical colleges, polytechnic institutes and government colleges saw many incidents of violence, as the BCL men got involved in factional clashes and also fought with activists of the opposition parties. In some cases, the authorities had to close the institutions.

But most of the BCL men involved in those incidents went unpunished, as senior AL leaders

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BCL men clash in presence of minister

STAR REPORT

Rival factions of BCL yesterday locked in a clash in the presence of Communications Minister Obaidul Quader and former ministers Dipu Moni and Abdul Matin Khasru during Awami League's divisional rally in Sylhet.

Meanwhile, at least five students of Bangladesh University of Textiles were injured during a clash between two groups of BCL men at the capital's Tejgaon yesterday afternoon.

At Jalalabad Gas Auditorium in Sylhet city,

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FATWA OVER PREGNANCY Victim punished, accused spared

Lalmonirhat imam held

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

A teenage girl has been ostracized in Lalmonirhat through a fatwa for her pregnancy after she was lured into a physical relationship with an adult with the promise of marriage.

The father of the 13-year-old girl filed a case with Aditmari Police Station on January 12, accusing Rezaul Islam, of Vatapara village, of developing illicit relations with the girl through deception.

Five days after the filing of the case, the imam of Vatapara Jame Masjid, Fazlul Haque, imposed the fatwa on the nine-month-pregnant girl and her family, forbidding villagers to engage in any form of interaction with them.

But neither the villagers took any action against Rezaul, 19, nor did police arrest him.

"I loved Rezaul. He said he would marry me and I believed him," the girl, who had just completed the fifth grade, told The Daily Star.

Since the victim was below 18, police filed a rape case, said Sub-inspector Aminul Islam, investigation

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Arrested imam



PHOTO: STAR

Two RU unit BCL leaders -- Nasim Ahmed Setu, left, and Samsuzzman Emon, right, brandishing firearms during Sunday's violence on the campus. The duo was expelled from the pro-AL student body over the incident yesterday.

RU authorities' role questioned

ANWAR ALI and MA SAYEED, Rajshahi

Students' demonstration against "commercialisation" of Rajshahi University was hurting the interest of the university authorities which prompted them to unleash armed Chhatra League cadres and police on the students Sunday, said a number of teachers and students.

The university authorities and police, however, claimed that "criminals of Islami Chhatra Shibir" had intruded into the demonstration, which "forced" the administration to launch the drive.

The university allowed the police to open fire on students while armed activists of pro-ruling party Chhatra League sporadically attacked the agitating students.

At least 100 students and seven journalists were injured on Sunday.

Students of university dorms left yesterday morning amid tight security after Rajshahi University was closed for an indefinite period Sunday.

A total of six cases were filed with Motihar Police Station in connection with the Sunday's violence. University Additional Registrar Saad Ahmed filed two cases against 60

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আশিয়ান মেডিকেল কলেজ

বরুয়া, শিলক্ষেত, ঢাকা-১২২৯, ফোন: ৮৯৯৯৫৪৩, ৮৯৯৯৫৮০-৮১
e-mail: ashiyanmedicalcollege@gmail.com, www.ashiyanhospital.com

১ম বর্ষ এমবিবিএস কোর্সে ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি (২য় ব্যাচ)

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত (স্বাপকম/চিশি-২/বেসমক ও ডেকহা-১/২০০৮ (অংশ-২)/৬৭৯। তাং- ২৭-১২-২০১২) এবং ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃক অধিভুক্ত (স্মারক নং- ৩২৬/ক.প.) নিরিবিলি মনোরম পরিবেশে আশিয়ান মেডিকেল কলেজে ২০১৩-২০১৪ শিক্ষাবর্ষে সরকারি নিয়ম অনুসারে সীমিত আসনে ছাত্র-ছাত্রী ভর্তি চলিতেছে।

- ভর্তির ব্যাপারে ইন্সটলমেন্ট (কিস্তি) বা মাসিক বেতনেই (ফিসে) সম্পূর্ণ কোর্স সম্পন্ন করার সুবিধা আছে।
- উল্লেখ্য যে আশিয়ান মেডিকেল কলেজ ও হাসপাতাল বাংলাদেশের স্বনামধন্য শিক্ষক ও চিকিৎসক এবং বিশ্বের অত্যাধুনিক যন্ত্রপাতি সম্বলিত একটি স্বয়ংসম্পূর্ণ প্রতিষ্ঠান।

অধ্যক্ষ

আশিয়ান মেডিকেল কলেজ

PPP PROJECTS

Muhith irked by slow progress

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday expressed disappointment at the failure of last government's initiatives, including implementation of PPP projects, the four-lane Dhaka-Chittagong highway and slashing of bank interest rate.

"We've everything, the money and design, but the implementation work of the Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Mymensingh four-lane projects couldn't be completed yet," he told a delegation of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) at his secretariat office.

"I think the contractors don't work properly.... I don't have necessary control over them," meeting sources quoted the minister as saying.

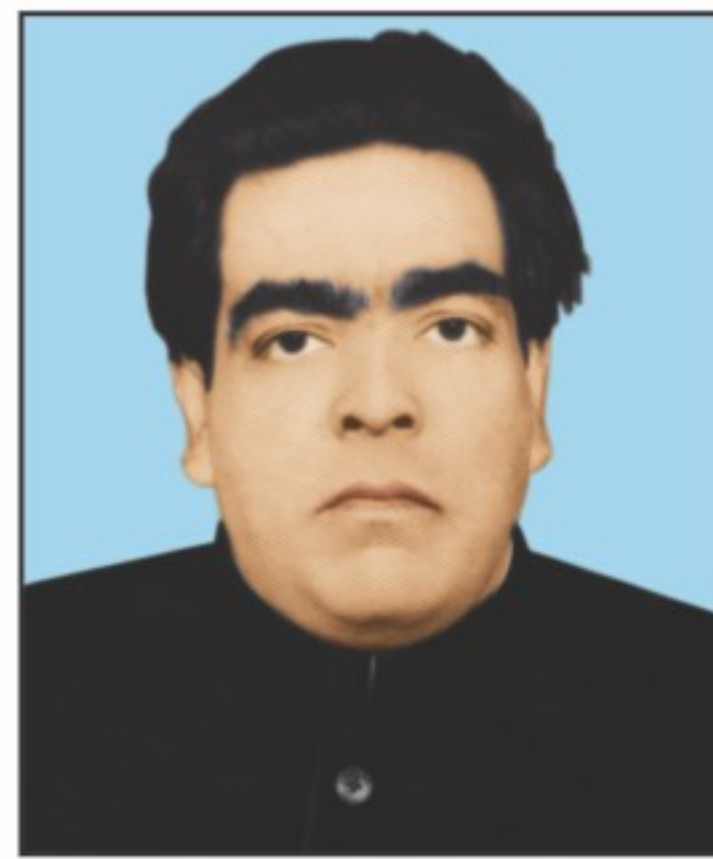
The government, he said, will build a 37-kilometre expressway stretching from the capital's Zero Point to Mawa of Munshiganj. An agreement will be inked soon to implement the \$1.5 billion project. Of the amount, the government will provide \$1 billion.

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36th Death Anniversary

(Abul Company) The founder of Abul Khair Group noted industrialist and social worker

Late Janab ABUL KHAIR



Death: 4th February, 1978

In accordance with the will of Almighty Allah the Beneficent, you left this mundane world, leaving us and many of your relations overwhelmed by grief. In our everyday life your bright ideals serve as beacon. You are immortal in your death. We pray to Almighty Allah for the salvation of your departed soul.

May Allah the Beneficent bless you with the eternal bliss of paradise. Ameen.

Your loving
Son, Daughters and Relatives.