

# NEWSIN brief

## Hiron's burial in Barisal today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The body of Shawkat Hossain Hiron, an Awami League lawmaker and former Barisal city mayor, was brought to the city from Dhaka yesterday.

People started gathering at Bangabandhu Udyan to show last respects to him.

Hiron, also Barisal city AL president, will be buried at Barisal Muslim Graveyard this afternoon following the last namaz-e-janaza at the udyan.

Hiron died at Apollo Hospitals Dhaka on Wednesday following a stroke, aged 58.

## Tazreen chairperson gets bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to Mahmuda Akhter, chairperson of Tazreen Fashions Limited, in a case filed over a fire in the factory in Ashulia of Dhaka in November 2012, which killed 112 garment workers.

She was granted bail after her lawyers pleaded that she is just the "titular" chairperson of the garment factory.

While granting bail, Judge Md Abdul Majid of the Dhaka District and Sessions Judge's Court also considered that Mahmuda is a woman and she has an infant.

## Teen strangled in Turag

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified criminals strangled a teenager in Turag, on the outskirts of the capital, yesterday morning.

On information from locals, police recovered the body of Sabbir Hossain Talukdar, a waiter of a local eatery, from an Eidgah at Rajabari.

He was also hacked in the face and forehead, said Turag Police Station Sub-inspector Ashrafal Alam.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for an autopsy.

## Doctor imposter held in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives arrested an imposter, who masqueraded as a doctor, in his Malibagh residence in the capital on Wednesday.

Afzal Hossain alias Amzad, 48, operated a chamber on the old airport road in Farmgate without having any medical degree, said Khorshed Alam, assistant commissioner of the Detective Branch (DB) of Police yesterday.

Khorshed said they seized two passports which had Amzad's pictures but one of those had a different name.

They also recovered 28 more passports of other people and some business cards having Amzad's name but engineer as his profession.

## Youth crushed under train wheels

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A youth named Badhon Chandra Sarker, was crushed to death under the wheels of a running train near Dhaka-Rajshahi train line at Salna upazila in Gazipur City early yesterday.

Badhon hailed from Sajiakandi village under Fulpur upazila in Mymensingh.

Police sent his body to Gazipur Sadar Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

## 2 women elected unopposed to JS reserved seats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission yesterday announced two persons elected unopposed to women reserved seats in the 10th parliament.

They are Sabiha Nahar Begum of Awami League and Khorshed Ara Haque of Jatiya Party, said EC officials.

Out of 50 women reserved seats, AL-led alliance got 41, JP 6 and independent candidates 3.

Meanwhile, suspended Thakurgaon Sadar upazila election will be held on April 16, said EC officials.

## Health week observed at ULAB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Social Welfare Club of the University of Liberal Arts observed April 6-10 as health week on the occasion of World Health Day on April 7.

Blood donation, seminar on this year's theme "vector borne diseases" and disseminating health tips to create awareness, were parts of the programme.

Health professionals and members of Shandhani from Dhaka Medical College took part in the programme.

## Dhaka seeks int'l support on Rohingyas

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has sought cooperation of the international community for the implementation of its national strategy to deal with the issue of undocumented Myanmar nationals in Bangladesh.

Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque made the call while addressing the international community in Geneva on Bangladesh's National Strategy to identify, locate, and deport undocumented Myanmar citizens.

At least 30,000 registered and more than 300,000 to 500,000 unregistered Rohingya refugees from Myanmar are staying in Bangladesh now.

Haque is visiting the Swiss capital to attend the

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People from all walks of life, including leaders of Awami League and BNP, academics, cultural personalities, and journalists, join the namaj-e-janaza of veteran journalist ABM Musa on the Jatiya Press Club premises yesterday. Story on page 3.

PHOTO: STAR

## Five bodies recovered in Gazipur in two days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Police recovered five bodies in the last two days from different areas in Gazipur.

The law enforcers recovered the body of Mehedi Hasan Sayem, 11, a school student, with his throat slit, from Barmi bus stand area in Sreepur upazila around 12:00pm, said Farid Hossain, sub-inspector of Sreepur Police Station.

Mehedi went missing around 7:00pm on Wednesday from his house, he added.

Rafiqul Islam, Mehedi's father, alleged that his son was murdered by his rivals following previous enmity.

Meanwhile, a housewife, Maksuda Akter, 20, was beaten to death yesterday allegedly by her husband Khorshed Alam of Kodma village under the upazila, confirmed Abdul Malek, a

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## City dwellers more vulnerable to TB

Says expert of Joint Monitoring Mission of NTP, WHO

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Urban people are more at risk of tuberculosis due to a high population density in the cities, said an expert of a joint monitoring mission working on TB.

Leopold Blanc, team leader of the mission, said, "Rural people are well covered by TB programme, but the great challenge lies in the cities where people move back and forth, and detecting them seems difficult."

In the cities, slums are the places where prevalence of the disease is high due to unhygienic environment and poor health services, he told reporters on the sidelines of a programme to disseminate the findings of the mission at Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in the capital yesterday.

"There are some models being tried in slums. We need to augment the efforts," said Blanc, former coordinator of "Stop TB Strategy" at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva.

Arranged by WHO and the National Tuberculosis Control Programme (NTP), the mission visited Rangpur, Naogaon, Tangail, Dhaka, Khulna, and Cox's Bazar to review the activities of the NTP between March 30 and April 10.

According to NTP officials, TB causes death of around 70,000 people a year in Bangladesh, making the country the sixth among 22 countries highly vulnerable to the disease.

Around 225 out of every 1 lakh people in the country contract TB each year, while 29 percent of old cases turn into multi-drug resistant TB, the officials said.

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Students, top, and teachers, left, of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Government Girls' High School in the capital take an oath to work together to make Dhaka city liveable by keeping it neat and clean at a programme in the school on Wednesday. Non-government organisation LIFE, City Corporation Shamajik Shangkritik Forum, and ATN Bangla jointly organised the event as part of their "Clean Dhaka Campaign-2014".

PHOTO: LIFE

## Evidence of killing by Quasem found

Investigator tells war crimes trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An investigator yesterday said he had found evidence that Jamaat-e-Islami leader Mir Quasem Ali, along with his aides, abducted pro-liberation people and killed many of them after torture at detention camps in Chittagong during the Liberation War.

As a top Al-Badr commander, he concluded with other anti-liberation elements and committed large-scale crimes in Bangladesh, especially in Chittagong in

1971, said Nurul Islam, the investigation officer and last prosecution witness in Quasem's case.

"I became convinced from the evidence I collected during investigation that Mir Quasem Ali was involved in abduction, confinement, torture, arson, killing and hiding bodies, which count as international crimes," he told the International Crimes Tribunal-2.

Quasem faces 14 charges of murder,

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### LAND DISPUTE

## Man, two sons killed in attack in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man and his two sons were killed and two other members of the family injured in an attack by their rival group over a land dispute at Dhonpur village in Kaliganj upazila of Gazipur yesterday.

The dead are Mamtaz Uddin, 75, his sons Saizul Islam, 35, and Saiful Islam of the village.

Nazmul Islam Bhuiyan, officer-in-charge of Kaliganj Police Station, said victim Mamtaz and Alal Uddin had a long standing dispute over 35 decimals of land.

Police said Alal and his men attacked Mamtaz and other family members with sharp weapons when they were working in the disputed land at about

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## The Daily Star - grameenphone IGNITE Activation programme ends in Sylhet

3 schools take part on last day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Activation programme of The Daily Star-Grameenphone event "IGNITE", a science competition for school students, ended at Sylhet yesterday.

Students of Al-Amin Jamia Islamia High School, Jalalabad Cantonment Public School and College, and Jahirra MU High School attended the event "Introducing IGNITE" at Jahirra MU High School.

The school students were informed about the competition during Introducing IGNITE. They also participated in different science experiments performed at the event.

IGNITE, a joint initiative of Grameenphone (GP) and The Daily Star, was initiated to inspire the students of class VI to X towards science education through different projects, competition and activities.

With the slogan "Science for Internet Generation," the competition will be held in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions. Students of these divisions can register at www.ignite-bd.com.

## Qulkhwani

CITY DESK



Qulkhwani of Dr Anwarul Huq, former associate professor of Dhaka

Medical College and a post graduate faculty member of the DMCH dermatology department, will be held at his Gulshan-2 residence at House No-29, Road No-64 after Asr prayers today.

Anwarul, son of Dr Altafuddin Ahmed, died at the capital's United Hospital on Wednesday, aged 72, says a press release.

Born on October 26, 1941, Anwarul got his MBBS, DDV from the UK and specialisation in HIV/AIDS from Sydney.

He first launched a project on HIV/AIDS at the National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM).

## MORE ROLE OF WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVT Rights activists seek political support

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Women's rights activists and people's representatives yesterday sought cooperation from all political parties to increase women's participation in local government bodies.

Besides, family members, colleagues and civil society members should extend their support to every woman at grassroots level who wants to engage in local government bodies, they viewed.

They were addressing a seminar titled "Political empowerment of grassroots level women: Experience of south-western region", organised by non-government organisation Rupantar at LGED auditorium in the capital.

Addressing the function, State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Meher Afroze Chumki said the government has chalked out short-term, mid-term and long-term plans for political empowerment of women.

Former adviser to a caretaker government Rasheda K Chowdhury demanded full implementation of women development policy and special budgetary allocation for political empowerment of grassroots level women.

Narayanganj City Corporation Mayor Selina Hayat Ivy and Rupantar Executive Director Rafiqul Islam Khokon, among others, spoke at the programme that was attended by representatives of NGOs and donor agencies and around a hundred elected women representatives of local government