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# RMCH INTERNS Patients suffer as strike on

## Man dies 'due to negligence'

STAR REPORT

Patients' sufferings knew no end, with RMCH interns, who beat up over 10 journalists on Sunday night, staying away from work all day long yesterday.

Amid a shortage of doctors at the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH), many patients remained untended while others were compelled to leave the compound.

A patient even died at the hospital in the afternoon as, the victim's family says, there was none to provide him oxygen.

An LGED employee, Shahidul Islam, 45, of the city's Chandipur area was taken to the hospital around 3:30pm with severe respiratory problems, said his son Nahidul Islam.

"We repeatedly requested the on-duty doctor [at the emergency] to give him oxygen and the doctor sent my father to the cardiology ward," he alleged.

"I ran around the ward for a doctor but could find none. Even the nurses were seeking the presence of a doctor for giving him oxygen. Half an hour later, my father passed away. He would have survived had he been provided with oxygen in time."

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A ward full of patients but no interns looking after them at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital yesterday. The interns are on a strike demanding that journalists be barred from entering the hospital. Cameraman of Jamuna TV Tarek Mahmud Russell, *top*, and Channel 24 cameraperson Raihanul Haque, *bottom*, who were injured during the interns' assault on them at the hospital Sunday night.



## MITFORD HOSPITAL ETV sues 5 for assault of journo

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Ekushey Television (ETV) authorities yesterday filed a case against the director and four interns of Mitford Hospital on charges of assaulting their reporters and videographers.

On Saturday, interns at the hospital allegedly beat up three reporters and three videographers of ETV when they went there to cover news on the alleged negligence of doctors.

Meanwhile, interns at the hospital began an indefinite work abstention since 2:30pm yesterday.

Zahidul Islam, director of the private television channel, filed the case with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka.

Hospital Director Brig

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## BNP's Teesta long march starts today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP begins its two-day long march towards the Teesta Barrage in Nilphamari today amid a warning by the government that stern action will follow if the party creates anarchy during the programme.

State Minister for Home Affairs Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday issued a note of warning, saying those who would cause anarchy would face legal action.

The government will extend its support

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## QUARTERLY REVIEW 49pc cabinet decisions unimplemented

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite the prime minister's directive given three months ago, none of the ministries have yet prepared any action plan for the next five years.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on January 20 asked the ministries to draw up their five-year action plans in keeping with the ruling Awami League's election manifesto and the past experience of the AL government.

But at the cabinet meeting yesterday, the PM was

informed that no ministries had sent any plan to the Cabinet Division. Hasina again asked the ministries to prepare the plan immediately and work accordingly.

"The cabinet has asked the authorities concerned to expedite implementing the January 20 directive to prepare ministry-wise time-bound action plans in line with the government's election manifesto as well as previous experience of the government," Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan said while briefing reporters after

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## INFLAMMATORY REMARKS BJP politician comes under media criticism

BBC ONLINE

Media in India are criticising a "controversial and inflammatory" statement given by a politician of the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Giriraj Singh on Saturday said those who oppose the BJP's prime ministerial candidate Narendra Modi have no place in the country and should go to Pakistan.

The BJP has reprimanded Singh, a candidate for the BJP in northern Bihar state, for his controversial remark, reports say.

Most newspapers are critical of Singh's remark and say it seems to

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Pitchers and cans are lined up at the tap of a pump station in Mugdhapara in the capital yesterday. Locals take water from there as the water supplied to their homes have a bad odour.

PHOTO:  
SK ENAMUL HAQ

## Sleepless for water

### Wasa blames depleting groundwater level, faulty pumps for supply shortage in city parts

HELEMUL ALAM

Although Dhaka Wasa is producing water equivalent to the city's estimated daily demand of 230 crore litres, some areas have been facing serious water crisis for about two months.

The crisis is so acute that residents of West Bhatara near Baridhara, Central Road and Kathalbagh areas have to sacrifice sleep going about collecting water by night.

Wasa officials said the crisis hit some pockets of the city due to depleting groundwater level and technical glitches in a few pumps.

Homemaker Selina Begum of West Bhatara could not sleep well for the last two months, as she has to wait round the clock for supply of water.

"We didn't get a drop of water in the last four days. From morning till late at night, I wait for supply of water, but there would be nothing," she said.

Getting water after every three or four days has become a common feature of the neighbourhood, mentioned Selina.

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**The Daily Star**

Integral Energy Limited

**ONLINE POLL**  
Do you agree with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's accusation of government's involvement in the recent abduction of businessman Abu Bakar Siddique?

Yes (69%)

No (31%)

TOTAL VOTES: 361

**TODAY'S POLL**  
Do you agree with the demand of Shushashoner Janmoy Nagorik (Shujan) that the election commission should be reconstituted in order to hold free and fair elections in future?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT  
[www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**PRAYER TIMING** April 22

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-25	5-00
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-27	6-31
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

## 20kg gold seized at airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials seized around 20 kilograms of gold bars worth over Tk 9 crore and arrested four people, including a civil aviation staff, at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital last night.

Two of the arrestees are women.

The arrestees are Shahnaz Hossain, 44, her daughter Anjila Hossain, 26, Anjila's husband Nabil Ibne Ekram, 28, and civil aviation staff Mobarak Hossain Mollah, 35.

Ayesha Akter, assistant

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### Oxford English Dictionary goes out of print

THE TELEGRAPH ONLINE

It is the world's most definitive work on the most global language, but the Oxford English Dictionary may be disappearing from bookshelves forever.

Publishers fear the next edition will never appear in print form because its vast size means only an online version will be feasible, and affordable, for scholars.

It's all academic for now anyway, they say,

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**BGMEA-BUFT JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIP 2014**

BGMEA and BUFT are jointly arranging the **BGMEA-BUFT Journalism Fellowship 2014** to encourage constructive in-depth reports on the country's RMG sector and to help develop required professional skills of journalists working in Bangladeshi media.

Applications are invited from journalists working in print and electronic media for the **BGMEA-BUFT Journalism Fellowship 2014 in 6 categories**: Bangla daily, English daily, regional daily, weekly, TV channel and online news portal. Each selected candidate will be offered a consolidated amount of Taka 1,00,000/- (Taka One lac). Please visit the website [www.bgmea.com.bd/fellowship](http://www.bgmea.com.bd/fellowship) or [www.facebook.com/bgmea.official](http://www.facebook.com/bgmea.official) for details regarding fellowship area, eligibility criteria, selection procedure etc. Application for the fellowship along with required documents should be sent to Secretary General, BGMEA Complex, 23/1 Pantha Path Link Road, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka 1215 with the superscription **"Application for Journalism Fellowship 2014"**. Last date for receipt of application: **May 15, 2014**. For further information regarding the fellowship you may contact Mr Omar Gias, Sr Deputy Secretary, BGMEA; phone: 8140310-20 (Ex-287).

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