

Rural areas to get 6,000 new doctors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Over 6,000 new physicians, who joined service yesterday, will be posted to healthcare facilities in upazilas and smaller administrative units in a week or two for at least two years.
The decision has been taken in a special move to improve services at upazila health complexes, union health and family welfare centres, and union sub-centres, community clinics, and other rural hospitals.
"Those who will work properly for two years will have the opportunity of higher education and better postings in the future," Health Minister Mohammad Nasim told the new physicians at their orientation programme, first of its kind, at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital yesterday.
Assuring physicians of all welfare facilities, the minister said the government was framing a law to protect physicians from any

attack. He, however, asked them not to go for any strikes holding patients hostage at the hospitals.
"Our parents and relatives mostly live in the villages. The rich and those living in the cities can avail healthcare at hospitals, but the rural people are deprived of healthcare. So, you must serve them," said the minister.
Dr Abul Kalam Azad, additional director general of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), told The Daily Star that if there were couples among the new physicians, they could get postings to the same hospital as per the new guidelines.
He said the government would ensure the physicians' presence in the hospitals through monitoring. "We expect a much better healthcare system in rural areas shortly," said Azad.
With the recruitment, nearly hundred percent posts for physicians at entry level in public hospitals have been filled. There are some

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Dhaka University Teachers' Association forms a human chain at Aparajeya Bangla on the campus yesterday, demanding the trial of the Israeli leadership for committing 'genocide' in Gaza.

PHOTO: STAR

Independent Palestine key to ending Middle East crisis
Human chain told; DU teachers call upon int'l community to rebuild Gaza
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of civil society members yesterday called for giving full recognition of an independent Palestinian state to permanently end the Hamas-Israel conflict.
"We don't want a truce. We want a stop to war," said Abdul Matin Bhuiyan, general secretary of cultural organisation Kendriyo Khelaghar Asar, at a human chain at the capital's Shahbagh.
Samprodayikota-Jongibad Birodhi Mancha, an anti-communalism and anti-militancy platform, organised

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RAPE OF ADIVASI WOMEN'S LEADER Punish rapists

Demands MJF
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) yesterday demanded an exemplary punishment for the people who tortured and gang-raped an indigenous women's leader in Chapainawabganj's Nachol upazila on Monday, allegedly for her refusal to pay extortion money.
In a press release, the rights body also expressed concern over all forms of violence against the indigenous communities and their eviction from homes in different parts of the country by land grabbers and criminals.
The indigenous women's leader, also a union parishad member, was beaten up and raped by 30-35 people when she refused to pay an extortion of Tk 3 lakh demanded by the criminals while she was working at her paddy field, said the victim.

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7 held for making counterfeit notes

DB seizes fake notes worth Tk 20 lakh, 10 lakh Indian rupees in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives arrested seven members of a gang involved in making and circulating counterfeit currencies, and seized counterfeit notes amounting to Tk 20 lakh and 10 lakh Indian rupees in the capital's Kamrangir Char area on Wednesday.
They also seized raw materials for making fake notes worth about Tk 2 crore, said Monirul Islam, joint commissioner of Dhaka

Metropolitan Police, at a press briefing at the DMP's media centre yesterday.
The arrestees are Mohammad Shah Alam, leader of the gang, Jahirul Islam alias Khokhon, Aminul Islam, Shaheen Sikder, Habib, Shambhunath Sarker, and Kawser Ahmed.
On information, a team of Detective Branch of Police arrested the gang, and seized the fake notes and

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Rajshahi divisional round today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The first divisional round of English in Schools, a joint programme of The Daily Star and Robi, will be held in Rajshahi today.
Some 500 students from 25 schools of Rajshahi, Natore and Chapainawabganj districts will participate in the English language competition to be held in Kazi Nazrul Islam Auditorium of Rajshahi University.
The competition will include general grammar questions, sentence structure, comprehension and listening tests.
Prof Muhammad Mizanuddin, vice chancellor of RU, will attend the programme.



Ban on 3 Indian TV channels sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A writ petition was filed yesterday with the High Court seeking its directives on the government to stop telecast of three Indian television channels--Star Jalsha, Star Plus and Zee Bangla--in Bangladesh.
Syeda Shahin Ara Laily, a Supreme Court lawyer, filed the petition also praying to HC to issue a rule upon the government to explain why it should not be directed to ban on the television channels in Bangladesh.
In the petition, she said programmes broadcast by the three channels left adverse impact on social and cultural life of Bangladeshi people.
Education of the students and regular activities of housewives are being hampered due watching the channel's programmes by them, she mentioned in the petition.
The petitioner also said being influenced by drama serial

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TRYING JAMAAT FOR WAR CRIMES Rapp's opposition infuriates Imran's Gonojagoron Mancha

DU CORRESPONDENT

A faction of Gonojagoron Mancha, led by Imran H Sarker, yesterday demanded withdrawal of US official Stephen J Rapp's statement opposing the trial of any political party for crimes against humanity in 1971.
The anti-war crimes campaigners also expressed concern over the government's position on banning Jamaat-e-Islami.
"Earlier, the law minister said the trial of Jamaat was not possible, and now Rapp's statement makes people fear that our political parties are out to protect Jamaat," Imran told a rally at the capital's Shahbagh.
"If the Nazi forces and all its associated organisations were banned for committing crimes against humanity, then why can't Jamaat be tried in Bangladesh?"
In a recent visit, Rapp, the US ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues, said, "It's not appropriate to convict political parties. I don't think it's a positive thing."
The Mancha also brought a march on Dhaka University campus. Around a hundred people joined the protest.

HC directive sought

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any historical and archeological site and the government is duty-bound to protect such a place as per the constitution, said the petitioner's lawyer.
The government has declared the kachharibari a historical archeological site several years ago, he added.
The HC might hear the petition on Sunday, he said.

Monitoring can halve

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have the fitness certificate," he said.
The activists demanded deployment of additional magistrates and police during Eid and Puja rushes and hostile weather conditions when chances of accidents are very high.

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