

BILL FOR JUDGES' IMPEACHMENT

Fakhrul sees signs of one-party rule

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Acting Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said the government's approval to the bill on the impeachment of Supreme Court judges shows it is heading towards a one-party rule.

"This government is trying to re-establish 'Baksal' [Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Awami League] in the country by approving an amendment proposal that empowers the parliament to impeach the Supreme Court judges," he said after placing wreaths at BNP founder Ziaur Rahman's grave at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the capital.

Swachhshasebak Dal, the volunteer wing of BNP, organised the programme to celebrate its 34th founding anniversary.

The cabinet yesterday approved the sixteenth charter amendment proposal restoring the parliament's authority to impeach the Supreme Court judges for misconduct or incapacity.

Fakhrul blasted the government for the National Broadcast Policy 2014 saying that it has curtailed the

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NEWSIN brief

Crude bomb recovered from RU hall

RU CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered a crude bomb in an abandoned condition from Madar Bux Hall of Rajshahi University yesterday.

Hall sources said an employee of the hall found the bomb behind the second block of the hall and informed the hall authorities.

Police are investigating the matter.

10 food shops fined in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Ten food shops of a shopping mall were fined Tk 1.55 lakh for not maintaining hygiene in Chittagong city yesterday.

Two mobile courts of district administration led by executive magistrates conducted drives at Sanmar Ocean City and fined the shops.

The shops include Kitchen, Super Yum, Chili and Grill, Good Eat, Mum's Yum, Imperial, Food Castle, Excellent and Home Food.

Fire guts 12 houses in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Twelve thatched houses were gutted in a fire at Rahamatpur village of Sitakunda upazila in Chittagong early yesterday.

The fire, originated from a stove at a house, soon spread to the adjacent houses around 3:25am, said fire service officials.

Fire-fighters managed to douse the blaze around 6:00am.

The loss in the fire was estimated at Tk 2.90 lakh.

Woman 'commits suicide' in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling of her residence following family feuds in Rangunia upazila of Chittagong yesterday.

Quoting family members police said Shilpi Nath, 25, wife of Suman Nath of the upazila's Parua village, hanged herself after midnight while her husband and children were sleeping.

Police sent the body to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.



Guests cut ribbons at the opening ceremony of "IDP Education, Study in Australia" at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the capital on Saturday. The two-day education exhibition ended on Sunday.

Country's first chromosome research centre opens at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University's botany department yesterday inaugurated the country's first Chromosome Research Centre which will help develop improved varieties of livestock and fish.

The director of the centre, Prof Sheikh Shamimul Alam, said, "Earlier, we had to cross match the chromosomes without knowing similarities of the two parents in order to bring out an improved variety. But now we can also find out the dissimilarities."

"So, the centre will certainly save our time in hybridisation process. Besides, we can know the detail features of chromosomes of any species," he added.

This centre will help examine different types of genetic disorders and

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BSMMU to start bone marrow transplant soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) will "soon" launch a bone marrow transplantation unit.

"The unit will be the first in the country to conduct the complicated allogeneic bone marrow transplants," said Md Salahuddin Shah, secretary general of Bangladesh Society of Haematology (BSH), at a seminar on Bone Marrow Transplantation organised by BSH at Dhaka Club yesterday.

But BSMMU Pro-Vice Chancellor Md Shahidullah Sikder could not specify any date for launching the unit.

He also said the authorities were planning to establish the unit about two years ago but it was cancelled at the last moment.

In his presentation, Salahuddin said it is estimated that every year about 8,000-10,000 people die of blood cancer and other blood disorders in the country while another 12,000 are affected by blood disorders.

"The facility would be able to treat many of those patients, with the cost ranging between Tk 10 and 20 lakh," he added.

Mentioning that at least four percent of the country's population are affected by Thalassaemia, he further said only allogeneic bone marrow transplants can cure them.

Allogeneic transplant is the process, in which stem cells of

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WHEN LAW ENFORCERS DON'T CARE

A police pickup getting on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue from the wrong lane on the road in front of Khamarbari in the capital yesterday, encouraging a row of errant vehicle drivers to do the same, which ends up blocking the traffic going in the lawful direction, and creating a gridlock. But the driver of the pickup does not care. Who would punish him/her? After all he/she is a "law enforcer"!

PHOTO: SHARIFUL ISLAM

RAPE OF ADIVASI WOMEN'S LEADER

JS body demands arrest of rapists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The parliamentary caucus on indigenous affairs yesterday raised a four-point demand, including the arrest of the people who tortured and raped an indigenous woman, also an elected union representative of Gomostapur upazila in Chapainawabganj, early this month.

The three other points of the demand, raised during a press conference at Jatiya Sangsad Media Centre, include recognition of the traditional land rights of indigenous

people, formation of a land commission for plain land Adivasis, and passage of a law on the rights of all indigenous communities in Bangladesh.

At the briefing, Fazle Hossain Badsha, convener of the parliamentary caucus, shared their first-hand experiences of visiting the scene of the torture.

The indigenous woman was attacked on August 6, while she was working in her field. Badsha said, "We don't want to know their [perpetrators'] political identity."

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BGB-BSF TALKS

India may address border killings

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India is expected to address Bangladesh's concerns over killing of the latter's nationals along the border by listing the measures, including deployment of more non-lethal weapons to bring down casualty figures, during the biannual talks between BGB and BSF in New Delhi from Thursday.

The delegation of the Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) will reach the Indian capital tomorrow for the five-day talks with their counterparts in the Border Security Force (BSF).

The two teams, to be led by their directors general, are expected to discuss border security, safety of border residents, and illegal activities along the over 4,000km frontier.

Although the issue of Felani killing is not on the agenda, BGB is likely to flag it during the meeting, when BSF is to

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Language hero Matin hospitalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Language Movement veteran Abdul Matin is in hospital after collapsing in his home yesterday afternoon.

His wife Gulbadannessa Monika said Matin was in his room around 1:00pm when he fell from his chair and lost consciousness.

"He was then taken to

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Pinak-6 probe team gets 7 more days

It will talk to more people to ascertain cause of capsizal; most interviewees blame overloading, bad weather, choppy waters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The team investigating the recent launch accident at Mawa in Munshiganj, in which over a hundred people are presumed to have died, has got seven more working days to submit its report to the shipping ministry, after the earlier deadline expired yesterday.

"We sought an extension because we could not complete our work. We need to take depositions of some more people," the probe body's member secretary, Jasim Uddin Sarker, told The Daily Star.

"Specially, we could not talk to the launch owner,

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Clockwise from top left, Popy Akter, 17, her mother Selina, 40, and brother Anik, 12, are fighting for their lives at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Popy and Selina's faces have been hidden to spare readers from the gory wounds.

Explosion in N'ganj pharmacy hurts five

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

At least five people including three of a family received serious burn injuries in a fire caused by an explosion at a pharmacy in Fatullah of Narayanganj Sadar upazila early yesterday.

Four of the injured have been identified as Selina Begum, 40, her daughter Popy, 17, and son Anik, 12, and guard Abdur Karim, 50. The injured were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Quoting witnesses, Sub-Inspector (SI) Rafiqul Islam of Fatullah Model Police Station said there was an explosion at the pharmacy owned by one Anwar Hossain at Purba Shehachar Lalkha bazar.

Following the explosion, a wall of the pharmacy collapsed and the nearby house of Selina caught fire. Locals doused the flames.

Police suspect the explosion was caused by a leakage of gas.



PHOTO: STAR



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