

**Gonojagoron Mancha Kamal Pasha-led faction bullies Prothoma Prokashan**  
*Forces the shop to give a copy of AK Khandaker's book on liberation war, burns it*  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A faction of Gonojagoron Mancha, an anti-war criminal platform, yesterday forced an outlet of Prothoma Prokashan to give them a copy of Air Vice Marshal (ret'd) AK Khandaker's recent book, "1971: Bhetore Baire", and burnt it in front of the capital's Aziz Supermarket where the book shop is located.  
 The activists also warned  
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**Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with guests at the award ceremony of Unesco International Literacy Prizes at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital yesterday.**  
 PHOTO: BSS

**PM's EDUCATION ASSISTANCE TRUST FUND Now 1.44 lakh males will also get stipends**  
*Announces Hasina; hands over Unesco International Literacy Prizes to 7 recipients*  
**UNB, Dhaka**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday handed over the prestigious Unesco International Literacy Prizes to seven recipients this year.  
 This is the first time Bangladesh hosted the programme which usually takes place in Paris every year marking International Literacy Day on September 8.  
 This year, Unesco awarded seven persons and institutions worldwide for contributions to literacy and education.  
 The prize recipients are President of Association for the Promotion of Non-Formal Education of Burkina Faso Anatole T Niameogo; Education Minister of Ecuador Augusto Espinosa; President of Algerian Association of Alphabetization (IQRRA) Aicha Barki; Director of the Permanent Education Center Poligono Sur Seville, Spain Ana Garcia Reina; Deputy Director of the Permanent Education Center Poligono Sur Seville, Spain Isabel  
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**One 'stalker' held over Ritu's suicide**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Police yesterday arrested a youth for his alleged involvement in stalking a class-nine student and thus driving her to commit suicide in the capital's Khilgaon two days before.  
 Muhammad Ziad, 22, a friend of the main accused Shimul Chandra, 22, was arrested at Nandipara in Khilgaon.  
 On Saturday evening, Umme Kulsum Ritu, a student of East Point Education School and College at Nandipara, killed herself by taking pesticide after being repeatedly insulted and verbally abused by local youth Shimul and his friends from near her home, said family members.  
 The deceased's family  
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**RECOGNITION FOR WORK ON AUTISM Saima Wazed wins WHO award**  
**WHO award**

*She is the first recipient of the new accolade; will receive it at four-day regional health conference beginning in capital tomorrow; govt to sign MoUs with neighbours on the occasion*

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Saima Wazed Hossain, daughter of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, has won an award of the World Health Organization for her contributions to the fight against neurodevelopment disorder and autism.  
 WHO Regional Director for South-East Asia Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh will hand over the "South-East Asia Region Award for Excellence in Public Health", introduced this year, at a reception at 7:30pm tomorrow.  
 "We congratulate her on behalf of the health and family welfare ministry," Health Minister Mohammed Nasim told a press conference at the capital's Sonargaon Hotel.  
 He made the announcement while briefing reporters about the four-day South-East Asia Regional Conference of WHO, beginning at the hotel tomorrow.  
 Saima, nicknamed Putul, is a school psychologist in the  
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**Non-communicable diseases main challenge**  
**WHO, South-East Asia regional director says about Bangladesh**

**PORIMOL PALMA**

Non-communicable diseases like diabetes, hypertension and cancer are the major health challenges faced by Bangladesh and many other developing nations of Asia, said a top official of the World Health Organization.  
 "This is a major problem because these diseases are taking so many young lives. People die of heart attacks very early," said Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, regional director of WHO, South-East Asia region.  
 She lauded the service at community clinics that operate at the ward level in Bangladesh, saying that other countries of the region can learn from this.  
 Dr Singh made the remarks during an interview with selected media yesterday, ahead of a four-day regional conference beginning today at Sonargaon Hotel in the capital.



**Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh**

Health ministers, officials and experts of 11 countries -- Bangladesh, Bhutan, Korea, India, Indonesia, the Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste -- are attending it.  
 Poonam Khetrapal Singh, who worked as a civil servant in India, and served in the World Bank and WHO headquarters before joining as WHO regional director this February, said although communicable diseases do not exist anymore in many parts of

the western world, this region is still facing them.  
 Millions of people in the South-East Asian region are at risk from dengue, malaria, lymphatic filariasis and kala-azar, she said, adding that although countries in the region have controlled the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, people are still dying of these diseases.  
 The main issue is that non-communicable diseases are causing 60 percent of the total deaths in the region, she said.  
 According to Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey 2011, 53 percent of the population older than 35 years have high blood pressure in the country, while one third of the population are either diabetic or will get the disease in future.  
 Also, there are about 12 lakh cancer  
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**10 journalism students get Sitara Parvin award at DU**  
**DU CORRESPONDENT**

Ten students of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of Dhaka University yesterday received Professor Sitara Parvin Award for their excellent performances in BSS (honours) examinations in 2013.  
 The awardees are Mahfuzur Rahman, Md Asaduzzaman, Amina Khatun, Md Zakaria Khan, Ferdous-e-Ara, Nushrat Sharmin, Rashidul Islam, Zakir Hossain, Fazle Rabbi Haider, and Waseq ur Rahman.  
 Professor Sitara Parvin Trust Fund gave the award.  
 Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique distributed cheques among  
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**No scope for battery-run rickshaws**  
**Says CMP**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

Battery-run rickshaws will not be allowed to ply on the roads violating high court order, said Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) at a meeting with leaders of battery-run rickshaw owners and drivers organisations yesterday.  
 Actions will be taken if these vehicles are found plying and there no scope to violate law, said Banaj Kumar Majumder, commissioner in charge of CMP at  
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**Vehicles seized by police dumped right on the Shyamali-Adabar link road in the capital, causing problems to the movement of pedestrians. On the other hand, the vehicles which were once operable have been reduced to a pile of iron and steel for being left like this for a long time. The photo was taken yesterday.**  
 PHOTO: STAR

**BNP'S FULL DHAKA CITY COMMITTEE Even Khaleda's order goes in vain**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Even after strong directives from the party chief to hold the council of BNP's Dhaka city unit, the new convening committee in about last two months could not expedite the matter; rather the progress of the work indicates that it would take another two to three months to hold the council.  
 Replacing Sadeque Hossain Khoka, former mayor of the capital, Khaleda gave the charge of Dhaka city unit to Mirza Abbas  
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on July 18, and president of Swachhasebak Dal Habib-un-Nabi Khan Sohel was made the member-secretary of its 56-member convening committee.  
 According to the directives, the committee would form the thana and ward level committees within a month and then hold a council for the formation of a final committee of the city unit, which is considered a vital chapter of the party.  
 Insiders of the convening committee said  
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**BILL ON SC JUDGES' IMPEACHMENT BY JS Moudud sees ulterior motive in govt's haste**  
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

BNP leader and ex-law minister Moudud Ahmed yesterday said the government had an "ulterior and dishonest" motive behind hastily bringing an amendment to the constitution re-empowering parliament to impeach Supreme Court judges.  
 The independence of the judiciary will be harmed if the bill is passed, he told a meeting at the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), organised by pro-BNP lawyers' platform Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum (JAF) in protest of the move.  
 The constitutional bill was placed in parliament on Sunday. Currently, the chief justice-led Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) removes the apex court judges.  
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