

BNP to mark Nov 7 with rally in capital Govt arresting leaders to foil its movement, says Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENTS

The BNP will hold a rally at Suhrawardy Udyan on November 7, marking, what they call, the "National Revolution and Solidarity Day".

Meanwhile, BNP acting secretary general Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said the government is arresting BNP leaders and activists to hamper the upcoming anti-government movement of BNP-led 20-party alliance.

About the rally, BNP Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed said the party has already sought permission from Dhaka Metropolitan Police and it will be addressed by the top leaders of the alliance.

The BNP and its like-minded organisations observe the day, as they say, on this day in 1975, civil-military "uprising" freed the then army chief Ziaur Rahman from captivity in Dhaka cantonment.

Both factions of JSD led by ASM Abdur Rob and

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Ctg nursing college reopens

Students boycott classes, threaten to resume movement if principal does not resign

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Although Chittagong Nursing College opened yesterday after a six-day interval, students boycotted classes as the principal, who they demanded be removed, was still in charge.

The college was closed last Tuesday amid students' demonstration against low pass rate in recent exams.

Students postponed their movement after the authorities on Thursday assured them that a senior teacher would replace the principal, Hosne Ara

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Two workers burnt in boiler explosion die at DMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two of the seven workers who were injured in two boiler explosions in the capital early Sunday died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday.

The dead were Bulbul Ahmed, 22, and Motiur Rahman, 24.

Badsha Mia and Awal Hossain, workers of a washing factory in Keraniganj, are fighting for lives with 45 percent burns at DMCH's burn unit where the other three are also being treated.

Kadamtoli police said Bulbul, Motiur, Sayeed and Mahbubur were not wearing any safety gear as it was already so hot inside the boiler at Salma Steel Mills.

Shameful failure pointed out

FROM PAGE 3

Liberation War, said a razakar took her to a Pakistani military camp where she along with many others was tortured and sexually abused day after day.

Kamala could not stop her tears while sharing the darkest time of her life in her 15-minute speech in the RC Majumder Arts auditorium at Dhaka University.

Girls speak out loud for empowerment

FROM PAGE 3

Women and Children Affairs and Brac with help from UK-based development organisation the Department for International Development (DFID).

Themed "Ending child marriage and Empowering Girls", the summit was arranged in line with the Girl Summit held in the UK last July.

Young girls and boys as well as different actors who work on the issue of children and women's rights participated in the summit and shared ideas about how they can prevent early marriages and ensure women's empowerment. Five teenagers from different parts of the country talked about how they prevented early marriages when they or someone they knew were forced to agree to such practice.

Mitu Roy, a freshman of bachelor of business administration at Bogra



Prof Rehman Sobhan being presented the "Rotary SEED Award 2014" by Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury for his contribution to education and economic development through economic and policy research at a city hotel last night. On his right is Rtn Safina Rahman, District Governor, RI District 3281 Bangladesh. On Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury's left is Rtn Forkan Bin Quasem, Incoming Club President, Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka.

PHOTO: STAR

Rotary Club honours a sage

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Rehman Sobhan was accorded the prestigious "Rotary SEED Award 2014" last night for his contribution to education and economic development through economic and policy research.

The Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka Foundation bestowed the accolade on the renowned economist of the country at a function at a city hotel. The award carries a gold medal, a cheque worth Tk 2 lakh and a citation.

Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury presented the medal.

The annual award is presented every year to a living citizen of Bangladesh for outstanding and original contributions to the fields of science, education and economic development, which abbreviates to SEED.

Chairman of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, Prof Rehman is the 17th recipient of the award since its introduction in 1995.

The previous recipients include Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus, Prof M Safiullah, founder of Institute of Business Administration, Dhaka University; Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, founder of Brac; and Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed, founder of Bishwo Shahitto Kendro.

Receiving the award, Prof Rehman said he acknowledged his appreciation for the Rotary community for recognising

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

SPECTACULAR DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA'S ECONOMY

Agri reform, exports driving force

Reveal two China Agricultural University academics

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Reformation in rural and agriculture sectors, an export-oriented production strategy and special focus on poverty reduction are the key components enabling the development of the Chinese economy, revealed two Chinese academics yesterday.

Around 46 percent of the population of 1,360 million live in rural areas, said Prof Zuo Ting, vice dean, College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University, Beijing.

The government's priority on health, education, infrastructure and agriculture has played a signification role in rural development, he said while delivering a public lecture on "China's Experiences in Rural Development".

Besides, pragmatic and effective market-

oriented reforms, balancing growth with social and macroeconomic stability, inter-regional competition, domestic market integration and steady integration with the global economy also contributed to rural economic development, he said.

Initiating specific programmes, then involving line ministries and subsequently social mobilisation, this is the working pattern for rural poverty reduction, he added.

Another lecture was provided by Prof Wang Libin, head of the college's International Students Department, at the programme organised by the Brac Institute of Governance and Development, Brac University and The Daily Star in the capital's Brac Centre Inn auditorium.

In her lecture "Gender Mainstreaming in

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Right to food must be constitutional

Speakers say at public hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The right to food should be enshrined in the constitution as a fundamental right, said speakers at an event yesterday.

They also suggested formulation of a law on the right to food to ensure food security in the country.

They made the suggestions at a public hearing on the right to food, organised by the National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh, and Oxfam, an NGO, in Cirdap auditorium of the capital.

NHRC Chairman Dr Mizanur Rahman said the government's fundamental responsibility is to ensure safe and nutritious food for the country's people.

He said some middlemen are controlling markets to increase prices of food items and added that the government should stop such activities of the syndicates to ensure the right to food.

Food Minister Qamrul Islam, PKSF Chairman Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, BLAST Honorary Executive Director Sara Hossain, Oxfam Country Director Snehal Soneji, Associate Editor of the daily Samakal Ajoy Dasgupta and expert on right to food Nadia CS Lambek also spoke at the event.



State Minister for Home Affairs Asaduzzaman Khan and Dubai Interior Minister Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, in the presence of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum at Zabil Castle in Dubai, sign an extradition treaty and one more on cooperation in security measures yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Girl 'commits suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A teenage girl allegedly hanged herself from the ceiling following a family feud in Sylhet city on Sunday night.

The deceased was Ema Akhtar, 15, student of class ten at Sobhanighat Jamea School and College.

War crimes proof against

FROM PAGE 3

formal charges against Forkan on November 3 and progress report on investigations on the other two on November 2.

All three are in jail, Forkan in connection with a war crimes case and Mahidur and Afsar in a criminal case filed with Chapainawabganj's Shibganj Police Station.

Hannan said Forkan, now a BNP supporter, was allegedly involved in the killing of eight people, rape of four women, forced conversion of three Hindus to Islam, deportation of 13 families, and looting and torching of 64 houses in Patuakhali.

Investigators cited 34 people as prosecution witnesses centring five incidents involving the crimes, he said.

Hannan said they prepared a single report on Mahidur and Afsar as they "jointly committed crimes" like killings, abductions, torture, looting and arson. Names of 24 people were cited as prosecution witnesses in the case.

He said they were investigating allegations against 29 more people in 19 cases and hoped to complete investigation in at least two cases within a few days.

Many of the 12 war heroines present there bowed their heads to hide their tears. Samajik Sahayata Udyog arranged the programme to hand over allowance to the war heroines. Kamala and 61 other war heroines receive Tk 600 from the organisation every month as allowance.

Addressing the programme as chief guest, Liberation War Affairs Minister

AKM Mozammel Huq said the war heroines would be considered freedom fighters, but would receive more benefits than freedom fighters.

Liberation War Museum Trustee and researcher Mofidul Hoque, among others, spoke at the programme presided over by Samajik Sahayata Udyog Director Prof Abu Md Delwar Hossain.

for the ministry, urged girls not to go astray following false promises of love. "You need to be aware of your own good. If you do not understand what is good for you no one can give you your rights," she said.

Pointing at the high rate of child marriage in Bangladesh, Lynne Featherstone, MP, UK parliamentary under secretary of state for international development, said they were developing a £25-million programme to prevent child and forced marriages in 12 developing countries, including Bangladesh.

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG, founder and chairperson, Brac, called upon parents to look at girls as assets not as a burden. He stated that Brac has pledged \$280 million in funds to reach out to 2.7 million girls to provide them with primary education, training and scholarships over the next five years.

Government Azizul Haque College, who attended the UK summit, shared her journey from Bogra to the UK with the audience.

"My elder sister was married off at class VIII, but I never liked the idea. When my parents started pressing me to get married at class-VIII, I talked with my mother and made her understand the importance of my education," she said.

Later with the help of her family Mitu joined the Kishori (adolescent) Club, a Brac initiative assisted by the government, and participated in football and cricket. Now she works as a goal coach for girls.

"People used to taunt me when I played football, but after my return from the UK, these same people show me respect. I consider it to be the biggest achievement of my life," she said.

Meher Afroze Chumki, MP, state minister

Books for the drizzling moments...



Free Home Delivery Call: 8815941, 9884366, 01714161001 **For Online Order** books.thedailystar.net **Our Facebook Page** www.facebook.com/TheDailyStarBooks

Where you can Reach Us

Aziz Super Market, Shahbag: Prothoma (9664825), Pathak Samabesh (01713-034440), Bidita (01911-166475), Gulshan: Words n Pages (989-0832), Dhanmondi: Gyankosh (862-3251), New Market: Omni Books (812-6433), Baily Road: Sagor Publishers (01716-544444), Banani: Aryanya Crafts Ltd. (988-2542), Old Airport: Book Worm (912-0387), Airport: Omni Books (890-1808), Farmgate: The Daily Star Office (0171837719/8124944), Chittagong: Batighor (01713-304344) and Prothoma (01711-649422)

