

# NEWS IN brief

## Transport strike in greater Ctg today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Sramik Federation, East Zone Committee, will observe a transport strike in greater Chittagong from today with their five-point demands including eviction of unauthorised vehicles. The 24-hour strike, declared on October 25 at a convention, will begin at 6:00am in Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and three Hill districts. The demands also include setting up separate terminals for vehicles in Chittagong and stopping harassment of transport workers by police and others.

## NSU dismisses pro-VC Meshquat for certificate forgery

CITY DESK



North South University has dismissed its pro-vice chancellor ANM Meshquat Uddin for submitting a false PhD certificate. Meshquat had joined NSU in June, 2013 claiming that he obtained a PhD from Cleveland State University, Ohio, USA. However, following a probe, the NSU trustee board found that he studied at the university but did not obtain any PhD degree from there, says a press release.

## Ctg freedom fighters demand Bangabandhu's sculpture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The freedom fighters of Chittagong yesterday urged the government to erect a sculpture of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the city's Kalurghat. They raised the demand at a human chain formed by the district unit Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad before the Central Shaheed Minar in Chittagong. They also demanded a Liberation War museum, a war monument in Chittagong, and preservation of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra and Dalim Hotel, the torture cell of Al-Badr leader Mir Quasem Ali.

## Auto-rickshaw drivers, owners of Sylhet to block highway Thursday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Auto-rickshaw drivers and owners in Sylhet district will stage sit-ins on Dhaka-Sylhet and Sylhet-Sunamganj highways on Thursday to press their various demands. They will also besiege Sylhet BRTA office the same day. Sylhet District Auto-rickshaw Sramik Union took the decision following a rally at the city's Court Point yesterday. Their demands include a stop to harassment by police in the name of requisition of auto-rickshaws and human haulers, and their security on highways.

## 5 Jamaat-Shibir men held in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Five Jamaat-Shibir men were arrested from Barabkunda area of Sitakunda upazila in Chittagong yesterday. They are Md Hanif, 40, Shahadat Hossain, 24, Md Hanif, 25, Jahidul Kabir, 20, and Md Jalal, 20, of the upazila. They all are accused in cases filed over subversive activities in the upazila during January 5 polls, said police.

## Fire guts valuables at fertiliser godown, motor parts shop in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Fire gutted valuables worth Tk 6 lakh at a fertiliser godown and a motor-parts shop in Double Mooring area of Chittagong city yesterday. However, fire service officials could not ascertain the reason of the fire, originated around 1:00pm at one of the two tin-shed thatched structures. Fire-fighters doused the fire after an hour's effort, said fire officials.

## Cop impersonator held in Rangpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A man was arrested for impersonating police from Sardarpara area of Rangpur city yesterday. Rashidul Islam, 30, of Gangachara Bazar area, went to Shaheen Student Mess introducing himself as a sub-inspector of Rangpur Kotwali Police Station around 3:00pm, police said. When he started searching the mess, on suspicion students informed police. Police rushed there and arrested Rashidul with his fake identity card.



Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addresses a rally in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday marking Jubo League's 42nd founding anniversary.

PHOTO: BSS

# BNP-led alliance a thorn in side of country

Hasina tells Jubo League anniversary event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the BNP-led 20-party alliance had turned into a thorn in the side of the country as it was comprised of anti-liberation elements, killers and rapists who did not want peace and development of the nation.

"Apart from war criminals and Razakars who killed our brothers and raped our sisters in 1971, there are perpetrators of the seven-murder at Dhaka University [in 1974] in the alliance... They are kind of a thorn in the side of the nation," she told a reunion of Awami Jubo League at Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital.

The programme, chaired by Jubo League Chairman Omar Faroque Chowdhury, marks the 42nd founding anniversary of the

AL's youth wing.

Referring to the alliance's "threats" to her government, Hasina said the threats would not work; Bangladesh would move forward.

She also doubted whether the 20-party alliance chief, Khaleda Zia, believes in the country's Liberation War. "What will she say when demands are made from her rally for the release of the convicted war criminals?"

Hasina said there was no room for the killers, rapists and arsonists of 1971 on this soil.

The BNP chief will have to answer to the people "why she resorted to killings, violence, and vandalism ahead of the [last national] elections", the AL president said.

"Did she think that these would stop the war crimes trial?" she said, adding that it

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# Psychopaths running govt: Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Psychopaths are running the incumbent government and people should pray for their immediate healing, eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said yesterday.

"They think they are the kings and the common people are the subjects. Those who think so in a democratic country are psychopaths," he said, adding that black money and arrogance of a particular political party were the main reasons for the ongoing "misrule" in the country.

Dr Kamal was addressing as chief guest a discussion, "Say no to corruption", organised by Dhaka city (north) unit of Nagorik Oikya, a citizens' organisation, at a community centre in the capital's Mirpur.

Urging people to stay united against corruption and injustice, he said Bangalees were indomitable, having succeeded against injustice and repression in the past and similarly would surely win now.

He also expressed a plan to bring out a procession with one lakh people wearing T-shirts bearing the slogan "Gonotantra Mukti Pak, Swairatantra Nipat Jak" (let democracy be freed, down with autocracy).

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# Amend war crimes act to try Jamaat

Demands Bangladesh Rukhe Darao; Sammilita Sangskritik Jote brings out procession against anti-liberation forces

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Rukhe Darao, a platform of progressive and pro-liberation forces, yesterday demanded that the current parliament session amend the war crimes laws to try Jamaat-e-Islami as a party for their alleged crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

Leaders of the platform at a press conference at Liberation War Museum also announced that they will bring out a procession from the Central Shaheed Minar on Martyred Intellectuals Day (December 14) to press home their demand for banning Jamaat and quick execution of war crimes verdicts.

Liberation War Museum Trustee Sarwar Ali said several verdicts, passed down by war crimes tribunal so far, had identified Jamaat as a "criminal organisation"

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# Govt to launch internships for youths: Joy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's son Sajeed Wazed Joy yesterday said the government would launch internship programmes in different ministries in order to create skilled manpower and make the youths self-reliant.

"Already Prime Minister's Office has started the internship programme, and the power, energy and mineral resources, and information and communications technology ministries have agreed to take 550 interns. Other ministries will follow in the future," he

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# RU BAN ON PROCESSION, RALLY, MEGAPHONE BCL, Shibir remain 'untouchables'

While cops foil left leaning procession

RU CORRESPONDENT

Authorised by Rajshahi University (RU), police enforced a ban yesterday barring left leaning students from bringing out processions on the campus but took no such move against Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir.

Some 60 students of Progressive Students' Alliance, comprising Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, Bangladesh Students' Union and Bangladesh Chhatra Moitree, had gathered behind the central library twice trying to bring out processions.

The first at 3:00pm was in protest of the RU authority's November 18 deadline for owners to dismantle some 50 shops on the campus, mostly selling food, for "destroying the congenial atmosphere".

The second was at 5:30pm in protest of the knife attack by unidentified miscreants just hours earlier leading to Prof AKM Shafiqul Islam's death.

Shibir's procession comprising some 100 activists lasted for around half an hour from 9:30am at Tukitaki Chhatra.

They were protesting, what they claimed, the October 29 death of an activist in police firing on agitation centring capital punishment handed down on Jamaat-e-Islami chief Motiur Rahman Nizami, and demanding release of RU unit

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Eminent foreign journalists meet senior journalists of The Daily Star yesterday, at The Daily Star Centre in the capital. The guests have come to Bangladesh at the invitation of the Prothom Alo to join the Bangla daily's 16th founding anniversary celebrations.

PHOTO: STAR

20-22 NOVEMBER 2014

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