

NEWS IN brief

Rajshahi court summons Tarique for maligning Bangabandhu

RU CORRESPONDENT
A Rajshahi court yesterday summoned BNP Senior Vice-Chairman Tarique Rahman after a defamation case filed with it for maligning Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
Mizanur Rahman Rana, president of Rajshahi University unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League, filed the case, said Advocate Aslam Sarder, a lawyer of the complainant.
Earlier on December 15, Tarique, at a party meeting in London, termed Bangabandhu a "big Razakar".

CU Progressive Students' Alliance for lift of ban on political activities

CU CORRESPONDENT
Progressive Students' Alliance of Chittagong University yesterday demanded withdrawal of the ban on political activities on the campus.
The demand came during a press conference with CU Journalist Association where they placed their four-point demands.
The demands also include fare investigation into all students' murder, allocation of dormitory seats on the basis of merit, recovery of dormitories from illegal occupants, and holding CU Central Student Union elections immediately.

RU history dept alumni conference begins today

RU CORRESPONDENT
The two-day 7th biennial conference of Rajshahi University History Department Alumni Association will begin today on the campus.
Atul Hye Shibli, the association president and also a member of University Grants Commission, said this at a press conference at department chair's office yesterday.
KM Mohsin, Dhaka International University vice-chancellor, RU Vice-Chancellor Muhammad Mizanuddin and Pro-VC Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan will attend the conference.

Teachers' association demands reopening of Sust by Jan 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Shahjalal University of Science and Technology Teachers Association yesterday demanded reopening of the university by January 1.
After a meeting they handed over a memorandum to Vice-Chancellor Aminul Haque Bhuyan where they also demanded peaceful academic atmosphere on campus.
Sust vice-chancellor said after a syndicate meeting in January they will decide on the matter.
The university was closed after BCL activist Sumon Kumar Das died and 20 others were injured in a clash with rival factions on November 20.

Police foil event of Chattra Sena at CU

CU CORRESPONDENT
Police foiled the procession of Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Sena, student wing of Bangladesh Islami Front, at station area of Chittagong University (CU) yesterday.
The activists of CU-unit tried to bring out the procession as a part of religious activities of welcoming the month of Rabiul Auwal around 1:00pm, police said.
Earlier, the university authority banned any political activity, procession and rally on the campus.

One held with gold at Ctg airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
Customs intelligence officials detained a Biman Bangladesh Airlines' passenger and recovered 33 gold bars and gold ornaments, weighing 3.98kg, and seven iPhones at Shah Amanat International Airport in Chittagong city yesterday.
Md Nurul Islam, 35, of Cox's Bazar, came from Dubai.
The goods, worth around Tk 1.80 crore, were recovered from a bag that he abandoned in the immigration area.

Man mugged of Tk 5 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Armed muggers snatched Tk 5 lakh from a man near Kodomtoli over-bridge area in Sylhet city yesterday.
Police said 6 muggers on 3 motorcycles stopped Abdul Mukit of Gotatikor area while he was returning home in an auto-rickshaw after withdrawing the money from a bank in Uposhahar area around 2:00pm.
The miscreants snatched away the money at arms point and fled the scene.

ACCA Bangladesh revises MoU with DU on masters programme

CITY DESK
ACCA Bangladesh revised their MoU with Dhaka University (DU) in their recent visit to the regional office of ACCA in Dubai, said a press release yesterday.
Through the amendment the faculty of Business Studies of DU and ACCA Bangladesh will start a joint masters programme on professional accountancy and an exclusive diploma.
This will help students to get both academic and professional qualifications in finance and accountancy.

US surgical mission to Kumudini Hospital in February

CITY DESK
Shushasthya, a non-government organisation, and US-based Project Bangladesh are jointly sponsoring a surgical mission to Kumudini Hospital in Mirzapur of Tangail from February 24 to March 6 next year.
Over the past 14 years, eight such surgical missions have been carried out at various Bangladeshi hospitals to provide services to the poor and needy patients, and to impart on-the-job training to Bangladeshi doctors and support staff.
The ninth surgical mission will be headed by Dr Ajmal Sobhan.



A Christmas tree being decorated at New Holy Rosary Church in Tejgaon of the capital on Christmas Eve yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Christmas today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Christian community of the country, like those across the globe, is celebrating Christmas today commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ.

The biggest religious festival of the Christians, Christmas is a celebration of rebirth, new beginning, forgiveness and peace, and renewed relationship between God and humans.

Celebrations start on Christmas Eve with singing of carols in public places such as lobbies, restaurants and lounges.

The festivities also include decoration of Christmas trees with colourful lights and ornaments, distribution of gifts by Santa Claus to children, family gatherings, feasts and special church prayers.

President Abdul Hamid, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in separate messages greeted people of the Christian community on the occasion.

In his message, the president urged all to work

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

COP 21 IN PARIS NEXT YEAR Dhaka must lead climate protocol signing effort

Experts tell post-Lima conference discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has to play a proactive role to make the global leaders understand the significance of signing a legally binding protocol on climate change in the Paris summit in December 2015, speakers told a discussion on the recently concluded Lima conference yesterday.

The inability to sign the protocol would make the Paris summit a total failure like the one in Copenhagen in 2009, said climate expert Dr Saleemul Haque. He emphasised building a global solidarity of peoples for the cause, which would work as a pressure on the global leaders to act.

"Though we hoped, no major decision was taken in the Lima conference because all major components were left unresolved to be settled in the Paris talks. It means we still have opportunities to achieve them," said the director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD).

ICCCAD, ActionAid, and the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) jointly organised the programme at The Daily Star Centre in the capital. The 20th session of the conference of parties (COP) took place on December 1-14 in Lima, Peru.

Dr Atiq Rahman, executive director of

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

DRIVE TO CLEAR CAPITAL FOOTPATHS New Market hawkers attack mobile court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) came under attack by the hawkers at New Market yesterday, during a drive to evict them from the footpaths.

Two DSCC drivers and a policeman suffered minor injuries by the projectiles hurled by the protesters in front of the Gausia market, said Executive Magistrate Kabir Mahmood, who led the drive.

Police fired 18 rubber bullets and brought the situation under control 15 minutes later, he said.

Panic struck the general people. Kabir said they evicted some shops from the footpaths near the footbridge at Gausia and would continue the drive until the area's footpaths were cleared.

Officer-in-Charge of New Market Police Station Yasin Arafat Khan said the hawkers fled when police chased them.

None was arrested.

2 'JMB' men held on suspicion of aiding Burdwan blast perps

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Detective Branch of police arrested two alleged members of Jamaat ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) in the capital's Dhanmondi yesterday on suspicion of aiding and abetting their cohorts involved in the Burdwan bomb blast, claimed the law enforcers.

They are Saidur Rahman, 48, an Ehsar member of JMB, and Abul Salek, 25, brother of a fugitive accused in Burdwan blast case militant Tariqul Islam Sumon.

Acting on a tip-off, DB men held the two in

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



From left, Dr Saleemul Haque, Farah Kabir, Dr Atiq Rahman and Golam Rabbani at a post-Lima conference discussion organised by ICCCAD, ActionAid, and the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Hasan burned down pro-AL man's house

Neighbour tells war crimes tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A witness yesterday said she saw fugitive war crimes accused Syed Hasan Ali accompanied by Razakars and the Pakistani army attack the house of her neighbour Hachu Bepari in Tarail of Kishoreganj in 1971 since he was an adherent of the Awami League.

"Failing to find Hachu Bepari at home, they looted the house and burned it," Rahima, 58, the sixth prosecution witness, told the International Crimes Tribunal-1. "Three cows

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

State responsible for unsafe roads

Memorial discussion on journo Zaglul's road death told; Passenger Welfare Association demands measures to curb accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The state is responsible for the untimely road death of noted journalist Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury as it failed to ensure road safety in the country, said speakers at a memorial discussion yesterday, while at a separate event, Passenger Welfare Association of Bangladesh demanded that the government take comprehensive measures to reduce road accidents.

At the memorial discussion at Jatiya Press Club in the capital, speakers said passengers still take great risk when getting on and off moving buses at the exact spot where Zaglul had a fatal accident last month.

The deceased journalist's friend Syed Mohsin Ali, also the social welfare minister, and members of Zaglul's family organised the discussion.

Zaglul, former chief editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha, died in a tragic road accident near Sonargaon intersection on November 30. He tried to get off a bus which recklessly pulled away before he could disembark safely.

"It is the state's failure that the bus that killed him has not been identified yet and that the traffic policemen who were on duty there are not held responsible for the tragedy," said Shyamal Dutta, editor of Bangla daily Bhorer Kagoj and also the host of ATN Bangla talk show "Onno Drishti", where Zaglul was going to at the time of the accident.

Antara Ahmend Chowdhury, Zaglul's daughter, said, "My father insisted on living like common people and

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

আমাদের সাংস্কৃতিক ঐতিহ্য হোক আমাদের নতুন কিছু করার অনুপ্রেরণা।

সহযোগিতায়: HUAWEI

আয়োজনে: banglalink

সবার জন্য উন্মুক্ত

বাংলাদেশি উদ্ভাস ২০১৪

বাপাই বাংলাদেশের তান

তারিখ: ২৬ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৪, শুক্রবার
স্থান: রমনা পার্ক, শাহবাগ, ঢাকা। সময়: সকাল ৯টা থেকে রাত ৯টা

প্রধান অতিথি: আসাদুজ্জামান নূর, মাননীয় মন্ত্রী, সংস্কৃতি বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বিশেষ অতিথি: জনাব বেনজির আহমেদ বিপিএম (বার), পুলিশ কমিশনার, ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ

কিংডম স্ট্রিক্ট

লোকগে

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স্বাগত

এছাড়াও, দিন শেষে দেশের প্রখ্যাত শিল্পী এবং জনপ্রিয় ব্যান্ড দলগুলোর পরিবেশনায় থাকছে মেগা কনসার্ট

অংশগ্রহণে: এস. আই. টুটুল। বারী সিদ্দিকী। কনক চাঁপা। সামিনা চৌধুরী। বাগ্না মজুমদার। পারভেজ। কোনাল। পূর্ণ। এলিটা এবং চিরকুট

সহযোগী: প্রথম আলো

মিডিয়া পার্টনার: n tv

সার্বিক সহযোগিতায়: জাকার্না