

### JS body asks navy to preserve marine resources

BSS, Dhaka

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence Ministry yesterday suggested Bangladesh Navy to continue efforts to preserve marine resources and reach the benefits of economic activities to the people.

The suggestion came at the committee's 6th meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with committee chairman Mohammad Subid Ali Bhuiyan in the chair, said an official release.

The meeting recommended developing the navy as a time-befitting, modern and pro-people force.

To acquire practical knowledge about the activities of the three forces, the committee members decided to visit the Armed Forces Division on January 14, the army headquarters on February 2, the navy headquarters on February 11 and the air force headquarters on February 23.

The meeting recommended increasing number of students at cadet colleges maintaining the standard of education.

Navy chief Vice Admiral Muhammad Farid Habib, air force chief Air Marshal Inamul Bari and senior officials concerned were present at the meeting.

### Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

AKM Nasimul Kamal, a freedom fighter and a Liberation War organiser, died at a private hospital in Chittagong city yesterday.

He was injured in a road accident in the city's Kazir Dewri on Sunday and was undergoing treatment.

A senior executive director of PHP Family, he was the eldest son of Mokbul Ahmed of Feni and elder brother of freedom fighter Khwaza Ahmed, says a press release.

He was buried at his family graveyard in Feni.

Ashwnini Kumar Mollik RU CORRESPONDENT

Ashwnini Kumar Mollik, a retired professor of Mathematics department at Rajshahi University, died at his residence yesterday. He was 71.

He left behind his two sons to mourn his death. His funeral will be held today, said a press release.

RU Vice-Chancellor Muhammad Mizanuddin and Pro-VC Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan mourned his death.



## FIRST DAY OF BNP-LED BLOCKADE

Clockwise from top, BNP men cunningly use children in the enforcement of the party-led indefinite blockade by bringing school students onto the Rangpur-Kurigram highway for "classes" in Shimultala of Lalmonirhat sadar upazila yesterday. Defying risks, people travel on the roof of a train, at Tongi railway station in Gazipur, as inter-district buses stay off the roads. In Dinajpur town, five Jatiyatabadi Mahila Dal leaders being taken to the police station after arrest. An unusually desolate Dhaka-Tangail highway, one of the busiest routes in the country. The BNP office in Chittagong city remains deserted after the mass roundups of its leaders and activists. Police firing teargas on BNP and Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal men in Narayanganj. Law enforcers clear the road blocked by roadside trees, at Muslimpur in Shibganj upazila of Chapainawabganj.



PHOTO: STAR, BANGLAR CHOKH



### Two 'BCL' men held for assaulting journo

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Police yesterday arrested two alleged activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League accused of assaulting the Dhamrai correspondent of the Dainik Korotoa the day before, as a sequel to an altercation between journalists and an Awami League leader.

Mizanur Rahman, 23, and Jane Alom, 23, were picked up from their residences at Baichail village of Dhamrai upazila, outside the capital, said Sub-inspector Omar Faruque of Dhamrai.

Shahin Alom, the journalist, is being treated in the upazila health complex with bruises on the hands, knees and back.

The two accused by the victim are loyal to Monower Hosen, AL central sub-committee assistant secretary, who verbally abused journalists for publishing "baseless reports", at a views exchange meeting on Sunday.

Sarwar Mahbub Tushar, general secretary of Dhamrai upazila unit of BCL, said the two called themselves as activists of the organisation but he was not aware of their affiliation.

### Two youths killed in Savar, Dhamrai

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Two youths were killed in separate incidents in Dhamrai and Savar on Sunday.

In Dhamrai, police recovered the body of Wahidul Islam Tusher, 22, son of Azhar Ali, of Bijoy Nagar area, from near his house.

Tusher, a student of Dhamrai College, went missing on Saturday, said family members.

In Savar, Riaz Morshed Babu, 25, a student of music department at Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology and hailed from Khulna, was hacked to death by unidentified miscreants near his house at Dokhinpara.

### CPA to get liaison office in capital

UNB, Dhaka

The Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) is going to get a liaison office-cum-staff quarters in the capital's Motijheel area, which is expected to bring dynamism in its activities.

Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan yesterday laid the foundation stone of the 10-storey complex to be built on a 10-katha of land spending Tk 17 crore, said a PID handout.

CPA Chairman Rear Admiral Nizamuddin Ahmed was present.

The construction work on the complex is expected to be completed in three years.

### Strawberry

FROM PAGE 4 farming it on one bigha of land with an expenditure of only Tk 30,000, he added.

And each kilogramme of the fruit can earn Tk 700 on an average.

The country can earn huge foreign currencies by exporting strawberry if its commercial farming starts at national level and farmers are motivated for strawberry cultivation, hoped Dr Manjur.

### Homestead gardening

FROM PAGE 4 2004 and 2010, and 72,000 out of 78,000 households are under its second phase which will run till 2016.

DFID and the Australian Agency for International Development have been supporting the implementation of the programme.

The LGRD ministry has been sponsoring the CLP, which is managed by Maxwell Stamp Plc.

Mamunur Rashid, agriculture and environment coordinator, RDRS Bangladesh and Nazrul Islam, agriculture officer of Chilmari upazila, said the CLP has been working successfully with the extremely poor char households to improve their livelihood.

Over 1.27 lakh extremely poor char households of Kurigram, Bogra, Lalmonirhat, Pabna, Gaibandha, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, Nilphamari, Rangpur

and Tangail have overcome abject poverty through vegetable farming, animal husbandry and other income generating activities.

Talking to the news agency, some beneficiaries of CLP narrated their achievements through vegetable farming on their tiny homesteads.

Before taking up vegetable farming, most of the families were poverty-stricken in the sandy char areas of the Brahmaputra, Jamuna, Teesta and Dharla basins, they said.

Monjusree Saha, head programme coordinator of RDRS Bangladesh, one of the organisations implementing CLP, said the char people have now adapted to the harsh conditions and are leading better lives.

Their children are able to go to schools, Saha added.

### Drug smuggling on rise

FROM PAGE 3 On the other hand, in 2010 over nine lakh bottles of Phensedyl were seized while the number decreased to around six lakh in 2014 till November, which indicates that the demand of the contraband syrup in the country has dropped, they observed.

The smuggling issue was discussed at several director general-level conferences of Border Guard Bangladesh with Indian Border Security Force and Myanmar authorities but no visible change has been noticed yet, the speakers said.

DNC Director General Bazlur Rahman said he had strengthened monitoring in 32 districts and 120 upazilas near bordering areas and the DNC had formed 15,000 committees to raise awareness in

educational institutions, starting from high schools, across the country.

According to a 2007 World Health Organization report, 0.6 to 0.8 percent of the total population of the country, or around 46 lakh people, are addicted to drugs.

However, there are only 117 beds in rehabilitation centres of the DNC and private sectors, which is insufficient given the number of drug addicts, said a DNC director.

The speakers stressed the need for modernising the DNC and increasing its manpower.

All recommendations shared by the participants will be sent to the upcoming meeting of a parliamentary sub-committee on home ministry.

### Wife kills man over watching TV

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A woman killed her husband following an altercation over watching Indian television channel Star Jalsa in Telipara area of Gazipur city on Sunday.

The deceased was Sohrab Hossain, 28, of Kapasia upazila.

Family members said following the altercation Shahida Akter Ripa stabbed Sohrab in the chest with a knife. Later, Sohrab was declared dead at Gazipur Sadar Hospital.

Police arrested Ripa and a case was filed on Monday.

### AL to celebrate last nat'l

FROM PAGE 3 all public rallies and gatherings in the capital, to ward off violent confrontation.

After an extended meeting of the Dhaka city unit, AL joint general secretary Mahabubul Alam Hanif yesterday said the party would hold a rally at the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan on January 10, marking the homecoming day of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. "But that will turn into our victory rally."

Finished Apartments at GULSHAN

Call: 9857230 - 4  
01711 594855, 01714 039843, 01714 040457

ASST/02/015  
Asset DEVELOPMENTS