

Saviours of burn victims

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Doctors in Naogaon, Bogra and Rajshahi had given up all hope on the survival of 17-year-old Shampa who had burn injuries stretching from below her lips to the upper part of her chest.

The doctors there had even told her that she had six months to live, said Shampa. But a surgery turned things around for her.

Shampa, burnt in a residential fire caused by an oil lamp nine months ago, suffered from post-burn scar contractures wherein the skin tightens after a severe burn, often restricting movement.

"I could not move my head up and down or sideways before the surgery on April 5. The space between my head and chest was gone," she told The Daily Star a day after her surgery in the neck, axillary area and wrist, performed by a team of foreign plastic surgeons and burn experts.

Shampa's mother Jahanara Begum narrated how she went to hospitals in Naogaon, Bogra and Rajshahi seeking treatment for her eldest child and spending more than TK 1.5 lakh, but all in vain.

As a last try, Jahanara, a house help by profession, brought Shampa to the burn institute in Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

"I didn't have to spend a single penny here for the surgery, medicine or even the tests," she said.

Shampa said, "The doctors here are very nice. I can talk with all of them and they said I will recover." Tilting her head a little and showing the surgical scar that released the

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Artists paint folk motifs on the wall of fine arts faculty at Dhaka University yesterday as part of the campus decoration for tomorrow's Pahela Baishakh celebrations.

PHOTO: STAR

Authorities plan security blanket at DU, Ramna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A security blanket is being thrown around Ramna Park, Dhaka University campus, and Rabindra Sarobar to ensure foolproof security for people celebrating Pahela Baishakh.

"Although there is no specific security threat, we have taken stringent security measures to ensure that things go on peacefully on Tuesday," Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia told a press briefing yesterday.

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PM, Khaleda send greetings to each other

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday exchanged greetings by sending cards to each other's office on the occasion of Pahela Baishakh.

The PM also greeted Opposition Leader Raushan Ershad and Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad on the occasion.

PM's protocol officer Khurshid Alam handed over the Bangla New Year's

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KAMARUZZAMAN'S HANGING Buet teacher assaulted over 'provocative' remarks

DU CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology teacher was assaulted yesterday allegedly by Bangladesh Chhatra League activists for his "provocative" comments on the execution of war criminal Kamaruzzaman.

Buet Chhatra League unit has denied that any of its members assaulted a teacher.

Campus sources claimed that a group of BCL men went to the office of Jahangir Alam, associate professor of civil

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Hillary Clinton launches bid for US presidency

AGENCIES

Hillary Clinton yesterday promised to be a champion for everyday Americans as she kicked off a long-awaited second run for the White House as the commanding Democratic front runner.

"I'm running for president," Clinton, a former secretary of state and US first lady, said in a video on her campaign website that went live at about 3:00 pm (1900 GMT) Sunday.

"Everyday Americans need a champion, and I want to be that champion, so you can do more than just get by. You can get ahead, and stay ahead," she said in the two-minute video.

"Americans have fought their way back from tough economic times. But the deck is still stacked in favor of those at the top," she said.



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EVACUATED FROM YEMEN

337 Bangladeshis on way home

Expected to reach Kerala within Apr 18 by Indian ship from Djibouti

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Evacuated recently from war-torn Yemen, 337 Bangladeshis yesterday boarded two Indian ships in Djibouti to return home.

The Indian ships, MV Kavaratti and MV Corals, with passengers of India and Bangladesh would reach Cochin port of Kerala in India within April 18, SM Mahbul Alam, counsellor at the Bangladesh embassy in Kuwait, told The Daily Star over the phone.

"The Bangladeshis will be brought to Dhaka probably by a Biman Bangladesh flight later," he said.

The foreign ministry would coordinate with the Indian counterpart in New Delhi and ensure all necessary arrangements for bringing the Bangladeshis home.

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HC stays NBR bid to tax Yunus' gift money

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court has stayed the National Board of Revenue's move to collect gift taxes from Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus, his legal and tax counsels said yesterday.

The six-month stay on NBR's tax demand notice came early this month, Kazi Ershadul Alam, legal adviser to Prof Yunus, told The Daily Star over the phone.

The NBR had claimed that Yunus gave away Tk 77 crore in gifts to his family members and others over three assessment years, against which, Tk 15.39 crore were payable in taxes.

Yunus took the NBR to the court over the claim last month, contesting that the donations were tax exempt as per existing

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PRAYER TIMING					
APRIL 13					
	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-35	12-45	4-45	6-24	7-45
JAMAAT	5-10	1-15	5-00	6-28	8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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