



Shahana Huda, coordinator, media and communication, Manusher Jonno Foundation, and Abdulla Al Mamun, programme coordinator, governance, MJF at a programme of the organisation that revealed a study "Children in Bangladesh-2014" at Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday.
PHOTO: STAR

Child rape, suicide on rise

Reveals Manusher Jonno Foundation study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Incidents of child rape have steadily increased and the number of suicides has alarmingly shot up in the country in the last couple of years, revealed a report of Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) yesterday.
According to the study, there were 248 cases of child rape in 2014, 267 in 2013 and 155 in 2012.
The report titled "Children in Bangladesh-2014" also revealed that seven of the rape victims in 2014 died, while 172 were severely injured. Among the victims, two were boys and the remaining girls.

The report based on newspaper reports was unveiled at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.
On suicides, the report said 213 children killed themselves for different reasons in 2014, while the number of children who committed suicides in 2013 was 166. Among the victims last year, 144 were girls.
Shaheen Anam, executive director of MJF, said it was alarming that more girls committed suicide due to reasons like sexual harassment and being victims of pornography.
She mentioned that the most alarming news was that children are at risk

due to political reasons, which will be revealed in the next MJF report.
According to the report, 51 children were victims of politics last year.
On the positive side, the report said there were 1,732 activities such as children's involvement in shows and festivals, rescues and campaigns and seminars last year, while the number was 1,286 in 2013.
However, the negative activities also increased to 3,179 last year from 2,895 in 2013.
Abdulla Al Mamun, programme coordinator, governance, MJF, SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 15th death anniversary of Shabnam Huq; wife of Arham Masudul Huq, senior executive vice-president and company secretary of Dhaka Bank Ltd.
On this occasion, a Qurankhwani and a doa mahfil will be held at Rahmat-e Alam Islam Mission orphanage in the capital's Tejgaon.
Relatives, friends and admirers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



PAHELA BAISHAKH ASSAULT ON WOMEN

Outrage keeps pouring in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different social and political organisations, citizens' platforms and individuals yesterday demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of the perpetrators who sexually assaulted women during Pahela Baishakh celebration in the capital Tuesday.
From her official tweeter account, the United States ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, tweeted, "Appalled to learn about 20 women assaulted during #PahelaBoishakh celebration at #Dhaka University. Let's act to stop #ViolenceAgainstWomen."
Women's rights activists under the banner of "Samajik Protirodh Committee" formed a human chain before Jatiya Press Club urging the administration to act responsibly to stop recurrence of such "barbaric and heinous acts of aggression against women."
Acting President of Mahila Parishad Fauzia Moslem said, "Incidents like this will not be able to stop women's free movement outside their houses."
Bangladesh Chhatra Union brought out a procession at SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 44th death anniversary of Lt Col Muhammad Abdul Qadir, who embraced martyrdom on April 17, 1971.



A milad mahfil will be held today at the Qadirabad Cantonment Central Mosque after Jumma prayers for the salvation of the departed soul, says a press release.
The Qadirabad Cantonment in Natore was named after him for his role in the 1971 Liberation War. The government also issued a postal stamp of him as one of the martyred intellectuals.
Qadir's grave was found SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

Manju alleges intimidation by AL men

FROM PAGE 3
campaigners are not being allowed to hang posters in Sher Shah and Bayezid areas, and local goons are asking them not to campaign in the areas.
Earlier, BNP whip Wahidul Alam was assaulted by local AL men in Bangla Bazar, according to another complaint.
AL-backed mayoral candidate AZM Nasir Uddin was not available for comments.
Addressing a rally in Motiarpur area, Manju said, "We want a peaceful, free and fair election amid a joyous environment. The Election Commission should create an environment where every candidate gets equal opportunity."
Riding a mini-truck, Manju also campaigned in Choumohuni, Pathantuli, Mogoltuli and Dhaniala Para areas and pledged to establish a modern "garment village" at Kalurghat, promote the tourism industry, and take a project to generate electricity from waste.
The immediate past mayor also said he had plans to turn the city into a modern one by continuing the development activities he initiated during his last tenure.
Manju also announced to set up a city

corporation medical college and construct a multi-storey building to house the poor living on risky hill slopes.
'ATTACKS'
The followers of pro-AL councillor candidate Mohammad Hossain Hiron in Ward 13 yesterday allegedly beat up the female campaigners of his rival Mohammad Mahfuzul Alam, backed by Jamaat-e-Islami, in Wireless area around 12:00noon.
Mahfuzul's brother Mahbubul Alam claimed that five to six women including the wife of Mahfuzul were injured and took primary treatment.
In response to a complaint, the returning officer yesterday asked Khulshi police to take necessary steps within two working days against the supporters of Hiron.
Hiron did not take the calls of this correspondent.
Meanwhile, the Jamaat leader Mahfuzul's house was stoned by about a hundred supporters of Hiron around 6:00pm, Mahbub Alam told The Daily Star by phone.
He said he heard the incident while returning home after filing the complaint regarding the Wireless area attack.

Mahbub said his mother and kids were inside the house at the time.
Police chased away the attackers and fanned the area to prevent further attacks, said Khairul Zannat, wife of Mahfuzul.
Meanwhile, unidentified people set fire to the electoral office of pro-AL councillor candidate in Ward 21 Bijoy Kumar Chowdhury Kishan on Wednesday midnight.
In response to a complaint, the RO asked the Chittagong Metropolitan Police commissioner to take steps against the arsonists.
A rally and a silent procession were held in protest of the attack.
FREE CAMPAIGN, FREE VOTE
Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz yesterday directed the polling officials concerned to ensure that the candidates can conduct campaigns properly and voters can exercise their franchise without any hassles.
Briefing reporters at his office in the capital, he also said, "The allegation that a level-playing field was not created was not clear to us.... if anyone has allegations, he or she can file complaints with the returning officer."

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The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill the following post. For detailed Job Descriptions, please visit our website: www.unicef.org.bd
Communication for Development Specialist(TA), NOC, Dhaka
Communication for Development Officer(TA), NOB, Dhaka
Communication for Development Officer(FT), NOB; Khulna
Last date of receiving applications: **26 April 2015**
Application should be submitted with an updated CV, a completed UN Personal History Form (P-11 Form) and copies of the latest two Performance Evaluation Reports (PERs) on or before the closing date to the Chief, Human Resources Section, via email to: dhakahrvacancies@unicef.org. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF's selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.
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Prof A K Azad Khan
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UNICEF Vacancy Announcement
The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill the following post. For detailed Job Descriptions, please visit our website: www.unicef.org.bd
National Consultant (Child Protection)-NOB;
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Application should be submitted with an updated CV, a completed UN Personal History Form (P-11 Form) and copies of the latest two Performance Evaluation Reports (PERs) on or before the closing date to the Chief, Human Resources Section, via email to: hrbangladesh@unicef.org. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF's selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.
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