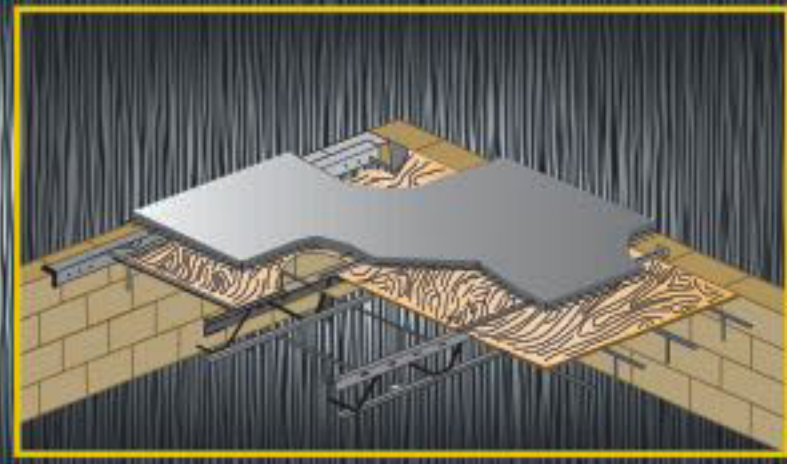


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LEAK ALLEGATION

Independent probe, now

Demand protesters, come up with 'screenshot of medical admission question paper' found online

DU CORRESPONDENT

Calling for an independent probe into the alleged question paper leak, agitating students and guardians yesterday presented before the media some screenshots which they claimed were of the medical admission question paper found on different social media sites.

And 85 to 90 questions -- identical to those on the original question paper -- were available on the internet the night before the exam, they alleged at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club.

One screenshot was of a set of questions which they claim was found on Facebook at 12:30am on September 18, nine and a half hours before the exam. Seventy-seven of the questions were exactly the ones that appeared on the original question paper, they alleged.

Students taking the exam have to answer a hundred multiple choice questions (MCQ), each carrying equal mark.

Demanding fresh MBBS and dental admission tests, the Chhatra Ovivabok Oikya Forum, a platform of agitating students and guardians, urged the government to form an independent probe committee under the Commissions of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) personnel patrol a street west of the US embassy in Baridhara yesterday as part of the beefed up security measures for the diplomatic zone in Dhaka following the recent killings of two foreigners.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

BNP hits back at ministers

Says they are to blame for trying to destabilise country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Those who are against BNP's call of national unity on militancy and terrorism want to destabilise the government, the party said yesterday.

"The government therefore will have to be on guard," BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon said.

Addressing a press briefing at the BNP's Naya Paltan central office, Ripon named Information Minister Hasanul Huq Inu and Food Minister Qamrul Islam and said they were opposing BNP's call for unity out of their "ill-motive."

Lambasting the information minister, Ripon said Inu is obstructing a national unity as well as the resolution of the current political crisis.

"We think there is no activity of religious extremism in the country. Yet the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

A different scene at a govt hospital

BSMMU offers specialist doctor's service at outdoor for only Tk 200

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and PANKAG KARMAKAR

Ziauddin Ahmed, owner of a small grocery in a village of Tongibari upazila in Munshiganj, had been suffering from skin diseases for more than three years.

He visited around half a dozen doctors in the district but got little relief. Later, Munshiganj doctors advised him to visit a specialist doctor in Dhaka. But he could not be happy knowing that a specialist doctor's fee at any private clinic in the capital would be as high as around Tk 1,000.

When Ziauddin almost lost hope, a neighbour told him about the evening-shift outdoor service of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU).

"I had a different experience there [at BSMMU] compared to other government

hospitals. I was surprised that I could visit a senior specialist doctor for Tk 200 only," said Ziauddin, talking to this newspaper in the last week of September.

"I could not imagine that it will be possible to visit a professor at such a small fee. This service is a boon for limited-income group," he was stating.

The BSMMU authorities in October 2011 introduced the evening outdoor service, first of its kind in a government hospital in the country. Around 4 lakh patients received treatment there till August.

The service is rich with contributions from professors and associate professors of over two dozen departments including medicine, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, skin and venereal diseases, ENT (ear, nose and throat), and physical medicine.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

45kg gold seized at Dhaka airport

3 Malaysian citizens held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three Malaysian citizens were held with gold bars weighing 45 kgs at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital yesterday.

The arrestees -- Hee Wool Khong, 28, Johari Bin Harun, 41, and Mohd Azwan Bin Salihin, 21 -- were passengers of a Malaysia Airlines flight that landed in Dhaka around 11:30am, said Shahiduzzaman Sarkar, assistant commissioner of customs.

During primary interrogation, the trio confessed that they were involved in an international gold smuggling gang, he said.

Wool Khong and Azwan had visited Bangladesh several times before. "We were on alert as we had information about a possible gold smuggling through the airport," the customs official told The Daily Star.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4 PHOTO ON PAGE 2



Two beaten to death in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Two suspected cattle thieves were beaten to death by a mob at Ataikula of Pabna early yesterday.

Another "rustler" was admitted to Pabna Medical College Hospital in a critical condition, said police.

Jahangir Alam, chairman of Ataikula Union Parishad, told The Daily Star that the incident occurred after a group of 10 to 12 "thieves" entered Saradangi Taziapara village in a pick-up around 4:00am.

Following their suspicious movement, the villagers started to chase them. Later on, they caught and beat three of the "criminals" mercilessly, killing two on the spot. The other "thieves" fled.

The villagers were on alert as more than 10 cattle had been stolen from

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Jhumur and Aklima

The indomitable

TAMANNA KHAN

A garment employee, Aklima Akhter shoulders the responsibility for her family from whom she was taken away by traffickers when she was just seven.

As she got reunited with her old parents and siblings eight years ago, she decided to support them.

"I financed marriages of two of my younger sisters. The youngest one, who is visually challenged, lives with me at Savar. My parents and younger brother live in Khulna [her home district]. I am thinking of bringing them to Savar soon," said the 24-year-old who works at a garments factory in Savar EPZ.

In a patriarchal society like this, girl children are mostly considered a burden that their families like to shed as early as possible by marrying them off. The fate of those who have fallen victim to rape, violence, trafficking and forced marriage is even worse. They rot to their tiniest existence even without engendering any sympathy towards them.

Aklima is among those who are proving the stereotype wrong.

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A video grab, below, shows a blast goes off during a peace rally in Ankara of Turkey yesterday. Above, bodies are covered with rally banners and flags, and an injured man hugs an injured woman after the explosion.



PHOTO: AFP



PRAYER TIMING

OCTOBER 11

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-45	12-45	4-15	5-45	7-15
JAMAAT	5-20	1-15	4-30	5-50	7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Russia intensifies air strike in Syria

Hits 55 IS targets in 24 hours; US, Russia plan airspace safety talks to avert confrontation; rebels battle militants' advance in Aleppo

AGENCIES

Russia yesterday said it had stepped up its bombing campaign against Islamic State militants in Syria, as Washington said it would resume talks with Moscow to avoid accidents in the skies over the war-torn country.

Russia, a top ally of President Bashar al-Assad, started bombing in Syria on Sept 30 saying it was targeting Islamic State and other opposition groups, a campaign that has drawn Moscow deeper into Syria's more than four-year-old conflict.

Rebels on the ground and Western states have said Moscow's air campaign, which has been combined with ground attacks by pro-

government forces, have mainly targeted rebel groups not associated with Islamic State, including US-trained fighters.

Moscow has dismissed those claims saying it is fighting all kind of terrorists in Syria.

A Russian defence ministry representative yesterday said Russia had intensified its campaign in the last 24 hours, with 64 sorties hitting 55 targets, Russian news agencies reported.

The representative, Major-General Igor Konashenkov, described the targets hit as controlled by Islamic State, also referring to them as belonging to "militants" and "terrorists".

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