

NEWS IN brief

BNP's Fakhru bailed in all cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted permanent bail to BNP Acting Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir in a vandalism and arson case. The case was filed with Paltan police on January 4 over vandalising and torching a car. He is accused in a total of 86 cases, and now on bail in all of them, his lawyer Sagir Hossain Leon told The Daily Star.

SAMS Kibria murder case testimony recording deferred again

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Sylhet court yesterday deferred, for the 10th time, recording of testimonies of witnesses till today in the former finance minister SAMS Kibria murder case as only five accused out of 14 appeared before the court yesterday. Public Prosecutor Kishore Kumar Kar said former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar and suspended Sylhet City Corporation mayor Ariful Haque Chowdhury did not appear on grounds of sickness while the others had to appear before other courts. Five people, including Kibria, were killed and 70 others injured in a grenade attack on a public rally of local Awami League at Baiddar Bazar in Sadar upazila on January 27, 2005.

Three held over stabbing of Indians

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested three people in Chittagong district on Tuesday in connection with the attack on two Indian Shikhs on the Chittagong-Dhaka highway at Sitakunda upazila on Monday night. The arrestees, Mosharrar Hossain, 22, Emrul Islam Saju, and Md Bablu, both 19, were produced before a Chittagong court yesterday with a seven-day remand prayer. Masked men stabbed Bhupindor Singh, 68, and Mul Chand Singh, 63, and allegedly looted Tk 50,000 and a mobile phone set from them when their microbus stopped at Panthichhila. They were given primary treatment at a local hospital and later police escorted them to their destinations in Dhaka.

Dhaka Sub-editors Council celebrates 15th birthday

BSS, Dhaka

Dhaka Sub-editors Council observed its 15th founding anniversary at the Jatiya Press Club (JPC) on Monday. Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury was present as chief guest at the event chaired by DSEC President Nasima Akter. Among others Prime Minister's Media Adviser Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, JPC President Shafiqur Rahman, Rangpur Mayor Sarafuddin Ahmed Jhantu, Acting Editor of the daily Ittefaq Tasmima Hossain and Land Reforms Board Chairman Mahfuzur Rahman were present.

Huzzatul Mursalin wins COP21 Photographic Award

CITY DESK

Huzzatul Mursalin, a Bangladeshi photographer, yesterday won the 2015 Photographic Award, organised by International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Paris. The photography contest -- an official Paris Climate Conference (COP21) event -- was held at ICC Global Headquarters. It aimed at drawing attention to the global challenge of climate change. Mursalin came first for his photo "An Unusual Funeral", a depiction of residents of Bangladesh island Kutubdia paying their respects to dried earth and dead trees. Bipayan Bhar of India was placed second.

Bangladeshi to get British queen's Young Leaders Award

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladeshi youth has been selected as one of the 60 young recipients of prestigious Queen's Young Leaders Award, according to an announcement of the British High Commission yesterday. Twenty-four-year-old Osama Bin Noor founded Youth Opportunities, an opportunities discovery platform for youths across the globe, which highlights and shares prospects from governmental bodies, NGOs, businesses and universities around the world. The award will be presented in London by the British queen next year.



From left, Sadya Afreeen Mallik, editor of Star Arts & Entertainment, and singer Fahmida Nabi render a song while Dhaka University Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique and Rafi Hossain, festival director of Celebrating Life, look on at a programme organised in DU's Teacher-Student Centre auditorium yesterday as a part of The Daily Star-Standard Chartered Bank "Celebrating Life 2015" contest's district festivals. The organisers and DU have reached an understanding on the university participating in hosting a weeklong Celebrating Life event for the next three years.

PHOTO: STAR

N'GANJ SEVEN-MURDER HC order over further probe deferred till Dec 14

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday deferred the date to December 14 for passing an order on a petition seeking further investigation into the Narayanganj seven-murder case. The deferral came as the statement made by the petitioner before the magistrate concerned was not submitted before the HC, said petitioner's counsel Abdul Bastet Majumder. A Narayanganj court recorded the statement from Selina Islam Beauty, wife of former Narayanganj city panel mayor Nazrul Islam, before rejecting her no-confidence petition, he said. In the petition, Selina said five local influential people's names were included in the FIR, but were dropped from the chargesheet. Seven people, including Nazrul and senior lawyer Chandan Sarker, were abducted from the Dhaka-Narayanganj Link Road on April 27, 2014. Later, their bodies were found in the river Shitalakshya.

HC stays Dinajpur municipal mayor's suspension for a month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed for a month a government order that suspended Dinajpur Poursava mayor Syed Jahangir Alam on charge of irregularities. Following a petition filed by Jahangir, the court also issued a rule asking the government to explain as to why the suspension should not be declared illegal. The LGRD ministry, without issuing any show cause notice, suspended Jahangir on December 3 for appointing "excessive" manpower at his office and reducing municipality tax. The HC stayed his suspension on the ground that Jahangir was not accused in any criminal case and the government had not given him any scope to defend himself, said the petitioner's counsel, Ruhul Quddus Kazal. Jahangir is a BNP candidate for the upcoming Poursava election on December 30.

STAY ON CANCELLATION OF MPO Why 5 teachers must refund salaries

HC asks two DSHE high-ups to explain appearing before it by Jan 5

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the director general and an assistant director of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) to appear before it on January 5 on the charge of violating its order over cancellation of monthly pay orders (MPOs) of five college teachers. DG of DSHE Fahima Khatun and its Assistant Director Helal Uddin have been asked to appear by January 5 next year to explain why they ordered five teachers of Rangpur Model College to refund their salaries despite a stay order of this court. The HC also issued a rule asking seven government high officials, including the education secretary, Fahima and Helal, to explain in two weeks why contempt of court proceedings should not be initiated against them. A bench of the HC came up with the order and rule after hearing a contempt of court petition filed by the college teachers. Petitioners' lawyer ABM Altaf Hossain said the DSHE on January 11, 2010 issued a notice cancelling the MPOs of the five teachers Ahsan Habib, Toyob Miah, Kazi Khaled, Zikrul Islam and Mominur Rahman. The DSHE said in the notice that appointments of the five teachers had not been valid and asked them to refund salaries and allowances they had received to the government treasurer. Following a writ petition filed by the five, the HC on January 27, 2010 stayed the effectiveness of the DSHE notice and issued a rule upon the authorities concerned and DSHE to explain why the notice should not be declared illegal, he said adding, the DSHE on November 24 this year issued another notice asking the five to refund their salaries and allowances and also asked to explain why their MPOs should not be cancelled.

ALLOCATION OF MUNICIPAL POLL SYMBOLS FOR WOMEN EC discriminated against them

Says NHRC chief at award giving ceremony for ten lawyers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Human Rights Commission Chairman Dr Mizanur Rahman yesterday criticised the Election Commission for discrimination in allocating electoral symbols to women councillors. He added that this reflects the mindset of the society in which discrimination is deeply rooted. Pointing to some electoral symbols -- doll and bangles -- that have been assigned to women councillors, he said, "What a ridiculous thing in the 21st century!" The NHRC chief was addressing an award giving ceremony organised by the Bandhu Social Welfare Society in The Daily Star Centre in the capital. Ten lawyers were awarded for giving legal counselling and support to persons suffering from discrimination based on their sex under a fellowship programme of Bandhu Social Welfare Society. Biman Kumar Saha, additional secretary to the health and family welfare ministry, said around 65 percent of the people are aged between 18 and 35. "If we can utilise this population irrespective of gender identity, we will prosper," he said, adding that this includes the hijra community. Amber Brooks, director of Democracy and Governance Office of USAID in Bangladesh, said people of the LGBT community face formidable barriers around the world. Advocates who received the award are: Gyanandra Prasad Das, Julekha Akter, Golam Rabbani, Jahangir Alam, Merina Begamayang, Mostaque Ahmed Sharkar, Mustafizur Rahman, Saiful Islam Talukdar, Shaneaz Sultana and Swapan Kumar Dev. SEE PHOTO ONLINE



Anita Chowdhury, widow of late Samson H Chowdhury, inaugurates Samson H Chowdhury Centre on the Dhaka Club premises in the capital yesterday by switching on its lights.

PHOTO: STAR

"Not only all Bangladeshis, but any serious foreign resident or student of Bangladesh today will find an essential understanding of its emergence as a nation in these pages."

-Ian Martin

FROM TWO ECONOMIES TO TWO NATIONS MY JOURNEY TO BANGLADESH by REHMAN SOBHAN

Home Delivery Service
www.rokomari.com
16297

Baily Star BOOKS

Our books are available at:
Aziz Super Market, Shahbag; Prothoma (9664825), Pathak Shamabesh (01713034440) New Market; Book Web (01712533330) Dhanmondi; Gyankosh (8623251), Baily Road; Sagor Publishers (9358944), Gulshan; Gloria Jean's Coffees (01970008989), Banani; Ananya Crafts (9882542), Old Airport; Bookworm (9120387), Airport; Omni Books (8901808), Chittagong; Batighar (01713304344) and Prothoma (01711649422)

SCALING THE SUMMIT IS NO EASY TASK!

FIND OUT WHO ARE WINNING TONIGHT!

Amirul Islam
SOS Hermann Gmeiner College, Dhaka

Bibi Marium Siddique
Maple Leaf International School, Dhaka

Reasat Zaman
St. Joseph Higher Secondary School, Dhaka

Faiyaz Uddin Ayeshek
Barisal Cadet College, Barisal

Adeeb Ahmed Khan
Chittagong Cantonment Public College, Chittagong

Adiba Kabir
Rosedale International English School & College, Khulna

Spelling Bee Season 4

চলছে প্রিলিমিনারি রাউন্ড

২২০০+ ক্লবের ৩,৯৯,৪০২ জন প্রতিযোগী থেকে উঠে এসেছে ৯৬ জন স্পেলার। এখন থেকে প্রতি পরে ৬ জন করে স্পেলার লড়বে এবং সেরা ২ জন চলে যাবে কোয়ার্টার ফাইনাল রাউন্ডে।

The School of Excellence-এ ক্লাস করতে বসে পড়ুন --এর সামনে
আজ বৃহস্পতিবার সন্ধ্যা ৭:৫০ মিনিটে

The Sponsor: The Daily Star
Enlightened by: SUMMIT
Brought to you by: Champs21

Telecast Partner: BOP
Associate Partner: BOP