

**WEATHER FORECAST**

| YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES | DHAKA           | CHITTAGONG      | SYLHET          | RAJSHAHI        | KHULNA          | BARISAL         | RANGPUR         | COX'S BAZAR     |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                          | H 25.8   L 14.0 | H 25.2   L 13.8 | H 26.1   L 14.0 | H 25.0   L 09.2 | H 25.6   L 12.4 | H 26.0   L 12.0 | H 26.0   L 11.0 | H 26.4   L 15.0 |

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today. Moderate to thick fog may occur at places over the river basins and light to moderate fog may occur elsewhere over the country during mid night till morning, Met Office said. Mild cold wave, sweeping over some parts of the country, may abate. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:21pm and rises tomorrow at 6:41am.

## 10-year girl 'gang-raped' in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A 10-year-old girl was allegedly gang-raped in Khadimnagar of Sylhet Sadar upazila Tuesday afternoon.

The girl, a student of class IV, lives with her aunt as both of her parents are dead. The aunt filed a case the same night with Airport Police Station accusing one Jamil Ali, 20, of Khapria village and his friend.

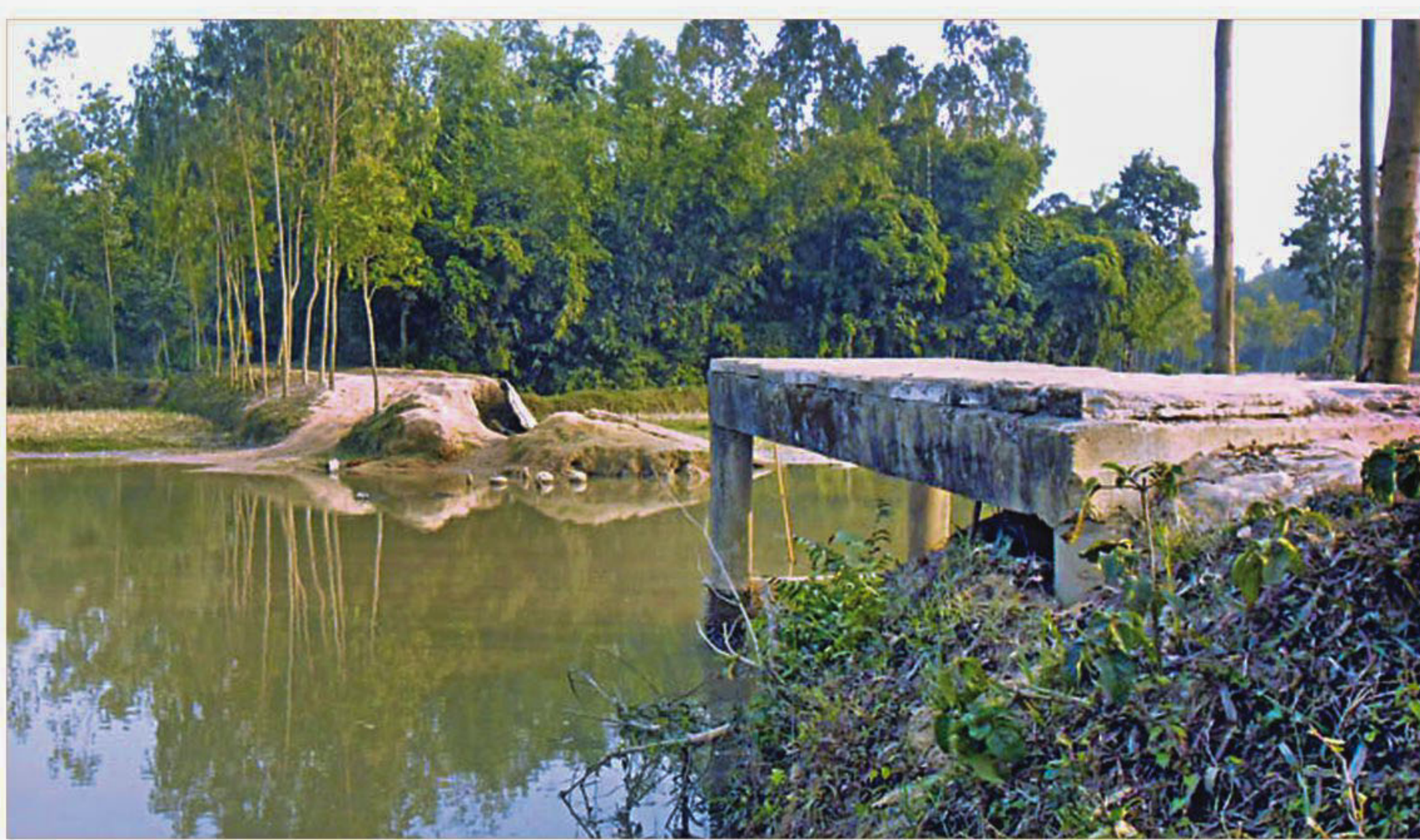
Police said the girl took cattle for grazing in Khadimnagar when Jamil and his friend spotted her. Seeing her alone, they took her to nearby bushes and raped her. Locals rushed to the area hearing the child's scream. She was rescued and admitted to the one-stop crisis centre of Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital. The two "rapists" are on the run.

## ERD, UNDP sign deal for village court phase II

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is going to implement the phase II of its village court project as an effective local dispute resolution mechanism with the financial assistance from the UNDP.

The estimated budget of the project is \$36.55 million or Tk 282.37 crore, says an UNDP press release. Md Ashadul Islam, additional secretary (UN) of Economic Relation Division; and Nick Beresford, country director of UNDP, signed an agreement in this regard at ERD yesterday. Under the project, the Local Government Division will activate village courts in 1,080 unions across eight divisions between January 2016 and December 2019.



Collapsing during floods, the remains of this bridge in Sherpur's Jhenigati upazila have been awaiting reconstructing for long. There are several bridges in the upazila which are in a similar state, snapping road connectivity and causing immense sufferings to locals. The photo was taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

## 2015 was good for Biman

UNB, Dhaka

Biman Bangladesh Airlines had a good year, turning a profit of Tk 275 crore in the first nine months of 2015.

Besides, the national flag carrier managed to carry passengers in domestic routes -- Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Barisal, Jessore, Rajshahi and Syedpur -- after a lapse of a couple of years, with two turbo prop aircrafts (Canada-built 74-seater Dash-8 Q400) that were added to the fleet on dry lease.

Currently, Biman flies to 15 destinations in the Middle East, Europe and Asia.

"We passed a good year. We have made profit and included two aircraft in the fleet," Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon told the news agency.

He said with the new aircraft, Biman would be able to start flights in new routes. In the last two months, Biman inducted two Boeing 737-800s in its fleet.

In this connection the minister said Guangzhou, Male and Colombo are on top of the list for the new routes.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines added the new Boeing aircraft 737-800 to its fleet on December 25. This was the sixth of 10 new Boeing to the fleet of Biman. With Boeing 737-800s, Meghdoot and Mayurpankhi, the number of aircraft in Biman's fleet is now 14.

In 2008, the national flag carrier entered an agreement with the US company for acquisition of 10 new generation aircraft -- four Boeing 777-300ERs, two Boeing 737-800s and four Boeing 787 Dreamliners. Boeing has already delivered four Boeing 777-300ER aircraft to Biman.

As per the agreement Boeing is scheduled to deliver four Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft by 2019-2020.

Regard ground handling, Menon said the government decided to appoint foreign companies to operate ground handling services at the country's three international airports in a "joint venture" with Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

Currently, about 100 international flights from 18 countries and 50 flights of four domestic airlines are being handled at the Dhaka airport every day.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines is the sole authority for the job. On October 21, the government decided to appoint more agents for ground handling services at the international airports.

An independent company for ground handling, over which Biman would have no direct control, was planned in 2006. But, it did not get final approval.

According to sources, the airliner is planning to start flying to Seoul and increase the frequency of flights to Middle Eastern countries.

"A feasibility study will be done for Seoul route, while the decision to increase the frequency in Dubai route is almost final," said a senior official of Biman.

He mentioned that currently Biman is operating seven flights a week on the Dhaka-Dubai-Dhaka route, and it has plans to increase it to 14 per week.

Meanwhile, non-approval of new organogram of Biman is causing problems for the national airliner as top officials of the airline are going into retirement soon and there is no

## FOUR MUGHAL-ERA BUILDINGS IN OLD DHAKA

# HC orders to stop demolition

### Seeks explanation why classical, neoclassical buildings in capital aged around 75 years should not be protected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government authorities concerned to immediately stop the demolition of four Mughal-era buildings under holding numbers 62 to 65 in Old Dhaka's Shakhari Bazar Road and preserve their historical and archaeological values.

It asked them to explain why their failure to restrict the demolition should not be declared illegal. It also issued a rule upon the authorities to explain in four weeks why they should not be directed to take necessary steps to preserve and protect as Bangladesh's heritage all classical and neoclassical buildings in Dhaka aged around 75

years.

It asked them to show cause as to why they should not be ordered to take necessary steps to initiate a heritage conservation project and make an integrated plan to restore at least three major monuments, Boro Katra, Chhoto Katra and Rupal House, in Old Dhaka.

Housing and cultural affairs ministries' secretaries; Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha's chairman, secretary and authorised officer concerned; archaeology department's director general; Dhaka Metropolitan Police's commissioner, Dhaka's deputy commissioner and Kotwali Police Station's officer-in-charge have been made respondents, Deputy Attorney General Md Bashir Ullah told The Daily Star.

The HC bench came up with the order and rule after hearing a writ petition filed by Taimur Islam.

Taimur, chief executive officer of Urban Study Group, an organisation campaigning for preservation of heritage properties in Old Dhaka, submitted the petition at the HC on December 28.

In it, he said a vested quarter has started the demolition despite the four being listed as heritage properties.

Besides, Rajuk in a February 2009 gazette stated that such buildings cannot be demolished without approval from Town Development Committee, formed by the government, headed.

The petitioner prayed for necessary orders to protect and preserve struc-

## Hundreds of illegal structures knocked down on Turag bank

Claims DMP

BSS, Dhaka

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) in a drive demolished 5,000 to 6,000 illegal establishments on Turag riverbank under Uttara and Turag police stations in the capital yesterday, claimed DMP.

Executive Magistrate Moshir Rahman who led the drive told the news agency that a mobile court conducted the drive in a 3-kilometre way from Abdullahpur to Kamarpara bridge of Turag from 12:00 midnight to 5:00pm.



Children engaged in campaigning at the Dinajpur Academy High School polling centre in the town during yesterday's municipality election.

PHOTO: STAR

## Kidney Disease Specialist

# Dr. Tanveer Bin Latif

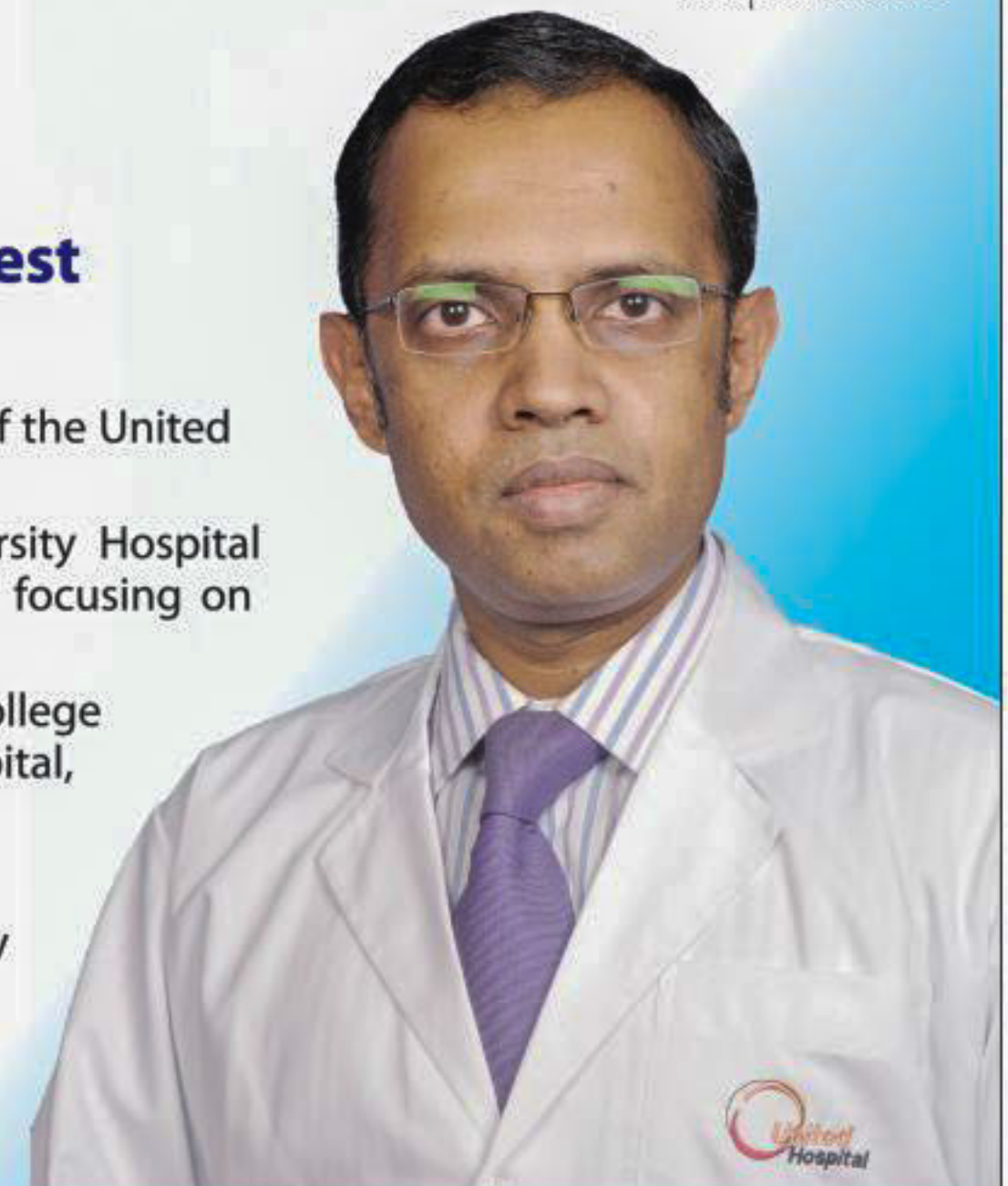
MBBS, MRCP (UK), Fellow Nephrology, National University Hospital, Singapore



## Now in UNITED HOSPITAL as Consultant, Renal Care Centre

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- Obtained MRCP (UK) from The Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom in 2008
- Obtained Fellowship in Nephrology from National University Hospital (NUH), Singapore under Professor Anantharaman Vathsala focusing on Critical Care Nephrology and Renal Transplantation
- In addition to working in BIRDEM and Dhaka Medical College Hospital in the country, he also worked in Middlesex Hospital, NHS, London, UK
- Performed close to 150 Renal Biopsy so far
- Participated in many international seminars on Kidney Diseases and Diabetes
- Before joining in United Hospital as **Consultant**, he was serving as Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Nephrology at Uttara Adhunik Medical College & Hospital



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সেরা ৩২ স্পেলার



Shamma Tasnim Rahman  
Paramount School & College, Rajshahi



Saad Aslam  
Dhaka Residential Model College, Dhaka



Md. Sadiq Saadman  
Chittagong Collegiate School, Chittagong



Parisa Islam  
Mirpur Girls' Ideal Laboratory Institute, Dhaka



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