



## POP'S PICASSO NO MORE

Music legend David Bowie dies from cancer at 69

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## ROYAL TRIAL

Spanish princess Cristina appears in court in fraud case

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## WITH TODAY'S ISSUE



# Do not agitate halting classes

PM asks public university teachers, criticises them for indefinite strike over 'pay disparity'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday criticised public university teachers for going on an indefinite work stoppage and asked them not to wage a movement at the expense of students' education.

"Dignity cannot be achieved through halting classes and examinations of students. Such a move does not go with teachers," she said.

"Students will not accept it if you continue protests against the new pay scale, boycotting classes ... You have to keep education at public universities operational," she said.

Stressing the high status of teachers, she said, "If there is a problem, we will look into it."

Hasina, also chief of the ruling Awami League, was addressing a rally at Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital, marking Bangabandhu's Homecoming Day.

She also expressed her disappointment about the teachers' demand for the same status as secretaries.

"If you want status equal to secretaries, just resign and become a secretary by sitting examinations through the PSC. Then there will be no problem," she pointed out.

Highlighting the difference of age limit between teachers and secretaries, Hasina explained, "I myself extended the age limit of teachers to 65 years, RELATED STORY ON PAGE 3 SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



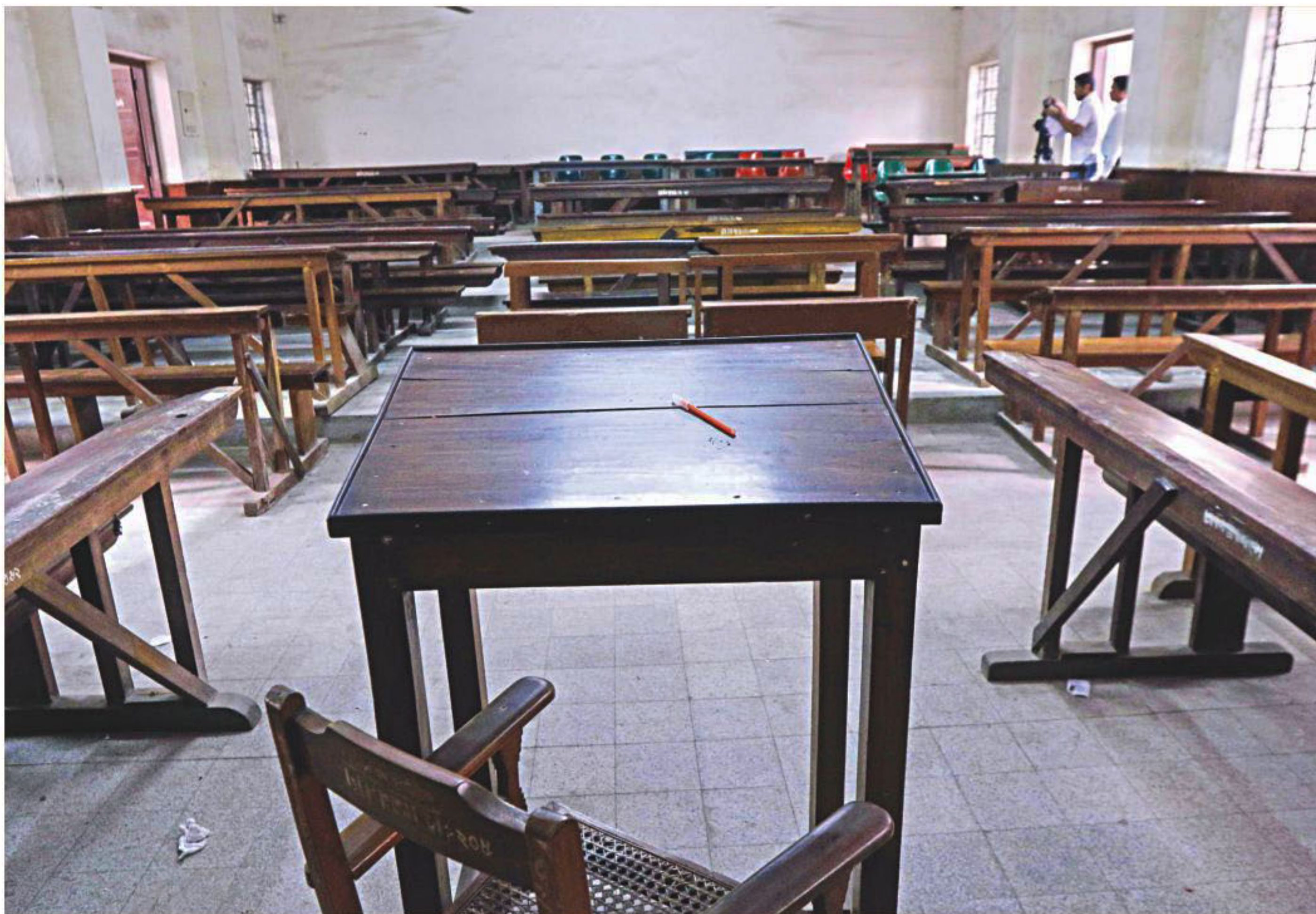
"If you want status equal to a secretary's, then just resign and become a secretary by sitting examinations through PSC. That'll solve your problem."

PRIME MINISTER  
**SHEIKH HASINA**  
TO THE AGITATING TEACHERS



"We don't want to be secretaries. Why would we want to be secretaries? It's us who make secretaries. A student can be a bureaucrat by obtaining a BA or with a third class, but to be a university teacher, he must have top academic results."

PROF FARID UDDIN AHMED  
PRESIDENT OF THE FBUTA  
ON HASINA'S REMARKS



A vacant classroom at Dhaka University. Teachers of all 37 public universities, under the platform of Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers Association (FBUTA), yesterday began an indefinite work stoppage, protesting the "government inaction" on their demand for removing "pay disparities".

PHOTO: AmRAN HOSSAIN

## TORTURING BB OFFICIAL FOR MONEY Rogue SI closed



Victim Rabbi, left, and SI Masud.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sub-inspector who allegedly tortured a Bangladesh Bank official for Tk 5 lakh was closed yesterday.

Creating a stir, SI Masud Shikder of Mohammadpur Police Station and his team beat up Golum Rabbi, an assistant director of the central bank, on Taj Mahal Road on Saturday night.

The officer also threatened to kill Rabbi in a "crossfire" and falsely implicate him in narcotics crimes.

Biplab Kumar Sarkar, deputy commissioner (Tejgaon division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said considering the "seriousness of the allegations", SI Masud was removed from his current workplace.

Now attached to the Tejgaon DC office of DMP, the SI will face action based on findings of their investigation, Biplab told a private television.

Hafiz Al Faruq, assistant commissioner (Mohammadpur zone) of DMP, has been assigned to probe the allegations.

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## CJ REMARKS Jurists ponder what to do

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The chief justice's remark that the country's executive branch wants to take away all power from the judiciary has left senior jurists pondering what they should do now.

Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha made the comment while inaugurating a week-long book fair on the premises of Supreme Court Bar Association on Saturday.

He said lawyers became vocal whenever such things happened previously. "Now if the judiciary faces attacks from all quarters -- lawyers, the executive branch and justice-seekers -- who will protect it?" he questioned.

Talking to The Daily Star, Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday said, "I read his remarks in newspapers. I don't want to make any comment on the basis of newspaper reports. I will collect the speech as it is. Only then will I make a comment, if needed."

Abdul Baset Majumder, vice-chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council, said they would convene a meeting of the council soon to discuss the chief justice's remarks.

An eminent jurist declined to

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## 87pc households use mobile

BBS survey finds 3.14cr households own at least one cellphone but only 4.8pc use internet

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

More than 87 percent households in Bangladesh own mobile phones, indicating the rapid expansion of digital connectivity the present government has brought forth, according to a government survey.

Besides, 3.14 crore households have at least one mobile phone, shows the survey conducted in 2013 and published last week by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

It also says 4.8 percent households

have access to internet.

This is for the first time a government agency has done such a survey.

The BBS findings on internet access have drawn the ire of experts and policymakers, who say the data don't reflect the reality given the digital transformation that took place in the country in the last two years.

They say the 2013 data are outdated for sectors such as information communication and telecommunication services.

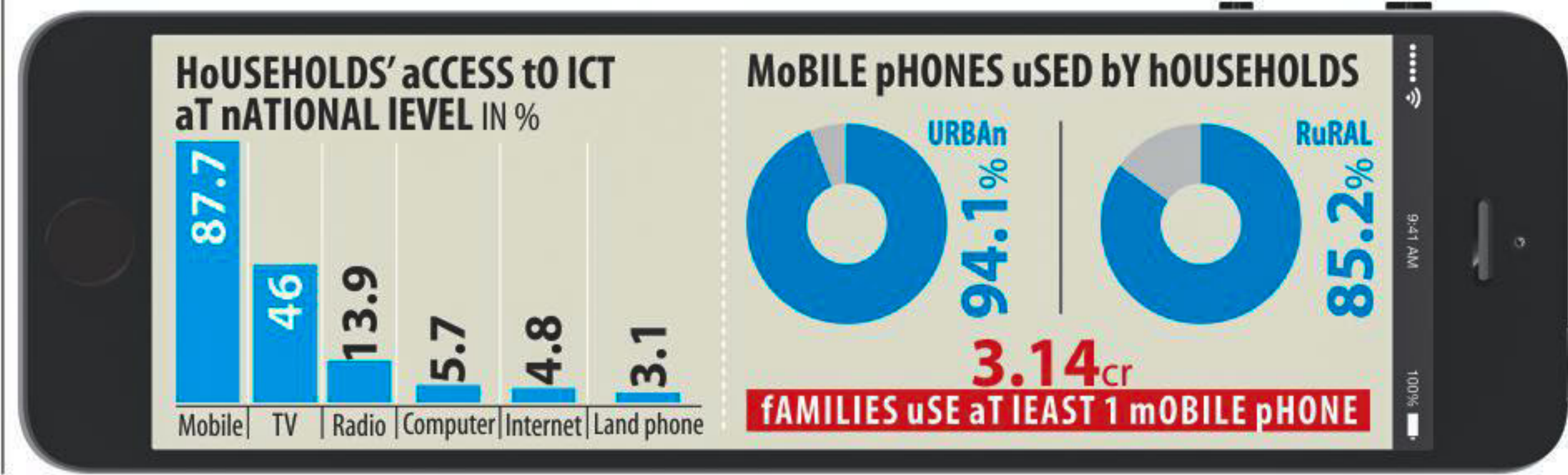
The massive survey, involving a

sample of 36,268 households with 130,714 individuals aged above five, found that only 5.6 percent households have computers.

The survey, "ICT Use and Access by Individuals and Households in Bangladesh 2013", says 13.9 percent households have radio and 3.1 percent house units have landline phone connections.

According to the study, 94.1 percent households in urban areas and 85.2 percent in rural areas are connected

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**PART-5**

For 91 days from January 5 to April 5 last year, there was hardly a single day when innocent people were not burnt to death or injured in arson attacks on public transports. Some lost their loved ones, others their lone bread earners during the longest spell of horror allegedly carried out by the BNP-led coalition, protesting the January 5, 2014, elections. At least 95 people were killed and about 1,500 injured. Most of them were ordinary citizens. Another 45 got killed in "shootouts" with law enforcers. One year on, the overall picture has changed but the ordeals of those injured and the families of those killed have not. The Daily Star visited over a dozen such families. Today's story is about how three families lost their lone bread winners in an instant.

## Impossible to forget

Families of Cox's Bazar victims living on people's mercy

MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT, Cox's Bazar

Hopes of better days beckoned Abu Taher's family.

The day labourer from Chakaria of Cox's Bazar sold a small piece of land, mortgaged his homestead and borrowed some money from relatives to go to Qatar. It was all for making a living for his four-member family. And Taher was all set to make it happen.

But everything changed in an instant. Taher along with two other men from Chakaria was on his way to Dhaka to catch a flight to Qatar. In the midway, their bus was firebombed by suspected blockade pickets in the wee hours of February 2 last year. All three died instantly.

The two others are Rashedul Islam Badshah and Mohammad Yusuf, who were to catch the same flight with Taher.

"All our hopes and dreams are shattered. We're sunk in heavy debts now," said Nurjahan Begum, the 32-year-old widow of Taher.

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Victim Abu Taher's family in front of his house at Chakaria in Cox's Bazar. PHOTO: STAR

## Messi wins fifth Ballon d'Or



AGENCIES

Argentina and Barcelona star Lionel Messi won a record fifth FIFA Ballon d'Or award for the world's best player at a ceremony in Zurich on Monday.

It was widely speculated that Messi would get the trophy for the year 2015 and the speculations ended up right. A cheerful Messi got up on stage and gleefully accepted the award. He dethroned three-time winner Cristiano Ronaldo in adding to his four consecutive awards from 2009 to 2012.

In the other awards, USA's Carli Lloyd was awarded the Women's World Player of the Year, Barcelona's Luis Enrique was awarded coach of the year, Jill Ellis won the World Women's coach of the year, while Wendell Lira won the Puskas Award for the best goal.

The following players were included in the World XI: Manuel Neuer; Thiago Silva, Marcelo, Sergio Ramos, Dani Alves; Andres Iniesta, Luka Modric, Paul Pogba; Neymar, Leo Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo.

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## Trademark Caution Notice

It is hereby made known to all that on behalf of our client Abul Khair Tobacco Co. Ltd., having its address at D.T.Road, Pahartali, Chittagong and 13 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1200, we have filed a title suit being Title Suit No. 03/2016 against British American Tobacco Bangladesh Limited on 07.01.2016 in the Court of the Learned District Judge, Dhaka under Trademark Act praying for a permanent injunction restraining British American Tobacco Bangladesh Limited from manufacturing, marketing, using and selling of cigarettes under the brand name called 'Derby' by copying the design of the renowned cigarette brand 'MARISE' of our client.

In the said suit the Court of Learned District Judge, Dhaka issued an ad-interim temporary injunction in pursuance of an application for temporary injunction. On the basis of the said issued injunction British American Tobacco Bangladesh Limited is restrained from manufacturing, marketing, using and selling of cigarettes under the brand name called 'Derby'.

Therefore, it is requested that all concerned refrain from manufacturing, marketing, using and selling of cigarette under the brand name called 'Derby' and accordingly abide by the injunction issued by the learned Court.

**Mohammad Hasan Habib**  
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