



DARE SAY SORRY?

In some societies, you may have to pay a heavy price for it

PAGE 6

HELPING THE YOUTH

Empowering them with education and skills can bring them out of poverty

PAGE 7

INDIA'S ECONOMY

Modi government failing to boost investment, says Manmohan Singh

PAGE 8

Case backlog falls greatly

SC initiatives work

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The case disposal rate at courts across the country increased remarkably last year as the Supreme Court authorities have taken some measures to update court and case management.

The gap between the numbers of cases filed and cases settled came down last year compared to that in previous years because of improvement in case disposal, according to an SC study published in the last week of January.

Earlier, the number of disposal of cases was less than that of filing of cases, SC sources said.

The apex court settled 9,992 cases last year and 5,911 in 2014.

Some 14,26,676 cases were settled at courts across the country last year. The figure was 13,04,544 in 2014.

The number of cases pending with the courts stood at 3,109,173 until December 31 last year, while those were 30,07,860 as of December 31, 2014, according to the SC study report.

Supreme Court Registrar General Syed Aminul Islam told The Daily Star recently that the case disposal rate had increased as the SC authorities led by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha took some measures to reduce backlogs.

Now, many of the judges work even on holidays because of the motivation from the authorities, he said.

The SC authorities have asked the lower court judges to settle petty cases like motor vehicle related ones within a short time, the registrar general said.

Meanwhile, since taking over as chief justice in January last year, Sinha has visited courts in 25 districts to identify

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Clad in the colours of spring, children with flowers welcome the king of seasons in the DC Hill area of Chittagong city yesterday, the first day of the Bangla month Falgun.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Aglow with Falgun flames

Valentine's Day today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaving behind the boredom of life, city people wearing red, green, yellow and orange poured into the streets yesterday to greet the arrival of spring.

It was not a national holiday, yet they were all in a celebratory mood over the first month of the Bangla season of spring: Falgun.

As nature reclaims its vigour, beauty and youth with the winter retreating, people having an otherwise busy life in the capital year for some time with their loved ones and that is what reflects at every corner here on Pahela Falgun.

City dwellers congregated at parks and on Dhaka University premises where cultural events took place marking the arrival of spring.

Sheikh Shariar Amin, an employee of a private bank that remains closed on Saturdays, was enjoying family time with his wife

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Rab detains Rab man for 'extortion'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rapid Action Battalion yesterday detained one of its members and four others for allegedly extorting money from a man at Sonargaon in Narayanganj.

The detainees are Constable Humayun Kabir, 30, of Rab-13 in Rangpur, Shahida Akhter, 45,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

POWER PLANTS NEAR SUNDARBANS Go for fresh impact study by UN team

Govt urged to suspend all development activities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Committee to Protect Sundarbans yesterday demanded suspension of all development activities of Rampal power plant and the adjacent private Orion power plant until a fresh environment impact assessment (EIA) by a United Nations-led neutral team.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Three 'robbers' beaten to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A mob in Zinda area of Rupganj in Narayanganj beat three alleged robbers to death early yesterday.

Police and witnesses said a group of 10-15 robbers stormed the home of one Kuddus Shikder, 60, around 3:30am and attacked his family members with sharp weapons, injuring at least five.

When the robbers were leaving the house with around Tk 1.5 lakh, 25 tolas of

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"[Valentine's Day] aims to spread vulgarity and indecency amongst the youth."

SAYS A RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY IN A PAKISTAN DISTRICT ASSEMBLY, SEEKING TO BAN THE DAY.

Celebrating **LOVELLO DAY** 14 Feb.

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