

3 students of CMC hacked in clash with local youths

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

Three students of Chittagong Medical College (CMC) were hacked allegedly by local youths during a clash with them at Nasirabad Housing Society in Chittagong city early yesterday.

The three students-- Nahid Hasan, also organising secretary of CMC unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), Aynul Hasan Anik, cultural secretary of CMC Central Students' Union and Zim--were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Police and locals said some residence students from two CMC dormitories at Nasirabad Housing Society had an altercation with some local youths over creating nuisance allegedly by the youths' taking drugs in front of the dormitories around 1:00am.

When the students of the dormitories protested the drug-taking incident, SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Agitated locals set fire to a truck and block road for an hour halting vehicular movements after it rammed a motorcycle on C and B Road in Nabagram Chowmatha area in Barisal city yesterday, killing the rider and leaving his co-rider critically injured. Meanwhile, in Gaibandha, thirty people were injured when a bridal party bus plunged into a roadside ditch due to dense fog at Beradanga on Gaibandha-Sunderganj road.

Encyclopaedia at book fair choice of quite a few

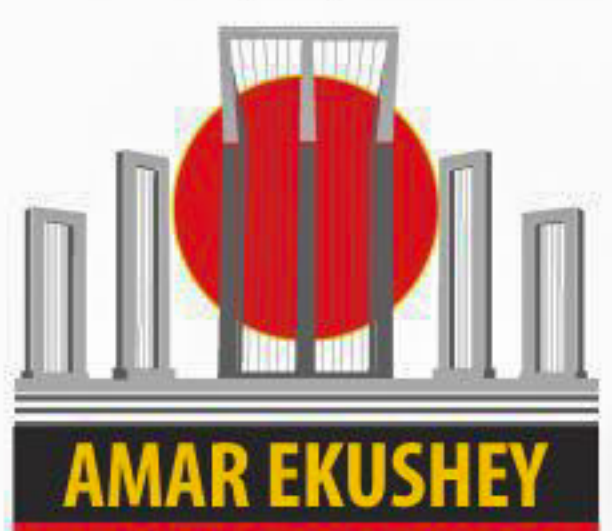
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Among the planets orbiting around the sun, earth stands third from the sun and it has four layers -- crust, mantle, outer core, and inner core.

Because of the high temperature of the inner core, at 4,000 degree Celsius, the molten outer core and mantle are assumed to help create a magnetic field that extends into the space.

This is one of many pieces of interesting information about earth that will be found in "The Encyclopaedia of the World", written in Bangla for curious readers.

Four volumes of the encyclopaedia, published by The Universal Academy, consist of information on important persons, countries, animals, and geography, and are available at stall no. 401 at the Amar Ekushey Granthamela 2016.



People look at the sky, some trying to locate the stars. But few know that the stars appearing in the sky last month would not be found in the same place this month.

"The Encyclopaedia of the World" says the stars that were in the western sky in January have travelled far west or set down, while many new stars have appeared in the eastern sky in February.

An entry in the first volume shows that the country Vanuatu, situated on the east of Australia, consists of about 80 islands covered by deep forest and mountains. SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Dhamrai school teacher missing for seven months

Police still clueless, main accused out on bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A school teacher of Dhamrai upazila in Dhaka has been missing for the last seven months and police are still clueless about his whereabouts.

On July 5, 2015, Dhamrai Hardinge High School's Bangla teacher Md Shofiquel Islam, 30, mysteriously went missing as he was heading for school from his house at Balitha village of Dhamrai, on the outskirts of the capital, around 10:00am.

Victim's father Md Tofazzol Hosien filed two general diaries and a case on July 11, against one Md Alomgir Hosien and four unnamed miscreants. He alleged that Alomgir, an influential local landowner of the area, has abducted Shofiquel following



Md Shofiquel Islam

land dispute. Mohammad Rezaul Haque, officer-in-charge of Dhamrai police, said during an investigation they had arrested Alomgir. "He recently got bail, and meanwhile the case was transferred to the CID," the OC added.

Tofazzol alleged, "Ever since Alomgir got bail, he has been threatening us."

When asked, Alomgir, denied the accusation and said, "Because of the land dispute, the family suspects me but I was totally ignorant of the incident."

The family, meanwhile, kept on trying their best to find out about Shofiquel's whereabouts. Shofiquel's father applied to a senior secretary of the home ministry asking for help in finding his son, in August last

year and Shofiquel's younger brother Md Shohidul Islam also requested the chairman of National Human Rights Commission for assistance.

"He even delayed his marriage to support the family and we have just started building a house and taken preparation for his marriage," a teary-eyed Shohidul told this correspondent about his elder brother Shofiquel, the only educated and bread-earning person of the six-member family, who joined the school in 2012.

"He had no connection with political activities either," Mosaddekul Islam Chowdhury, principal of Hardinge School told The Daily Star, adding that the school authorities have repeatedly requested the police to find him.

Even in this duress, some wanted to take SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Baby boy 'changed' with stillborn girl at hospital

Alleges family, hospital authorities deny

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A father yesterday brought allegation against some staff of a city hospital of changing his newborn baby boy with a stillborn baby girl.

The authorities of the Mohammadpur Fertility Services and Training Centre and 100-bed Mother and Children Health Hospital, however, refuted his allegation saying it was baseless.

Parveen Akter, 28, wife of Shamsul Islam Bulu, was rushed to the hospital around 8:00am and gave birth to a baby around 8:25am.

When Shamsul was informed about having a stillborn daughter, he did not accept it, since he

had already conducted an ultrasonogram of his wife elsewhere, where the physician informed him that he would be a father of a son. "Someone might have changed my baby with the stillborn one," he alleged.

Sultana Akter, who went with the family, said "I asked a ward assistant, did she give birth to a baby boy? She replied 'hmm', but minutes later, another assistant said Parveen gave birth to a stillborn baby girl."

According to the hospital records, two baby girls including the stillborn one and a baby boy were born in the hospital between 8:15am to 9:00am. Farzana, wife of one Jahurul Islam gave birth to a baby boy.

Jahurul said "I also knew my second son was coming to the world from an ultrasonogram report, though I was expecting a baby girl. From my side, there was no intension of changing the baby."

Both Shamsul and Sultana said they did not see anyone taking any newborn out of the floor.

However, Dr Muniruzzaman Siddiqui, director of the hospital, said the allegation was not true. The woman was brought there in a critical condition. Noticing her condition, even senior consultant Helena Jabin checked on her inside the elevator and asked to take her to labour ward immediately. SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Noise pollution boosts risk of high blood pressure

Speakers warn at discussion; Dhaka suffers 13 to 40 decibels more than permissible level; DoE to initiate awareness programmes, training

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Controlling sound pollution is not possible only by executing a law; building awareness and educating people is a necessity to get better results, said speakers at a discussion yesterday.

"We have to educate people on the issue then and only then it is possible," said Prof Pran Gopal Dutta, a former vice-chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, at this keynote presentation at the capital's LGED-RDEC auditorium, organised by the department of environment (DoE).

He said noise-induced hearing loss is one of the most pervasive occupational health problems and causes serious damage since it is so gradual,

which usually goes unnoticed but the hearing loss is permanent. "Sound pollution increases blood pressure, enhances the rate of autism among children, and create obstacles to their growth," Dutta warned.

In USA, the ratio of autism among children was 1:212 earlier, now 1:88 due to excessive sound pollution, he added.

If a person talks in mobile phone for 16 to 20 minutes continuously, his brain temperature will be 102 degree Fahrenheit (around 39 degree Celsius), which is very harmful.

"The level of sound pollution in most of the areas of Dhaka city is 13 to 40 decibels extra than the permissible level," said Farid Ahmed, programme director of Coordinated and Partnership based Programme to

Control Noise Pollution.

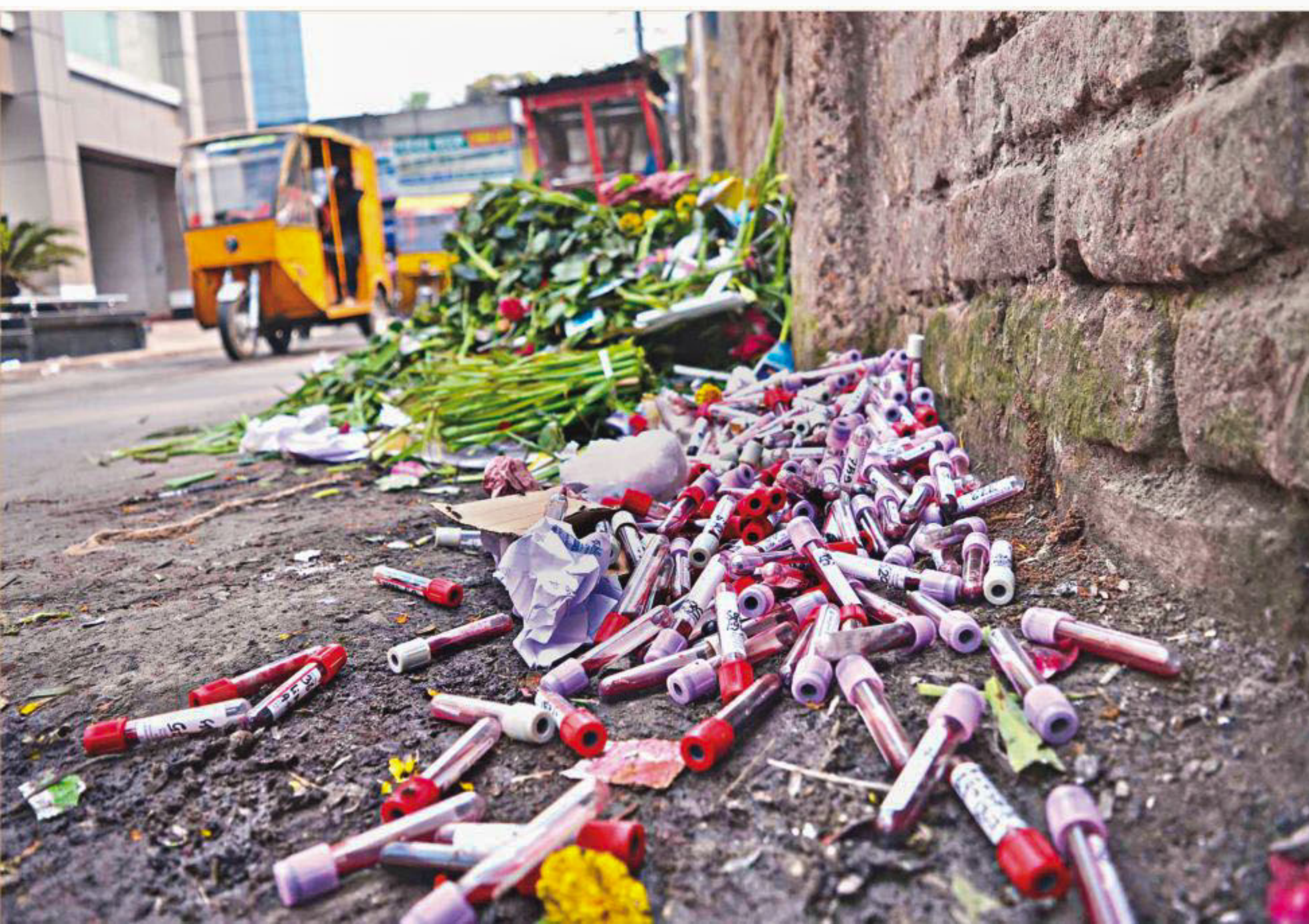
"According to the noise pollution control guideline-2006, in quiet areas the sound level should be restricted to 50 decibels during daytime and 40 at night, in residential areas 55 decibels at day and 45 at night, in mixed areas it should be 60 during daytime and 50 at night, commercial areas should be 70 and 60, and industrial areas 75 and 70," he said.

DoE has taken an initiative to make a survey at 645 spots in the country to measure the rates of the noise pollution and will conduct awareness programmes and offer training to raise awareness, he added.

"If everyone realises the negative effects of the noise pollution, it is possible to control it," said Raisul Alam Mondal, director general of DoE.



The fisheries department with the help of the coastguard seizes 500 maunds of jatka (hilsa fry less than ten inches long), inset, from a launch on the Meghna River in Gazaria upazila of Munshiganj yesterday.



Rapid growth of medical facilities around Barisal created a massive amount of medical waste like tubes used for blood samples often dumped in the open near schools and colleges, which poses a risk of communicable diseases to the people exposed and the surrounding community and threatens environmental health. The issue is still at large even after printing a similar photograph last year in the newspaper. The photo was taken in Sadar road area of the city yesterday.

PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN

John Clemens reappointed as ED of icddr,b

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof John Clemens has been reappointed as the executive director of icddr,b for the second three-year term, starting in April this year.

Dr Clemens first worked for the icddr,b in the 1980's, and then moved to other organisations. Later in April 2013, he returned to icddr,b as its executive director.

No need to have

FROM PAGE 4 genocide in Bangladesh. They killed Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," Selim added.

Strongly criticising BNP chief Khaleda Zia, he said although she lived in Bangladesh, she was a Pakistani at heart.

As a "collaborator" of Pakistan, Khaleda questioned the number of the 1971 Liberation War martyrs like Pakistan did.

HC stays construction on

FROM PAGE 4

The High Court bench of Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury and Justice Md Khasruzzaman came up with the order and rule after Parveen Sultana, a lawyer and a former student of the college, filed a writ petition challenging legality of the decision to build the structures.

Citing from the petition, her lawyer Ziaur Rahman told The Daily Star that the college's principal and ARO Real Estate in November last year signed an agreement for constructing a building on the lands, violating the provisions of the lease deed issued in 1996 by then government for establishing the college, he added.

Officials concerned of the government, the college and also the real estate company have been made respondents to the rule.

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