



Left, a woman brings home pitchers full of purchased drinking water in Natun Bazar area of Barisal city yesterday as a water crisis hit the city a few days ago. Right, women crowd around a tap at a colony for the cleaning workers of Sylhet City Corporation in Kashtaghar area yesterday as it is the only source of drinking for the residents.



PHOTOS: ARIFUR RAHMAN AND SHEIKH NASIR

Panchagarh Hindu priest killing protested in 3 dists

CITY DESK
Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad held human chains in different district headquarters yesterday protesting the killing of Hindu priest Jogeswar Dasadhikari at a temple in Panchagarh on February 21.
In Chittagong city, the leaders of city and south district units of the organisation demanded a special tribunal to try the killers and security measures in all the religious establishments of religious minorities.
The spirit of the 1971 Liberation War was established on a non-communal Bangladesh, but continuous attacks on people of religious minorities and killings of many of them are posing a threat to the harmonious co-existence of people from all communities, said the leaders at their human chain in front of Chittagong Pres Club.
At the human chain in Barisal city, protesters in front of Aswani Kumar Hall alleged that militants of the Jama'atul

Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), and Jamaat-e-Islam have started attacking minority communities and they also killed hindu priest Jogeswar.
They also demanded exemplary punishment for the perpetrators.
In Savar, protesters at the human chain at Panchaboti Asrom of Dokkhinpara also demanded exemplary punishment for the killers and adequate security measures at all Hindu temples in the country.
The organisation here organised the human chain jointly with Bangladesh Chharta Jubo Oikkya Parishad.
On February 21, unidentified miscreants killed priest Jogeswar Dasadhikari, 50, at a temple in Debiganj of Panchagarh.
The criminals also shot devotee Gopal Chandra Roy, 35, and hurt another devotee Nitai Das by hurling a crude bomb when he was preparing his puja offerings in the morning at the temple.
Jogeswar is the latest victim of a recent string of attacks on clerics and prayer houses of minorities in Bangladesh over the last few months.

Book fair boon for youths

MAHDI AL MUHTASIM



tomorrow.
Not only as customers, a good number of youths, including students from universities and colleges in the capital, worked at the stalls of the book fair.
They said they enjoyed the time at the fair and passed busy times with the last weekend crowd.
Most of the stalls of different publishing houses have two or more units, and the owners said they needed two to six tall attendants to monitor every single stall.
Among them, a number of students every year willingly join the team of stall attendants, which bring them a handsome amount of money as well.
It gives the attendants, both male and female, the opportunity to learn about new books and

become familiar with various types of books.
Many of them said they also got the opportunity to meet their favourite authors at times and thus enjoy the work.
Sumi Easmin of Chayabithi publication has been working for the first time as a stall attendant. "I usually assist in different works of stalls like bringing and selling books, opening and closing stalls and maintaining it throughout the month-long fair," she said.
Some of them said they saw the work positively because as students they could get a chance to earn a handsome amount of money and gain experiences.
The youth and teenagers crowded the stalls where juvenile classic volumes, detective stories and novels and thrillers are available.
At the stall of Sheba Prokashoni, it was almost an impenetrable crowd yesterday. The books published by Sheba sell a lot because the books are cheap and offer translated classics.
Meanwhile, the book "Adh Dozen Bhai Bon", written by Momtaz Shahid, the younger sister of late writer Humayun Ahmed, was selling well at the fair.
Liakat Ullah, the owner of Student Ways, which published the book, said the book was for the admirers of Humayun Ahmed and that they sold books at low prices.

Most of the people who visited the fair yesterday were seen leaving with bagfuls of books.
The fair saw the arrivals of 3,212 new books till yesterday.
In 2015 the number of the new arrivals till the 27th day of the fair was 3,510 and in 2014, it was 2,837. Poetry books dominated the list of new arrivals last year.
According to the 27 days' statistics at the fair information centre, the new arrivals include 820 poetry books, 496 novels, 448 titles of short stories, 167 of essays, 134 of children literature, 90 of the Liberation War, 48 of science, 47 of travel, and 42 books of history and others.
A total of 179 titles hit the fair yesterday.
Meanwhile, a memorial meeting was held in remembrance of the attack on progressive writer Prof Humayun Azad on February 27, 2004. The speakers demanded immediate disposal of the case regarding the attempted murder of the writer and exemplary punishment for the perpetrators.
Another discussion was held at the central stage of the fair on the 50th anniversary of the historic Six-Point programme, which was said to have paved the way for the country's independence.



A human chain in Savar, left, and another in Barisal city, right, organised by Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad yesterday as part of a countrywide protest over the recent killing of Hindu priest Jogeswar Dasadhikari in an attack on a temple in Debiganj upazila of Panchagarh.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK
Today is the eighth death anniversary of Imran Rahman, former managing director and CEO of Brac Bank Ltd, says a press release.
An alumnus of BAF Shaheen School, Mirzapur Cadet College and Institute of Business Administration, Dhaka University, Imran died in Toronto, Canada at the age of 45.
On this occasion, a quarkhwani and destitute feeding programme will be held in the capital. Relatives, friends and admirers were requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Banks asked to spend 30pc of CSR fund for education

Says BB governor Atiur UNB, Dhaka
Bangladesh Bank governor Dr Atiur Rahman yesterday said banks were asked to spend 30 percent of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund in the education sector.
He said spending under CSR by the banking sector had increased 10-fold in the last seven years.
The governor was addressing the scholarship awarding function of the Southeast Bank Foundation at La Meridian Hotel in the capital.
The function was also addressed by Southeast Bank chairman Alamgir Kabir and managing director Zahid Hossain.
The BB governor said many students in the country's islands and haor areas are now able to receive scholarships for continuing their studies.
He said banks are now spending their CSR funds for humanitarian purposes for which many poor people are getting clothes and other forms of support in the winter.

DU Sufia Kamal Hall residents sit 9hrs in front of VC's home

Some allege mismanagement at dorm; VC out of town

DU CORRESPONDENT
Around 50 students of Sufia Kamal Hall of Dhaka University yesterday staged a sit-in for over nine hours in front of the vice chancellor's residence to meet him over some allegations of mismanagement at the dormitory.
They started the sit-in at 1:00pm and continued till around 10:00pm.
When journalists asked them about their demands, they said they would only inform the VC of it.
However, DU proctor Prof AM Amzad Ali told The Daily Star in the evening that, "The students are reluctant to tell us about their problems in details. They came to the hall to talk about some mismanagement. As the vice chancellor is now outside Dhaka, he could not meet them."
Some students of the dormitory, seeking anonymity, said they had been suffering from various mismanagement for one and a half years.
The students, who were admitted to the hall through administrative process, are harassed by the students who are admitted through "political process", they said.
If they complained to their provost in this regard, she does not help them, students alleged.
When contacted at 10:00pm, Provost Nilufar Nahar Begum of Sufia Kamal Hall, said, "I am now in a meeting."
Later, she could not be contacted over the phone despite several attempts.
"I will comment on the matter later," said DU VC AAMS Arefin Siddique.

Some dreams

FROM PAGE 3
Chowdhury spoke as chief guest.
Referring to the Rana Plaza disaster in 2013, Dr Kamal said the government should frame a strict building code and make everyone go by it to prevent such tragedies in the future.
The five-storey building collapse killed more than 1,100 people.
The jurist also laid emphasis on workplace safety to enhance Bangladesh's image abroad and ban child labour without delay.
Describing the eviction of slum dwellers as contrary to law and the recommendations of the UN Conference on Human Settlements in 1976, he said there should be rehabilitation schemes for the slum people because shelter was a basic right.
The programme was chaired by Dean of Faculty of Law Prof Abdullah Al Faruque, while Bangladesh Law Commission Member Prof M Shah Alam was present as a special guest.
AK Khan Foundation Trustee Secretary Abul Kashem Khan, CU Professor Emeritus Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin, and Chairperson of Department of Law Nirmal Kumar Saha also spoke.

BCL attack sends JCD

FROM PAGE 4
HM Abu Jafar, member secretary of the dormitory unit of JCD and other leaders alleged around 20-25 BCL activists led by Obaidul Kabir Rikto, general secretary of fine arts unit of BCL, attacked him while he along with some of his local friends were visiting the campus.
DU Proctor AM Amzad said, "A JCD leader of SM hall and other 10-12 outsiders entered the fine arts faculty. Although police detained four of them at first, I have told police to release them if any case was not filed against them earlier."
About the attack, he said, "If they (JCD leaders) submitted any written statement to me, I will take necessary actions against the perpetrators."
Obaidul Kabir said, "Some 15 to 20 suspicious youths entered the fine arts faculty at night. We handed over six of them to Shabbagh police while the others managed to escape. Although some BCL activists beat Shipon up, I myself told police to take him to hospital."
Khalid Hasan Robin, president of fine arts unit of BCL, said, "I haven't heard the news earlier."
Rajib Ahsan and Md Akramul Hasan, central president and general secretary of JCD respectively, in a press release, protested and condemned the attack and demanded trial of the perpetrators.
Abid Al Hasan, president of DU unit of BCL, said, "I have heard the news. Rikto is one of my followers, I will take actions after knowing the details."

Online marketing crucial

FROM PAGE 4
There is a growing importance of using online media because of its cost-effectiveness, ability to reach targeted audiences quickly and broaden customer market at global level, they added.
Emamul Haque, director and CEO, Metro Mail Inc, in his welcome note highlighted the importance of online media and the many possibilities it provides. He stressed the need for businesses and any form of media to have a strong online presence in order to be able to make its mark on the global platform.
Journalist Syed Istiaque Reza presented the keynote paper while Masud Rahman, president, Canada Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industries, journalist Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul, writer Mizanur Rahman Shelly, and Advisor and Bangladesh Focal for the Metro Mail Canada, Nazneen Ferdousi, spoke among others.
Moderating the roundtable Emamul Haque informed the audience that Metro Mail would officially launch its IP TV in Canada in 2017.
Over 50 participants including eminent journalists, business leaders, academia and civil society leaders attended the event.

Govt to construct

FROM PAGE 3
Bridge. "We'll build a complex with that convention centre and the theatre hall can be built there."
The premier said its stage would move automatically and there would be no need to change the set repeatedly.
Hasina mentioned that whenever she went outside the country she tried to go to any theatre. "I saw helicopter landing on the stage, train passing through the stage. This is the age of digital technology... this is not a tough job to do, but in our country there is no theatre like that."
The prime minister said she saw modern theatre halls in Trinidad Tobago. "And we won't have such a hall... this cannot be... once we had some constrains, we've overcome those... gone are the days."
Presided over by Social Welfare Secretary Dr Chowdhury M Babul Hasan, the function was addressed, among others, by Bangladesh Mahila Samity President Sitara Ahsanullah and Samity general secretary Tania Bakht.
BNP vows
FROM PAGE 3
in connection with the recent ATM card scam, told police during interrogation that many ruling party leaders were involved in it.