

## Preserving culture, heritage must for dev

Says Dr Kholiuzzaman DU CORRESPONDENT

Dr Kholiuzzaman, a noted economist, yesterday said economic development would go in vain if the country's culture and heritage were not preserved.

He was speaking at a seminar titled "Obeisance to Acharya JC Bose and his Contemporary Scientists with Roots in Bangladesh", held at Dhaka University. Development of Biotechnology and Environmental Conservation Centre organised the two-day seminar marking the 157th birth anniversary of JC Bose assisted by the Indian High Commission.

"Jagadish Chandra Bose is an important part of our history... to build a perfect society, we have to learn from our past," said Dr Kholiuzzaman.

Prof Sultan Aziz and Prof Shamsheer Ali also spoke at the event. Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose was born on November 30, 1858.



A young boy views paintings on river and nature at an exhibition on the International Day of Action for Rivers yesterday, to raise awareness against pollution and grabbing of rivers and canals of Sylhet, on Sylhet Central Shaheed Minar premises. The event was jointly organised by Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (Bapa), Surma River Water Keeper, UKBET, Bhoomishontan Bangladesh, and Green Explore Society of Sylhet. Environmentalists with the slogan "Surma is our mother, will not dump waste on her" also distributed leaflets, highlighting the importance of rivers and canals in people's lives. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASER

## NEWS IN brief

### 5 JMB suspects on 5-day remand, terrorism case filed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab yesterday filed a case under Anti-Terrorism Act against the five alleged members of banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), who were arrested from the capital's Jatrabari area on Sunday.

They were handed over to Jatrabari police who produced them before a Dhaka court with a ten-day remand prayer but was granted a five-day remand.

Rab was tipped off that the JMB men were planning to carry out a terrorist act on the occasion of the Independence Day on March 26. But their source could not give the details, Rezaul Karim, an assistant director of Rab-10, told The Daily Star.

### RU fisheries students don't want zoologists as BCS fisheries cadre

RU CORRESPONDENT

Hundreds of students of the fisheries department of Rajshahi University yesterday observed a sit-in programme protesting Bangladesh Public Service Commission's (PSC) decision allowing zoology students to apply for the post of Deputy Assistant Director (fisheries) at the 37th BCS examination.

They also brought out a protest rally from their department before the sit-in at Shabash Bangladesh Chattar.

They claimed that only fisheries graduates are eligible for the post as they study on the subject for around six years whereas zoology students only do a six-month masters course.

They urged to the concerned authorities to withdraw the decision immediately.

### Man's body recovered from Ctg hill

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police recovered the body of an unidentified man, aged around 30, from a hill in Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong yesterday.

On information, police recovered the body, with no injury mark, from the hill in Kumira area, said Sub-Inspector of Sitakunda Police Station Rafikul Islam Jaman.

The body was sent to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Meanwhile, in Halishahar Chotopol area in the city, a severed leg was recovered from a canal at noon. However, they could not say anything else about it.

### Prof Edward Ryan of Harvard speaks at IUB seminar

CITY DESK

Prof Edward T Ryan of Harvard University spoke at a seminar at the School of Life Sciences at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) on Sunday.

The talk entitled "Cholera: Its Impact on Biomedicine and Health" elucidated the history of medical advances and innovations that the study of cholera spurred from the 18th century onwards.

The seminar was attended by faculty members, students, and guests from icddr, b and Dhaka University.

## 100 shanties gutted at Korail Beltala slum

Fire originated from TV blast due to short circuit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 100 shanties at Korail Beltala slum in the capital's Mohakhali were burnt to ashes last night.

Originating around 8:00pm from a blast of a television due to short circuit in a house at the slum, the fire immediately engulfed adjacent houses, made of tin, wood and bamboo, Rana Ahmed, owner of a burnt shop, told The Daily Star.

Rana and many other dwellers alleged a group of people looted houses as they (dwellers) were out of houses during the fire.

"A refrigerator and a television were also looted from my shop", claimed Rana.

Mozzamel Haque, deputy director of the fire service, said 11 fire fighting units rushed to the spot and doused the flame after an hour of frantic efforts.

Five people were injured in the incident.

The extent of damages could not be known immediately.

## DOMESTIC HELP'S DEATH IN MIRPUR Cops deliberately ignored evidence of rape, murder

Alleges family at press conference in capital, fear that investigation will take a wrong turn because of misleading inquest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parents and locals of a deceased teenage domestic help yesterday alleged that police deliberately overlooked the evidence of rape and murder on the body to save the perpetrators.

The investigation would take a wrong turn because of the "misleading inquest" by the police, they alleged.

"My daughter was raped and killed," said Phulbanu, mother of the victim at a press conference organised by Bangladesh Manabdhikar Bastabayan Sangstha (BMBS) at its office in the capital yesterday.

The body of the victim, Jonia, 13, was found next to the building of her mother's former employer, hours after she went there on March 6.

The girl had been filling in for her sick

mother who worked part-time for a government official in a flat of Building-3 in NAM Garden.

A day after her death, locals and family members of the victim laid siege to the Kafrul Police Station and NAM Garden Officers' Quarters at Mirpur, demanding arrest of her mother's employer who, they alleged "raped and killed the girl".

Carrying the body, they also blocked a road in Kazipara of Mirpur, after it was discovered that her "body had bite and scratch marks".

Her father Osman Gani said that he had tried to file a rape and murder case immediately after her death, but police filed an unnatural death case instead.

BMBS Secretary General Advocate Sigma Huda said faulty inquest of a dead body can weaken a murder case.

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## Mother, other family members kill youth for 'misdeeds'

UNB, Keraniganj

Fed up with repeated complaints for his misdeeds, mother and other family members killed a youth in Keraniganj, on the outskirts of the capital, yesterday.

Police recovered the body of Ramjan Miah, 30, from Batarkandi area at noon, and arrested his mother Saleha Begum.

Officer-in-charge of Keraniganj Model Police Station Ferdous said the family members hacked and strangled Ramjan to death.

He said the youth had long been involved in theft, robbery and snatching. He used to take drugs and beat the family members for money. Many had lodged complaints with the family in this regard.

During primary interrogation, Saleha confessed to killing her son, said the OC.

However, other family members went into hiding after the incident.



A microbus catches fire at noon in the capital's Science Laboratory intersection yesterday with dark smoke billowing from the vehicle. None was injured in the incident and according to fire service the fire initiated due to a technical glitch in the engine. PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

## Death anniversary

UNB, Dhaka

Today is the 31st death anniversary of Dr Aleem Al-Razee, a noted jurist, parliamentarian, educationist and philanthropist.

Dr Razee was in the forefront of all political struggles and social and cultural movement unleashed in the country to win democracy, human rights and people's freedom of expression, said a press release.

He envisioned an egalitarian society based on rule of law, social and economic justice and fair play, it added.

Dr Aleem Al Razee Memorial Council members will lay floral wreaths and offer feteha at Razee's graveyard in Banani in the morning and hold a milad mahfil at his village.

## Bangladesh's community clinics could be

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State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Zahid Maleque while presenting the Dhaka declaration.

The ministry and Partners in Population and Development organised the three-day event at International Convention City Bashundhara. Some 2,000 participants from across the globe attended.

According to World Health Organization, there were approximately 36.9 million people, including 2.6 million children, worldwide living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2014. Besides, 34 million people died from AIDS-related causes so far, including 1.2 million in 2014.

Government statistics say Bangladesh has registered 3,674 cases of HIV infection since detection of the first case in 1989.

However, experts say the estimated number of people living with HIV is around 9,500, making Bangladesh a low-prevalence country.

However, existence of vulnerable communities such as sex workers and transgender people, of a large number of migrants and men having sex with men are still matters of concern.

Zahid said there exists a lack of technical capacities to predict, understand and combat the HIV epidemics in the Asia-Pacific

region. He called upon relevant United Nations agencies and other international organisations to support the national and regional HIV responses.

He stressed on promoting health, dignity and human rights of key affected populations and engaging the communities in designing and implementing the programmes.

Addressing as chief guest, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said treatment of HIV patients was extremely important because everyone has the right to live with dignity and healthcare. He said the poor, if infected with HIV, become the worst victims.

"We want to eradicate poverty by 2024 and do the same in terms of AIDS," Muhith said.

Health Minister Mohammed Nasim said the Asia-Pacific region made significant progress in reducing infections and AIDS-related deaths, but there were still some pockets where the trend was slightly alarming, which requires immediate and focused intervention.

UNAIDS Representative Dr Salil Panakandan said, "Fighting AIDS is not a finished job. We need to work together to end the disease by 2030."

Health Secretary Syed Monjurul Islam also spoke.

## Court accepts charges against

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Haque Khan, however, rejected the charge-sheet and filed a no confidence petition with a Dhaka court, saying that the elite force has dropped the names of some key accused.

Later, the case was investigated by Criminal Investigation Department (CID) which pressed a supplementary charge-sheet on September 23 last year, mentioning seven additional names along with the 11 accused pressed by Rab.

Milky was gunned down in front of a shopping mall in the capital's Gulshan on the night of July 30, 2013. In the CCTV camera footage of the shopping mall, prime accused SM Zahid Siddique Tarek was seen shooting at Milky.

Tarek, who was joint secretary of Dhaka city (south) Jubo League, was killed in a shootout with Rab within 18 hours of his arrest following the incident.

Rashedul filed the case the same night against 11 named and four to five unnamed people.

## BNP now wants PM's resignation

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government did not take any strong action against plundering of public money from the banking sector.

He alleged that there was an evil effort to cover up the incident as the "big fishes" were behind it.

"The central bank fell victim to plundering as the government did not take any stern stance against Basic Bank, Hall Mark, Bismillah Group and state banks and the looting of a huge amount of money from the capital market," he said, adding, "Why did the incident come to light one month after it took place?"

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