

### 836 more get GPA-5 in SSC exams in port city after review

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg  
 After reevaluation, 836 more examinees have obtained GPA-5 in this year's SSC examinations under Chittagong Education Board.  
 With this, the number of GPA-5 achievers has stood at 8,502.  
 On Monday, a section of SSC candidates and their guardians submitted a memorandum to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through the deputy commissioner of Chittagong, demanding re-scrutiny of the answer sheets of multiple choice questions (MCQ) part of mathematics.  
 A technical glitch led to such error during examining the answer sheets of "Ga" and "Gha" sets of the subject, said Board Controller Mahbub Hasan.



**Clockwise from left, a non-MPO non-government secondary school teacher of ICT and computers being given intravenous saline drip during a hunger strike demanding inclusion in monthly pay order list for school teachers. Meanwhile, several students of medical technology and pharmacy fell sick during another ongoing hunger strike for a 10-point demand including new posts for them, and establishment of a diploma education board. One of the hunger striking students became so sick that she had to be taken to a hospital, but on a rickshaw, the authorities concerned did not care to have ambulances stand by. The photos were taken in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday where both of the hunger strikes are taking place.**



PHOTOS: STAR

### 73pc govt offices don't have separate toilet for women

Poba survey says

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
 At least 73 percent government offices do not have separate toilet facilities for women while the existing public toilets in the capital are in a miserable condition, revealed a survey yesterday.  
 Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Poba), a voluntary environmental organisation, conducted the survey on toilet facilities at different government offices, educational institutions and hospitals in Dhaka city.  
 The survey found that 40 percent of hospitals and 33 percent of educational institutions do not have toilet facilities for women.  
 As women hold urine for long periods of time they suffer from different urinary infections, Poba General Secretary Abdus Sobhan said at a press briefing in the capital.  
 The statistics showed that all the toilets at government colleges and universities are unhygienic and no hand cleaning ingredients are available there, he added.  
 The survey also shows that 87 percent of the government offices and 80 percent of the hospitals do not have any soap or hand cleaning liquid at their toilets.  
 On the other hand, Poba found only one specialised public toilet for the physically challenged people in the whole city. Besides, the number of public toilets is not sufficient for the large number of people in Dhaka.  
 To solve the problems, Poba secretary suggested increasing the number of public toilet for women and ensuring public access to the toilets of mosques, shopping complexes and other public places.

### GRAFT CASE Khaleda appeals to SC for staying trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
 BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday appealed to the Supreme Court for a stay on the trial proceedings of Zia Charitable Trust graft case against her.  
 Last Sunday, the High Court rejected two revision petitions of Khaleda, seeking a stay on the trial, and paved the way for a lower court to continue the trial.  
 Yesterday, she filed two separate petitions against the High Court order also seeking a stay on the trial proceeding, Raghib Rauf Chowdhury, a lawyer for the BNP chief, told The Daily Star. The SC might hear the petitions next week, he added.  
 On April 18, the BNP chief filed two separate revision petitions with the HC challenging a lower court order that rejected her two applications in the graft case lodged by the Anti Corruption Commission on August 8, 2011. One of the applications was filed for re-cross examination of the investigation officer of the case while the other for scrutinising the case diary. On April 17, a Dhaka court rejected the applications of Khaleda after her lawyers submitted those before the court at Bakshibazar in the presence of Khaleda.  
 Other accused in the case are Harris Chowdhury, Khaleda's former political secretary; Ziaul Islam Munna, assistant private secretary of Harris; and Monirul Islam Khan, APS of former Dhaka city mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka. Harris is on the run.

## Equip women with technology

Stresses Copenhagen conference; confers Women Deliver Award for Innovation on Dr Yunus

PORIMOL PALMA, from Copenhagen  
 As soon as the session ended at 10:00am and the five high-level panelists began leaving the stage, dozens of youths started climbing up the podium and started taking photos with one of them.  
 He is none but Nobel Laureate Dr Muhammad Yunus.  
 As he started stepping out of the dais, more and more youths swarmed him to take selfies.  
 "Oh, he is so famous," exclaimed a middle-aged woman standing few yards from Yunus, near the centre stage at the Bella Centre in Copenhagen where Women Deliver is organising the four-day Women Deliver Global Conference that began on Monday.  
 The selfie show continued and around 10:10am, the security men escorted Dr Yunus to another meeting room, yet the young people went after him.  
 One might wonder why he was so

popular among the youths. The reason might be he spoke at the session of dreams, of something that is close to their heart.  
 "If you are a young girl, you have incredible potentials. Unleash the potentials. Do not wait for others to help. Do not seek jobs because jobs diminish your potentials," he said in the panel.  
 The panel that included Plan International CEO Anne-Birgitte, Unicef Executive Director Anthony Lake, Ericsson CEO Hans Vestberg, Danish Foreign Minister Kristian Jensen, discussed "Investing in Girls and Women: Everybody Wins".  
 Dr Yunus focused on women education, financial inclusion and equipping them with technologies, arguing that these elements can make dramatic trans-



Dr Muhammad Yunus

formation towards gender equality, a major pillar of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030.  
 Citing the experience of Grameen Bank, he said the bank provided microloans to more than eight million people, mostly women, who by utilising their creativity have changed their fate. A large number of them were provided with mobile phones, used for generating income.  
 Besides, Grameen Shakti started providing the poor households with solar systems on credit 22 years back when 70 percent of rural households in Bangladesh lacked electricity. Now some 1,000 solar systems are sold everyday. Other companies too stepped in the sector.  
 "Technology is a strong tool to solve the problems," he said, citing venture

between Grameen and Grameen Intel on using mobile apps assessing physical status of pregnant women.  
 The poor microloan borrowers used their creativity to change their lives and educate their children, he said.  
 "We have to be problem solvers," said Yunus, drawing a huge applause from the packed plenary hall of some 5,000 participants, suggesting that the education system that teaches to seek jobs needs to change.  
 "Become entrepreneurs, change the world," he said.  
 Anthony Lake said Unicef, through various programme, is using mobile phones to connect to the communities, tracking if children go to schools and get medical services through community workers. The communities also report on the volunteers' performance.  
 Thus, both can be made accountable, he said, stressing the use of technology in development programmes.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Inter-Parliamentary Union President Sabar Hossain Chowdhury addressing parliamentarians of the Russian Federation at plenary session of the council of the federation presided over by Chairperson Valentina Matvienko, in Moscow yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

### SBMCH intern doctors' strike put patients in trouble

Interns protesting attack on fellow by a patient's attendants, two of whom are cops; one suspended following complaint

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal  
 Treatment at Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital is facing disruption as intern doctors started an indefinite strike, protesting an assault on their colleagues by attendants of a patient for alleged negligence on Tuesday night.  
 Two of the attendants were cops, alleged the interns.  
 They also shut down hospital gates and emergency services for two hours that night, said witnesses.  
 Many desperate patients in need of treatment were seen crowding in front of the hospital gate at night, while some gathered at private diagnostic centres in long queues yesterday morning.  
 "Why do we have to suffer for this feud," said a frustrated Shomali Sarker, who came to the hospital from Jhalakathi for her daughter's treatment yesterday.

"The doctor at the medicine ward told me to go for a blood test for her. But when I went there, it was shut down," she sighed. "I had to run to the nearest diagnostic centre for her test," said the mother, too tired to realise that she ended up paying way more at the centre.  
 Mosaddek Hossain, SBMCH intern association convener, said, one Sirajul Islam, who got injured in a road accident, was admitted to the surgery ward on Tuesday night. Two of his relatives were cops who got engaged in an altercation with the intern doctors and assaulted Dr Palash, assistant registrar, and two of his associates, alleged the interns.  
 "We will continue the strike as safety and security of the on-duty doctors were not ensured and we suspect that police will not investigate the incident properly since the assault was led by Assistant Sub-inspector Mohiuddin

and ASI Asim," alleged Mosaddek.  
 Enamul Haque Pannu, a relative of the patient, claimed that the interns misbehaved with them and accused the doctors and interns of negligence.  
 Mohiuddin and Asim also got hurt in the altercation, he alleged.  
 Dr Sirajul Haque, director of SBMCH, said the hospital authorities will take legal actions in this regard. "We are continuing a dialogue with the intern doctors and we think the strike will be withdrawn immediately." "Meanwhile, we are continuing our out patient department activities and emergency medical services with the doctors' support," he added.  
 Ataur Rahaman, officer-in-charge of Kotwali police, said the situation is under control now and ASI Mohiuddin has been suspended. "If any case is lodged, we will start the investigation."

### Missing man found murdered in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
 A textile mill official was found murdered beside a road in the capital's Khilgaon yesterday, a day after he had gone missing.  
 Police recovered the bloodstained body of Monirul Islam, 37, of Malibagh Chowdhurypara, an assistant general manager of Saiham Textile Mills, from Shekher Jaiga.  
 Monirul's driver was detained for interrogation, said Kazi Mainul Islam, officer-in-charge of Khilgaon Police Station.  
 The victim's cousin Abul Kalam told The Daily Star that Monirul did not return after he had gone to Khilgaon's Nandipara from his Gulshan office by his car driven by the driver on Tuesday. After getting down from the vehicle, Monirul started walking towards the centre of the area asking the driver to wait for him but did not come back, the cousin quoted the driver as saying. Later, the family filed a general diary with Sabujbagh Police Station.  
 The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue of which sources said there were some marks of injury on different parts of the body including the throat.

### Demand raised

FROM PAGE 3  
 attacking minorities through the spread of rumours that derogatory comments had been made against Islam.  
 Speakers said people of minority communities would stage demonstrations tomorrow protesting ongoing attacks and torture on them across the country.  
 Talking to journalists in Narayanganj, Zonayed Saki, convener of Gono Sanghati Andolon, condemned Salim's attempts to defend himself through a press conference.  
 "Humiliating a teacher is no less an offence than committing a murder," he said, alleging that the government was yet to take action against the perpetrators, reports our Narayanganj correspondent.  
 Holding protest rallies and issuing statements, Taqi Mancha, Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal and Gono Sanghati Andolon demanded arrest of others involved.  
 At a protest rally in front of Narayanganj Press Club, CPB Narayanganj unit President Hafizul Islam said, "It seems that indemnity has been given to lawmaker Salim Osman and his men".  
 He alleged that police barred their protest rally on the Narayanganj Central Shaheed Minar premises.  
 Taqi Mancha Convener Rafiur Rabbi said the humiliation was unthinkable in a civilised country. "The incident bowed our heads (in shame)," he said in a statement.  
 Some 100 teachers under the banner of Bangladesh College-University Teachers Association formed a human chain at the base of the Raju sculpture in Dhaka University protesting the incident.  
 In statements, Jagannath University Teachers' Association and Shamajik Protirodh Committee expressed shock and condemned the incident.

### Bangladesh working closely

FROM PAGE 4  
 On bilateral trade, Ziauddin urged the US to grant preferential market access for Bangladeshi products and other Asian and Oceanic least developed countries as accorded to other developing countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean.

## STAR WEEKEND

in other news...

The Star Weekend has an array of interesting articles for you. Our spotlight this week is on the path paved for women in our country by Begum Magazine, and how it helped the feminist movement in the country. We also have an interesting insight on the on-goings in the Sundarbans forests, and how we need to save our lifelines by protecting it. Don't forget your copy of Star Weekend, coming out tomorrow, Friday!

**STAR WEEKEND**  
in other news...  
May 20, 2016

**BE YOUR OWN BEGUM**

HABIBA SADIK PHOTO: KAZI TANHOOR AGAL AP/IBRO

The light we have been fighting, as women, has been a long and tedious one. We can only now imagine what it must have been like before we were born—backwards, archaic, oppressive. But sometimes around early 1947, a revolution began—women were stepping out of their houses, they were writing, they were reading, they were getting ideas, they were beginning to empower themselves. Paving the path to empowerment, Begum Sada Kamal and then Nurjahan Begum gave us the evergreen Begum magazine—which, to this day, inspires women to go the extra mile to fight the good fight. Read more on Begum Magazine on pages 8 and 9.

**5 BREAKING OUR LIFELINE**  
This article has established the biggest Bengali community newspaper and has been included with international attention.

**6 NOT YOUR BUSINESS**  
A group of women from Bangladesh are banding up with international organisations.

**12 GEMING**  
A group of about five million have been a victim of modern-day slavery from the ancient world to the day.

**13 THE ANCIENT MORGUE BY THE RIVER**  
A group of about five million have been a victim of modern-day slavery from the ancient world to the day.