



The three-day Dhaka Literary Festival kicks off on the capital's Bangla Academy premises yesterday with Nobel Prize winning litterateur VS Naipaul inaugurating the literary pageant yesterday where Finance Minister AMA Muhih and Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor were present, top. A vibrant cultural programme was also held marking the event, bottom left. Book enthusiasts check out new arrivals at a stall. PHOTOS: PRABIR Das

NEWS IN brief

B'baria attacks masterminds to be brought to book soon: Home boss

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal yesterday said the masterminds of the recent attacks on minority people in Brahmanbaria would be brought to book soon. "The attacks...were deliberate and provoked. We are very close to finding out those involved," he told a programme held by Bangladesh Crime Reporters' Association (CRAB) at its office in the capital. Law enforcers apart, locals are guarding the area as incidents like torching the Hindus' houses are recurring, even amid tight security.

Six win Berger art contest

The award giving ceremony of 21st Berger Young Painters' Art Competition (BYPAC) 2016 was held at Lakeshore Hotel in Gulshan-2 on Wednesday. Rupali Chowdhury, managing director of Berger Paints, handed over the crests and Biren Shome, an artist and chairman of the 21st BYPAC jury committee, presented the crests and certificates to the six winners. Prominent artist Monirul Islam was honored with lifetime achievement award at the event. The exhibition of the selected 40 paintings of the contest will be held at Zainul Gallery from November 21-25 and remain open from 10:00am to 8:00pm.

Qulkhwani of Zahira today

Qulkhwani of Zahira Rahman, a retired senior lecturer of University Laboratory School and College in Dhaka, will be held at her Uttara residence today after Maghrib prayers. All of her relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the programme, said a press release. Zahira died at her residence Monday night, aged 82. She was buried in Banani graveyard. She left behind three sons and grandchildren.

Preterm birth main barrier

FROM PAGE 3
Infertility specialist Dr TA Chowdhury said as the largest percentage (63) of the deliveries are still taking place in the rural areas it is essential to ensure better treatment facilities in the upazila health complexes. Health expert Prof Shahidullah moderated the roundtable where doctors, government officials, NGO activists and journalists also spoke.

Settle civil cases thru' ADR to ease backlog

HRPB anniversary event told
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former chief justice Md Muzammel Hossain yesterday urged all to discharge their duties properly for upholding democracy and human rights. He made the call at a meeting organised by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) in the Supreme Court Bar Association auditorium marking its (HRPB) 12th founding anniversary. Justice Muzammel requested the lawyers to play an effective role in settling the civil cases through alternative dispute resolution (ADR) to ease the huge backlog of pending cases at the courts. ADR is a system under which cases can be disposed of through compromise between the parties of the cases in the mediation of lawyers outside the court. "So far I know the HRPB has moved around 270 public interest litigations before the High Court for protecting people's rights," he said. HRPB has been working without taking donations from any outside agencies, he said. Justice Muzammel said the Supreme Court's land, which was under the possession of the Roads and Highways Department, has been recovered following the High Court directive on a petition moved by HRPB. Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik, a retired judge of the Appellate Division, said a majority of the river lands around Dhaka could be recovered due to the HC directives on the HRPB public interest litigations. SCBA President Yusuf Hossain Humayun inaugurated the two-day programme with HRPB President Advocate Manzill Murshid in the chair. "We will continue working for the interest of the country's people," he said.

Road crashes take seven more lives

CITY DESK

Seven people, including a cop and two college students, were killed and five others injured in road accidents in four districts yesterday and on Wednesday. Our staff correspondent reports, a police officer was run over by a truck when he was crossing the road in front of Bangabhaban in Motijheel area in the capital early yesterday. Assistant Sub-Inspector Mizanur Rahman, 45, of Munshigan was posted at Protection and Protocol Division of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said Rafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge of Paltan Police Station. The accident took place around 1:00am when he was coming to Bangabhaban to join his duty from his Jatrabari residence, the OCSaid. Critically wounded, he was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead. Police arrested the truck driver, Kamrul Islam, immediately after the accident and seized the truck, the OC added. Our Thakurgaon correspondent reports, two college students were killed and three others injured critically as a speedy truck rammed their motorcycles on Panchagarh-Tentulia highway at Jagdal Bazar in Panchagarh Sadar upazila yesterday. The deceased were Delwar Hossain, 22, of Shalbahan village and Asrafal Islam, 22, of Jugigach village in Tentulia upazila. Both were HSC second-year students of Bhajanpur Degree College in the upazila. They died on the spot. The injured -- Shawn, 24, Dip, 15, and Nayan, 25, -- are undergoing treatment at Panchagarh Sadar Hospital. Our Bogra correspondent reports, a driver of CNG-run auto-rickshaw was killed as a Sylhet-bound bus hit his vehicle in Noymail Bus Stand area on Bogra-Dhaka highway under Shajahanpur upazila in Bogra on Wednesday night. The deceased was Al Amin, 20, of Rohimabad Moddhayapara in the upazila. Police seized the bus but the driver and the helper managed to flee the scene. A correspondent from Khulna reports, two people were killed and two others injured as a bus hit a three-wheeler on Khulna-Mogla highway in Kudir Battala area of Khulna yesterday. The deceased were three-wheeler driver Milon of Bagmara village of Rupsha upazila and Mizan. Milon died on the spot while Mizan died after he along with other injured was taken to Khulna Medical College Hospital. In another accident in the district, Hafizur Rahman Jason, 18, of Jugnipasa village was killed as a truck hit him while he was standing beside the road in the village under Phultala upazila. Police seized the truck but its driver and his helper fled.

Arrest warrant

FROM PAGE 3
a 1991 news report on her biography run by national daily Dainik Bangla. The former premier has been celebrating her birthday by cutting a cake at her Minto Road residence since 1996, when she stepped down from power. Over the past couple of years, she has been continuing this practice in the early hours at her Gulshan office. Hours after the court order, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said the arrest warrant against Khaleda was issued to divert people's attention from the recent attacks on Hindus and Santals. The government is facing huge criticism as the ruling party men were found involved in those atrocities. The arrest warrant is the government's conspiracy to suppress the mounting criticism against the government, Fakhru said. Fakhru also said the filing of the case and the issuing of the arrest warrant against Khaleda was done as per the government's instruction. Meanwhile, Jubo Dal yesterday announced a protest programme for today in all districts and cities to protest the issuing of the arrest warrant against the BNP chief.

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LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

CELEBRATING LIFE GALA NIGHT 2016
Theme: **YOUTH IN CHANGE**
22ND NOVEMBER, 2016; ENTRY: 5:00 PM
VENUE: INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CITY BASHUNDHARA - ICCB, NOBORATRI (HALL:4)

ENTRY IS ABSOLUTELY FREE, BUT TO ATTEND, PLEASE LOG ON TO THE SITE WWW.CELEBRATINGLIFEFD.COM, REGISTER YOURSELF ONLINE AND PRINT OUT YOUR FORM. YOU CAN ALSO COLLECT THE INVITATION CARDS FROM THE RECEPTION DESK OF THE DAILY STAR CENTRE BETWEEN 11AM AND 7PM AT 64-65 KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM AVENUE, DHAKA-1215. REGISTRATION CLOSES ON 21ST NOVEMBER, 2016

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