

## NCC POLLS

## Campaigning begins

STAR REPORT

Mayoral and councillor candidates of Narayanganj City Corporation (NCC) polls yesterday formally launched their campaigns hours after getting electoral symbols from the returning officer (RO).

Ruling Awami League (AL)-nominated mayoral candidate Selina Hayat Ivy, who got the "boat" symbol, started campaigning from the city's Shiddhirganj area around 4:00pm when several hundreds of campaigners accompanied her.

During receiving electoral symbol around 11:30am, Ivy told reporters, "I will accept the verdict of the people whatever it is."

Announcing her electoral slogan "Noy Shongka, Noy Voy; Sohor Hobe Shantimoy" (No apprehension, no fear; the city will be peaceful), Ivy urged the party men to work together for ensuring victory.

BNP-nominated candidate Shakhawat Hossain, who got the electoral symbol of "sheaf of paddy", started his campaign from the city's Bandar area around 3:30pm.

Talking to reporters in the morning, Shakhawat reiterated his allegation that Ivy was violating electoral code of conduct, but he did not give any explanation on how Ivy violated the code.

When asked why he did not file any written complaint with the RO against the violation, Shakhawat replied that it is the duty of RO to remain vigil against rule violation.

"But I want to keep trust on the election commission. I hope they (EC) will not make the election questionable like previous polls. I urge the commission to

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## BEGGING FOR THE RIGHT TO PROTEST



**Anti-clockwise, workers of Rezaul Apparels (Pvt) Ltd beg police not to beat them during their demonstration demanding compensation after they found the factory closed without any notice in the capital's Mirpur-2 yesterday. Minutes ago, the protestors try to move an armoured personnel carrier away. The law enforcers attempt to take a male worker while his female colleagues try to prevent the move. Right before the end of the violence, the demonstrators throw projectiles at the glasses of the factory.**

PHOTOS: PRABIR DAS



## Gender inequality bar to better world

Shabana Azmi tells 11th convocation of Brac University

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The world cannot be a better place if gender inequality prevails, said noted Indian actress and rights activist Shabana Azmi yesterday.

"Violence against women under any condition cannot be acceptable," she told the 11th convocation of Brac University as the convocation speaker at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB) in Dhaka.

Through the convocation, the private university presented 1,283 of its brightest and talented graduates before the country.

About the participation of women in development activities, Azmi said, "Our world cannot be a better place if 50 percent of our society is kept away from the fruits of progress."

Terming the culture of this continent patriarchal, she said girls still do not have access to education, health and decision making process in some places.

Femininity and masculinity must be redefined by changing the traditional images, she said, adding that masculinity can even be kindness and femininity the protesting voice for justice.

Azmi also urged the parents to ensure equal opportunities for both girls and boys and inspired the youths to treat men and women equally.

Congratulating the graduates, she advised them to follow their own passion and take responsibility for the society.

She quoted India's Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi as saying, "Be the change that you wish to see in the world."

Referring to the contribution of Faraz Ayaaz Hossain during the Gulshan cafe attack, she urged the youth to stand against any injustice and religious fundamentalism.

During the ceremony, smiles and excitement were all

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**Indian actress and rights activist Shabana Azmi addresses the 11th convocation of Brac University as the convocation speaker at International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka yesterday.**

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Workers clash with cops fearing wage denial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finding their workplace locked without any prior notice and any compensation, workers of an apparel factory in Mirpur-2 of Dhaka demonstrated leading to a clash with police yesterday.

Workers of Rezaul Apparels (Pvt) Ltd, an export-oriented company, also blocked the road leading to the zoo that triggered a scuffle with the law enforcers who fired tear-shells and charged them with batons to disperse them.

At least two workers were injured during the scuffle. They took treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

It came a day after workers sat with the management of Rezaul Apparels on the factory premises. During the meeting, the management told the workers that the factory would be shifted to Konabari in Gazipur on February 28.

Then, the workers demanded four-month's basic salary and gratuities as compensation. But the factory owners promised them verbally that it would pay two-month's basic salary and one gratuity for each working year.

Assured, the workers went back to their homes. But when "we went to the factory in the morning we found it closed," Sonia, one of the injured workers, told reporters.

Another worker, Sumi Begum, said, "We talked to the authorities until 9:00pm on

Sunday. They agreed to compensate us."

The workers broke open the factory locks, and to their astonishment found out that all of its machineries were removed overnight.

Angered, several hundred workers started agitating in front of the factory, which employs about 1,600 workers, at 8:00am, and soon they were joined by some workers from neighbouring garment factories.

An hour later, the workers blocked the road, creating traffic congestion in the area, said Mirpur Police Station Officer-in-Charge Bhuiyan Mahbub Hasan.

Police tried in vain to disperse them. At one stage, the workers scuffled with police, according to eyewitnesses.

Masud Ahmed, deputy commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (Mirpur division), said police intervened by way of firing tear gas and charging with batons, after the workers vandalised glasses of the factory and cars on the streets.

When a rumour of the death of one worker spread, the protesters became more agitated, forcing the police to retreat. The workers kept the road off-limit till 5:00pm. During the daylong protest, the workers demanded that the authorities of the garment factories promise the compensation in person.

None from the factory authorities was

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India, BD home secys hold talks

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The home secretaries of Bangladesh and India yesterday discussed working of institutional arrangements, security issues and cooperation in preventing illegal activities at borders.

Md Mozammel Haque Khan and Rajiv Mehrishi met in New Delhi ahead of Prime Minister (PM) Sheikh Hasina's visit to India later this month. The meeting finalised the security agenda of Hasina's talks with Indian PM Narendra Modi.

"The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and conducive to greater cooperation between the two countries," an official statement said.

The two-day meeting will end today. Later, Mozammel will call on Indian Home Minister Rajnath Singh.

Hasina is scheduled to fly to India on December 17.

VIOLENCE AGAINST SASIAN MINORITIES

Feeble rule of law responsible: Study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers' lack of sincerity and efficiency and feeble rule of law are among factors responsible for violence against South Asian minority communities, according to a study conducted in the region's six countries this year. A concerted regional approach among civil societies is needed to stop such violence, it recommended.

The study's findings were revealed in Bangladesh yesterday at a discussion in the capital's Jatiya Press Club and in Nepal on November 11.

For Bangladesh, its other recommendations include solving the minorities' land rights issues, implementing Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord, and forming a national minority commission.

The South Asia Collective, a platform of the region's human rights activists, conducted the study "South Asia State of Minorities Report 2016: Mapping the Terrain" in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka.

Nagorik Uddayog carried out the study's Bangladesh part "Paving the Way of Liberation".

Mentioning that discrimination and persecution led to further marginalisation of the minorities in Bangladesh, Supreme Court (SC) lawyer Rana Dasgupta emphasised transforming their movement to a civil one to establish their rights.

Addressing as chief guest, columnist Syed Abul Maksud said in addition to resisting violence against the minorities, the government would have to empower them.

KHADIZA ATTACK CASE

Court records testimonies of 17 witnesses

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Seventeen witnesses gave statement before a Sylhet court

yesterday in the case filed in connection with the attack on Sylhet college girl Khadiza Akter Nargis by a suspended leader of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) unit BCL on October 3.

Khadiza's uncle Abdul Quddus filed the case accusing Badrul Alam, a suspended joint-secretary

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## Moon Observation Camp

2016

Canadian International School, Bangladesh has arranged a Moon Observation Camp at the CIS premises on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

Students and parents of CISB are welcome to join and enjoy the Bar-B-Q dinner.

**CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BANGLADESH**

200 Gulshan Avenue North Gulshan 2, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh  
www.canadaeducationbd.com

## THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF BANGLADESH (ICAB)

(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Commerce, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

### Certificate Course on Information Systems Audit (IS Audit)

IT is taking over everything in the world and Bangladesh is rapidly coping with the challenges. This is not a new direction or challenge for information systems security, but a direction often not pursued and even often not addressed, information systems auditing is critically required in today's information systems intensive environment. It is required to ensure that our mission critical or lifeblood systems are designed effectively and functionally able to prevent and detect fraud; maintaining confidentiality, integrity and availability on an ongoing basis. Being fully accountable, responsible and committed to this emerging need ICAB is going to organize a cornerstone Certificate Course on Information Systems Audit (IS Audit).

**Target Areas:**

- To understand applicable standards for IS Audit, ethics;
- To study about IS audit framework and methodology;
- How to plan and perform an IS Audit assignment
- How to conduct IS Audit in case of various Software and Hardware
- How to Audit IS Security measures taken by the organization;
- Assuring governance structure of the auditee organization and its Business Continuity Planning, etc.

**Target Audiences:**

- Professionals who are working in business, IT, finance, accounts and compliance
- Regulators, Internal Auditors & External Auditors
- Individual intended to be Information Systems Auditor/Assurer

**Objectives:**

- To acquire expertise on practical aspect of the IS Audit
- To enhance the competence of professionals
- To analyze specific cases of IS Audit related in Bangladesh context

**Resource:**

- IS Audit experts who are Qualified CISA/CISM/Chartered Accountants
- Prominent IS/IT Audit experts including Practitioners & Academicians

**Duration, Timing & Date:**

- 06 Months • 25 Days • 150 Hours • 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm • Holidays/Saturday

**Investment:** Tk. 48,500 (Forty-eight thousand five hundred) per participant inclusive of course material, tuition fees and refreshments

**Certificates:** Certificates from Leader Institute for Accounting Professionals in Bangladesh ICAB

**Capacity:** Maximum number of participants is 40 in each group

**Venue:** Most contemporary and structured World Class Training Room of ICAB

**Application Deadline:** Saturday, December 31, 2016

**Class Start Date:** First week of January 2017

**Registration:** Interested Participants are requested to email: dd.learning@icab.org.bd/nizam.lpd@icab.org.bd or call Md. Nizamuddin (M) + 01711946177, (O) +880-9612612119, +880-9612612100

AKM Rahmat Ullah FCA Secretary, ICAB

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