

## India extends walk-in tourist visa facility

No appointment date necessary for travellers with journey tickets

Bangladeshi travellers having a confirmed journey ticket by air, bus or train can avail walk-in tourist visas for India.

The travellers will not require any e-token or online appointment date to submit the application for the tourist visa in all Indian Visa Application Centres (IVACs) across Bangladesh, with effect from February 1.

The walk-in tourist visa scheme was launched first in October 2016 for women travellers and their family members, and thereafter extended to all Bangladeshis applying in Dhaka from January 1 this year.

Now the scheme is being extended to the remaining eight IVACs -- in Rajshahi, Rangpur, Sylhet, Chittagong, Khulna,

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## Dhaka girl raped

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 14-year-old schoolgirl was allegedly raped by a youth in the capital's Mirpur yesterday.

The victim, a 10th grader and a resident of Mohammadpur, alleged that one Prince, 25, whom she met through Facebook, raped her at a residence after she went to meet him in Mirpur 1. She is now being treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said Sub-inspector Bachchu Mia, in-charge of DMCH police outpost. "Her situation is critical," he added.

She went to school around 11:30am, the victim's brother said. "Later, I received a phone call from a private clinic at Kalyanpur that my sister was abandoned there."

Police said they were trying to arrest the culprit.



The winners of sports and cultural events of Inter-primary School Competition-2016 with Prime Minister Shiekh Hasina at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital yesterday. Earlier, the premier inaugurated the National Primary Education Week-2017.

PHOTO: BSS

## Rich countries not caring about climate vulnerability: Muhith

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday alleged the rich countries are not extending proper cooperation to the countries affected by the climate change, although they have pushed many countries including Bangladesh to a vulnerable condition.

Allegations about the non-cooperation of the rich nations have been placed before international forums but did not get enough response, the minister said while speaking at a workshop at a hotel in the capital.

The finance ministry and UNDP jointly organised the workshop "Inclusive Budgeting and Financing for Climate Resilience Project".

Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said the US and big European countries are emitting carbon while Bangladesh becoming its worst victim. Many developing countries sought compensation from these [rich] countries but to no avail, he added.

Bangladesh itself should increase its fund to tackle the negative effects of climate change, he said.

After the inaugural session, when a journalist forwarded a query on a piece of paper to the finance minister about the quality of spending fund for the climate change projects, the minister countered the question.

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## PM wants counselling to keep children away from crimes

UNB, Dhaka

Stressing the importance of modern primary education, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the people of all classes and professions, including teachers, public and private organisations, to work together for the development of the country's education sector.

"Children are future leaders. So, there's no alternative to making them educated citizens," she said.

The prime minister was inaugurating the National Primary Education Week-2017 at Osmani Memorial Auditorium organised by primary and mass education ministry.

Sheikh Hasina put emphasis on learning the real history of the Liberation War and the struggle of the country for independence.

"We've liberated our country through winning a war...we're a victorious nation, all will have to know the

history of our struggle and the Liberation War...children will gain the confidence when they'll know the accurate history," she said.

The premier said, "It has recently seen children and youths are involved in criminal activities, it's better to provide them counseling and love than strict controlling to keep them away from these. They'll have to understand that this path is not right for them, this path is bad for them."

She also asked teachers to give special attention to their students so that the children and students stay away from criminal activities.

During the last eight years, Hasina said, the government established 1,500 primary schools in those areas where there was no school.

She said her government nationalised 26,193 non-government primary schools in 2013 after 40 years of nationalisation of primary education

by Bangabandhu.

Hasina said the children should be encouraged in sports and cultural activities along with education.

Later, the prime minister distributed medals among 19 personalities for their outstanding contributions to expansion of primary education. She also distributed prizes among the winning students in different sports and cultural events.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Mostafizur Rahman, acting secretary Asif-uz-Zaman and Department of Primary and Mass Education Director General Dr M Abu Hena Mostafa Kamal, among others, spoke.

BSS adds, Hasina opined for continuation of public examinations in Class-V and class-VIII saying those are playing crucial role in confidence building of students for secondary school certificate examination (SSC).

## 17 BNP men face arrest in arson case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued arrest warrants against 17 BNP men, including MK Anwar and Barkatullah Bulu, in an arson case.

After accepting charges against 34 BNP men including the 17, Judge Kamrul Hossain Mollah of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court passed the order.

The court directed the officer-in-charge of War Police Station to submit by March 22 on execution of the arrest warrants against the 17 BNP men.

BNP leader Salauddin Ahmed, Shamsur Rahman Shimul Biswas, Maruf Kamal Khan Sohel, Sharif Sultana and Khairul Kabir Khokon are also among the 17 accused.

Among the rest, BNP leader Habib-Un-Nabi Khan Sohel is now in jail while others including BNP leader Amanullah

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## HC restrains MP Mahbubur from chairmanship of 11 institutions' governing bodies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued an injunction restraining Mahbubur Rahman Talukder, a ruling Awami League lawmaker from Patuakhali-4 constituency and former state minister for water resources, from holding the chairman posts of 11 educational institutions in his area for two months.

The court also issued a rule upon the authorities concerned of the government to explain as to why functioning as chairman of 11 schools and colleges by Mahbubur should not be declared illegal.

The HC bench of Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed and Justice Md Salim came up

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As per the decision of the Dhaka South City Corporation, hawkers selling their goods on Saturday afternoon (a weekly holiday) near Gulistan's Golap Shah Mazar (shrine).

PHOTO: STAR

## GULISTAN HAWKER DILEMMA

# No permanent solution yet

ABDULLAH AL NAYEEM and MATTHEWS CHIRAN

The city dwellers welcomed the Dhaka South City Corporation's (DSCC) initiative to keep footpaths free from hawkers for safe walking, but the "sudden eviction drive" brought trouble to many hawkers.

Before ensuring an alternative livelihood for them, the authorities conducted drives in Gulistan and its adjacent areas, including Purana Paltan, Dainik Bangla Mor and Motijheel, since January 15 and vandalised their goods and settlements, alleged hawkers.

Besides, the city corporation made a list of 2,506 hawkers for rehabilitation, which does not contain all the hawkers' names in the area, they added.

This resulted in hawkers' demonstration and unrest for the last two weeks.

The hawkers demanded the city corporation rehabilitate them before eviction and allow continuing their business at some particular places on the footpaths by issuing them ID cards.

On January 11, DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon announced the hawkers will

not be allowed to sit with their goods in Gulistan and adjacent areas during working hours from January 15.

But they will be allowed to sit at some selected places from 6:30pm onwards during the working days, and will be allowed to do business all day on the holidays, he said at a meeting with a group of hawker leaders.



Hawkers at a protest rally in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

The city corporation magistrates conducted eviction drives in the area since the deadline.

"The decision was sudden as the city corporation didn't give us enough time to think about it or changing our profession. They didn't even give us time

to move our goods during the drive," a hawker leader Abdul Hasem Kabir told The Daily Star.

"How could the city corporation take such a decision before our rehabilitation...," said Kabir, convener of Bangladesh Hawkers Union.

The hawkers in the area told the reporters they have to suffer if they follow the city corporation's direction, because they will not be able to earn enough money to run their families by doing business only two days a week and few hours on the other days.

"Doing business after 6:30pm is pointless as most of our customers buy from us during office hours," said Mohammad Wahab, a hawker in the Paltan area.

"If the city corporation upholds its decision, we have to starve and my kids will have to drop out of schools," said Wahab, a blanket and cloth seller.

Talking about the list of hawkers, Mohammad Shuvo, a hawker in the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque area, said, "Around three months ago some city corporation officials came and asked for our photos and national IDs to become listed."

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## Hawkers' orgs submit memo to minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hawker Samannay Parishad, a platform of different hawkers' organisations, yesterday submitted a memorandum to the LGRD minister demanding formulation of a national guideline and law to stop the eviction of hawkers and their rehabilitation.

Addressing a rally in front of Jatiya Press Club, coordinator of the parishad Abul Hossain said they will arrange a grand rally in Dhaka to realise their demand and submit a memorandum to the prime minister.

He said they will continue their movement protesting the eviction move. "We don't want to stay on the streets rather we want to stay on the footpaths," said Hossain.

## DEBIDWAR CHILD KILLING HC confirms killer's death penalty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday confirmed the death penalty of Al Amin for killing a child at Debidwar in Comilla seven years back.

The bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Shahidul Karim delivered the verdict after hearing the death reference of the case and the appeal of Al Amin challenging the trial court verdict.

Parvez Alam, 12, of Joypur Kamarchar village of Debidwar upazila, went missing on November 5, 2010. Five days later, Parvez's body was recovered from a paddy field.

Later, Al Amin surrendered to the trial court and gave confessional statement. The trial court on January 21, 2012 sentenced Al Amin to death. Later, the death reference of the case reached the HC and Al Amin filed an appeal with the HC challenging the lower court verdict on him.

## Four more schoolboys held in Barisal

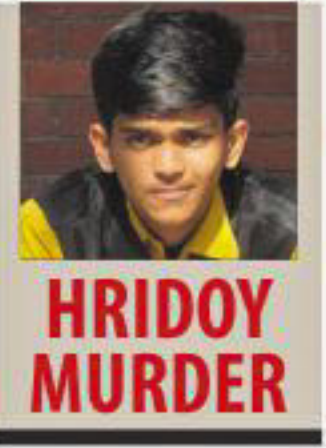
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Four more schoolboys were arrested yesterday for hacking Hridoy, a tenth grader of Sahid Abdur Rab Serniabat Secondary School, to death over previous rivalry for proving supremacy, said police.

With the four, a total of six children, all SSC examinees of Govt Technical School, have been arrested in the case.

SM Ruhul Amin Police Commissioner of Barisal Metropolitan Police (BMP) yesterday at a press conference said there had been a rivalry between the group of Hridoy and the one of the arrestees for long.

Recently, leader of the arrestees' group proposed the same girl whom Hridoy's friend



used to like which indeed flared up the conflict between the two groups.

The two groups fought once before in last November as the arrestees teased a clerk of Hridoy's school, Ruhul added.

On Saturday morning before school hours, one of the arrestees was carrying in his schoolbag a knife that he bought with Tk 350 to intimidate another juvenile group of Durgasagar area which beat him some weeks ago.

But he used it to hack Syedur Rahman alias Hridoy Gazi, son of Md Ziaur Rahman Sahin of Pirojpur, as the latter along with his friends stormed into Pares Sagor field and attacked the rival team with rods and sticks, said Ruhul adding that, the arrestee had admitted to the killing.

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Download the application form on our website: [www.isdbd.org](http://www.isdbd.org) or email [admissions@isdbd.org](mailto:admissions@isdbd.org) for more information. Deadline for application submission is 14th February 2017 at 3:00pm. Assessment tests will take place on 26th to 28th February 2017. Interested candidates are invited together with parents to an interactive information session at ISD on the 2nd February 2017 by 4:30pm - Please email us at [admissions@isdbd.org](mailto:admissions@isdbd.org) to reserve your space

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