

Canada concerned at rise of extremism

Canada has expressed concern over the rise of violent extremism in Bangladesh, said a senior Canadian diplomat yesterday. "Canada is troubled by the apparent rise in violent extremism in parts of South Asia. The noticeable growth in terrorism and extremist activity in Bangladesh is of particular concern to Canada," said Robert McDougall, executive director of Global Affairs Canada's South Asia Desk. He was addressing a discussion titled "Canada-Bangladesh Diplomatic Relations: 45 years of progress" jointly organised by the Canadian High Commission in Bangladesh and the Institute of Policy Advocacy and Governance (IPAG) at a hotel in the capital. Robert McDougall, former high commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh, said good governance and democracy were extremely important for development of Bangladesh. Canada, which is one of the first Western countries to recognise Bangladesh in 1972, has been a development partner and will continue to be so, he added. Presently, the trade between Canada and Bangladesh is worth US\$2 billion with Bangladesh exporting goods, mostly readymade garments, worth US\$1.6 billion, Robert said.

Bangladesh's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam lauded Canada's role in rebuilding Bangladesh after its independence and continuing to be a major development partner until now. He requested Canadian investors to make more investments in Bangladesh. Shahriar Alam said the repatriation of Nur Chowdhury, the self-confessed and convicted killer of Bangabandhu, would be a major breakthrough in the countries bilateral relationship. Prime Minister's Economic Affairs Adviser Mashiur Rahman and IPAC Chairman Prof Munir Khasru also spoke.



Clockwise from left, police try to snatch a banner while the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports stages a sit-in in front of Chittagong Press Club yesterday, demanding cancellation of the coal-fired Rampal power plant to save the Sundarbans. The committee member secretary Prof Anu Muhammad addresses a mass sit-in before the capital's Jatiya Press Club. A similar protest of the committee on a Gaibandha road.



PHOTO: STAR

Nat'l Committee supports hartal against gas price hike

Protests Rampal project; BNP also in solidarity with hartal activists

The National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports yesterday extended its support to a half-day hartal called by several left-leaning political parties in the capital for Tuesday protesting the government's decision to increase gas price. "Price hike of gas is totally illogical which has been proved during public hearings held by the BERC [Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission]. But the government has increased the gas price...," Prof Anu Muhammad, member secretary of the committee, said. Speaking at a mass sit-in in front of Jatiya Press Club, Prof Anu termed the government master plan on power sector "erroneous" and "self-contradictory", and said they (the committee) would place an alternative master plan in this regard on March 18. Meanwhile, BNP also extended its

support to the six-hour hartal. BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir said this while talking to reporters in Thakurgaon. "Some leftist parties have called hartal protesting the government decision (to increase gas price). We think we all should participate in this hartal. We are supporting the hartal..." he also said. Yesterday, the National Committee staged sit-ins across the country protesting the government move to construct the coal-based Rampal Power Plant near the Sundarbans, and the recent gas price hike. The 1,320-megawatt coal-fired power project, which is being jointly implemented by Bangladesh and India some 14 kilometres off the Sundarbans, a world heritage site, has drawn widespread criticism and protests from different quarters at home and abroad. The United Nations Educational,

Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) urged the government to relocate the plant to a "more suitable location" where it would not leave a negative impact on the world's largest mangrove forest. The government, however, vowed to continue the project saying they would ensure all aspects so that the power plant does not harm the Sundarbans. Several lakh people will become "environmental refugees" once the power plant is constructed, Prof Anu said, adding that the lives of some five crore people would be affected. Yet the government is running advertisements terming the "destructive project" a "project for development", he added. The government is carrying out attacks on the anti-Rampal movement with police and criminals, Prof Anu alleged, adding that all of their

Ruling party thuggery

FROM PAGE 3
out of the examination halls. The ruling party men also beat some of the job seekers and tore up their documents and dresses, according to witnesses. Besides, Dablu Sarkar allegedly threatened RU VC at the latter's office on April 20, 2015 while demanding jobs for the ruling party men. Even after all these incidents, the university authorities did not take any steps, alleged some students. "We inform the police whenever an incident happens. They are the one who are supposed to act to maintain law and order," said VC Prof Mizanuddin. While, police said they could act once they receive complaints from the university authorities. Regarding the recruitment process, the VC, however, said, "We will maintain transparency and follow certain rules."

A fatal ride back home

FROM PAGE 3
Sathi's parents lost consciousness hearing the news, said her brother Sabuj Miah of Sonalia village. Maruf Hasan, a neighbour of Razib, alleged that drivers of three-wheelers use bribes to ply the busy highway. Contacted, SM Shahidur Rahman, a traffic inspector in Tangail, said even though police are conducting regular drives, they are unable to prevent three-wheelers. Despite having a nearby alternative route, drivers use the highway on a plea that they are carrying patients.

ঔষধ প্রত্যাহার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যে, আর কোম্পানীর উপস্থাপিত নিম্ন লিখিত ঔষধের উল্লিখিত ব্যাচটি স্বাস্থ্যিক নাম : VIV ক্যাপসুল (ক্লোর সালফিড), ব্যাচ নং-১১, উপস্থাপন তারিখঃ ফেব্রুয়ারী/২০১৬ইং, মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণ তারিখঃ ফেব্রুয়ারী/২০১৬ইং, ঔষধ প্রণালী অর্থাৎ কঠোর মান পরিষ্কৃত প্রমাণিত হওয়ার কারণে আমরা বাজার হইতে বন্ধকরণ করছি। কাছারা কাছে উক্ত ব্যাচ নং এর ঔষধটি থাকলে ত্রুষ্কৃত করে ফেলতে দিলে আমরা তাহাকে পূর্ণিমা ফেরত দানের নিশ্চয়তা দিচ্ছি। ডাক্তার সাধারণের অসুবিধার জন্য আমরা আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত। মেসার্স ট্রাস্ট ফার্মাসিউটিক্যালস (ইউনাইটেড) লি., বেঙ্গালুরু, বাংলাদেশ।

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Position Vacancy Announcement
Position: Acquisition and Assistance Specialist, FSN-11
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Bangladesh is seeking applications from qualified Bangladeshi nationals for the position of **Acquisition and Assistance Specialist** in the Office of Acquisition and Assistance.
Location: USAID/Bangladesh, Deadline for application submission: Open until filled.
For a complete job description, required qualifications and detailed information on how to apply please visit: USAID/Bangladesh website: <http://www.usaid.gov/bangladesh/work-with-us/careers> and www.bdjobs.com D-99

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
Position Vacancy Announcement
Position: Human Resources Assistant, FSN-8
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Bangladesh is seeking applications from qualified Bangladeshi nationals for the position of **Human Resources Assistant** in the Executive Office (EXO).
Location: USAID/Bangladesh, Deadline for application submission: Open until filled.
For a complete job description, required qualifications and detailed information on how to apply please visit USAID/Bangladesh website: <http://www.usaid.gov/bangladesh/work-with-us/careers> and www.bdjobs.com D-100

সাংবাদিকতাকে সমৃদ্ধ ও সাহসী করতে সমর্থন দিন, সাহায্য করুন

আপনি কি সাংবাদিকতাকে শক্তিশালী করতে স্বেচ্ছাসেবী ভূমিকা রাখতে চান?

আপনার মূল্যবান সময়ের কিছুটা বিনা বেতনে এই কাজে দিতে পারবেন?

বিসিডিজিসি-সভাপতি, সাংবাদিক **নাসিফুল ইসলাম খান** আপনার সাহায্য চাচ্ছেন।

আপনি আইনজীবী, চিকিৎসক, প্রকৌশলী, সরকারী-বেসরকারী চাকরীজীবী, ব্যবসায়ী, শিল্পী, রাজনীতিক, নাগরিক সমাজের প্রতিনিধি ইত্যাদি যে কোনো পেশার হন তাহলে বিসিডিজিসি আপনাকেই খুঁজছে।

রাজধানী ঢাকা, সকল বিভাগীয় বা জেলা শহর এমনকি উপজেলার বাসিন্দাও আমাদের উদ্যোগে খুবই প্রয়োজন।

চিঠি লিখুন, ই-মেইল করুন, ফোন অথবা এসএমএস/টেক্সট করুন এমনকি মিস কল দিয়েও চলবে।

চিঠি লিখুন, ১৯/৩ পশ্চিম পাহাড়পথ (৬ষ্ঠ তলা), (স্কয়ার হাসপাতালের পূর্ব পাশে), ঢাকা ১২০৫। অথবা জিপিও বক্স নং ২৯৯৫, ঢাকা, এই ঠিকানায়।
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বাংলাদেশ সেন্টার ফর ডেভেলপমেন্ট, জার্নালিজম এন্ড কমিউনিকেশন (বিসিডিজিসি)

12 lives lost

FROM PAGE 3
Mizanur Rahman, 25, of Cox's Bazar Sadar. In Bogra, a person was killed and five others injured as a trolley collided head-on with a three-wheeler carrying them in Dhunat. The deceased Abul Kalam Azad, 42, of the area was a cattle trader. In Jhenidah Sadar, a college teacher was killed and another injured as a motorcycle hit a roadside tree in the Veterinary College area. The deceased, Ehteshamul Haque Natun, 54, of the upazila, was an associate professor of economics of Chuadanga Government College. In Magura Sadar, a human-hauler driver was killed as a covered-van rammed his vehicle in Parnanduali Brac Office area. The deceased was Sukur Ali, 43, of Paschim Bariwala village. In Panchagarh, a man was killed and four others injured as a microbus hit an electric pole beside Panchagarh-Debiganj highway as the driver lost his control over the vehicle in Phulbari village under Boda upazila. The deceased was Monowar Hossain, 35, of Nilphamari. In Dinajpur Sadar, a staff of Nashipur School and College was killed and a teacher injured as a bus hit their motorcycle in front of the school in Nashipur area. The deceased was Rafiqul Islam, 38, of Nashipur village.

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