



Qawmi degree recognised

Dawra to be equivalent to master's degree, announces PM as Qawmi madrasa leaders meet her

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

From now on, the government will recognise Dawra degree of Qawmi madrasa as equivalent to master's degree, a move that has raised many eyebrows.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made the announcement last night at a meeting with some 350 representatives of Qawmi madrasas at the Gono Bhaban.

Hefajat-e Islam chief Shah Ahmed Shafi, also chairman of Qawmi Madrasa Education Board, led the group.

The decision means the Dawra-e-Hadith degree holders will be seen as having master's degree in Islamic Studies or Arabic and can apply for jobs meant for master's degree holders.

However, the government will not recognise certificates of any other level as the Qawmi madrasa representatives do not want such recognition now.

"I'm announcing that keeping the unique characteristics of Qawmi madrasa and based on the basic principles of Darul Uloom Deobandh, the certificates of Dawra-e-Hadith of Qawmi madrasa has been given the status of master's in Islamic Studies and in Arabic," UNB quoted the PM as telling the meeting.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

SCULPTURE AT SC Such statue shouldn't be here: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said she did not like setting up the statue of Greek Goddess Themis on the Supreme Court premises.

"Why would the statue of Greek Themis be set up in Bangladesh? The Greeks had a certain type of costume, but here a statue has been built and it is wearing a sari. It's a funny incident. I don't know why such an incident happened," she said.

The PM was addressing a meeting of the Alem and Ulema from Qawmi madrasas at the Gono Bhaban last night.

The Islamic religious leaders recently demanded the authorities remove the statue from the SC premises.

Hasina said she would soon discuss the matter with the chief justice and

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



PRICEY CRAZE ... With Pahela Baishakh approaching, the hilsa craze begins. It is true in urban settings where a Panta-Ilish (rice soaked in water overnight and fried hilsa) is considered a delicacy and has somehow got linked to the Baishakh festivities. A section of fishmongers take advantage of the seasonal high demand and hilsa gets too pricey. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged people to leave hilsa off the Pahela Baishakh menu and go for alternatives. The photo of large hilsa being sold at high prices was taken at Karwan Bazar.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

REPORT ON NIKO Clarification

Moudud Ahmed, former law minister of the BNP-led four-party alliance government, gave a clarification to a report published in The Daily Star on April 7 headlined "NIKO signed bribery deals".

The Daily Star is not giving any reply to it as the clarification did not directly contest any part of our reporting. However, we're publishing the full text (unedited) of the clarification sent to us on April 8:

On 8 October prior to my joining the government on 10 October, as a matter of practice, I had resigned in writing from the Law Firm, Moudud Ahmed and Associates, and since then I had severed all my relationship with the Firm.

NIKO Resources Limited (NIKO) engaged the Law Firm as their Legal Advisor by an Agreement dated 23.3.2000 with effect from 1.1.2000. NIKO then terminated the said Agreement by letter dated 1.12.2000 with

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Happy ending?

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhallywood superstar Shakib Khan and his wife actress Apu Biswas have apparently reconciled yesterday.

A day after Shakib refused to take responsibility for his wife, which sparked criticisms nationwide, the highest-paid actor of Bangladeshi movies went on TV last night to say that a quarter had used Apu for their own interest.

The Dhallywood actress suddenly emerged on a live TV interview on Monday afternoon ending her 10-month self exile

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Nothing to hide

PM on deals signed with India; says none will be able to hold water in the upstream

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said there was nothing to hide in the agreements and MoUs signed with India during her four-day tour of New Delhi.

"I don't do politics for personal interests. The interests of the country and its people as well as dignity of the nation are very important for me," she said.

The PM was speaking at a press conference at the Gono Bhaban on her just-concluded India visit.

Hasina said all the agreements were inked following approval from the cabinet. "So, these are all open documents."

About the possibility of signing the Teesta water sharing deal, she said nobody would be able to hold water in the upstream.

The barrage at Gajaldoba in the upstream of the Teesta caused a real problem in the natural flow of common rivers. But during the pre- and post-independence period, no government in Bangladesh raised their voice against the barrage, she told journalists.

As a reprisal act, Bangladesh constructed the Teesta barrage, obstructing the flow of the river, which was a great mistake and the country became a



SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

TEESTA DAMS Modi to send experts' team to Sikkim for inspection

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The Indian government has decided to send a team of hydrology experts this month to Sikkim for inspecting eight dams built on the Teesta river.

The river originates in the Indian state.

The move comes shortly after Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi assured Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of finding an early solution to the Teesta water sharing issue.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

They turned into animals

Observes HC about killers of Sylhet boy Rajon, upholds death sentence of four

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The perpetrators had turned into a group of animal characters devoid of humanity when they tortured Sheikh Md Samiul Alam Rajon to death in Sylhet in 2015, said the High Court yesterday as it upheld death penalty of four for having been directly involved in the killing.

Rajon had been refused water during the torture, the court said, and that demonstrated the "cruel", "inhuman" and "heinous" nature of the crime.



SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Rajon



দেশের সকল খানা'র আর্থ-সামাজিক অবস্থার তথ্য সংগ্রহ করে একটি জাতীয় তথ্যভাণ্ডার গড়ে তোলার লক্ষ্যে শুরু হয়েছে খানা-শুমারি। শুমারির ১ম ধাপে ৪ থেকে ২৩ এপ্রিল ২০১৭ পর্যন্ত বরিশাল ও রংপুর বিভাগের সকল জেলা এবং ময়মনসিংহ বিভাগের জামালপুর, শেরপুর ও ময়মনসিংহ জেলার সকল খানার তথ্য সংগ্রহ করা হবে। ২য় ও ৩য় ধাপে দেশের অবশিষ্ট জেলাগুলোতে শুমারি কার্যক্রম পরিচালিত হবে।

শুমারির লক্ষ্য ও উদ্দেশ্য

- এ তথ্যভাণ্ডার দেশের খানাভিত্তিক আর্থ-সামাজিক চিত্র ও উন্নয়ন অগ্রগতি সম্পর্কে পরিপূর্ণ ধারণা পেতে সহায়তা করবে এবং বিভিন্ন উন্নয়ন কর্মসূচি গ্রহণে সরকারকে প্রয়োজনীয় সহায়তা দিবে;
- সরকারের বিভিন্ন মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক গৃহীত সামাজিক নিরাপত্তা কর্মসূচিগুলো যথাযথ বাস্তবায়নের মাধ্যমে দারিদ্র দূরীকরণে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ও নির্ভরযোগ্য সহায়ক হিসেবে এ তথ্যভাণ্ডার ব্যবহৃত হবে;
- সরকারের অন্যান্য সেবাসমূহ দ্রুত জনগণের দোর-গোড়ায় পৌঁছে দেবার ক্ষেত্রে এ তথ্যভাণ্ডার নির্ভরযোগ্য উৎস হিসেবে কাজ করবে।

যে সকল তথ্য নিয়ে এই তথ্যভাণ্ডার তৈরি হবে

খানা সদস্যদের নাম, মাতা-পিতার নাম, বয়স, শিক্ষা, পেশা, নিবাস ইত্যাদি ব্যক্তিগত তথ্যের পাশাপাশি খানার বাসগৃহের ধরন, মালিকানাধীন জমির পরিমাণ, ব্যবহৃত পায়খানার ধরন, পানীয় জলের উৎস প্রভৃতি।

তথ্য প্রদানের সময়

জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র ও জন্মসনদ তথ্য-সংগ্রহকারীকে দেখাতে হবে

আপনার খানা'র সকল তথ্য গোপন রাখা হবে এবং কেবলমাত্র সরকারি কাজে ব্যবহৃত হবে

তথ্য-সংগ্রহকারীকে নিজ খানা'র নির্ভুল তথ্য দিন তথ্য প্রদানে অন্যকেও উৎসাহিত করুন



ন্যাশনাল হাউজহোল্ড ডাটাবেইজ (NHD) প্রকল্প
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পরিসংখ্যান ও তথ্য ব্যবস্থাপনা বিভাগ
পরিকল্পনা মন্ত্রণালয়
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার



Raudha 'took her own life' Says college authorities' probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A probe body of the Rajshahi Islami Bank Medical College has found that its Maldivian student Raudha Athif "committed suicide".

"Around three weeks before taking her own life, Raudha had jokingly texted one of her friends saying that she would commit suicide," said Prof MA Mukit Sarker, vice principal of the college and also the head of the five-member probe committee.

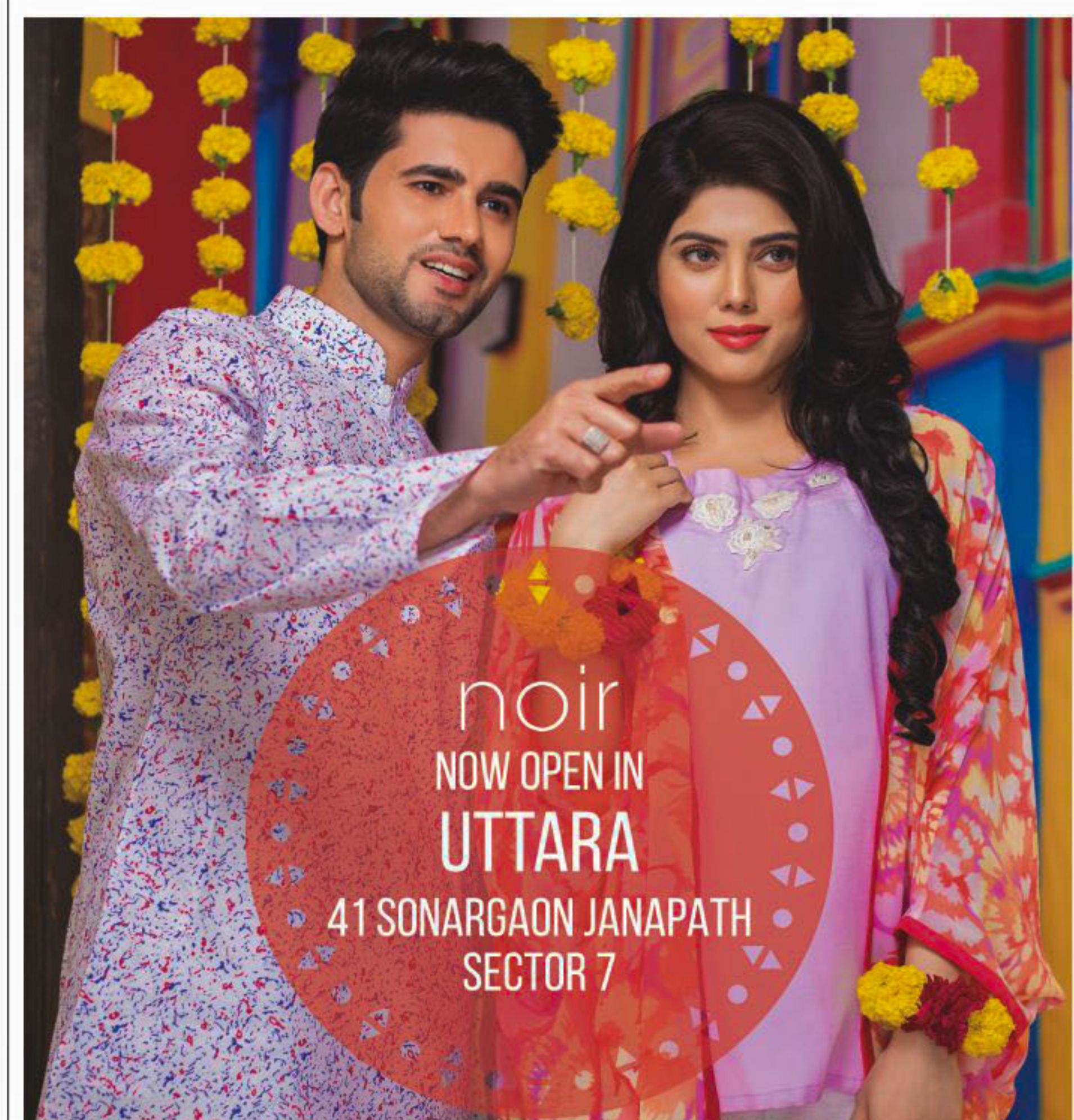
The committee submitted its report to the college principal yesterday afternoon, he added.

The 21-year-old student, also a model, was found dead in her dormitory room on March 29. On the same day, the college authorities formed the probe committee and filed an unnatural death case with Shah Makhdum Police Station.

Raudha's autopsy also ruled that she "committed suicide".

The probe body received and examined written statements from 19 people, including students, staff and officials of the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



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