

# NEWS IN brief

## Reunion for ex-RU teachers, students held in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A reunion for the former students and teachers of Rajshahi University (RU) was held at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB) in Dhaka yesterday. Former RU students living in Dhaka and Rajshahi organised the programme. At the beginning of the event, 2,000 such students sang the national anthem and paid tribute to the country's martyrs. Around 100 former senior teachers were honoured with crests, sashes and flowers. Among the former teachers, Badruddin Umar, Hasan Azizul Haque, Hosne Ara Hossain, A Majid Khan, Shamsur Rahman, Azharul Islam, Mahmud Shah Qureshi and Arun Basak were present. The daylong event ended with a cultural programme.

## 33 women to get Ratnagarva Ma Awards today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thirty-three women will be honoured with "Ratnagarva Ma Awards-2016" today for their outstanding contribution to their families and the society. Marking international Mothers day, Azad Products (Pvt) Ltd, since 2003, has been organising the event that awards mothers whose children have become successful in their respective fields of work, Abul Kalam Azad, managing director of Azad Products (Pvt) Ltd, said at a press conference. The event will be held at Samson H Chowdhury Centre in the capital's Ramna.

## New platform to contribute to health sector

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Healthy Bangladesh, a Dhaka-based civic platform, started its journey yesterday with a view to contributing to the country's health sector. The platform will work for ensuring cleanliness, nutrition and healthcare by organising campaigns and seminars to identify challenges and find solutions. Health and Family Welfare Minister Mohammed Nasim launched the platform in LGED auditorium.

## Amina Bashir passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amina Bashir, wife of eminent artist Murtaza Bashir, passed away at Apollo Hospitals in the capital. She was 77. She was suffering from kidney disease. She left behind her husband, two daughters and a son. Amina was buried at Banani graveyard after her namaz-e-janaza in Monipuri para. Bangladesh Charushilpi Sangsad expressed condolence to the bereaved family.



A motorbike rally promoting road safety awareness in the capital yesterday. The bikers also pledged not to go over the speed limit of 30km in residential areas. The rally was arranged by Brac to observe the UN Global Road Safety Week. Danish Ambassador in Dhaka Mikael Hemniti Winther participated in the rally. PHOTO: STAR

# 115 families live in fear of landslides

UNB, Beanibazar

Over 115 households in Beanibazar upazila of Sylhet are facing a major threat of landslides in the upcoming monsoon due to rampant hillock cutting in the area. According to locals, there are about 300 hillocks in the upazila. They claimed that each of those has been affected in one way or the other as unauthorised traders and influential locals are cutting the soil and selling those off. In Beanibazar, about 115 families are currently living on hill slopes and top of the hillocks amid the fear of landslides as a heavy downpour may accelerate a landslide any time, destroying their households. They fear the landslides may even cost their lives. "During rains, we stay awake out of fear," said Abdul Basit, who along with his family lives on a hillock at Mollahpur village. "There had been landslides in many places recently during a mod-

erate rainfall."

Basit said his neighbour sold off soil by creating a 16-foot hole in a hillock where his family lives. "A big crack developed near my house due to the hill cutting. We're facing a high risk of a landslide as it may happen anytime during rain," he added. He claimed that a complaint was submitted to Sylhet's deputy commissioner's office in this regard on April 26, but to no avail. Sylhet has tropical monsoon climate bordering on a humid subtropical climate at higher elevations. As it is located near Meghalaya, the country's highest rainfall occurs in the region intensifying the risk of landslides. Locals claimed that owners of the hillocks cut soil without approval of the authorities concerned and sell those off to developers. During a recent visit to Beanibazar, the news agency found that hillocks were being cut in Khasharipara, Supatala, Nidanpur, Mollahpur, Konagram, Fengram, Chuttadash, Pathan,

Abdullahpur, Joltup, Lauta, Austasangaon, Pahariabaha and other areas. "A big chunk of mud collapsed on my house during rain a few days ago, putting my family at risk," said Amirul Islam, who resides near a hillock at Nidanpur. Contacted, Mehdi Hasan, assistant commissioner (land) of Beanibazar upazila, said, "Cutting hillocks without approval of the authorities concerned is illegal. The local administration conducted a number of drives to stop the menace." "If people live in the vulnerable areas of hillocks, we'll take necessary steps to relocate them," he said. Mohammad Asaduzzaman, upazila nirbahi officer, said, "There has been no instruction from the deputy commissioner's office in this regard so far, but steps will be taken soon to relocate the people now at risk." "Also, legal actions will be taken against those involved in hillock cutting," he said.

## 65 militants killed in 15 raids: IGP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 65 militants were killed in the last 15 anti-militancy drives across the country, said Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday. The IGP said police officials are working hard to bust militant hideouts. A good number of militants were arrested in law enforcers' anti-militancy drive, added the police chief. The IGP came up with the statement while addressing a community policing gathering on anti-drug and terrorism in the capital's Lalbagh. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal was present at the ceremony as the chief guest with Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia in the chair. The IGP said they have also kept their fight on against drug. In the first phase, they are taking action against the police officials involved in drug business, he said. "We are not only kicking out the police officials involved with drug trade, but also taking legal action against them if found guilty," said the police chief. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said police are working relentlessly against militancy. All the militants are sprouting from the same route using different types of names including JMB, Huji-B, Neo-JMB, Asanullah Bangla Team, said the minister. Food Minister Qamrul Islam and high police officials were also present.

Man kills wife

FROM PAGE 4 Salahuddin said he did not know the specific reason behind the killing. He said Tahmina used to teach children Arabic at her home while Shah Alam was a tailor. The body was sent to DMC morgue for an autopsy.



Sammilita Sangskritik Jote joins the call for exemplary punishment for rapists, at a human chain on the Dhaka University campus yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

## 3 eminent citizens receive gold

FROM PAGE 3

speech at the programme. RP Shaha is the founder of various educational institutes including Bharateswari Homes and Kumudini College. In 1938, Shaha opened Kumudini Hospital -- a charitable hospital named after his mother Kumudini at his native village Mirzapur on the river Lauhajang. The main inspiration behind founding the hospital was his mother who died a painful death from tetanus infection when he was only seven years old. The death of his mother left a profound impact on the young mind of RP

Shaha and he made a promise to himself that if his fate permitted, he would do something for the ailing mothers and women. In the citation of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, it was said that the 1970 cyclone and 1971 Liberation War in Bangladesh dramatically changed the direction of his life while he was working as a senior corporate executive at Shell Oil. He left his job and moved to London in the UK, where he helped initiate Action Bangladesh and HELP Bangladesh in support of the Liberation War. Shaheed Dhirendranath Dutta was the harbinger of the Bengali

language movement and he had made history on February 25, 1948 by demanding that Bengali to be recognised as one of the state languages of the new nation of Pakistan. He was killed by the then Pakistan army in 1971 during the Liberation War of Bangladesh. Born in Sylhet on December 23 in 1952, Muhammed Zafar Iqbal is a popular author of science fiction and children's literature. He is a professor of computer science and engineering at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology. He is also head of the department of electrical and electronic engineering at the same university.

## 5pc of GDP for education

FROM PAGE 3

Khaleda alleged that the quality of education has been falling gradually. She also alleged that the government is increasing pass rate for self-satisfaction. "If we fail to overcome the situation, our progress will be hampered and we will lag behind..." she added.

The former premier said various educational systems are prevailing in the country and every system is different from the other. "To move forward, a connection is required among all the educational systems." Khaleda said her party will take all administrative and institutional measures to create skilled human

resources by arranging demand-based vocational and technical training programmes and necessary training in foreign languages for the unskilled workers. She said to achieve the goal of developing human resources, a change has to be brought in the mindset of people.

## Eco-friendly paper can be processed

FROM PAGE 3

will be over \$16 billion, added the expert. Bangladesh annually imports 500-600 tonnes of pulp worth US\$ 600

million, said DCCI President Abul Kasem Khan. He urged the revival of the "Golden Fibre" to meet the entire demand for making paper.

State Minister for Textiles and Jute Mirza Azam assured that if private sector is interested to establish paper or textile mills using pulp and viscose then BJMC can provide them land for it.



## Chronic kidney disease - The silent threat not to be ignored

Are you having these symptoms?

- Fatigue and weakness
- Sleeplessness
- Swelling of legs and feet
- Diabetic
- Loss of appetite
- Itchiness and skin irritation
- Hypertensive

These could be signs that you're suffering from Chronic Kidney Disease- the silent killer. Chronic kidney disease normally isn't detected until the fourth stage, when kidney function has declined by at least 70 percent. If undiagnosed, the disease will gradually worsen over time. Early detection plays a critical role in delaying and preventing kidney damage that could lead to dialysis and kidney transplant.

Bumrungrad International hospital's Nephrology Center established the Chronic Kidney Disease Program with the main purpose of delaying and halting the progression of chronic kidney disease and the development of complications.

You will be taken care by our team of dedicated medical professionals that includes international and locally accredited nephrologists working in combination with nutritionists, pharmacists and clinical nurse coordinators to review and assist all aspects of your lifestyle to help detect and treat kidney based illnesses.

For all medical enquiries and priority appointments, contact Bumrungrad International Referral Office-Bangladesh. No Service Charge.

### Contact :

**Bumrungrad Services Co., Ltd.**  
Suite-3, Level-11, UTC Building 8, Panthapath, Dhaka.  
Office telephone: 911-7564, 912-7383  
Mobile : 01713-027628, 01755-557574, 01755-559631  
E-mail : dhaka@bumrungradreferral.com  
Website : www.bumrungrad.com

