



Onlookers gather around a Bagha Ayr (a kind of catfish) weighing about 88kgs brought to Bat Tala kitchen market in Tangail town yesterday. A fisherman netted it in the Padma and sold it to fish trader Momin Monday night in Aricha. Since there was no single buyer for the fish with an asking price of Tk 72,000, Momin chopped it up and sold it to 40 people for Tk 80,000.

PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL

Tk 50 mobile

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"There are 51 village police members in unions under the upazila. We thought to utilise them for this," he said, adding, "... we decided to give them Tk 50 for advance information on each child marriage."
The best performer would get Tk 50 more the following month, he added.
Abdus Salam, a village policeman from Dhara Barisha union, said they welcomed the move and would help the UNO stop child marriage in their localities.
Shahina Akhter, the deputy commissioner of Natore, termed the move "innovative" and hoped it would help stop child marriage.

PM intervenes

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As per the Dhaka University Order 1973, the VC shall be appointed by the chancellor for a period of four years from a panel of three teachers nominated by the university senate, and be eligible for a re-appointment for a second term.
Sources said as Prof Arefin was nearing the end of his first term, a section of teachers has started lobbying political circles to get their blessings to be the next VC and make sure that Prof Arefin doesn't remain in the VC panel again.
Another section of teachers wants the present VC gets a reappointment.
Yesterday morning, Chief Election Commissioner Prof Kamal Uddin, also treasurer of DU, cancelled the nominations of all the 35 candidates of Maksud-led faction, saying they were creating divisions among teachers and hampering congenial educational atmosphere of the university.
The candidates learned about the cancellation on their way to the PMO.
Prof Sadeka Halim, one of teachers, said, "We told the PM that cancellation of nomination of their panel was completely undemocratic and violation of the university order of 1973.
"The PM listened to us attentively and directed us to work together. We have pledged to do so."
Prof Muhammad Samad came down hard on the VC at the meeting, saying Prof Arefin is an autocrat and takes decision unilaterally. He also called the VC a barbarian and cruel person.
He, however, told this newspaper, "We will remain united after the PM's order."
The PM wanted to know why Maksud's group had to field candidates in the senate polls.
Prof Golam Rabbani told the PM that they had to form a counter panel because the VC had dropped their names from the Blue Panel unilaterally.
After hearing them, the PM recalled how hard times she had to go through to bring the killers of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman to book. She told them how difficult it was to try the war criminals with hundreds of their followers being present in the country.
Hasina said she knows how hard it is to run administration and urged the teachers to help the DU administration so that it functions properly.
The VC did not respond to the allegations brought against him.
He only said that there can be errors in running the administration. And there would have been different versions had the teachers who got the nominations from the Blue Panel come to the meeting.
Talking to The Daily Star later, Prof Arefin said the PM was briefed about different issues of the university. "She listened carefully and directed the teachers to work together and help the administration function smoothly."
"I hope," he added, "all the teachers will unite for the university the way they did in the past."
Around 10 teachers spoke at the meeting that began at 1:00pm.
AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader and Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid were also present at the meeting.

Tigers take

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want to hit the ground running today. Some of New Zealand's top players, including skipper Kane Williamson, will not be there and they will be looking for a good show from their inexperienced players.
Bangladesh, on the other hand, will be eager for their first victory over New Zealand in an away or neutral venue after having dominated the Kiwis at home, and this is as good a chance as any as they will face a relatively inexperienced bowling attack.
Bangladesh's attack, however, will be bolstered by the return of skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, who sat out the first game because of a one-match suspension picked up on the Sri Lanka tour for a slow over-rate.

The Good Shepherd

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While Farida's tenacity itself is praiseworthy, her compassion for her sheep is an even more compelling aspect of her story. Without any formal training and 2.5 decimals of land only, Farida still went to work with a purpose. She turned the veranda adjacent to her room sheep shed. Every evening, the sheep enter the shed and sleep till 10:00am, in close proximity to Farida and under her watchful eyes.
Every morning, Farida herself takes her sheep out into the fields to graze and returns to join them after lunch. "I have been doing so for the past 32 years," she says. Salina Begum, Farida's daughter in law, explains the depths of her mother-in-law's compassion. "If any sheep is found dead, she goes into mourning and refuses to eat. It's like a member of her family has passed," she says. Salina also adds that even the sale of a sheep plunges her mother-in-law into melancholy. The sheep, in return, give her their outright loyalty. "The sheep follow her wherever she goes," Salina says adding that Farida will rear sheep till the last breath because they are what gave her a new lease of life.
Today, Farida is a successful entrepreneur who inspires others around her. Razea Begum, one of her neighbours, also recently bought a pair of female sheep from Farida for Tk 6000 and is now also daring to dream. "I want to change my fortune like Farida," Razea says. Salma Begum, another neighbour, also aspires to rear sheep. "Before I used to pass a lot of free time. Now I am trying to follow in Farida Apa's footsteps," she says. While Farida Khatun has become a trailblazer and an inspiration, she has not forgotten what began it all. Her son, now all grown up and a father of three lovely children, has his own flower business but Farida continues to bear all the costs of her family.
"I bear the education cost of my

grand-children too. I even bought my daughter-in-law gold ornaments for her hands, ears and neck," Farida says, laughing. Her laughter is raw. It is pure and it sounds like it had been waiting for a long time. Farida doesn't look back on what once was any longer. She looks forward and she sees positivity. Circumstances can change if one has the will and the support system to change them. Farida had both and now she stands as a testament to what can be done when a human spirit refuses to break, stereotypes be damned.
1 Bangladeshi
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still missing.
The UN refugee agency, UNHCR, said nearly 500 migrants were saved through four different operations after the crafts sank while sailing towards Italy from Libya.
The agency said it was gathering more information from those rescued and about the circumstances of the rescue efforts.
Among those feared dead, some were crushed by other people in the boat, while others drowned at sea, said the UNHCR.
"The victims include a child, women and some men - mostly from Nigeria, Ivory Coast and reportedly from Bangladesh. Seven bodies were recovered and taken with the survivors to Trapani [in Italy]," it added.
With this latest incident, it is estimated that over 1,350 people are now missing or dead in the Mediterranean Sea. Over 95 people have lost their lives over the past few weeks alone.
According to Bangladesh embassy officials in Tripoli, an estimated 20,000 Bangladeshis are still in civil war-torn Libya either waiting to return home or cross the Mediterranean to reach Italy.

Trump travel ban back in court

AFP, Seattle
A US government attorney insisted Monday that President Donald Trump's revised travel ban did not unfairly target Muslims, in the latest twist in a monthslong legal battle that has dogged the new US administration.
A crowd rallied in protest outside an appeals court in the western city of Seattle, where a panel of federal judges was weighing the legality of the contested immigration order -- which has twice been blocked by the courts since January.
The Trump administration says the temporary ban on refugees and travelers from six Muslim-majority countries -- Iran, Syria, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen -- is motivated by national security concerns, an area where US presidents have wide powers.
But a Hawaii-based judge in March issued a nationwide preliminary injunction against the order on grounds it was unconstitutional and motivated by anti-Muslim bias.
Now, three judges from the US 9th Circuit Court of Appeals are considering Trump's challenge of that injunction.

Exemption of VAT likely

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importers to claim rebate, revenue officials said.
"We plan to place the proposal of exempting VAT on edible oil to hand relief to common people. This move will also reduce scope for unscrupulous traders increasing prices of some essentials," said the official, preferring anonymity.
Revenue officials say price of cooking oil should decline once VAT exemption is implemented as importers and refiners fix prices by adding the VAT as cost.
Officials said businesses will be able to get rebate for application of 15 percent VAT, as envisaged in the VAT and Supplementary Duty Act 2012, in the whole value chain. Despite the rebate, the burden on consumers may increase marginally.
Meanwhile, officials also warned that dishonest traders may hike some prices cashing in on imposition of VAT across the board.
Earlier, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) said the government is considering steps so that prices of essential commodities as cooking oil do not rise.
The official said VAT collection from edible oil at import stage will not be more than Tk 30 crore. So the waiver will not affect revenue to that extent.
The NBR has also prepared a list of VAT-free goods and services to be made public.
This list of VAT-free products would be hung in front of shops, officials said.
The new law keeps essential com-

modities, agricultural products and life-saving drugs, medical services and healthcare, newspaper printing, publication and distribution and education exempt from VAT.
Bangladesh, with its 16 crore population and rising industrial demands, consumed 2.33 million tonnes of vegetable oil in the 2015-16 fiscal, up 11 percent year-on-year, according to the US Department of Agriculture.
Total consumption is expected to rise to 2.57 million tonnes during the current fiscal year, according to the USDA. Bangladesh has to meet nearly 90 percent of its annual requirement of oil through imports from Malaysia, Indonesia, Brazil and Argentina.

Ex-BNP MP

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amassing wealth illegally and concealing information about them.
Courts convicted and sentenced them on different jail terms in 2007 and 2008.
The convicted people appealed and were acquitted by the HC in 2009, 2010 and 2011.
The ACC then appealed to the Supreme Court challenging the HC verdicts in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.
The SC scrapped the HC verdicts and ordered the HC to expeditiously rehear the appeals of the accused in 2014 and 2015.
The HC yesterday disposed of first of the 27 appeals.
In yesterday's verdict the HC observed that there might be elements of offence of money laundering in the case against Monjurul Ahsan Munshi, ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.
He also said the ACC would move an appeal before the Appellate Division against yesterday's HC verdict.
On October 9, 2007, a special court in Dhaka sentenced Monjurul to 13 years in jail. The ACC accused Monjurul, his wife Mazeda Ahsan Munshi and their sons Rizviul Ahsan Munshi and Rizwanul Ahsan Munshi of earning wealth and properties worth Tk 4.92 crore illegally that was kept concealed in their wealth statements.
The special court acquitted Mazeda, Rizviul and Rizwanul of all the charges against them as those were not proved.
Following an appeal by Monjurul, the HC on June 6, 2011, acquitted him of the corruption charges.
The ACC then moved an appeal before the Appellate Division against the HC verdict.
After hearing the ACC's appeal, the apex court on February 2, 2015, scrapped the HC verdict of acquittal and directed the HC to rehear the appeal of Monjurul.

Bangla

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languages of the student's liking.
Learning Bangla was compulsory only in schools under the state education board.
As per the announcement, either the second or the third language has to be Bangla.
As for the third language, students will be able to choose from 30 under the Central Board of Secondary Education or the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education.
Making the announcement at his Kolkata home, West Bengal Education Minister Partha Chatterjee said a circular in this regard would be issued soon.
The state government is respectful towards every mother tongue and unity among diversity is a strength of India, he said, adding that the decision would enable students to reach regional, national and international levels.

16 sued

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accused planned to kill his son. He also demanded their immediate arrest and exemplary punishment.
On Saturday night, some unidentified criminals beat Mashuk to death near his house in Matidali area.
Talking to The Daily Star, Mushfiqur's father sought a neutral investigation into the case and demanded punishment of the real killers.
He said he was ready to face any punishment if his involvement in the murder could be proved.
Contacted, Aslam Hossain, inspector (investigation) of Bogra Sadar Police Station, said they took the case seriously and that the motive behind the murder was clear to them, but refused to give details in this regard.
Meanwhile, students and locals of Matidali formed a human chain in front of Matidali High School yesterday, protesting the killing.

HC stays

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of trial proceedings of the cases.
Deputy Attorney General Shaikh AKM Moniruzzaman Kabir told The Daily Star that the government would move appeals before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for staying the HC order.
Of the three cases, two were filed with Jatrabari Police Station on January 24, 2015, against 68 BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami leaders after an arson attack on a bus the previous day.
In one case, murder charge was brought against the accused as one was killed and 30 others were injured in the attack. In another case, the accused have been charged with explosions in the same attack.
The third case was lodged with Darussalam Police Station on March 3, 2015, on charge of vandalising a vehicle and torching it during an anti-government agitation enforced by the BNP-led alliance.
Trial courts later took cognisance of the charges of the cases after police submitted charge sheets to the courts.
Advocate AJ Mohammad Ali and barrister AM Mahub Uddin Khokon appeared for Khaleida.

Indian teen builds

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creating an experiment which could fit in a four-metre cube and possess an accurate mass of 64 grams, which could be sent to space, reported IBTimes Online.
Made using reinforced carbon fibre polymer, KalamSat weighs exactly 64 grams, which is lesser than a smartphone's weight.
"We did a lot of research on different cube satellites all over the world and found ours was the lightest," Sharook told the Times of India.
"We obtained some of the components from abroad and some are indigenous," Sharook added.
This satellite will be going to space on a 240-minute mission, in which it will carry out its function in space's micro-gravity environment for 12 minutes.
"The main role of the satellite will be to demonstrate the performance of 3-D printed carbon fibre," Sharook said.

Ukraine blocks popular Russian social networks

AFP, Kiev
Ukraine yesterday blocked Russia's most popular social networks and an internet search engine in response to the Kremlin's alleged backing of a three-year separatist war in the east.
The decision sparked an immediate outcry from Ukrainian internet users and the Reporters Without Borders (RSF) press freedom group.
Some also pointed out that President Petro Poroshenko himself was an avid user of two of the Russian networks he had banned.
"Hello, North Korea," 112 rolling news channel editor Vitaliy Prudyus wrote on Facebook.
"I bear the education cost of my

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
পরিচালকের কার্যালয়
শহীদ তাজউদ্দীন আহমদ মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, গাজীপুর
স্মারক নং-পরিঃসঃ/আঃসঃ/আঃসঃ/গাজীঃ/আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল সঃ/দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি/২০১৭/৭১০ তারিখঃ ১৫/০৫/২০১৭খ্রিঃ
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (OTM)
২০১৭-১৮খ্রিঃ অর্থ বছরে শহীদ তাজউদ্দীন আহমদ মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, গাজীপুর এর জন্য আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল সরবরাহের নিমিত্তে The Public Procurement Act 2006 ও বিধিমালা ২০০৮, আইন ও বিধিমালা ২০১৪ সংশোধিত অনুসারে প্রকৃত ঠিকাদার/প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।