

NHRC worried

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seven months and rape of a speech impaired girl by her uncle.
"Violence against women, including rape and torture, have increased recently which hit the news headlines. The culprits have gone beyond control as justice was not ensured in time," he said, adding that such crimes increased due to social unrest and culture of impunity.
A section of criminals were committing such crimes under political and administrative protection which is not acceptable at all, Reazul said.
The NHRC boss underscored the need for taking immediate steps like prompt arrest of the culprits, proper investigation into the incidents and quick disposal of cases to avert any recurrence of such crimes.
The commission also called upon the law enforcers to step up security measures to tackle the crime.
The rights watchdog hoped law enforcers would immediately arrest all the alleged rapists, including Badal Mia over the Tangail rape incident, and take necessary measures to ensure exemplary punishment to them.

Madrasa teacher

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Her mother filed a case under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act later that night.
Ohiduzzaman was arrested.
Officer-in-Charge of Shahrasti Police Station Md Mizanur Rahman said the statement of the accused teacher has been recorded in which she confessed to the crime. The court sent Ohiduzzaman to jail.
The victim said the same man raped her earlier in the month and then threatened to kill her older sister if she reported the matter to anyone.
The girl's father was an auto-rickshaw driver and has very recently gone to Malaysia with a job.

Airlines move

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Meanwhile, religious affairs ministry yesterday warned of legal actions against private hajj tour agencies responsible for visa complications of pilgrims.
"The hajj flights were cancelled due to negligence of hajj agencies. Legal actions, including cancellation of licenses, will be taken against them," Motiur Rahman, minister of religious affairs said at a press briefing at the Ministry.
Biman General Manager (Public Relation) Shakil Meraj told The Daily Star that four packed hajj flights of the national flag carrier left for Saudi Arabia yesterday.
However, a flight scheduled to leave Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 10:15am yesterday has been delayed by 48 hours, he added.
Abdul Jalil, secretary of the religious affairs ministry, said, "I strongly believe there will be no more problems in this regard if Biman does not have to cancel its flights."
He added that visas for 60,000 pilgrims have already been obtained and 25,000 of them are all set to fly. Getting visas for the rest of the pilgrims are underway, he also said.

REPEAT PILGRIMS HAVE TO PAY EXTRA Tk 44,000

Ashkona Hajj Camp Director Saiful Islam said the Saudi government yesterday informed its Bangladesh counterpart that each repeat pilgrim must pay an additional Saudi Riyals 2000 [Tk 44,000].
He also said the religious affairs ministry in a circular would inform hajj agencies about the matter.
There are 5,600 pilgrims who had performed hajj in the last five years, said Abdul Jalil.
Hajj agencies had been refusing to pay the extra charge.

Divorce doubles

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at least a secondary level of education, with the figure standing at 1.7 per one thousand. Those with no education had a rate of divorce of 0.5.
In rural areas, the divorce rate was 1.3 per thousand. In urban areas it was 0.8.
According to the report, Rajshahi division had the highest rate of divorce, 1.9 per thousand, followed by Khulna, 1.3.
The incidents of divorce were highest in the 25-29 age group, 2.7.
In Dhaka city, a fragment of the divorcees actually pre-notify the two city corporations prior to taking the recourse. The records of the two city corporations show that 5,353 people submitted such notices in 2012 while the number rose to 7,458 last year.
Nearly seven out of 10 such notices that the two city corporations received came from the wives. In some cases, couples refrained from divorcing each other even after filing notices but that number was not significant.

According to the BBS, some of the most common reasons behind decisions of separation and divorce stem from an inability to maintaining a conjugal life, failure in providing subsistence, immoral practices, incurable diseases, physical assault, dowry, premature marriage, infertility and polygamy.
Md Mamunur Rashid Khan, a marriage registrar of the city's Kulutola Kazi Office, told The Daily Star that the number of divorce incidents increased over the last few years.
"On an average, I get 10 cases of divorces a month whereas it was only five a few years ago," said Rashid, also the senior joint secretary of Bangladesh Muslim Marriage Registrars Association.
He said young peoples' exposure to the virtual world, involvement in ill-planned emotional relationships, and extra-marital affairs contributed to the rise in the incidents of divorce these days.
The marriage registrar said in seven out of 10 cases, it was the wives who sought divorce. "But it doesn't mean women are more likely to divorce as I have noticed in many of these cases that actually the husbands made the wives take the first move for different

strategic reasons."
Eminent psychologist Farida Akhtar told The Daily Star there were many dimensions to men-women marital relationship and for different reasons the relationship could get strenuous.
"Today's women are more conscious about their rights. Every modern woman likes to see her life become meaningful. If any relationship (marriage in this case) becomes a roadblock in achieving her life's dream, she may choose to break free," explained Farida.
She said differences in men-women pre-marriage and post-marriage understanding, doubts over spouse's friendship with other men/women, drug addiction, deceptions, impotence and impact of overall societal unrest were also being translated into increased number of divorces these days.
Tania Haque teaches Women and Gender Studies at Dhaka University. She told The Daily Star that women's entry into the job market gave them confidence, financial freedom and more decision-making power and in certain cases it became possible for them to not tolerate subjugation from their male counterparts.
The DU associate professor believes that many, influenced by the virtual world, tend to live in fantasies. They disengage from their surroundings and eventually go for breakups on flimsy grounds.
"We're seeing erosion of familial commitment, values and many even can't afford spending quality family-time because of too much work in a fast-moving world."

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"It's true that our financial performance has deteriorated, but it's temporary," said the chairman of Islami Bank.
He expressed optimism the bank's profitability would pick up by the end of the year.
The new management in April declared 10 percent cash dividend for 2016, lowest in the bank's recent history. The declaration disappointed capital market investors.
The price of Islami Bank shares fell by over 20 percent (from Tk 43 to Tk 34) in the first week of April.
Yesterday, each Tk 10 share of the bank was traded at Tk 34.70 at the Dhaka Stock Exchange.
The bank lent aggressively in the last six months, but its deposit growth was slow. Its advances to deposits ratio was 93 percent in June, which was beyond the authorised limit of 90 percent.
The advances to deposits ratio measures loans (advances) as a percentage of deposits.
The bank disbursed loans of Tk 5,031 crore in January-June this year compared to Tk 3,521 crore in the corresponding period a year ago.
It received deposits of Tk 2,298 crore during the six months, down by 30 percent from Tk 3,310 crore in the same period last year.

HC enquires

FROM PAGE 2
Shafiqul and Altaf were negligent, incompetent and inefficient in filing and dealing with the case.
From June to August in 2009, at least 28 children across the country died of renal failures allegedly caused by Rid Pharma's paracetamol syrups and suspensions.
In August that year, Shafiqul Islam, the then superintendent of drug administration, filed the case with the Dhaka Drug Court.
On November 28 last year, the drug court acquitted Rid Pharma's all five officials.
Two officials of the drug administration involved in the case knowingly violated due procedure of law, and exhibited sheer negligence, inefficiency and incompetence in dealing with the case, the verdict said.
Shafiqul Islam and Altaf Hossain were drug superintendents in 2009.

Heat to make

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from extreme future heat waves is concentrated around the densely populated agricultural regions of the Ganges and Indus river basins," wrote the authors of the study, led by former MIT research scientist Eun-Soon Im, now an assistant professor at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.
While most climate studies have been based on temperature projections alone, this one -- published Wednesday in the journal Science Advances -- also considers humidity as well as the body's ability to cool down in response.
Those three factors together make up what is called a "wet-bulb temperature," which is the air temperature taken when a wet cloth is wrapped around the thermometer. It is always lower than the dry-bulb temperature -- how much so depends on the humidity. It can help estimate how easy it is for water to evaporate.
It can also offer a gauge for where climate change might become dangerous.
Scientists say humans can survive a wet-bulb temperature of up to about 35 degrees Celsius, beyond which the human body has difficulty sweating to cool down, or sweat doesn't evaporate, leading to heat stroke and ultimately death within just a few hours -- even in shaded, ventilated conditions.
So far, wet bulb temperatures have rarely exceeded 31 C, a level that is already considered extremely hazardous.
Most of those at risk in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh are poor farmworkers or outdoor construction labourers. They are unlikely to have air conditioners -- up to 25 percent in of India's population still has no access to electricity. In some areas that have been deforested for industry or agriculture, they may not even have very much shade.
For the study, the researchers carried out computer simulations using global atmospheric circulation models under two scenarios -- one in which the world comes close to meeting its goal of curbing emissions to limit Earth's average temperature rise to 2 degrees C above pre-industrial levels, and one if it continues emitting at current levels.
Both scenarios play out dangerously for South Asia. But with no limit on global warming, about 30 percent of the region could see dangerous wet bulb temperatures above 31 degrees C on a regular basis within just a few decades. That's nearly half a billion people by today's population levels, though the full scale could change as the population grows. Meanwhile, 4 percent of the population -- or 60 million in today's population -- would face deadly highs at or above 35 degrees C by 2100.
But if the world can limit global warming, that risk exposure declines drastically. About 2 percent of the population would face average wet bulb temperatures of 31 degrees C or higher.
Experts say countries must work toward meeting the Paris agreement goals to limit average global warming to 2 degrees C, especially since the world has already warmed by 1 degree C. That average will play out differently across the planet, and South Asia is expected to be hit harder than other regions.

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On July 17, four agitating students ended their hunger strike after the university authorities assured them of withdrawing the case filed by JU Registrar Abu Bakr Siddique.
On May 26, two JU students were killed as a bus hit a human hauler carrying them on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar's C&B bus stand area.
Agitating students then blocked the highway, demanding speed breakers there. But police fired rubber bullets and teargas canisters to disperse them. At least 10 people, including students, a JU official and two journalists, were injured.
Later, they besieged the VC's house. During the demonstration, 42 JU students were held and later shown arrested in the vandalism case.

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Responding, India reiterated an earlier line that work by a Chinese road crew in the sensitive frontier area would have changed the status quo and urging "utmost restraint" by all sides.
"India considers that peace and tranquillity in the India-China border areas is an important pre-requisite for smooth development of our bilateral relations with China," New Delhi's foreign ministry said in a statement on Wednesday evening.
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Are you ready

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ensuring that humans in space do not contaminate planets and moons, as well as ensuring that alien matter does not infect Earth. The pay is a six-figure salary: as much as \$187,000 (£141,000) a year plus benefits.
The job post reads: "Planetary protection is concerned with the avoidance of organic-constituent and biological contamination in human and robotic space exploration. Nasa maintains policies for planetary protection, applicable to all space flight missions that may intentionally or unintentionally carry Earth organisms and organic constituents to the planets or other solar system bodies, and any mission employing spacecraft, which are intended to return to Earth and its biosphere with samples from extraterrestrial targets of exploration."
The three-year position -- with a chance to extend it to five years -- was created after the US signed the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, vowing to "pursue studies of outer space ... and conduct exploration of them so as to avoid their harmful contamination and also adverse changes in the environment of the Earth resulting from the introduction of extraterrestrial matter".
There is only one other full-time role like it in the world at the European Space Agency, says Catharine Conley, Nasa's only planetary protection officer since 2014 (according to Business Insider). She is relocating to the agency's Office of Safety and Mission Assurance.
Under the international 1967 treaty, she explained that any space mission must have less than a one in 10,000 chance of contaminating an alien world, including making sure a robot or probe that is travelling past or photographing a planet does

UK 'Three Musketeers' terror cell jailed for life

AFP, London
Members of a British terror cell who called themselves the "Three Musketeers" received life sentences yesterday for plotting an attack against police and military targets.
The gang, from the West Midlands in central England, was arrested last August after intelligence operatives went to bug one of the member's cars, only to find a pipe bomb and meat cleaver hidden in the boot.
not cause harm. "It's a moderate level," Ms Conley said. "It's not extremely careful, but it's not extremely lax."
Similarly, the new employee would work to protect Earth from potential contamination by planets like Mars, which scientists say may have once been covered in water and supported life -- and there may be chance of life there now.
The new hire will likely be part of the upcoming Nasa expedition to Europa, a moon of Jupiter. The \$2.7bn (just over £2bn) Europa Clipper mission, approved by Congress, plans to map the moon's surface and analyse whether it could be habitable. The probe could crash land, however, which is a circumstance the planetary protection officer should prepare for.
Candidates will be required to travel frequently -- but like any job, there will be a significant amount of emails, proposals and other reading. Candidates must have at least one year's experience as a top-level civilian government employee, and an advanced degree in physical science, engineering or mathematics. They must also have "advanced knowledge" of planetary protection.
The position also requires "demonstrated skills in diplomacy that resulted in win-win solutions during extremely difficult and complex multilateral discussions". The new hire will also receive "secret" security clearance. Only US citizens and US nationals can apply.

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"China will take all necessary measures to safeguard its legitimate and lawful rights and interests," the Foreign Ministry said.
The two sides' troops are confronting each other close to a valley controlled by China that separates India from its close ally, Bhutan, and gives China access to the so-called Chicken's Neck, a thin strip of land connecting India and its remote northeastern regions.
Responding, India reiterated an earlier line that work by a Chinese road crew in the sensitive frontier area would have changed the status quo and urging "utmost restraint" by all sides.
"India considers that peace and tranquillity in the India-China border areas is an important pre-requisite for smooth development of our bilateral relations with China," New Delhi's foreign ministry said in a statement on Wednesday evening.
Most previous standoffs, such as one in 2014 just ahead of a rare trip to India for Xi, were resolved with both sides withdrawing their forces. There has been no shooting since a brief border war in 1962.
Talks are happening behind the scenes, but with little apparent progress. Meantime, Chinese and India media have been taking a strident approach, with a Chinese state-run newspaper last week saying China could use force.
An Indian magazine's front cover last month showing a map of China shorn of Tibet and self-ruled Taiwan also ignited public anger on Chinese social media with thousands of angry posts.
"The problem is the media on both sides are whipping things up. This makes it hard for China or India to back down," said a Beijing-based source who is familiar with the discussions between the two sides.
The Indian government has asked political parties to refrain from politicising the issue and allow diplomacy

JU to take steps

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Two other teachers -- Prof Naseem Akhter Hossain of government and politics and Prof Shamima Sultana of Bangla -- expressed solidarity with anthropology teacher Prof Sayeed Ferdous, who began the sit-in around 12:00noon.
On July 17, four agitating students ended their hunger strike after the university authorities assured them of withdrawing the case filed by JU Registrar Abu Bakr Siddique.
On May 26, two JU students were killed as a bus hit a human hauler carrying them on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar's C&B bus stand area.
Agitating students then blocked the highway, demanding speed breakers there. But police fired rubber bullets and teargas canisters to disperse them. At least 10 people, including students, a JU official and two journalists, were injured.
Later, they besieged the VC's house. During the demonstration, 42 JU students were held and later shown arrested in the vandalism case.

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০১ আগষ্ট, ২০১৭

পুরাতন গাড়ি পুন: নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১। বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষ হতে একেজো ঘোষিত ০১ (এক)টি গাড়ি "যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে" ভিত্তিতে নিলামে বিক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিক, অগ্রহী ক্রেতাদের নিকট হতে মুখ বন্ধ খাম (Sealed Quotation) এর মাধ্যমে সিডিউলে বর্ণিত গাড়ির বিপরীতে নিলাম দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। অগ্রহী ক্রেতাগণ উল্লিখিত গাড়ি অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (সকাল-১০.০০ হইতে বেলা-২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত) সহকারী পরিচালক (অটো), বাসেক, ঢাকা এর সহায়তায় পরিদর্শন করতে পারবেন।

গাড়ির বিবরণ	গাড়ি বর্তমানে যে স্থানে রক্ষিত আছে
ঢাকা মেট্রো-৩-১১-৬০৫৫, ডাবল কেবিন পিক-আপ	বাসেক, সেতু ভবন, বনানী, ঢাকা।
২। নিলামের নাম	বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষের পুরাতন গাড়ি নিলাম।
৩। নিলাম দরপত্র প্রাপ্তির কার্যালয়	অর্থ ও হিসাব শাখা, ৪র্থ তলা, বাসেক, সেতু ভবন, বনানী, ঢাকা।
৪। নিলাম দরপত্র গ্রহণকারীর কার্যালয়	(১) অতিরিক্ত পরিচালক (প্রশাসন), বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষ, সেতু ভবন (৩য় তলা), বনানী, ঢাকা।
৫। নিলাম দরপত্র বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৬/০৮/২০১৭খ্রিঃ বিকাল- ৪.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
৬। নিলাম দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	১৭/০৮/২০১৭খ্রিঃ, রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার, দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
৭। নিলাম দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	১৭/০৮/২০১৭খ্রিঃ, রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার, দুপুর ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা। অতিরিক্ত পরিচালক (প্রঃ) এর কার্যালয়, বাসেক, সেতু ভবন, বনানী, ঢাকা।
৮। নিলাম দরপত্রের মূল্য	প্রতিটি গাড়ি ১০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা যা অফেরতযোগ্য।
৯। জামানতের টাকা	দরপত্রের সাথে উক্ত দরের ১৫% পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট (MICR) এর মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশের যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক হতে বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষ, সেতু ভবন, বনানী, ঢাকা এর অনুকূলে প্রদান করতে হবে (ব্যাংক গ্যারান্টি গ্রহণযোগ্য নহে)।
১০। অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী	নিলাম সংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকিবে।

মীর নাহিদ আহসান
উপ-পরিচালক (