



Left, leaders of Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum at a rally on Dhaka Bar Association premises yesterday afternoon protest the remarks of Law Commission Chairman Justice ABM Khairul Haque, also a former chief justice, on the 16th constitutional amendment verdict. Earlier, leaders of Awami Ainjibi Parishad, right, held another rally on the same premises protesting the derogatory remarks about Bangabandhu in the judgment.



PHOTOS: STAR

SHOP ALLOCATION Ex-Dhaka mayor Khoka indicted in graft case

A Dhaka court yesterday framed charges against former Dhaka city mayor and BNP leader Sadeque Hossain Khoka and six others in a case filed over irregularities in allocating shops to individuals at Dhaka Trade Centre, Gulistan. The other accused are former estate officers Mohsin Uddin Moral and Sahabuddin Sabu, former land official Mohammad Ali; and surveyors Mohammad Bachchu Mia, Faroque Hossain and Motalab Hossain. Of them, Mohsin, Ali and Bachchu are now on bail while Khoka and three others absconding. All the three, now on bail, pleaded not guilty and demanded justice after Judge Md Akhtaruzzaman of the Special Judge Court-5 read out the charges to them. The court fixed September 21 for starting the trial of the case. On August 24 of 2014, the Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station. According to the prosecution, the accused allocated many of the city corporation market's shops illegally, and in collusion with each other, for a monthly rent of Tk 15 per square feet. To conceal irregularities, they deliberately removed the main allotment documents that were supposed to be kept at the estate department, the case statement said. Earlier on October 20 of 2015, Khoka was given 13 years' imprisonment for amassing wealth illegally and concealing wealth statement to the ACC.

The dark side of JU

However, the university authorities did not take any action against Rasel or Sajib. In October same year, a stash of drug paraphernalia was recovered from room 148 of Shaheed Salam Barkat Hall. The situation at the other three male dormitories -- Moulana Bhasani Hall, Al Beruni Hall and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall -- is not any better. Although no sensational incident came to light yet in the six female dormitories, drug abuse in those facilities are also widespread, alleged several students wishing to remain unnamed. When the university is closed for vacation the situation turns for the worst as the deserted campus goes under the grip of the drug peddlers, complained several staff members living on campus. While speaking with The Daily Star regarding the issue, Jewel Rana, president of JU BCL, said the organisation has a zero tolerance policy against drug abuse. "We'll take stern action if any of our leader or activist is found to be involved in any drug offence." After the situation of drug on the campus was brought up to Economics department's Prof Anu Muhammad, he said, "These hideous acts are not the works of a single man or group. Rather, a powerful cartel controls the trade under the blessing of the administration and ruling parties." In his view, this issue has to be addressed strongly as "addicts and traders of drug usually get involved in antisocial and subversive activities." Several other teachers and university officials this correspondent spoke with echoed Prof Anu's sentiment. Sudipto Shaheen, chief security officer of JU, said they were aware of the situation. They increased vigilance and were conducting routine drives against drug peddlers and addicts. Assistant proctor of JU, Dr Sharif Hossain, said "We increased our monitoring to curb abuse and trade of drugs on the campus." When contacted, JU Pro-VC Prof Abul Hossain said, "We apply zero tolerance for drug abuse [on the campus]." SEE PAGE 4 COL 7



A place littered with drug paraphernalia on JU campus recently.

PHOTO: MD ASADUZ ZAMAN

Muktamoni feels better now

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Muktamoni is happy that her abnormally swelled right arm has come down to half its size after doctors removed a three-kilogramme tumour from it. "I am feeling well..." Muktamoni's father Ibrahim quoted her as saying. On Saturday, Muktamoni underwent a successful surgery at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), a week after doctors found a tumour in an artery of her arm. The 12-year-old girl, who is in the intensive care unit of DMCH, had soup, orange, lemon juice and egg and tea yesterday, Ibrahim said. There is no restriction over her meal, Samanta Lal Sen, coordinator of Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit at DMCH, told The Daily Star. "She is doing great." Ibrahim said Muktamoni also wants to visit Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and thank her personally for the all-out support. It is expected that Muktamoni will stay in the hospital for six more months and undergo further surgery. She was admitted to the hospital on July 11. Muktamoni, hailing from Satkhira, has been afflicted by the disease mainly in her right arm, the condition leading to her arm swelling up like a beehive.



3 die as trailer flips over on 3-wheeler in Ctg

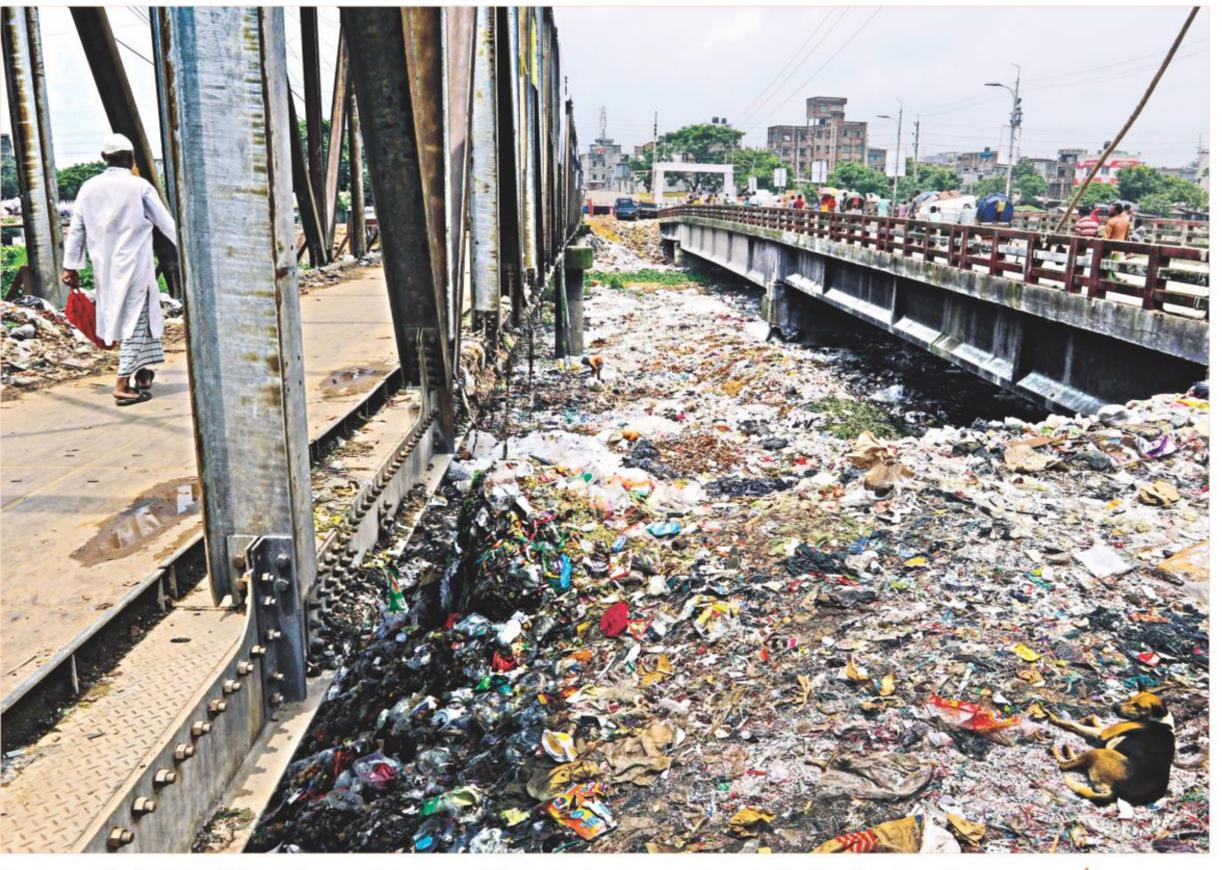
Two others killed in Gopalganj, Jessore CITY DESK Three people were killed and two others injured as a container carrying trailer flipped over a CNG-run auto-rickshaw on Port Connecting Road near Nimtala in Chittagong city yesterday. The deceased are auto-rickshaw driver Jasim Sikhder, 38, of Barguna, its passengers Mosharaf Hossain Musa, 42, of Abdullahpur in Dhaka and Wazed Ali Babul, 60, of Malibagh in Dhaka. Two of them died on the spot while another was pronounced dead at Chittagong Medical College Hospital, said police. As the road was dilapidated, the trailer's driver might have lost his control over the steering and fell on the auto-rickshaw, said Officer-in-charge of Bandar Police Station Moinul Islam. After the incident, workers of the Chittagong City Corporation were seen filling potholes on the road with bricks and brick chips. The CCC officials who were supervising the work, however, did not want to talk with the media. In Gopalganj Sadar, a six-year-old boy was killed and three people were injured as a truck hit them on Gopalganj-Takerhat road in Ulpur village on Saturday afternoon. The deceased Nayem Islam, son of Din Islam of the village, was a class-two student of Khatigor Government Primary School. He died on the spot. Witnesses said the accident occurred as the driver of the truck lost control over the steering. In Jessore, a man was killed and 15 others were injured as a bus carrying them hit a tree beside Jessore-Benapole Highway after the driver lost control over the steering in Beneali area of Jhikargachha upazila yesterday. The deceased is Raju, 20 of Shimulia village under the upazila. SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

Legalise beer to reduce drug usage

Opines CMP boss STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) Commissioner Iqbal Bahar yesterday at a meeting opined that if sale of beer is made legal, drug users might become more interested in it rather than the deadly substances. "The supply of contraband drugs would continue as long as there would be a demand for those. Beer is already being produced in the country. If it [selling of beer] is made open, at least several lakh drug addicts would become interested in it leaving drugs," he said. The commissioner made the comment while addressing a divisional review meeting on law and order situation in Chittagong's five districts in light of the current state of Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar. The meeting was held at Chittagong Circuit House. The CMP boss said uprooting drugs is not an "easy job". It is now a huge business and many are engaged in it.



Outgoing Canadian High Commissioner Benoit-Pierre Laramée pays a farewell call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office in the capital yesterday. PHOTO: PID



The area under the Lohar Bridge in Kamrangirchar area of Dhaka has become a garbage destination. People continue to dump waste there in piles. A collective effort is needed to prevent this mindless act. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

16TH AMENDMENT SC lawyer serves notice on Justice Khairul over remarks on SC verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT A Supreme Court lawyer yesterday sent a legal notice to Law Commission Chairman Justice ABM Khairul Haque, requesting him to withdraw his comments about the Supreme Court judgment in the case on the 16th amendment to the constitution. The lawyer, in his notice, also requested Justice Khairul to apologise to the people for making the comments within 24 hours. Advocate BM Sultan Mahmud issued the notice saying that he will take legal action against Justice Khairul, also a former chief justice, if he does not withdraw his comments and apologise. Advocate Sultan in the notice said that Justice Khairul on Wednesday at a press briefing made derogatory and pre-conceived comments which are out of judicial norms and values. SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

স্মরণ আজ ১৪ই আগস্ট, সিরামিক তৈজসপত্র শিল্পের জনক - পিপলস্ সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লিমিটেড ও স্ট্যান্ডার্ড সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লিমিটেড এর প্রতিষ্ঠাতা চেয়ারম্যান, ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক এবং বাংলাদেশ সিরামিক ওয়্যারস্ ম্যানুফেকচারার্স এসোসিয়েশনের প্রতিষ্ঠাতা সভাপতি মরহুম আলহাজ্জ আনসার উদ্দিন আহমেদ-এর ১২তম মৃত্যু বার্ষিকী। তাঁকে অপার শ্রদ্ধার সাথে স্মরণ করে তাঁর বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনা ও সকলের দোয়া প্রার্থনা করছি। মরহমের পরিবারবর্গ ও শুভাকাঙ্ক্ষী