

# BARC gets first woman chairperson

STAR REPORT



Dr Bhagya Rani Banik joined Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) yesterday as the executive chairperson.

She took the charge of the country's apex agro-research body as the first female head of the council in its over four-decade history.

Earlier, she had served Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) since June 2016 as the institution's first-ever woman director general.

Dr Banik made significant contributions towards the development of improved crop varieties and production technology of rice, maize, millet, barley and spices. She has 37 scientific publications in different journals at home and abroad.

Born on December 31, 1958 in Comilla, she joined Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) on September 5, 1983 as a scientific officer and was promoted to the position

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This is the situation of a major thoroughfare at the tannery estate in Savar, on the outskirts of the capital. On the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, lakhs of cattle will be sacrificed and their rawhides are supposed to end up here for primary processing. This vast estate was built for facilitating the leather industry but its present condition suggests otherwise. The photo was taken on Wednesday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

# One more BCL man arrested at CU over looting truck

CU CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested one more activist of Chittagong University unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League on the CU campus on Wednesday night in a robbery case.

Nasir Uddin Mishu, the BCL man and a fourth year student of Institute of Education and Research of the university, was roaming the campus, said Belal Mohammad Jahangir, officer-in-charge of Hathazari Police Station.

Reazul, a trucker, filed the case with the police station on April 21.

According to the case statement, a gang of miscreants halted his Chittagong-bound truck coming from Khagrachhari on April 19.

They later confined the driver and his helper to a room of a CU dormitory. They released them the next day after selling most of the looted goods, it added.

Earlier, three BCL men were arrested in the case. Of them, one person is on bail now.

# Tight security for Eid

BSS, Dhaka

Law enforcers have taken tight security measures across the country ahead of Eid-ul-Azha to be celebrated tomorrow.

"We have taken all possible measures to ensure security for peaceful celebration of the Eid," said Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque.

The law enforcers have planned special security measures at the Eidgahs, especially in the divisional cities of Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Barisal, Khulna, Rajshahi and Rangpur.

Against the backdrop of the last year's militant attack, the government has taken special security measures at the country's largest Eidgah in Sholakia of Kishoreganj.

Law enforcers both in uniform and plain clothes are active at different strategic points in the cities, particularly at bus terminals, railway stations, river-ports and launch and ferry ghats.

They are also monitoring buses, launches, trains, auto-rickshaws, cars, minibuses and other vehicles at all strategic intersections in the big cities and its adjoining districts to prevent crimes.

Rab is monitoring the situation on highways for safe and sound journey of homebound people.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police has taken area-wise security measures with deployment of additional forces.

The security measures were taken two days before Eid, which will remain effective until the capital returns to normalcy after the festival.

# Rain likely on Eid day

UNB, Dhaka

Moderate to heavy rain is likely to occur at different places across the country on the day of Eid-ul-Azha on Saturday.

Ruhul Kuddus, a meteorologist at the Bangladesh Meteorological Department, said the capital might experience light to moderate rain in the morning and heavy rain in the afternoon on the Eid day.

Many places in Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions may see heavy to very heavy rainfall, he said. Light to moderate falls might occur at few places in Rangpur, Dhaka, Mymensingh and Rajshahi divisions.

Kuddus said the Met office recorded 13mm of rainfall in the capital yesterday.

# President, PM greet nation

UNB, Dhaka

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday greeted the people of the country as well as Muslims across the world on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

In separate messages, they prayed for continued peace, progress and prosperity of the country and the Muslim Ummah.

Termining Bangladesh an example of communal harmony, the president in his message urged all to stay alert so that no one can create chaos by misinterpreting religion.

The premier in her message said every year Muslims establish the message of compassion and equality by distributing meat of sacrificed animals among the poor and relatives.

"Eid teaches us about peace, compassion, sacrifice and friendship," she said. She urged all to create a peaceful Bangladesh through participating in welfare activities.

# Khaleda greets Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday sent an Eid greeting card to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

A three-member BNP delegation, led by its Assistant Office Secretary Taiful Islam Tipu, handed over the card to Awami League's former assistant secretary Sikandar Ali at the AL president's Dhanmondi office in the capital.

Hasina on Wednesday sent an Eid greeting card to Khaleda.

Meanwhile, Khaleda in a statement yesterday greeted Muslims in the country and around the globe on the occasion.

# Butchers eye brisk business

UNB, Dhaka

This is butchers' time.

During the three days of Eid-ul-Azha, this breed of professionals is poised to make more money than any other ancillary businesses that benefit from a seasonal boost.

According to the meat traders in Dhaka, around 50,000 skilled, semi-skilled and seasonal butchers are getting ready to do a brisk business by skinning sacrificial animals and processing their meats during the three days of the festival.

As dressing cattle and preparing their meats for cooking is not an easy job, most people who sacrifice animals on this occasion, look for butchers to do it fast and properly, creating a scope for them to charge a higher amount of money.

Talking to the news agency, skilled butchers said they would be able to earn more than Tk 50,000 on the occasion, and semiskilled and seasonal ones Tk

10,000 to Tk 20,000, as they were getting booked for preparing 5-8 cattle each during the three days.

They also said they would charge 15-20 percent of the prices of the sacrificial animals based on their sizes or Tk 200 to 150 per thousand of the prices, and Tk 800-1500 for preparing a slaughtered goat. However, seasonal butchers charge even below 10 percent.

Livestock department spokesman Dr Abdul Hailm said nearly five lakh cattle including cows, buffalo, goats and sheep were supposed to be slaughtered during the Eid in the capital this year.

Robiul Alam, secretary general of Bangladesh Meat Merchant Association, said there were around 7,000-8,000 skilled and trained butchers in the two cities while around 5,000 half-trained butchers and 2,000-3,000 beginners. Besides, there are around 35,000 low-paid workers like night guards, rickshaw-pullers, and day labourers who will serve as butchers.

# Nurjahan's anniversary of death today

CITY DESK



Today is the 14th death anniversary of Nurjahan Murshid, a renowned leader of

women renaissance of Bengal and one of the major organisers of the Liberation War.

On the occasion, Nurjahan's family members, Nurjahan Smrity Parishad and Broti will place wreaths at her grave in Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard in Mirpur of Dhaka.

Besides, prayers will be offered and food will be distributed among destitute children on the day, says a press release.

Born on May 19, 1924, in Taranagar of Murshidabad district, Nurjahan completed her master's programme from Calcutta University.

Nurjahan was the first state minister for health and social welfare of independent Bangladesh.

Nurjahan and her husband Khan Sarwar Murshid made significant contributions to the country's Liberation War.

# Khurshid Alam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the eighth death anniversary of fiction writer and former additional secretary Mohammad Khurshid Alam.

On the occasion, foods will be distributed among the poor people today. All have been requested to pray for the departed soul. He wrote 19 books.

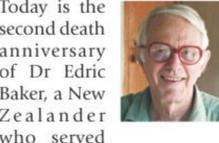


Clockwise from top, Risks do not stop people from travelling home on the rooftop of a packed train -- their eager wait to join family members and relatives to share Eid joy makes them forget the hassles and dangers of their journey. The photo was taken at Chittagong railway station yesterday. The same is true for the people crossing the Padma in a ferry starting off from the Paturia ghat in Manikganj. With a huge rush of people and a swelling river increasing the travel time of ferries, a 3km tailback of buses with homebound passengers is created before the ghat.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS RASHED SHUMON

# Daktar Bhai's anniversary of death today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail



Today is the second death anniversary of Dr Edric Baker, a New Zealander who served

poor patients in Tangail for three decades.

To do so, the lifelong bachelor, locally known as "Daktar Bhai" (doctor brother), established Kailakuri Health Care Centre in 1996, which was financed by donors.

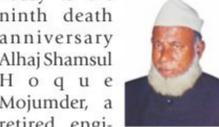
In 2015, the physician died at the age of 75.

Locals and the staff of the healthcare centre will place wreaths at his grave in Kailakuri village of Madhupur upazila in the morning after special prayers.

Baker came to Bangladesh in 1979 and joined a Christian mission hospital in Meherpur. Two years later, he moved to Kumudini Hospital in Mirzapur. He joined a clinic run by the Church of Bangladesh at Thanarbaid of Madhupur upazila in 1983.

# Shamsul Hoque

CITY DESK



Today is the ninth death anniversary of Alhaj Shamsul Hoque Mojumder, a retired engineer of PWD and a social worker.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held after the Juma prayers at Amjad Mojumder Bari Jame Mosque, Addadar Bari Jame Mosque, Al-Haj Shamsul Haque Mojumder Jame Mosque and Ferdous Nagar Jame Mosque in Amjadhat union of Fulgazi upzila in Feni.