



PHOTO: KHALID BIN MAZLUK

Counting his last days, Juborga (prince) the lion nowadays only lays on the floor inside his shoddy cage at Comilla zoo. Old age complications have taken a hold on the majestic animal that turned 17 -- the average lifespan of such big cats in captivity. A team of veterinary doctors treated Juborga several months back, but he gradually lost appetite for cattle meat. He barely eats a fowl in a day or two, said Sanjoy Kumar Bhownik, chief executive of Comilla District Council. With an animal dying and a handful more inside, the Comilla zoo itself is also in a deplorable state. One might wonder how a visitor would learn to love animals if a zoo does not ensure proper environment for its residents or place a dying animal on display.

JSC, JDC exams begin today

BSS, Dhaka
Junior School Certificate (JSC) and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) examinations begin today across the country with the participation of 24,68,820 examinees. "As many as 24,68,820 students from 28,621 educational institutions will appear in the public examinations today. Of them, 11,44,778 are male and 13, 24,042 are female," Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said at a press briefing at the conference room of the ministry yesterday. The number of examinees attending the JSC and JDC examinations has increased by 56,045 this year as 24,17,725 candidates took part in the examinations in 2016. The exams will end on 18 November, according to the examination schedule. Since the introduction of JSC and JDC examinations in 2010, the number of examinees has been continuously increasing -- a positive sign in curbing dropouts at the secondary level, the education minister said. The terminal examinations system at the primary, JSC and JDC examinations significantly contributed to reduce the dropout rate, he also observed.

SC verdict on Khalaf murder today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Supreme Court will deliver its verdict today on the appeals filed by the government and the accused in sensational Saudi embassy official Khalaf Al Ali murder case. The SC set the date after concluding hearing on the appeals. On November 18, 2013, the High Court, in a major verdict, acquitted one of the five condemned convicts, awarded life term to three others and upheld the death sentence of one in the case. An official of the Saudi embassy in Dhaka was shot dead some 30 yards off his home in the city's Gulshan area on March 06, 2012.

RECRUITMENT ANOMALIES BRUR ex-VC, deputy registrar indicted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur
A Rangpur court yesterday framed charges against former vice-chancellor and deputy registrar of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur (BRUR) in a corruption case filed by Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in 2013. The indicted persons are former VC Abdul Jalil Miah and Deputy Registrar Shahjahan Ali. The court acquitted three other accused BRUR officials -- Khandakar Golam Firoz, assistant deputy director; Morshead Alam Rony, assistant registrar; and Ashraful Islam, assistant director (finance). After hearing arguments from the prosecution and defence counsels, the Special Judge's Court of Noreh Chandra Sarkar framed the charges against the duo and fixed the next hearing date of the case on January 23 next year, said Bulu Mia, an inspector of ACC in Rangpur. According to the case statement, the five BRUR officials, including the former VC, had appointed 349 officials in exchange for money without approval of the University Grants Commission in 2013. Following that, Abdul Karim, deputy director (DD) of ACC in Rangpur, filed the case with Rangpur Sadar Police Station accusing the five. After investigation, Mozahar Alit Sarkar, another DD of the anti-graft body and also investigation officer of the case, filed the charge sheet on March 19 this year.

SCBA demands guideline to appoint SC judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) yesterday demanded that the government formulate a specific guideline in line with the constitution for recruitment of judges to both the Appellate and High Court divisions of the Supreme Court. There is no alternative to formulation of the guideline to ensure transparency and neutrality in appointment of the SC judges, said SCBA President Advocate Zainul Abedin at a press conference organised by the SCBA in its auditorium. He said it is very indispensable to appoint meritorious, honest, competent and principled persons as SC judges in order to ensure independence of the judiciary and to establish the rule of law, but the government is not appointing judges in line with the constitutional and SC directives.

SNAPS & snippets

2 'trafficking gang members' held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Rab arrested two alleged members of a human trafficking gang in the capital and Kushtia on Monday. The arrestees are Mosharrif Hossain Khalashi, 55, of Madaripur, and Delwar Hossain Jasim, 50, of Bhola. Rab said they had come to know about the gang from two victims among the arrestees trafficked to Libya where an armed group held them captive near Tripoli airport. Soon, another armed group claimed the possession of the victims that resulted in a gun battle, leaving the duo injured. The duo finally came back home in August with the help of Bangladeshi Embassy in Libya and International Organization for Migration (IOM).



Dr Nafees Meah, the International Rice Research Institute's (IRRI) regional representative for South Asia, presents IRRI Strategic Plan 2017-2025 to Agriculture Minister Mstia Chowdhury at a programme in the capital yesterday. PHOTO: IRRI

Biman engineer gets bail in PM flight glitch case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The High Court yesterday granted bail to Bangladesh Biman's engineer Md Nazmul Haque in a case filed for sabotage leading to the emergency landing of a flight carrying Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on her way to Budapest in last November. The court, however, restricted Nazmul to leave the country and ordered him to surrender his passport to the chief metropolitan magistrate's court in Dhaka.



Left, The Kumudini family and ghosthunters at a special party at the village home of philanthropist Ranadapur Shaha, popularly known as RP Shaha, at Mirzapur upazila in Tangai yesterday, marking his 121st birth anniversary. Right, Students of Bharateswari Homes stand in silence on the school premises as a mark of respect. PHOTO: STAR

Faculty of Animal Science & Veterinary Medicine Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

Invitation for Tender (IFT) table with columns for Ministry/Division, Agency & procuring entity name, Procurement method, and other details.

Office of the Chief Engineer

Invitation for Online Re-Tender (Open Tender) table with columns for Name of work, Tender closing date & time, and other details.

Advertisement for 'ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়' (Bankers Selection Committee Secretariat) with details on exam dates, syllabus, and contact information.

Advertisement for 'গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার' (Government of Bangladesh) regarding the 'জাতীয় ক্রীড়া পুরস্কার ২০১৭' (National Sports Award 2017) and 'এর বিজ্ঞপ্তি' (Notice).

Advertisement for 'INTERNATIONAL RE:TENDER NOTICE' by National Tubes Ltd. for supplying 125 MT Zinc Ingot from the Manufacturer / Principal Supplier through their authorized local agent in Bangladesh on CFR Chittagong basis.

Advertisement for 'NATIONAL TUBES LIMITED' (An Example of Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation) for supplying 125 MT Zinc Ingot from the Manufacturer / Principal Supplier through their authorized local agent in Bangladesh on CFR Chittagong basis.