

NEWS IN brief

NSU student drowns in pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A student of North South University (NSU) drowned in the pond of Galachipa Upazila Parishad complex in Patuakhali yesterday. Nur Ali Sejan, 25, son of Ansar Ali of the capital's Basundhara residential area, was a final-year computer science and technology student. Police said Sejan drowned while he was bathing in the pond along with his friends. Hearing them shouting, locals pulled out Sejan and took him to Galachipa upazila health complex where doctors declared him dead. Police sent the body to Patuakhali general hospital morgue for autopsy. Sejan came to visit one of his friends' house in Galachipa.

Nat'l judicial conference Dec 2

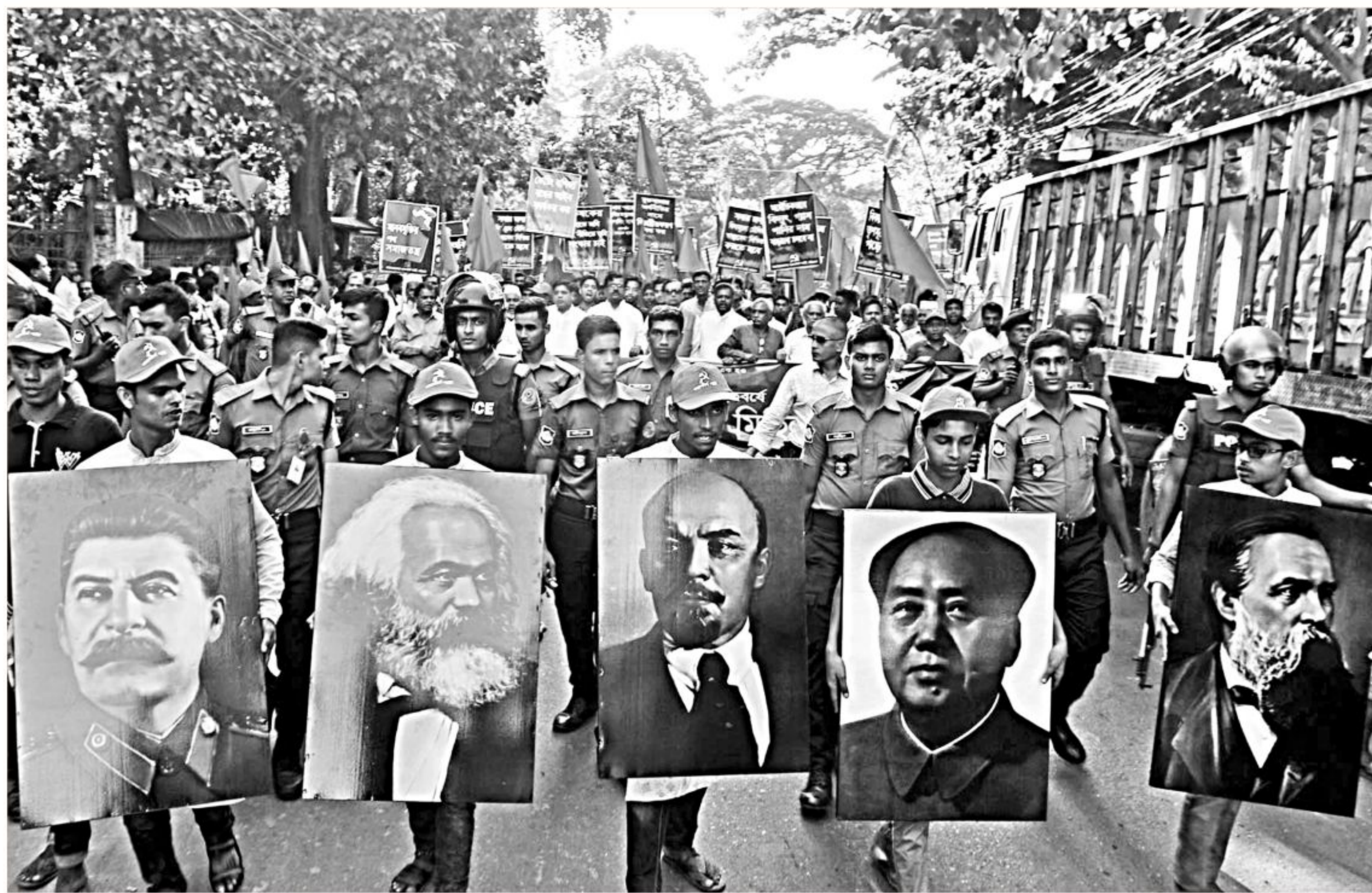
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The daylong National Judicial Conference-2017 will be held on December 2 for discussing all the relevant issues regarding the judiciary including backlog of cases, digitisation and effective court administration, and case management. The Supreme Court will arrange the function for the judges of all tiers, SC sources said. President Md Abdul Hamid is expected to inaugurate the conference at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital. Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, who is now discharging the responsibilities of the chief justice, will preside over the inauguration programme where Law Minister Anisul Huq and Law Secretary ASSM Zahirul Haque, among others, will speak.

MN Larma's death anniversary observed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

The 34th death anniversary of Manabendra Narayan Larma, founder president of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS), was observed in Bandarban yesterday. On the occasion, a memorial meeting was held at PCJSS office in the town's Madhyam Para. At the meeting, the PCJSS leaders have reiterated their demand for full implementation of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Accord. They also demanded withdrawal of "false and fabricated" cases filed against the leaders and members of PCJSS. Earlier, leaders and activists of PCJSS, Pahari Chhatra Parishad and Mahila Samity took part in mourning processions in Bandarban. Manabendra Narayan Larma, also known as MN Larma, first initiated a unified indigenous peoples' movement in the CHT to realise their demands. MN Larma, also the elder brother of present PCJSS President Santu Larma, was assassinated on November 10 in 1983.



Heavily guarded by police, the Workers' Party leaders and activists bring out a "red flag" procession in Chittagong city's Shaheed Minar area yesterday, celebrating the centenary of the October Revolution, which inaugurated the Soviet regime. The party held similar programmes in the capital with the slogan, "Socialism, not capitalism, is the path of human salvation".

PHOTO: STAR

Cameroon 'conmen swindle banker'

Rab claims it arrested three of gang

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday claimed to have arrested three Cameroon nationals in the capital's Uttara and Bashundhara, who allegedly tricked out Tk 2.5 crore from a banker promising him with a massive investment through his bank. Of the arrestees, Mbida Ekani Hermann Martin and Amelie Mawabo had valid documents while Kuate Fotso Theodore Ledoexo could not show any papers that validate his stay in the country, Rab said. On receiving allegation from Zia Uddin, the manager of the private bank in Gulshan, Rab arrested the three along with Tk 62 lakh and 200 Yaba tablets, Rab's legal and media wing director Mufti Mahmud

Khan told the press at its media centre in the city. Rab said the gang took only one month to trick out 250,000 Euros, equivalent to Tk 2.5 crore. The Rab official said a man identifying himself as Rozers, a German national, talked to Zia over the phone and intended to invest in the country through his bank. Days later, one Gustavo Frainkey, claiming to be the representative of Rozers, communicated with Zia and developed relationship with him gradually. Gustavo also took \$4,000 from him to manage his expense in the country, said Mufti Mahmud. On October 31, Gustavo along with his aides including Fotso went to Zia's Mohammadpur residence to take

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Brac forum discusses quality education

3-day programme concludes today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Speakers at a programme yesterday discussed ways to ensure quality education in the resource-constrained developing countries. The discussion themed "scaling quality education", which was part of a three-day Frugal Innovation Forum programme, was held at Brac Centre for Development and Management in Savar. Bangla daily Prothom Alo is its media partner. Asif Saleh, senior director of strategy, communications and empowerment for Brac and Brac International, said the forum would like to facilitate a platform for leaders, education experts and development practitioners from the global south to connect and explore ways of scaling quality education. Advocate Mostafizur Rahman, minister for primary and mass education, inaugurated the second-day session yesterday, while Dr Md Abu Hena Mostofa Kamal, director general of Directorate of Primary Education, was present as a guest.

PADMAVATI'S RELEASE

Indian SC refuses to intervene in censor board's job

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India's top court yesterday rejected a petition seeking a stay on the release of Sanjay Leela Bhansali-directed Bollywood film "Padmavati", saying that it cannot take over the duties of the Censor Board. Dismissing the petition, the Supreme Court said that the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) considers all aspects before granting certificate to any film and, therefore, the court should not intervene in the Censor Board's jurisdiction. It was hearing the petition, filed by Siddharajsinh M Chudasama and 11 others, which also sought setting up of a committee of eminent historians to check the veracity of the Bhansali-directed film's script to prevent any inaccuracy in the portrayal of Rani Padmavati. The petitioners also sought a stay on the film's release till the time the alleged historical inaccuracies in the movie are corrected by the producer and the director.

"Padmavati" is based on the legend of Rani Padmini, a Hindu Rajput queen, mentioned in Padmavat, an Avadhi poem written by Sufi poet Malik Muhammad Jayasi in 1540. The film, which has Deepika Padukone in the title role as Rani Padmavati, Shahid Kapoor as Maharawal Ratan Singh and Ranveer Singh as Sultan Alauddin Khilji, is slated to release on December 1. The movie has run into controversy over its plot with some right wing Hindu outfits calling it the "wrong" portrayal of the Rajput queen.

Cars, motorcycles 'biggest offenders'

Says DoE survey on sound pollution in major cities

UNB, Dhaka

Motorcycles and private cars are the main sources of noise pollution in the country's major cities, followed by public buses, says a new survey of the Department of Environment (DoE). The survey shows that public buses contribute to relatively less noise than the other two modes of transport, which indicates that introduction of public transportation can check the sound pollution in these cities. The survey, conducted in eight cities earlier this year, reveals that motorbikes and cars, on an average, generate 95 decibel (dB) noise each in the capital while buses contribute to about 44dB. In Chittagong, motorcycles and private cars generate 100 decibel (dB) sound each while public buses about 82dB. In Sylhet, both motorcycles and cars produced nearly 84dB noise and buses generate 40dB sound. The survey data shows that maximum 85dB of sound is generated from motorcycles in Khulna, followed by 77dB from private cars and 60dB from public buses. In Barisal, motorcycles generate about 100dB noise on an average while 76dB noise comes from private vehicles and 42dB from public buses. In Rangpur, motorcycles produce about 100dB noise while private vehicles 98dB and public buses about 66dB. Motorbikes con-

tribute to 80dB sound in Rajshahi while private cars 68dB and buses 46dB. In Mymensingh, the DoE data says, motorcycles and private cars contribute to 88dB of sound each while public buses about 66dB. According to Bangladesh Road Transport Authority, there were 19.86 lakh registered motorcycles in October last, while 3.27 lakh cars and 43,154 buses across the country. The number of the country's registered motorcycles increased to 19,85,376 in October 2017 from 7,59,257 in 2010. In Dhaka metropolitan area, there were some 4.84 lakh registered motorcycles in August, according to the BRTA statistics. The number of registered private cars is 2.55 lakh, while that of buses is 30,274 in the city. According to the Noise Pollution (Control) Rules 2006, the acceptable sound condition for Bangladesh is 50 decibel (dB) for daytime and 40dB for night in silent areas; 50dB for daytime and 45dB for night in residential areas; 60dB for the daytime and 50dB for night in mixed areas (residential, commercial and industrial localities); 70dB for daytime and 60dB for the night in commercial areas and 75dB for daytime and 70dB for the night in industrial areas. The World Health Organization says generally 60dB of sound can make a man deaf temporarily and 100dB of sound can cause complete deafness.

It's a farce

Says Quader about Khaleda's statement on 'forgiving Hasina'

STAR REPORT

A day after BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's statement on not "indulging in politics of vengeance and forgiving her arch rival Sheikh Hasina," Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday termed it "farical and ironical". "It's nothing but farical and ironical when the persons, who attempted to murder Sheikh Hasina on August 21, said this," Quader, also minister for road transport and bridges, told a rally in Jamalpur. At a Dhaka programme, AL Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif called upon Khaleda to prove her innocence in the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case. "Did Sheikh Hasina file the case against you [Khaleda]? Did the incumbent government file the case? The case was filed during the caretaker government. So, we can't take the responsibility of the case," he said. On Thursday, Khaleda said, "I clearly announced that I have personally forgiven her [Hasina], despite Sheikh Hasina's continuous indecent statements and vengeful behaviour against me and Shaheed Ziaur Rahman's family members. I will not indulge in politics of vengeance against her." She said this on her self-defence statement before a Dhaka court in the case. She also said the great national leaders like Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani and others were sent to jail following court verdicts but those who had convicted the innocent leaders were the real criminals. Quoting her statement, Hanif said the Pakistan government sent Bangabandhu to jail again and again in a false sedition case as he worked for the independence of Bangladesh. "It is pathetic to compare the case against Bangabandhu with the corruption case against you [Khaleda]. It can no way be accepted," he added. Hanif was speaking at a discussion organised by Bangladesh United Islamic Party at Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh.

Overcrowding

FROM PAGE 5 boarded the boats despite our warnings." He said he was accompanying other students in another boat. Meanwhile, the report suggested taking actions against the owners of the fishing enclosures. It also suggested that the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) should check fitness of the passenger boats. When asked, the DC said the administration already prepared a list of the owners of the fishing enclosures and is taking actions against them.

'Peddler' held with 50,000 Yaba pills

UNB, Dhaka

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested an alleged drug peddler along with some 50,000 Yaba tablets in Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong yesterday. The arrestee was identified as Harunur Rashid, 43, a resident of Laxmipur district. Sources at the Rab said based on secret information, an operational team of the elite force set up a check post at Uttar Bazar in Sitakunda municipality on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway around 11:30am. The Rab personnel challenged a Dhaka-bound covered van when the vehicle was crossing the check post. Sensing presence of the law enforcers, Harunur Rashid who was inside the van, tried to flee the scene. However, Rab men caught him. Searching the covered van, the law enforcers recovered the consignment of Yaba pills.

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Lost

I am S. M. Azad Rahman. I have lost my and my family Metlife Alico Life Insurance documents as follows: S. M. Azad Rahman - Policy # 180447 Riffat Jahan - Policy # 678373 Riffat Jahan - Policy # 445646 A general diary has been filed on 9/11/17 in Tejgaon Police Station # 440 D-438

Mohiuddin

FROM PAGE 3 "He [Mohiuddin] is trying to embarrass me," he said. Contacted, Amir Uddin said as per the university ordinance and constitutional rights, a teacher can get involved in a citizen movement after class hours. "I haven't missed any class because of my involvement in the movement." Contacted, CU VC Prof Iftekher Uddin Chowdhury said as per the CU ordinance, a teacher can be involved in a citizen or social movement after class hours.

Nation to celebrate

FROM PAGE 5 headed. The prime minister's principal secretary said cultural programmes and concerts will also be staged across the country. He said the speech will be broadcast in various languages so that world people could know about it. "We'll engage our missions abroad for this work," he said. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) on October 30 recognised Bangabandhu's historic March 7 speech as part of world's documentary heritage. According to the decision, the speech was included in the Memory of the World Register, a list of world's important documentary heritage maintained by the Unesco. The March 7 speech energised the entire nation and prepared the people for the 1971 liberation struggle. It also served as the ultimate source of inspiration for the countless freedom fighters who joined the Mukti Bahini.

Let's Build A Beautiful Tomorrow

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