



Bangla Academy Director General Prof Shamsuzzaman Khan, right, Syrian poet Ali Ahmad Said Esber, also known as Adonis, 3rd from right, Bangabandhu's grandson and Centre for Research and Information trustee Radwan Mujib Siddiq, 3rd from left, along with Dhaka Lit Fest Directors Sadaf Saaz, Ahsan Akbar and Kazi Anis Ahmed during the launching of first English iteration of graphic novel series "Mujib". The launching was held on the Bangla Academy premises during the inaugural day of The three-day Dhaka Literary Festival (DLF).

PHOTO: STAR

STALLED STUDENT UNION ELECTION Nahid blames public universities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday told parliament that the authorities of public universities were not interested in holding election to student unions.

The government insists on holding the elections, but it cannot force the university authorities because these institutions are totally autonomous and operate independently, he said.

Nahid came up with the remarks when several opposition bench lawmakers criticised the government for not taking measures to hold the student union elections of public universities for decades.

They also wanted to know why election to student unions like Dhaka University Central Student Union has been stalled after 1990.

Jatiya Party MP Pir Fazlur Rahman said the country was not getting meritorious and competent leaders at national level due to this.

Another JP lawmaker, Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu, said congenial atmosphere would prevail at public universities if the elections were held on a regular basis.

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No 'anti-independence people' in Victory Day events

Says home minister
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People "who were against the independence" of the country cannot be invited as guests in any programme marking Victory Day, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said yesterday.

The decision was taken at an inter-ministerial meeting on overall security arrangement regarding the celebration on December 16.

On that day, outdoor programmes after dusk and use of loudspeakers around the National Memorial in Savar will not be allowed, the minister said.

"Outdoor programmes after dusk can be held following permission."

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The seized materials that include bullets, electronic devices and explosives. Police arrested six suspected members of banned militant outfit "Neo JMB" from Naogaon and Chapainawabganj early yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

TRADE LICENCE FEE, HOLDING TAX DSCC launches online payment system

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To reduce sufferings of people, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) yesterday introduced a new system of paying the trade licence fee and holding tax through online.

DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon inaugurated the digital programme at Nagar Bhaban after handing over an e-trade licence to an owner of a travel agency.

Using login ID and password, a person can get the licence via online. He or she will be able to pay the fee using any kind of pay channels.

For holding tax, a person will also have to visit a DSCC web link and pay the money by providing necessary information, said a DSCC official.

There are 1.82 lakh trade licences and 1.65 lakh holdings in DSCC areas.

Responding to a question about increasing the holding tax, the mayor said they did not increase the tax, which was 12 percent earlier and is still the same.

Also, there is a scope of reducing 40 percent of the tax after a new assessment if anyone applies for it, he said.

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