

NEWS IN brief

Bangladeshi, Indian armies complete counter-terrorism exercise

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Indian and Bangladeshi armies yesterday concluded a joint 13-day counter-terrorism exercise in the north eastern Indian state of Mizoram.

The training exercise, codenamed "Sampriti 2017", was held at the Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School at Vairengte in Mizoram. It was the seventh exercise in the Sampriti series, said a statement issued by the Indian Defence Ministry.

The exercise began on November 6. It was aimed at strengthening and broadening the aspects of interoperability and cooperation between the Indian and Bangladeshi armies, the statement said.

The final exercise was reviewed by Maj Gen Md Moshfequr Rahman of the Bangladesh army and Maj Gen MS Ghura of the Indian army.

HC clears way for trial of Abbas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for the lower court concerned to run the trial proceedings against former BNP housing and public works minister Mirza Abbas in a corruption case.

Yesterday, the HC summarily rejected a petition filed by Abbas seeking its order on the trial court for amending the charges [framed on June 16, 2008] and a stay on the trial proceedings. Mirza Abbas's lawyer Zainul Abedin said his client will move an appeal before the Supreme Court's Appellate Division against the HC order.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case on August 16, 2007, saying that Abbas and his wife amassed wealth worth over Tk 5.67 crore beyond known sources of income.

Death anniversary of Goutam Das today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Today is the 12th death anniversary of Goutam Das, the district correspondent of the daily Samakal in Faridpur.

Recitation from the holy Geeta, puja and memorial programmes will be held in Chondidasi village of Bhanga upazila of Faridpur and in the town. Faridpur Press Club also arranged memorial programmes.

Goutam was born in 1972 in the village. Son of Boloram Das and Soti Rani Das, Goutam was killed by some criminals at his office. He was 33 years old.

Ctg woman 'kills herself'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself in her Chittagong city residence in Mohora area on Wednesday night.

Her husband, Md Yunus, 27, a private car driver, was detained after the body of Roshni Akhter, 21, had been recovered, said police. Roshni's relatives alleged that she was murdered, said Sub-inspector Liton Roy of Chandgaon Police Station.



In the absence of adequate public transport more and more people these days are buying motorcycles. But with the number of vehicle rising, rules violations are on the rise too. In this photo taken on Wednesday in Jamal Khan area of Chittagong city, motorbikes and a rickshaw van are parked right below a sign prohibiting parking of such vehicles there. Unless the authorities build awareness about respecting traffic rules among all,

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Water has been receding in the Turag river near Savar since the monsoon rain stopped a few weeks back. The shallow water in the river has been drawing quite a good number of fishermen. They were seen waiting patiently after setting their fishing rods there on Wednesday.

Digital security act not to harass journalists: Inu

UNB, Dhaka

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu yesterday said the government is going to formulate the digital security act to ensure people's digital security, not to harass journalists.

"We're going to enact the digital security act to ensure the security of your digital information as well as the country's security. It's also meant for protecting country's democracy and society as well," he said.

The minister made the remarks while speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural session of the annual conference of the district correspondents of United News of Bangladesh (UNB) at its Cosmos Centre conference room in the capital.

Urging journalists to take the proposed digital security law positively, he assured them that it will bring no harm to them as it is going to be passed for the protection of the country's people.

State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak made a presentation titled "Digital

Bangladesh: A Story of Transformation" at the programme.

Chief Information Commissioner Dr Golam Rahman, former Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Chief News Editor of Bangladesh Television Dr Syeda Tasmina Ahmed, UNB Chairman Amanullah Khan, its Editor-in-Chief Enayetullah Khan, Director Nahar Khan and Editor SAM Mahfuzur Rahman also spoke at the daylong conference.

About the media's role, Inu said it creates and guards the nation's conscience, and the main function of the media and journalists is to keep the process of honesty and equity active.

Stating that information is not a commodity at all, he said that is why one has the social responsibility in releasing information. "Due to your social responsibility, you shouldn't publish any information that provokes communal riot. Democracy doesn't allow incitement and creation of division among people

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