



## Armed Forces Day today

UNB, Dhaka

The Armed Forces Day is being observed today with due solemnity and enthusiasm marking the establishment of Bangladesh military during the Liberation War.

On this day in 1971, Bangladesh Armed Forces comprising army, navy and air force came into being and launched an all-out attack on the Pakistani occupation forces.

Since the country's independence, the day has been observed as the Armed Forces Day every year.

The day's programmes will start with the offering of special prayers in mosques of all cantonments, naval and air force outposts after Fazr prayers, seeking divine blessings for the country's welfare and progress and continued

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## Girls ready to stop stalkers

AZIBOR RAHMAN, Jhenidah

The mere act of going to school is a struggle for many girls across Bangladesh. Catcalls, lurid remarks and eve teasing are all too common. This curtails their desire to continue studies while guardians fear for the security of their daughters.

"We just want to go to school without being teased," said Falguni Khatun, a grade seven student at Barobazar Secondary Girls School at Jhenidah.

Researchers have pointed out that eve-teasing is one of the reasons for the high rates of school drop-out among girls, along with having many other negative effects.

Apart from the mental toll eve-teasing brings, there is also a chance of physical harm. Rebuked, the perpetrators can turn aggressive.

Although the girls understand that changing the perpetrators' mentalities overnight is impossible, they have found a way to boost their own sense of security.

It was the vision of Bangladeshi expatriate in South Korea Sukanto Kumar Biswas and three of his friends to make the change.

"Why should our girls be deprived of an education for eve teasing? It is our duty to do something to change this situation," said Sukanto, over the phone.

Sukanto's friend -- Black Belt Certified Mosharraf

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Girls get Karate lessons from Mosharraf Karim, on the ground of Barobazar Secondary Girls School in Jhenidah recently. Sukanto Kumar Biswas, working in South Korea, is funding the programme while three of his friends are training 30 girls from the school for the last one year.

PHOTO: AZIBOR RAHMAN

## Merkel's fourth term in doubt

Coalition talks fail; snap elections on the cards

REUTERS, Berlin

Efforts to form a three-way governing coalition in Germany collapsed yesterday, pitching Europe's biggest power into political crisis, and its president told parties they owed it to voters and European neighbours to form a government.

The major obstacle to a deal was immigration, according to Chancellor Angela Merkel, who was forced into negotiations after bleeding support in a September 24 election to the far right in a backlash at her 2015 decision to let in over 1 million migrants.

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## Ruling party moves to impeach Mugabe

Resignation deadline comes and goes as Zimbabwe crisis deepens

AFP, Harare

Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe came under increasing pressure to quit after his ruling party said yesterday it was prepared to force the defiant leader from power by moving to impeach him.

In a televised address late Sunday, the 93-year-old president flouted expectations he would step down after a military takeover, pitching the country into a second week of political crisis.

Lawmakers from his ruling ZANU-PF party said that they would take the first steps

on Tuesday necessary to push Mugabe from office after the veteran leader ignored their ultimatum he resign by 1000 GMT yesterday.

"We want to get rid of this animal called Mugabe, he must go. We have the numbers, the opposition is also going to support us," said ZANU-PF MP Vongai Mupfema.

"We have got a clear position, we are going to impeach -- the man has to go," said another government MP, MacKenzie Ncube, speaking to AFP after a key meeting of ruling party lawmakers.

Once a simple majority of parliamentarians

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PHOTO: KHALID BIN NAZRUL

Advanced in age, Juboraj, the lion at the Comilla Zoo, has turned extremely weak and hardly takes any food or medicine these days, zoo authorities say. Reza Khan, an eminent wildlife conservationist, told The Daily Star the 17-year-old animal is at the end of its life and needs to be euthanised. A photo of the skeletal lion went viral recently.

## Euthanise ailing lion

Suggests expert

STAR REPORT

The Comilla zoo authorities should euthanase Juboraj the lion to end his sufferings from old age complications, eminent wildlife conservationist Reza Khan said.

After a picture of the 17-year-old lion posted on social media went viral recently, many users accused the zoo keepers of starving him being irresponsible.

Veterinarians, called in by the zoo authorities after the backlash, concluded that Juboraj's health had

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## Deadly tremors to hit next year!

MAIL ONLINE

Swarms of devastating earthquakes are set to arrive next year due to the slowing of Earth's rotation, scientists claim.

Experts warn we 'had it easy this year' with just

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## Attack on Hindus Culprits must be punished, says Fakhrul

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Terming the attack on the Hindus in Thakurbari village of Rangpur Sadar inhuman, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said the attackers, irrespective of their political affiliations, must be punished.

The Awami League always tries to put the blame on others if any such incident happens, but the fact is that the men of the ruling AL were involved in the attacks in Ramu and Nasirnagar, Fakhrul said this while visiting the village.

The Hindus always come under attack and they feel insecure whenever the AL is in power, he alleged.

Bangladesh is a country of communal harmony, but a few criminals are trying to damage the relations between the communities. Such conspiracy has to be prevented at any cost, the BNP leader said.

The BNP is planning to send a high-powered team to investigate the Thakurbari attack, said

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**SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center**

**PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 21**  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-05 12-45 3-45 5-21 7-00

JAMAAT 5-40 1-15 4-00 5-24 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## International Conference on Nazrul in Twenty First Century - 2017

Uttara University along with Assam University, India and Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Bangladesh is going to organize an International Conference on "Nazrul in Twenty First Century - ICNTFC 2017" on 21 November 2017 at 11.30AM at Lotus Lounge, Uttara Club, Uttara, Dhaka.

**Mr. Hasanul Haq Inu, MP**, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Information, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh will adorn the Inaugural Session as the Chief Guest. **Prof. Dr. M. Azizur Rahman**, Vice Chancellor of Uttara University will Chair the Program. Welcome speech will be delivered by Pro-Vice Chancellor of Uttara University & Convener of the Organizing Committee, **Prof. Dr. Eaysmin Ara Lekha**. **Prof. Dr. Soumitra Shekhar**, Former Nazrul Chair, University of Dhaka will be the Keynote Speaker in the Conference.

**Mr. H. T. Imam**, Honorable Political Adviser to the Prime Minister, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh will be present as the Chief Guest in the Closing Session of the Conference to be held on 22 November 2017 at 5:30PM.

**Conference Venue:**  
21 November 2017 at 11.30AM  
Lotus Lounge, Uttara Club, Plot # 6, Road # 9, Sector # 01, Uttara, Dhaka  
Closing Session: House # 5, Road # 12, Sector # 6, Uttara, Dhaka



Co-organizers:

**Organizer:** Uttara University Bangladesh, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University Bangladesh, Assam University India

**Media Partner:** The Daily Star, UCB, SIBL

Research Partner: Center for Research and Training Uttara University

Branch Opening

**Balasur Branch**

United Commercial Bank Limited

www.ucb.com.bd

## UCB is now at Balasur, Munshiganj

UCB with its 171<sup>st</sup> Branch, is going to start the journey from today, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 at Balasur, Munshiganj. We are looking forward to serve you with all modern banking facilities. We cordially welcome you to our new branch to experience the difference.

**Mr. Anisuzzaman Chowdhury**, Chairman, Executive Committee, United Commercial Bank Ltd. will inaugurate the branch as Chief Guest.

**Address:**  
Firoz Khan Shopping Center  
Balasur Chowrasta Bhaggokul  
Sreenagar, Munshiganj

united we achieve

