



## Miladunnabi today

BSS, Dhaka

The holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi, the day of birth and demise of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), is being observed across the country with due religious solemnity.

The day is a public holiday.

Different social, cultural, religious, political and state-run organisations have drawn up elaborate

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## HOLIDAY

The Daily Star will observe today as a holiday on account of Eid-e-Miladunnabi. Therefore, there will be no issue of the newspaper tomorrow. However, we will serve our valued readers through our website www.thedailystar.net



Pope Francis waves to Bangladeshi Christians as he arrives to lead mass in Dhaka yesterday. The pope arrived in Bangladesh from Myanmar on Thursday for the second stage of a visit that has been overshadowed by the plight of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees. More photos on page 2.

PHOTO: AFP

## 'The presence of God today is also called Rohingya'

Pope meets refugees at interfaith gathering, asks for forgiveness

STAR REPORT

For the first time on his Asia tour, Pope Francis referred to the Rohingya people by name yesterday and assured them of continued support so that they can get their rights back.

"The presence of God today is also called Rohingya," the Pope said during an interfaith meeting at Kakrail Catholic Church where leaders of different communities prayed for religious harmony and global peace.

He also urged the world not to ignore refugees, persecuted minorities, the poor and vulnerable.

"How much our world needs this heart to beat strongly, to counter the virus of political corruption, destructive religious ideologies, and the temptation to turn a blind eye to the needs of the poor, refugees, persecuted minorities, and those who are most vulnerable," he said.

The highest spiritual leader of the Catholics met 16 Rohingyas -- 12 men, two women and two children -- who were brought to the cathedral premises with approval from the government and under the supervision of Caritas Bangladesh.

He heard the Rohingyas, held their hands and touched them as they

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## TRIBUTE TO ANNISUL HUQ Demise of a changemaker

MAHFUZ ANAM

He was at his prime. Dynamic and full of energy, he was a man on a mission. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's surprising and insightful decision to nominate a nonparty man for the vital post of one of the two mayors of the country's capital turned out to be a brilliant one. Given the opportunity, he was determined to prove that he was a worthy choice.

"Give me a few years and I will change this city" was his constant message to anybody he could find willing to listen to

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## Of a dynamic city mayor, his dreams

Fate of his unfinished jobs now in doubt



HELEMUL ALAM and MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

He worked tirelessly and was planning to do more to realise his dream of making Dhaka a modern city, but death has halted that mission.

The demise of Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Annisul Huq has also cast doubt on the completion of his unfinished tasks.

Many of his colleagues and well-wishers were still struggling to come to terms with the death of such a dynamic man like him.

"When I heard the news [about the death of Annisul], I first thought it was not true. I still can't believe he has left us so early," said Mohammad Salimullah, a resident of Kamalapur.

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## Glimpses into the shady hospitals

BISHAKHA DEVNATH

A foul-smelling narrow corridor, housing a cluttered drug store. A drug store selling unregistered and expired medicines. A pathologist with no education or training.

These are just the first discoveries a joint inspection team of Rapid Action Battalion, Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) and Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) made during a drive against private hospitals and diagnostic centres in Mohammadpur on Wednesday.

The drive began just after midday.

The employees of Shefa General Hospital and Medical Centre, a well-known medical centre in Mohammadpur, were going about their daily tasks.

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Date-expired reagents seized by Rab at a city hospital on Wednesday.



## Govt keen to develop CHT region: PM

20th anniversary of CHT Peace Accord today

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government was giving more importance to the development of Chittagong Hill Tracts than the country's other areas as it was neglected for over 20 years.

She was addressing a programme through video conferencing from the Gono Bhaban to celebrate 20 years of the signing of the CHT Peace Accord.

The CHT affairs ministry

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## WE MOURN



We are deeply shocked at the death of

### Mr. Annisul Huq

Hon'ble Mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation and Founder President of Bangladesh Independent Power Producers' Association-BIPPA (1st June - 30 November 2015)

He was also Member of the Board of Directors of BIPPA till his death (30 November 2017)

Under his dynamic leadership he congregated all the power companies to address various issues in this sector

We convey our profound sympathy to the bereaved family and pray for his departed soul

On behalf of Bangladesh Independent Power Producer's Association (BIPPA)



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