



Leonika Hannan and Imran M Yousuf receive crests on behalf of the "Amazing Bangladeshis" -- three entrepreneurs who have been awarded in the second season of "Rise High Bangladesh" -- from US Ambassador Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat during a programme on Saturday. Jahangir Alam, chairman of MI Cement, the parent company of Crown Cement, and Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal are also seen in the photo. Right, singer Tahsan enthralls the audience at the event.



PHOTO: STAR

# Mother, 2 kids murdered in land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A college student allegedly hacked his aunt and her two children to death and injured his uncle with a billhook in a dispute over land at Tarakandi village in Kishoreganj's Pakundia upazila Saturday morning.

The suspect, Abdul Kadir Mobin, an accounting student, admitted killing and injuring the victims to a magistrate yesterday.

The victims are Taslima Akhter, 30, and her children Niloy, 7, and Raisa, 4. Her husband Mosharrif Hossain had been treated at Kishoreganj General Hospital with injuries to his left shoulder, police said.

Quoting family members and neighbours, Mohammad Shamsuddin, officer-in-charge of Pakundia Police Station, said there was a long-standing dispute between Mosharrif and Mobin's father Shamsul Alam, a Qatar expatriate, over demarcation of their homesteads.

Several village arbitrations had failed to settle the issue in the past, the OC said.

Mobin, who has been living in Kishoreganj town since his father went to Qatar over four years ago, went to his village home Friday evening where the victims also lived.

In the morning, Mobin engaged in an altercation with his aunt Taslima. At some point in the course of the incident, he took the billhook and attacked her, the officer said.

After fatally injuring the woman, the suspect attacked her two children, his first cousins, and killed them, the OC said. The children's father Mosharrif was also attacked and injured when he tried to save his wife and children.

Hearing screams, neighbours went to the scene and caught Mobin. They tied him to a tree and called the police.

Taslima and Niloy died on the scene while Raisa succumbed to her injuries at a hospital, police said.

The bodies were sent to Kishoreganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Taslima's brother Abdul Baten filed a case with Pakundia Police Station yesterday accusing Mobin.

# Cheers for young innovators

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The champions won the chance to visit different industries in Malaysia for developing their ideas; the runner up team received a cheque of Tk1 lakh while the second runner up received a cheque of Tk50,000. All three teams were also awarded crests.

The jury panel selected the winners after each of the three teams presented their business ideas at the final event. Each team was comprised of three students from their respective university.

Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal, handed over the crest and cheques to the winners at an event held at the International Convention City, Bashundhara in Dhaka on Saturday.

Imran Rahman, dean of the School of Business at the University of Liberal Arts, Syed Nasim Manzur, former president of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and managing director of Apex Footwear and Bitopi Das Chowdhury, head of corporate affairs of Standard Chartered Bangladesh made up the jury panel.

In the process of selecting the champion, this year three members of the jury panel scrutinised and selected the three of the best from more than 230 business ideas submitted online from 40 private and public universities.

In his inspirational speech, Kamal assured all the three teams of help from this side for flourishing their business ideas if they were deemed feasible.

"When you have a dream in front of you, you will succeed. The dreams never die," Kamal said while delivering his speech in front of the young, talented students who hoped to become businessmen through implementing the ideas presented in the competition.

"In our university life, the teachers taught us that, land, labour, capital and organisation are needed to be a suc-

cessful businessman. But now this perception of business has changed," Kamal said.

"Now, you need an idea, as many people are waiting to invest in your ideas for making the business successful," Kamal said. "Dream has no death, but you have to wake it up through your efforts," the minister said.

Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, the US ambassador in Bangladesh, said that her country believes in entrepreneurship. The US sponsored this year's global entrepreneurship summit held at Hyderabad of India in September this year, Bernicat said.

Entrepreneurs are the key for unlocking potential, she said, adding sometimes women and youth entrepreneurs have to cross extra hurdles as they do not get the financial support from the banking system. However, employment of youth and women will help resolve more challenges, she observed.

Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star, Mahfuz Anam, complimented Crown Cement, who partnered with The Daily Star in this exciting project of encouraging university students generate new innovative export ideas.

"However individually successful we become, the ultimate success is when the country succeeds as a whole," Anam said, in his opening remarks at the event finale.

Saying that Bangladesh is heading towards becoming a successful country, Anam said Bangladesh is a glittering example in this regard as the whole world is looking at the country's triumphs.

"The whole world is questioning how Bangladesh is achieving success, how Bangladesh is heading towards development. We will move towards sustainable development if we can take forward this trend."

Anam also said still there are many

challenges in front of us. But the fact is that now we know how to successfully overcome the challenges.

"The most important message is that we are heading towards a self-reliant country through solving our problems," he said, adding, "We will realise this message. We will bear the message in our heart and will strengthen our confidence."

Jahangir Alam, chairman of the M I Cement, the parent company of Crown Cement said the company started its journey in 1995 and this is the first company which exported cement products from the country in 2000.

The three times national export winner in cement category, has been producing 6,000 tonnes of cement a day while it has the capacity to churn out 10,000 tonnes a day, Alam said.

The company employs 5,000 workers and initiated the Rise High Bangladesh in 2016, aiming to create fresh entrepreneurs by harnessing their talents, he said.

In the second season, the initiative also recognised three amazing Bangladeshis who have contributed in uplifting the country's image. They are Shafqat Islam, Iraj Islam and Asif Rahman, the co-founders of NewsCred.

NewsCred started as an online news portal, conceptualised together by three young Bangladeshis— Iraj Islam, Shafqat Islam, and Asif Rahman. Today, it is the world's leading content marketing and syndication platform.

Since its founding in 2008, NewsCred has grown to a 75+ person team of technologists, journalists and creative content marketers based in New York, London and Dhaka. The company is funded by leading investors including FirstMark Capital, FLOODGATE and IA Ventures.

# Ctg Jubo Dal

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miscreants opened fire from the tail of a procession of local Awami League which was organised to celebrate the Unesco's recognition of historic March 7 Speech of the Father of the Nation," said Inspector (Investigation) Ruhul Amin of Sadarghat Police Station.

The AL procession was brought out after a rally in the area.

Chittagong city BNP's General Secretary Abul Hasem Bakkar said the shooting took place near Harun's office in Kadamtali.

Talking to this newspaper, victim's elder brother Humayun Chowdhury said activists of Chhatra League and Jubo league, pro-AL organisations, might have been behind the killing "as Harun protested an incident of extortion a few days ago".

Inspector Ruhul said, "A group of miscreants shot Harun in his chest. He was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where he died."

Golam Mohammed Jobayer, councillor of ward 19, who addressed the AL rally in the area, said, "I was informed that Harun was shot from the procession. We are also looking for the miscreants who were present in the area during the incident."

Mostain Hossain, deputy commissioner (South) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, said the murder was pre-planned and police were trying to collect CCTV footage of the area.

# 'Serial puncturer'

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By his own estimate, the unemployed "serial puncturer" -- a nickname he gave himself -- vandalised 6,000 cars around the French wine capital, a figure deemed by police to be "credible".

Investigators said they breathed a "huge sigh of relief" following the capture of a suspect they have been chasing since 2014 after realising they were dealing with a serial offender.

He had made their life difficult by leaving no DNA evidence and stealthily avoiding CCTV cameras, keeping deliberately irregular hours and routes to throw them off the scent.

# Ensure justice

FROM PAGE 1

Bangabhaban. Terming judiciary a symbol of public confidence, the president categorically said justice-seekers would get justice but there was no question of any sympathy or kindness.

If the power bestowed upon the judges is properly utilised for the greater interest of the country and its people, the country will advance more, he observed.

Recalling the proverb "Justice is the crowning glory of virtues", Abdul Hamid urged the judicial representatives to give priority to the welfare of the country and its people.

"There is no alternative to good governance for development... Corruption is a barrier to the good governance and no justice will be established till the corruption disappears from the society."

He urged people, irrespective of party affiliations, classes and professions, to come forward to establish justice in all spheres of life and a corruption-free society.

Referring to the necessity of using information and communication technology (ICT) in personal, family, official and social lives, the president also advised all to take pragmatic steps to make all concerned of the judiciary capable of using the ICT as their working tool.

President Hamid stressed the need for joint efforts of all officials and employees to materialise the Vision 2021 and subsequently Vision-2041 aimed at building the hunger- and poverty-free "Sonar Bangla" designed by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Acting Chief Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, the Supreme Court judges of the Appellate Division and High Court Division, other judges and senior civil and military officials attended the dinner.

# More express

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They also graffitied on the wall of Pro-VC's house, where DU Vice-chancellor Prof Akhtaruzzaman is now staying.

Prof MM Akash, of economics department at DU, visited Walid on Saturday evening and expressed solidarity with him.

"Teachers and registered graduates are enjoying democratic rights since the High Court directed the DU authorities to form a full-fledged senate within six months. But students are being deprived of the rights due to dysfunctional Ducsu." He urged the authorities concerned to announce Ducsu polls schedule immediately. He also lit candles on the Memory Eternal premises to inaugurate a students' candle-lit vigil demanding the Ducsu polls.

Walid, a master's student of Social Welfare and Research Institute, went on the strike on November 25, demanding the Ducsu polls by December 16.

Prof Anwar Hossain, former Jahangirnagar University VC and former president of Dhaka University Teachers' Association, also expressed solidarity with Walid Saturday night.

Talking to The Daily Star, he said, "The demand of Walid is the demand of Bangladesh as Ducsu played a pivotal role in shaping the history of our country."

"Our students restored democracy by ousting the autocratic government, but our politicians snatch students' rights away by taking advantage of the current democratic system."

He added that the VC should take initiatives to hold the Ducsu polls as the Dhaka University Order-1973 gave him the rights to exercise the power.

He also hoped that general students would join Walid.

Contacted, DU VC Prof Akhtaruzzaman said everyone has the democratic rights to protest any issue. It is a matter of regret that the university authorities failed to hold the Ducsu polls in the last 27 years, he said. The last polls were held on June 6, 1990.

# World treats Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 1

Softitel in the Cambodian capital.

The dinner was hosted in the PM's honour by Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand Saida Muna Tasneem, concurrently accredited to Cambodia.

Earlier in the afternoon, a red carpet was rolled out for Hasina as she arrived in Phnom Penh on a three-day official visit at the invitation of her Cambodian counterpart Hun Sen.

At the programme, Hasina said her government faced a big challenge over the Padma Bridge issue when the World Bank and other development partners withdrew their funding from the bridge project following false allegations of corruption.

"There was a perception that we won't be able to construct the bridge without the World Bank funding. But, I then insisted that we can do that. We didn't accept any false allegation and we had to endure sufferings... but we took the challenge.

"Now the most important thing is we are doing it with our own fund," she added.

Hasina also urged Bangladeshi businesses to look for suitable partners in Cambodia and move ahead with joint venture projects.

The PM said her government's aim is to improve the socio-economic condition of the country and alleviate poverty.

She also stressed the need for increasing the size of the domestic market as well as boosting exports.

Renewing her call to Bangladeshi businesses to explore new markets, the PM said her government wants to boost inflow of foreign direct investment as well as trade and commerce, maintaining good relations with neighbouring countries.

Turning to her visit to the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum yesterday, Hasina said no other countries like Bangladesh and Cambodia have witnessed such large scale genocides.

She said her government is taking steps to preserve the historic sites and

evidence of the 1971 Liberation War so that the future generation can properly learn the history of the war.

Hasina also made a mention of the Unesco's recognition of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's historic March 7 Speech as World Documentary Heritage.

"No one can erase history... distorted history can never help people grow..." she added.

Bangabandhu's younger daughter Sheikh Rehana, Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali, and Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon, among others, were present.

The PM and her Cambodian counterpart Hun Sen are scheduled to hold official talks today with a focus on trade, investment and cooperation in various sectors.

Later, 11 instruments -- two agreements and nine memorandums of understanding -- will be signed between the two countries in the presence of the two prime ministers.

The two premiers will speak at a function where an announcement will be made over the naming of two important roads in Dhaka and Phnom Penh after the founders of the two nations.

The two countries have decided to name "Baridhara Park Road" in Dhaka's diplomatic zone after Cambodia's late king Norodom Sihanouk and a road in Phnom Penh after Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Hasina will have an audience with Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni, and also call on Cambodian Senate President Say Chhum and National Assembly President Heng Samrin.

As the chief guest, she will join a business dialogue to be organised by the Cambodian Chamber and attend a dinner to be hosted by the Cambodian PM.

Hasina will return home on Tuesday.

# Charge sheet by this month

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The CITC chief said they would submit the charge sheet showing the four as fugitives if they could not arrest them by then.

The July 1 attack killed 20 people, mostly foreigners, and two police officials killed.

Most of the "Neo JMB" leaders who planned and coordinated the attack were killed in different raids.

The terrorists carried out the attack to draw the attention of global terror outfit Islamic State. They had also planned some follow-up attacks aiming to topple the incumbent government and establish their "favourable government", Monirul said citing findings of the investigation.

Replying to a query, he said the investigation, however, did not find any link between IS and the local militants behind the attack.

Five armed militants swooped on the Holey Artisan Bakery and carried out the massacre. They were killed in an army commando raid the next morning.

Talking to reporters at the DMP media centre, Monirul named Akram Hossain Khan Niloy, a top leader of "Neo JMB", for the first time yesterday as one of the financiers of the attack.

Alongside Niloy, also the key planner of an attempted attack on August 15 on a National Mourning Day programme on Dhanmondi 32, three Neo JMB leaders -- café attack grenade and bomb supplier Hadisur Rahman Sagar, Mamunur Rashid Ripon alias Jahangir and Shariful Islam -- are still on the run, according to Monirul.

The café attack planners and attackers who have been killed in anti-terror raids include Tamim Ahmed Chowdhury, Nurul Islam Marjan, Sarwar Jahan, Tanvir Kaderi, Maj (ret'd) Jahid, Maynul Islam alias Musa, Tarek, Abdullah, Faridul Islam Akash and five attackers -- Nibras Islam, Rohan Imtiaz, Meer Sabeh Mubasheer, Khairul Islam Payel and Shafiqul Islam Uzzal.

Besides, the CITC has recently confirmed following a DNA test that "Neo JMB" fund collector Basharuzzaman Chocolate and another bomb supplier Mizanur Rahman alias Chhoto Mizan were killed during an anti-militancy drive in Chapainawabganj on April 27.

Suspects arrested in the case include Jahangir Alam alias Rajib Gandhi, arms supplier Sohel Mahfuz Mizanur Rahman alias Boro Mizan and Rakibul Hasan alias Rigan, Rashed alias Rash and Hasnat Karim, a former teacher of North South University.

AVIJIT MURDER CHARGE SHEET BEFORE DEATH ANNIVERSARY Monirul Islam also said they are expecting to press charges in the writer-blogger Avijit Roy murder case before his third death anniversary on February 26.

The law enforcers have so far arrested 11 suspects in connection with the murder. Several of them in their confessional statements before the courts said they had carried out the attack led by Mukul Rana alias Sharif alias Saleh alias Arif alias Hadi. Mukul was killed in a "gunfight" with law enforcers in the city's Khilgaon area on June 19 last year.

According to CITC officials, eight operatives of Ansar Al Islam took part in the murder of Avijit Roy following an instruction of sacked and absconding army major Syed Ziaul Haque, alleged military wing chief of the banned militant outfit.

Avijit, a Bangladesh-born US citizen, was hacked to death on Dhaka University campus when he along with his wife Rafida Ahmed Bonya was returning from the Amar Ekushey Book Fair on February 26, 2015.

Monirul Islam also expressed the hope of completing the investigation into bloggers-publisher and writers killings including publisher Faisal Arefin Dipan murder, LGBT rights activists Xulhaz Mannan and his friend Mahbub Rabby Tonoy killings and Jagannath University student Nazim Uddin Samad killing by early next year.

# Sudden strike cripples

FROM PAGE 1

demands, including flexibility in issuing driving licence, keeping three-wheelers off the streets and letting old vehicles ply the streets, said Belayet Hossain Belal, president of the association.

Meanwhile, people of all walks of life, especially school students whose annual exams are going on, found to their dismay that they had no means of reaching their destinations on time.

Sanja Ahmed, a class-II student, was on the verge of tears by the side of a road in Amtol area around 10:00am. With her exam about to start in minutes, she almost lost all hope of reaching her school, some eight km away, on time.

Working people were seen walking in their hundreds on the streets of the port city in the morning. Many said they did not know about the strike.

Exploiting the dearth of vehicles, rickshaw pullers and CNG-run auto-rickshaw drivers, asked for exorbitant sums.

Two students of Haji Mohammad Mohsin College said they had to pay more than twice the usual amount to an auto-rickshaw driver to get to the college.

Buses, owned by people who do not belong to the association, were on the roads. But the staffers charged passengers according to their whims.

"The strike was called by a group of owners. They did not talk to everybody and did not wait for everyone's approval," Manjurul Alam Manju, president of Chittagong District Paribahan Malik Group, said.

Belayet Hossain Belal, who had called the strike, denied the allegations. He claimed that his association told authorities concerned on November 25 that it would go for a strike for an indefinite period unless the demands were not met by November.

"We went for this strike as the ultimatum expired."

Some other demands by transport owners included stopping vehicle requisition and filing of false cases by police, creating new routes, and driving middlemen out of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority offices.

Police said they detained several "vandals" for trying to cause anarchy.

# Headmaster assaulted

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teacher and an office assistant.

The headmaster and chairman differed in their selection of candidates. At about 5:00pm, Liton called on the headmaster at the school and went to his room to supposedly discuss the issue while some men associated with Liton, including his brother Santu Hawlader and brother-in-law Shimon Sharif, also came with him.

At one stage, Liton became very angry and he, along with Santu and Shimon, attacked the headmaster. Mohiuddin was beaten up and attacked with sharp objects. The three later confined Mohiuddin to his room.

by breaking into one of the headmaster's drawers and took Tk 7,000 from his pockets.

Hearing the commotion, locals came to the spot and informed police who rushed there and rescued the headmaster. He later received treatment in Amtali upazila health complex.

Mohiuddin said he was attacked as he refused to accept the chairman's candidates to fill the vacancy.

Liton could not be reached for comments despite repeated attempts. G M Osmani Hasan, president of the upazila unit of Jubo League informed that they had already suspended Liton on Sunday for his involvement in the attack.