

JU freshmen classes rescheduled

JU CORRESPONDENT

The classes of first year honours programmes of the 2017-18 academic sessions at Jahangirnagar University have been rescheduled.

The classes which were scheduled to begin on January 7, 2018 will start on February 5 instead, due to unavoidable reasons, said a press release.

The authorities will accord a reception to the newly enrolled students on February 15.

JMC principal Abu Hena dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Professor Dr Abu Hena Mohammad Mahbub-ul-Maula Chowdhury, principal of Jessore Medical College died at Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) in the capital yesterday.

He was suffering from jaundice, said a press released.

A fatal birth

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department of Chittagong Medical College, said worldwide three out of 1,000 expecting mothers are likely to give birth to babies with anencephaly.

She could not give any national figure of the prevalence of this condition, but said at CMCH, 1,990 babies were born in November 2017. Twenty-three of them had various birth defects including two with anencephaly. Usually, pregnant women are advised to take doses of folic acid to avoid giving birth to babies with this condition, she said. In cases of planned pregnancy, women have to take folic acid pills when they start planning for a baby, said Prof Shahanara.

She also said a balanced diet prevents the foetus from developing this condition. Expecting mothers could also have folic acid-rich food like broccoli, green leafy vegetables, and liver, she added.

Doctors suspect that the mother had folic acid deficit as the couple was poor, and the woman did not take any medication during pregnancy.



Participants at a roundtable discussion on "Ethics and Values in Education" at The Daily Star Centre yesterday. The Daily Star and Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) in association with the European Union and Civil Society Education Fund organised the programme. Story on Page 3.

PHOTO:
STAR

Instigator remanded

FROM PAGE 3

remand prayer, said Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) (Prosecution) Nirmalendu Bikash Chawakabarty of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP).

On Wednesday, PBI arrested Hannan who approached Abu Sama, the alleged plotter, with information about the prospect of rape and robbery at a house in Karnaphuli area, where the male family members were not present.

Abu Sama was arrested on Tuesday from New Market in the port city.

In the early hours of December 13, four women -- three expatriate siblings' wives and their sister-in-law -- were raped by four robbers in Shahmipur village of Karnaphuli upazila.

Family members of the victims alleged that OC Sayedul refused to record the case two times before being compelled to record it four days later when State Minister for Land Saifuzzaman Chowdhury Javed intervened.

Police and PBI so far arrested six individuals in this connection.

Ensure efficient use

FROM PAGE 3

prioritise the offloading of fertiliser-laden vessels between January and February as the "demand remains high in the period".

Representatives of Bangladesh Industrial Development Corporation (BIDC), Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC), Water Transport Cell, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA), Chittagong Customs House, Clearing and Forwarding Agents (C&F), Freight Forward Association, and shipping agents were present at the meeting.

Khademul

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Gupatara area to pay their homage.

He left behind his wife, two sons and two daughters.

His body was first taken to Rangpur Betar, then to Rangpur Central Shaheed Minar premises around 11:00am yesterday. He was buried at Nurpur Graveyard in the afternoon.

Basunia began his career as a music director at Bangladesh Betar, Rangpur unit in 1967.

He played a major role in uniting the cultural personalities and activists in Rangpur region. He worked relentlessly to inspire the freedom loving people through cultural activities.

Bangladesh Betar appointed him as a producer in 1973. In 1993, he became the chief music producer and was posted to Rajshahi Betar. He also served as a principal music producer till his retirement in 2001.

Basunia composed many "Gano Sangeets" (people's songs). Of them, "Dau dau pure jachche" by poet Shamsur Rahman and "Kumro fuli fuli" by Abu Zafar Obaidullah were much loved.

The song, "Amar-e desh shab manusher", touched the heart of millions after it aired on Bangladesh Betar during the Liberation War.

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For & On behalf of Intel EM Ltd.
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15 students hurt

FROM PAGE 5

where he succumbed to his injuries.

Our Jhalakathi correspondent reports, another biker was killed as a passenger bus hit his motorcycle at Barisal-Khulna highway yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Lal Mia, 27, hailing from Agarbaria village of Jhalakathi Sadar, said Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Nalchity Police Station AKM Sultan Mahmood.

He was hit by a Pirojpur-bound bus on Barisal-Khulna highway, and fled, killing him on spot the cop said quoting eye-witnesses.

In Narshingdi, two persons including a child were killed in a road crash at Boraitola of Narshingdi on Dhaka-Sylhet highway yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Zihad, 10, and Yasin Arafat, 28, an employee of Aduri Apparels.

At least 10 others, including journalists were injured in the incident that took place around 7:45am. No further details could be known immediately.

Overhaul education

FROM PAGE 3

GPA-5 galore, he said the rat race should be stopped.

Noted writer and activist Syed Abul Maksud said, "Students should be taught moral education, which is needed for building a secular and democratic society."

He suggested that students should also be taught about the lives of great men.

Apart from teachers, officials of the education ministry and others involved in the education sector need to ensure ethical practices, he said.

"Also, teachers will have to practice morality," he said, adding that the officials of the education ministry and others involved in the education sector need to do the same.

He suggested appointing teachers with moral values. "...we have to be cautious and strict while appointing teachers," he said.

The total education system needs to be reorganised. "It will not take place in a day, but the civil society should carry on the campaign," he added.

Manzoor Ahmed, professor emeritus of Brac University, stressed the need for going deep into the problems and finding out solutions with a holistic approach.

He said the future of the country depends on education and therefore a political decision is a must to keep it out of the influence of bad politics.

Shafi Ahmed, a former professor of Jahangirnagar University and Dhaka University, said the tendency to incorporate everything in the curriculum has to be stopped.

"How much the students would read?" he said. "By incorporating everything in the textbook, we are producing examinees, not learners."

Former education secretary Nazrul Islam Khan said teachers in other parts of the world teach students basic norms and manners, which is absent in the country.

He suggested introducing class-based assessment to have a better evaluation.

Shyamal Kanti Ghosh, former secretary to the primary education ministry, said there are many good things in the curriculum, but teachers fail to teach those properly.

He recommended bringing a change in the mindset of guardians and teachers before going for reforms in the education system.

Momtaz Latif, a former curriculum specialist at National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB), said the question paper leak has become a major problem lately. It is directly involved with the ethical issue.

"But what is more dangerous is that the guardians and students are running after the leaked questions and spending a huge amount of money to get it," she lamented.

Prof Syeda Tahmina Akther, director of Institute of Education and Research at DU, laid emphasis on moral education at the pre-primary level so that students could learn about what is good and bad from the very beginning.

Tapon Kumar Das, deputy director of CAMPE, said they have been working on ethics and values in education and held many views-exchange meetings with teachers, students and guardians in different parts of the country.

Once completing the meetings, he said, they will publish a report with recommendations on the issue.

Prof Hannana Begum, former principal of Eden Girls' College; Sheikh Shahana Shimu and Abul Kalam of Brac Institute of Educational Development; Ziaul Kabir Dulu and Salim Uddin, president and general secretary of Obhibhabak Oikya Forum, a platform of guardians, also spoke.

A participant wears a mask painted with a health warning image during an anti-tobacco human chain in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday. The organisers, Bangladesh Anti-tobacco Alliance and Work for a Better Bangladesh Trust, demand that the tax policy be kept out of the "influence of tobacco companies", citing the country annually sees one lakh deaths caused by tobacco.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Vacancy Announcement

Issued on: 29 December, 2017

Deadline for application: 12 January, 2018

The FAO Representation in Bangladesh is inviting applications from qualified national candidates to the following vacant position under the project "GCP/BGD/059/USA and GCP/BGD/063/EU: Meeting the Undernutrition Challenges (MUCH), to be filled as soon as possible.

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Applicants are requested to send their Personal Profile Form (PPF) to the following address: FAOBD-Vacancies@fao.org by close of business on 12 January 2018.

All recruitment to FAO posts are made on a competitive and transparent basis. Candidates are encouraged to apply directly to FAO and follow the instructions on the above mentioned website. Please note that no intermediary is allowed to expedite or facilitate such process. All those who represent themselves as such are fraudulent and should be reported to FAO immediately.

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