

SNAPS & snippets

NSU holds orientation session

CITY DESK

The orientation session for the incoming students of Spring-2018 was held at North South University at its Bashundhara campus in Dhaka yesterday.

Md Nojibur Rahman, principal secretary to the prime minister, handed over full and partial scholarships to 49 students as the chief guest, says a press release.

Mohammed Shajahan, chairman, NSU board of trustees, was present as a special guest.

Besides, board members Benajir Ahmed, MA Hashem, MA Kashem, Yasmin Kamal and Rehana Rahman were present at the programme chaired by NSU Vice Chancellor Prof Atiqul Islam. Pro-VC (Designate) Prof GU Ahsan delivered the welcome speech.

Deans of several schools at NSU also spoke.

Housewife found dead in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Police recovered the body of a housewife from her house at Shimulia area of Savar yesterday.

The deceased is Rulia Akter, 20, wife of Nazmul Hossen of the area. Family members of the victim claimed that she was murdered by her husband and mother-in-law over a family feud.

Abul Kalam Azad, sub-inspector of Ashulia Police Station, said, primarily it is suspected that she was strangled as torture marks were found on her neck.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for an autopsy. Police are looking for Nazmul and his mother.

'Drug dealer' held in city

UNB, Dhaka

Armed Police Battalion (APBn) arrested an alleged drug dealer along with 226 bottles of contraband Phensedyl from the capital's Airport Road yesterday.

The arrestee was Raihan, 30, son of Mazdar, from Rajpara of Rajshahi.

Tipped-off, a team of APBn-5 conducted a raid in the area and made the arrest.

During preliminary interrogation, Raihan revealed that he was involved in distributing Phensedyl, said Saidur Rahman Rubel, senior ASP (Media) of APBn-5.



Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury speaks at the "Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards" ceremony as the chief guest. The event was organised by the British Council in the capital yesterday.

Teach in mother tongue

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The government is also working to keep a teacher-student ratio at 1:30 which is 1:37 at present, he said.

Prothom Alo Associate Editor Abdul Quayum moderated the roundtable.

Habibur Rahman, senior adviser, education sector, Save the Children, Bangladesh; KM Enamul Haque, deputy director, Campaign for Popular Education; Nazmul Haque, executive secretary, Bangladesh Forum for Educational Development; and Kate Maloney, team leader, education, USAID, also spoke.



A graduate receives a gold medal from Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid at the fifth convocation of United International University (UIU) at Satarkul in the capital yesterday. A total of 962 students, including four gold medalists, were conferred on degrees. University Grants Commission Chairman Prof Abdul Mannan was present as a special guest. Dr Ahmad Kaikaus, secretary to Power Division; Hasan Mahmood Raja, chairman of UIU board of trustees; and Dr Chowdhury Mofizur Rahman, UIU vice-chancellor, were also present.

Bureaucracy collapsed due to politicisation

Says economist Dr Akbar Ali Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The bureaucracy in the country has collapsed due to its politicisation, eminent economist Dr Akbar Ali Khan said yesterday.

"When politics and bureaucracy are mixed and politicians hold the absolute power, bureaucracy cannot work properly," he said while delivering a public lecture.

"Such a politicisation becomes visible during promotions. If you are in the government's good book, then you will get promoted...", he added.

"Bangladesh is the only country where promotion takes place although there is no vacancy in that post," said Dr Akbar, a former top bureaucrat.

The Department of Public Administration of Dhaka University organised the lecture on the campus.

In the lecture, the former adviser to a caretaker government said politicisation and more than necessary posts in the administration, such as the post of additional secretary, create delay in the administrative work.

Pointing to the provision of the public order that allows the government to sack

any official who has served more than 25 years without showing any reason, Akbar said, "In such a situation, it is difficult to make bureaucracy effective."

About delay in the administrative work, he said a file has to pass eight to nine hands, from the section assistant to the minister, to accomplish a task. As a result, around five additional days get wasted.

"Let's say, all the officials are honest, nobody takes any bribe. But creating five extra posts [in the administration] delays decision making at least for five days," he said.

The country has more than 600 additional secretaries and every ministry has at least two to three such secretaries. Some even have more than 20, he said. The posts of additional secretary delay the office work in terms of decision-making, he added.

In the lecture, he also stressed the need for reforming the judiciary so that the trial proceedings can be finished swiftly.

"The main reason behind the delay in trial proceedings is the British law, which we follow. It is based on lawyers, where one party will win and another will lose. But the lawyers do not want to dispose of the suits," Dr Akbar said.

Nowhere to go

Woman treated at DMCH waits for family

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For the last two months, Rakhi has been waiting for someone to come and take her home.

The forty-year-old hardly recalls her memories of life.

She was admitted to the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with a leg injury and had a surgery on July 7 last year.

Rakhi was discharged from DMCH on November 22 last year.

According to the hospital record, the woman experienced an accident in Mugda area and locals admitted her to the hospital.

Now, she is living on the diets allocated for other patients with nobody to care for her and nowhere to go.

DMCH Director Brig Gen AKM Nasiruddin said they contacted the Department of Social Services. A process to send her to a government shelter in Faridpur is underway, he added.

UN official hears

FROM PAGE 3

of [being] bias, while at the same time denying that human rights violations have taken place in Myanmar," Lee said. "I would ask the authorities to rethink their position, and to put the victims first."

The UN envoy said she is determined to carry on -- to the best of her ability -- this very important task of helping the victims of human rights violations and abuses in Myanmar, as mandated to her by the United Nations system.

"I've a responsibility to speak on behalf of these victims, and I will not be deterred. This is why I am going ahead to visit neighbouring countries to reach out as far as possible to all victims and witnesses to learn of their experience," she said.

Yanghee Lee was appointed by the UN Human Rights Council in 2014 as the Special Rapporteur on situation of human rights in Myanmar.

Refugees need to feel safe

FROM PAGE 3

The World Bank yesterday said the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh is growing at a rapid pace and there is an urgent need to support the host communities to cope with the influx and to help the refugees who are extremely vulnerable.

After visiting the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar area, World Bank South Asia Region Vice President Annette Dixon praised the government of Bangladesh and its people for sheltering and caring for the large influx of Rohingya fleeing violence in Myanmar.

She said the World Bank was ready to work with the government to help the host community and the displaced Rohingya people in Cox's Bazar.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali on Thursday said the Rohingya problem can be solved permanently with sustainable return of Rohingyas to Myanmar.



Australian High Commissioner Julia Niblett inaugurates an IDP education event, "Study in Australia", on Friday. The two-day programme was held at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka. The Australian Trade Commission at the high commission supported the event. Ravi Chandran, country director of IDP Bangladesh; Mosharraf Khan, its country manager; and Mostafizur Rahman, business development manager of Australian Trade Commission, were also present.

SEIP
Skills for Employment Investment Program
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Vacancy announcement

Bangladesh Association of Construction Industry (BACI)

Bangladesh Association of Construction Industry (BACI) is responsible to provide market driven skill training programs including job placement services in the construction sector under the support of Skills for employment investment program (SEIP) Ministry of Finance, Govt. of Bangladesh

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BACI

DU won't issue IDs

FROM PAGE 3

Expressing solidarity with the students' movement, Prof MM Akash of the DU economics department said the university authorities could have easily solved the issue by talking with the demonstrating students rather than using activists of a student body to disperse them forcibly.

He also urged the university authorities to come up with a peaceful solution to the crisis.

On Monday, around 400 BCL activists foiled the demonstration of a section of DU students who were staging a sit-in in front of the vice chancellor's office, demanding

scrapping of DU affiliation with the seven colleges.

The BCL activists allegedly harassed some of the female students and took one of the coordinators of the protest inside the VC office and assaulted him there.

Then on Wednesday, around 100 students broke the collapsible gate of the Arts Building and demonstrated in front of the proctor's office with the demand of punishing the BCL men and forming a probe body including two student representatives to investigate the incident.

They also confined the proctor for several hours as he failed to give them

any assurance and later went to the vice chancellor and gave him an ultimatum to meet their demands within 48 working hours.

But in a surprise move, on Thursday night, the university authorities filed a case against 50 unknown students for vandalising the gate of the Arts Building and formed a three-member probe body to investigate the incident.

They also formed another three-member committee to investigate the Monday's incident. However, they did not include any student representative as per the demand of protesting students, said the students.

One life... that lighted many lives...

Khorshedi Alam (Dolly)

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