



From left, singer Rafiqul Alam, Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh CEO Naser Ezaz Bijoy, Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman, The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam, lyricist Mohammad Rafiquzzaman, and singer Abida Sultana during The Daily Star-Standard Chartered Celebrating Life photo-book launching ceremony at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Celebrating Life photo-book launched

Theme for 2018 to be announced today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A photo-book containing the winning entries of Standard Chartered-The Daily Star Celebrating Life has been launched.

The unveiling ceremony of the book, featuring the winning photographs from the contest of 2016 and 2017, was held at the Daily Star Centre yesterday.

The theme of 2017 was "Celebrating Diversity of Bangladesh", and that of 2016 was "Youth in Change".

Speaking at the programme as the chief guest, Professor Emeritus of Dhaka University Dr Anisuzzaman said the photo-book is a documentation of the aesthetics of life from every nook and cranny of the country. "Through the photo-book, we can also know about our beautiful country," he added.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, said the country has progressed in the field of photography.

Celebrating Life attempts to bring talents from the remotest parts of the country into a platform through recognition of photographers, lyricists and filmmakers.

Naser Ezaz Bijoy, chief executive officer of Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh, said the platform aims to promote the country's art and culture.

Rafi Hossain, editor of Showbiz of The Daily Star and also festival director of Celebrating Life, said a total of 64 photos have been compiled in the photo-book.

Legendary actresses Bobita and Shuchanda and prominent actor Faruk attended the event, anchored by Sadya Afreen Mallick, editor of The Daily Star's Arts and Entertainment.

Celebrating Life will announce the theme of 2018 today. Starting in 2008, it has become a platform for photographers, lyricists and filmmakers to showcase talents on themes connected to Bangladesh's heritage.



'Present me 22 seats, I will present you the govt' Ershad promises party men in Rangpur

STAR REPORT

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad yesterday told the party men that JP will

be able to form the government if the party activists ensure that they would win 22 seats in greater Rangpur in the next general elections.

Speaking at a rally in Nilphamari, Ershad, also a special envoy to the prime minister, said people did not get anything during the rule of the present government except for torture, killing, enforced disappearance and repression.

"People will be able to live in peace if Jatiya Party comes to power in the next election."

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GRAFT ALLEGATION ACC quizzes AL lawmaker

Arrests Ctg port official

STAR REPORT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday quizzed Awami League lawmaker Mohammad Mizanur Rahman for about five hours over allegation of amassing illegal wealth by him.

ACC Deputy Director Manjur Morshed began interrogating the ruling party lawmaker from Khulna-2 constituency at 10:00am.

However, while talking to journalists, Mizanur said the allegations brought against him are baseless.

"A group has brought the allegations to tarnish my image," he alleged.

ACC asked him to submit wealth statement. Mizanur said he would submit his wealth statement within a day or two.

The ACC issued a notice on April 4 asking him to appear before it on April 16 for interrogation over alleged illegal accu-

mulation of wealth.

Rahman, also the general secretary of Khulna city unit AL, has allegedly embezzled a huge amount of money by misusing his power at the Khulna City Corporation (KCC) and other public offices to secure work orders under the name of his family members and running drugs business.

Meanwhile, ACC yesterday arrested an official of Chittagong port in connection with a case that was filed in 2013 with Bandar Police Station over alleged irregularities in purchasing machinery and tender manipulation.

Sandipan Chowdhury, deputy chief finance and accounts officer of Chittagong port, was arrested from his office at Bandar Bhavan, said ACC's Deputy Director Lutfur Kabir Chandon.

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102 vehicles fined

For violating relevant laws during BRTA drive in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a drive against faulty vehicles in the capital, mobile courts of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) yesterday fined 102 vehicles for plying the city streets violating relevant laws.

In presence of Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader, two mobile courts also lodged cases against owners of all the vehicles -- bus, minibus, private car and CNG-run auto-rickshaw -- for not having fitness clearance and other documents and realised Tk 2.5 lakh in fine.

Two buses were dumped for their rundown conditions while documents of three vehicles were seized as they could not submit fines on the spot.

The drive came around two weeks after BRTA published a list of over 55,000 vehicles, including 3,740

belonging to different ministries and government agencies, which have not had their fitness certificates renewed for more than a decade in breach of rules.

BRTA Director (Enforcement) Nur Mohammad Mazumder, however, said it was a regular drive and they would continue it.

The two mobile courts started its operation around 9:00pm on Manik Mia Avenue and continued for around five hours.

Obaidul Quader came to the spot at 10:54am. He also checked some CNG-run auto-rickshaws whether they were using metres.

Quader, also the general secretary of the ruling Awami League, ordered the BRTA officials to dump a privately-run Bikash Paribahan bus for overcharging commuters. The bus took Tk 50, instead of the fixed fare of Tk 32, from

Abdullahpur to Azampur.

The minister also rebuked a BRTA official as he could not tell the original fare of the route primarily.

Obaidul called the chairman of the state-run Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) over the mobile phone from the spot and asked him to repair two BRTC buses for its lack of facilities.

Later, he told reporters that the number of small vehicles has been increasing alarmingly compared to the number of roads in the capital.

He said a poor condition of public transport do not match with the GDP, per capita income of the country and Bangladesh's eligibility for graduating from the group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

An unhealthy competition among

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Abdul Qadir's anniversary of death today

CITY DESK

Today is the 47th death anniversary of Lt Col Muhammad Abdul Qadir, who embraced martyrdom on April 17, 1971.

A milad mahfil will be held today at the Qadirabad Cantonment Central Mosque for the salvation of the departed soul, says a press release.

The cantonment in Natore was named after him for his role during the 1971 Liberation War. The government also issued a postal

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ARSON ATTACK Khaleda files bail petition in Comilla

Narail court to hear bail plea May 8 over 'derogatory comments' against FFs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Lawyers of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday submitted a bail petition at a Comilla court in connection with a case filed over an arson attack and vandalism in Chaudhagram upazila in 2015.

The court of District and Session Judge Jesmin Ara Begum fixed April 23 for hearing the bail petition.

The court also refused an interim bail prayer, said Advocate Nazmus Sadat, a defense counsel of the BNP chief.

Earlier, Senior Judicial Magistrate Mustain Billah of Judicial Magistrate Court-5 rejected the bail petition filed by Khaleda on April 10.

Terming the rejection "politically motivated", Khaleda's lawyer said they would appeal to District and Sessions Judge's Court, challenging the lower court's order.

On October 10 last year, a warrant was issued against Khaleda and 78 others. The charge-sheet cited Khaleda a "fugitive".

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Anti-liberation forces trying to fish in troubled waters

In name of quota reform agitation, claims freedom fighters' org

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-liberation quarters are trying to fish in troubled waters in the name of quota reform agitation, claimed an organisation of freedom fighters yesterday.

"Muktijoddha Moha-Shomabesh Bastobayon Parishad" held a press conference at Jatiya Press Club in the capital and announced that it will hold a mass gathering at Shahbagh with this statement on April 24.

"The freedom fighters cannot sit idle while anti-liberation forces are trying to catch fish in troubled waters in the name of the quota reform movement," said Principal Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, convener of the parishad.

The anti-liberation forces have very cleverly spread misperceptions among the innocent students and youths in the name of the so-called quota reform movement, he alleged.

"You may not respect the freedom fighters, but do not disrespect them," he said.

The organisation urged all freedom fighters and patriots to unite and "resist the conspiracy" against the independence of the country.

On February 17, students under the banner of "Bangladesh Shadharan Chhatra Odhikar Sangrakkhan Parishad" launched the movement over a five-point demand, including reducing the quota privilege to 10 percent from 56.

The movement turned violent on April 8, after police action against the protesters. At least 100 people were injured and several others detained as violence flared up in Shahbagh and its adjacent areas.

On April 11, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in parliament announced scrapping of the quota system and asked students to end the quota reform demonstrations.



A truck loaded with scrap metal in the port city. Though trucks and covered vans are not allowed to ply the city streets between 8:00am and 8:00pm, those ply illegally in a flagrant breach of the traffic rule with the authorities concerned turning a blind eye. The photo was taken from Zakir Hossain Road in Foy's Lake area around noon yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



The Baithar Khal in Sylhet is in a bad state. Once the water body used to flow through Kazir Bazar area and connect to the Surma River. Due to rampant encroachment, it has been turned into a narrow stream causing waterlogging in nearby areas every monsoon. The photo was taken on Saturday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Hasina chair, Imam co-chair of AL election steering committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League has formed "National Election Steering Committee" ahead of the 11th parliamentary election likely to be held at the end of this year.

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina has been made chairperson while HT Imam, a member of the party's advisory council, co-chairman of the committee, according to a press release of the party.

Apart from this, AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader has also been made member secretary of the committee.

The members of Awami League advisory council, central executive committee

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International Healthcare Services at Local Price in Bangladesh
With 24/7 Emergency & Ambulance Services

Renowned Medical Oncologist Dr. Ferdous Shahriar Sayed is Now Available for Consultation at Apollo Hospitals Dhaka

- Dr. Ferdous Shahriar Sayed graduated from Sir Salimullah Medical College in 1992 and obtained MD in Radiotherapy on January 2005 from BSMMU.
- he has received higher clinical training in the field of Medical Oncology and Palliative Medicine from India, Singapore and Germany.
- Dr. Sayed specializes in the fields of Chemotherapy, Hormone Therapy, Targeted Therapy, Immunotherapy, Palliative Medicine and the management of therapy-related adverse effects.

For Appointment
10678

MBBS, MD (Radiotherapy)
Consultant - Medical Oncology

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