

163 students get Prime Minister Gold Medal

UNB, Dhaka

A total of 163 students were awarded the Prime Minister Gold Medal, in recognition of securing highest marks/CGPA in their respective faculties.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday handed over the medals among the recipients of different public and private universities of the country during a ceremony held at the Shapla Hall of Prime Minister's Office.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid and Secretary of Secondary and Higher Education Division Md Sohorab Hossain were present there as special guests.

Professor Abdul Mannan, chairman of UGC, presided over the ceremony while Prof Dr Dil Afroza Begum, member of UGC, delivered the welcome speech.

Prime Minister Gold Medal was introduced in 2005 as an effort to encourage the talented university students of the country.

Ministers; advisers to the prime minister; national professors; former UGC chairmen; secretaries of different ministries and parents and guardians of the awardees, among others, were present on the occasion.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid and Secretary of Secondary and Higher Education Division Md Sohorab Hossain along with guests and awardees of the Prime Minister Gold Medal ceremony at Shapla Hall of Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

DSCC places Tk 3,599cr budget

Mayor promises free burial services, old home and more

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Announcing burial services for Dhaka city residents free of cost, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sayeed Khokon yesterday placed a Tk 3,598.7 crore budget for the fiscal 2018-19, about 7.82 percent higher than the outgoing fiscal.

The revised budget of the fiscal year 2017-18 was Tk 2014.31 crore.

"We will not take burial charge from any resident at the graveyards under DSCC," said Mayor Khokon while announcing the budget at Nagar Bhaban.

He said they are also going to introduce a hotline for the residents who want to avail themselves of burial facilities (ambulance facility, burial wash and other related facilities) from DSCC.

DSCC BUDGET

Total budget

Development expenditure

Revenue income target

Road and traffic infrastructure Development

Garbage management

Mosquito control activities

Environment Development

Park playground development

Total income target from government and foreign sources

2018-19 FISCAL YEAR

Tk 3598.75 crore

Tk 2860.23 crore

Tk 909.42 crore

Tk 742.83 crore

Tk 10.70 crore

Tk 26.00 crore

Tk 138.94 crore

Tk 143.75 crore

Tk 2558.48 crore

2017-18 FISCAL YEAR

Tk 3337.67 crore

Tk 2568.41 crore

Tk 1064.78 crore

Tk 1130.51 crore

Tk 10.70 crore

Tk 25.60 crore

Tk 192.56 crore

Tk 175.50 crore

Tk 2128.59 crore

To bring city traffic system under discipline, a committee will be formed by the government that will work for bus route rationalisation and running the city's buses under five companies, said the DSCC mayor in his budget speech.

"We are also going to construct 30 bus-bays or bus stoppages under a mega project, to reduce traffic congestion of Dhaka city; we have already started work of three," he added.

Khokon also said they are going to construct two modern animal slaughter houses at Hajaribagh and Kaptan Bazar, to ensure healthy meat for Dhaka residents.

About parks and playgrounds, the mayor said construction work to modernise 31 parks and playgrounds have already started, which

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From left, Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury; Prof Emeritus Rafiqul Islam; Monzoor Ahmed Chowdhury, chairman of board of trustees of University of Asia Pacific Foundation, and Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman pose for a picture after a grand reception was accorded to the three national professors at the UAP auditorium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

400 BRTC workers go on strike in capital

Allege of long-pending arrears; commuters suffer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transport workers of BRTC's Joar Sahara depot in Dhaka yesterday went on an indefinite work abstention, to press home their demand for arrears, causing sufferings to passengers of several bus routes.

Locking the main gate of the depot since morning, more than 400 workers went on work abstention, hampering service of more than 80 buses including some double-deckers and AC buses, officials and workers said.

Of the buses, around 30 buses are allotted for staffers of government organisations, while the rest mainly ply Abdullahpur-Motijheel, Tongi-Motijheel and Gazipur-Motijheel routes, they said.

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid and Secretary of Secondary and Higher Education Division Md Sohorab Hossain along with guests and awardees of the Prime Minister Gold Medal ceremony at Shapla Hall of Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Thrown in a canal to die

Bus supervisor confesses to mindless killing of NSU student

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

The supervisor of the Hanif Paribahan bus which NSU student Saidur Rahman Payel was travelling by before his 'mysterious' death, confessed yesterday to a mindless act of killing.



Payel

Mohammad Johny, the supervisor, said Payel was thrown into a nearby canal by the bus's driver, helper and himself, after the BBA 5th semester student at North South University was injured while getting back on the bus after relieving himself.

He made the disclosure in a confessional statement under Section 164 to senior judicial magistrate Md Jasim Uddin of Munshiganj Cognizance Court-5 at around 4:00pm yesterday.

Court inspector Hedayul Islam Bhuiyan and Gazaria Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Harunur Rashid said, according to Johny, a traffic jam formed near Bhaterchar at Gazaria on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway in the early hours of Sunday, where the bus that carried Payel got stuck. Payel got off the bus to relieve himself, and before he could board the bus set off as the traffic eased. He ran behind the bus, and the bus stopped, but he injured himself badly as the bus's automatic door opened on him, and fell unconscious.

The supervisor informed the matter to the driver. Driver Jamal Hossain, helper Faisal and supervisor Johny together decided to not take Payel back to the bus; instead, they carried the bloodied youth and threw him into a canal from over the Bhaterchar bridge. It was about 4:00am and the passengers were sleeping.

The OC said, Payel was alive when he was thrown into the water, which is evident by the fact that he ingested some 10 to 15kg water while drowning. There was water in his abdomen, as mentioned in inquest and post-mortem reports.

Police arrested Johny from Motijheel area in Dhaka on Tuesday night, and took him to Gazaria Police Station. He confessed to committing the crime to police that same night.

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TWO YEARS OF 'OPERATION STORM 26'

Bigger tragedy averted

Say investigators; probe at final stage

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

The IS-inspired "Neo JMB" reserved a brigade at Kalyanpur den in a bid to carry out three simultaneous follow-up attacks, after they had successfully carried out the Gulshan café attack, investigators said yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Sumaiya Akhtar Malika, 14, a resident of Gulbagh, Shahjahanpur who took part in pre-test examination for SSC exam.

Police arrested the teacher, Rimi Akhtar, after a case was filed by her father, Mohammad Ali Bhuiyan over instigation to suicide.

A court later placed Rimi on a one-day remand for interrogation.

The victim's cousin Al-Amin said family members of Mailha found her hanging body around 10:00pm in her room, which she had locked from inside a few hours prior.

Her mother and younger sister were in another room of the house. They broke the door with help of neighbours when they did not get any response from inside after knocking the door again and again, he said.

A suicide note was found in her room, which read, "The only cause of my suicide is Rimi madam. She snatched my exam paper without any reason, and gave me low marks in the examination. If you

At least 15 persons, apart from the nine killed in the hideout, were involved in plotting the attacks -- two in the capital's Dhanmondi and Mirpur while another in Narayanganj.

"The militants even completed all groundwork and were scheduled to carry out the attack within a week," high officials of Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, told The Daily Star.

The officials, requesting anonymity, further said the militants also rented a house in Narayanganj while another militant was trying to rent a house in Mirpur. Counterterrorism officials

revealed the information yesterday, as the investigation of the incident comes to its final stages.

"We are very close to completing our investigation and hope to submit the charge sheet soon, as all the necessary reports and evidence are in our hand," Mohibul Islam Khan, deputy commissioner of CTTC unit, told The Daily Star yesterday. Of the 15 militants involved in the attack plots, eight were also named in the charge sheet of the Holey Artisan café attack, that left 20 hostages, mostly foreigners, and two police officials killed on July 1, 2016.

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