

For children, hospital becomes a park

HELEMUL ALAM

Like most children, Sadia gets fidgety as soon as she finds out that her parents will take her to a hospital.

The long corridors filled with patients of various age groups, people walking around with a serious face and on top of that "unfriendly" medical equipment along with stretchers, beds and other furniture at every ward -- what's there to like about, Sadia often ponders.

And, can you actually blame the six-year-old?

Unfortunately for her, she had to get admitted to Dhaka Shishu Hospital four to five times a year, as she has been suffering from kidney disease for five years.

Things, however, turned out different for her during her latest visit this month.

A little modification at the hospital had turned the little one's anxiety into excitement.

These days, Sadia not only goes to the hospital smilingly, but actually insists her parents not to take her home soon.

The reason behind the change in her mindset is the newly-constructed children's park on the hospital premises.

There was an abandoned piece of land (around 10 kathas) inside the hospital, which the authorities renovated and built a park for child patients in February.

Since then, not just for Sadia, but fear of hospital for many children visiting the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



So what he has to see a doctor soon, this little one is all smiles as he rides on a swing at a park inside Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Kamal Hossain on stage, Tarique behind

Quader on Jatiya Oikyafront

UNB, Gazipur

Road, Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said the seven points declared by new political alliance Jatiya Oikyafront are seven conspiracies to foil the next national election.

"Those leaders got united today. Have people accepted their unity? Their leader Kamal Hossain is on the stage, while Tarique Rahman is behind," said Quader while speaking at an election rally and meeting arranged by Gazipur city Awami League at Tongi Government College ground.

Quader, also general secretary of Awami League, said barrister Mainul Hossain was not arrested as a leader of the Oikyafront but as an offender.

"BNP has now got united with the leaders of minus-2 formula, and is demanding his release. Architect of the constitution Dr Kamal Hossain has joined hands with BNP, who are the introducers of dirty politics. So, Kamal is now a spoiled politician," said the minister.

Issuing a warning to local AL leaders, Quader said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina pardoned rival candidates in upazila and municipality elections. "If any rival candidate is found in the national election, they will be expelled from the party immediately."

Later, the minister formally inaugurated election campaign and rally of the party from Tongi, and distributed leaflets among people.

'LAND GRABBING'

Yet another case filed against Dr Zafrullah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A case has been filed against Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury for allegedly grabbing a piece of land in Savar's Ashulia.

With this, a total of four cases, filed on charges of either land grabbing or attempted land grabbing and demanding extortion, have been filed against him with Ashulia Police Station since October 15.

The cases come inside two weeks since a general diary was filed against him with Cantonment Police Station in Dhaka, over remarks on the Army chief at a TV programme, that were termed "motivated, malicious and conspiratorial" and tantamount to sedition.

On Tuesday night, Nasir Uddin, a resident of

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

PM fears arson attacks, urges all to stay alert

World's largest burn and plastic surgery institute inaugurated

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged people of the country to take steps against the culprits who may make arson attacks on people to kill them in coming days.

"Whoever makes such attacks, I urge people to take steps against them at once and we'll do whatever is needed in this regard," she said.

The PM made the remarks while inaugurating the world's largest burn and plastic surgery institute, Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute, in the capital's Chankharpul area.

The health ministry has named the institute after the PM in recognition of her devotion to development of burn and plastic surgery healthcare system.

Recalling the horrible days of 2013, 2014 and 2015 when the BNP-Jamaat clique established a reign of terror through hurling Molotov bombs,

arson attacks and setting public and private establishments on fire, Hasina questioned what type of political movement that was.

"I can't understand that... I don't want such incidents to take place in Bangladesh again," she said.

She said people resisted those heinous attacks of BNP-Jamaat, during which hundreds of people lost their lives and several thousands were injured.

"Our law enforcement agencies, intelligence agencies in cooperation with all had been able to contain such terrorist and militant attacks... I request people to resist the culprits in the future, too," Hasina said.

Stating that the only aim of the government is to materialise the dream of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to make the country a hunger- and poverty-free one, Hasina thanked people as they voted Awami League to power casting

their votes in favour of "Boat".

"If they give us the chance to serve them again, then we'll surely complete our development projects now being implemented," she said.

Hasina said the government will make the country hunger- and poverty-free by 2020, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of independence.

Dhaka South City Mayor Sayeed Khokon; State Minister for Health and Social Welfare Dr Zahid Maleque; Army Chief General Aziz Ahmed; chief coordinator of the institute Dr Samanta Lal Sen and engineering chief of Bangladesh Army Maj Gen M Siddique Rahman Sarker also spoke at the programme, chaired by Health and Social Welfare Minister Mohammad Nasim.

Health Secretary Md Serajul Huq Khan delivered the welcome speech.

The Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute will help

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

57pc patients don't know they have it

69 lakh people suffer from diabetes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Diabetes is an epidemic that can be reined in by making more and more people aware of how to prevent it in the first place, and get proper treatment once someone is diagnosed with the disease, said doctors and pharmaceutical industry insiders yesterday.

As many as 69 lakh people have diabetes across the country, and 57 percent of them do not know they have it, which makes Bangladesh the 10th largest country with people suffering from undiagnosed diabetes, according to the International Diabetes Federation.

The data was made public at the launching ceremony of "Rule of Halves", by Danish multi-national pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk in association with the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (DAB).

Rule of Halves is a theoretical framework used to describe the burden of diabetes and the unmet clinical needs along the treatment pathway.

Novo Nordisk with the DAB and Padma Textiles Ltd has launched a countrywide awareness campaign in the run-up to World Diabetes Day on November 14.

Every part of a person's body having blood circulation can be damaged by diabetes, said MA Rashid, CEO of Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital, while speaking at the programme.

The disease leads to heart complications that have to take the highest blame for deaths from non-communicable

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Don't nominate oppressors

Minorities urge political parties

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's ethnic and religious minority communities yesterday urged political parties not to nominate those candidates for the upcoming parliamentary election, who have past record of committing oppression against them.

They made the call at a press conference organised by Shahebaganj-Bagdarm Bhumu Uddhar Sangram Committee, a platform to protect land rights of indigenous people in Gaibandha, at the capital's Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

The event was organised demanding justice for Santal victims of Gabindaganj atrocity, allegedly carried out by police and local goons in November 2016.

They demanded punishment of the murderers of three Santals, compensation for victims of arson attacks and loots, and their rehabilitation.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Heads of coast guards from 22 countries pay homage to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Bangabandhu Memorial Museum on Dhanmondi Road-32 yesterday. The officials are in town for the ongoing Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (October 23-27), organised by Bangladesh Coast Guard. Inset, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina receives a memento from Rear Admiral AMMM Aurangzeb Chowdhury. The premier is attending the meeting as chief guest.

Labour bill passed at JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Labour (Amendment) Bill, 2018 was passed in parliament last night, aiming to give more facilities to workers and reducing workers' threshold to 20 percent from the existing 30 percent for forming trade unions.

State Minister for Labour and Employment Mujibul Haque placed the bill, which was passed by voice vote.

The bill was prepared and updated following observations of the International Labour Organization (ILO) to make it

labourer-friendly.

Under the proposed law, no child will be allowed to work in factories, and fine for employing child workers will be Tk 5,000.

The Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment has been upgraded to the level of Directorate in the bill.

Under the proposed law, mentally and physically-challenged labourers cannot be employed in any risky work.

According to section 47 of the draft, if any female worker gives birth without informing the authorities concerned, she will get an eight-week

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

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Registrar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First class or equivalent in Public exam (Bachelor & Master) in any disciplines or Ph.D./ M.Phil. Degree from any reputed University/Universities; At least 15 years of professional experience of which at least 10 years administrative experience at a recognized University; Demonstrable leadership is essential.

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Interested candidates are advised to send their detailed CV with a cover letter, copies of certificates and two copies of recent color photographs to the Registrar (In-Charge) by 30 November 2018.

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Data Management Unit of MF- CIB Component, BFP-B is planning and designing at around 7000sqft Space for a Computer Training Lab and a Server Room with 35 Staffs sitting arrangements in a high-rise building.

Reputed Architect firm are requested to communicate at the following e-mail. You are also requested to visit the place and submit your plan with cost estimate. Sealed financial quotation to be sent directly to the FBFP- Office within 10 days as follows.

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HARASSING WOMAN AT CHECKPOST

ASI suspended, 4 constables closed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An assistant sub-inspector of police was suspended and four constables were closed, on charges of harassing a young woman at a checkpoint in the capital's Rampura.

ASI Iqbal Hossain of Rampura Police Station led the five-member checkpoint in front of Rampura TV station around 2:30am on Tuesday, police said.

Sohel Rana, an assistant inspector general (Media) of police headquarters, said Assistant Superintendent of Khilgaon zone police Nadia Jui have been tasked with investigating the incident.

Departmental action will be taken against them as per the probe report, he said.

A video showing on-duty policemen harassing a woman travelling alone in an

SEE PAGE 5 COL 7