

The High Court yesterday directed Ishraque Hossain and Sarika Sadeque, son and daughter of former Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, to surrender before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court in Dhaka in four weeks in connection with two graft cases.

The bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice KM Hafizul Alam passed the order after disposing of their bail petitions.

Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin Manik said the HC also refused to pass any order on their pleas, seeking direction upon police not to harass or arrest the siblings in

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



A monkey carrying its young walks on an iron fence along the boundary of Old Airport near Jahangir Gate. Due to continuous shrinking of open space, the sighting of wildlife in Dhaka city has become a rarity. But unlike the rest of the city, the cantonment still retains some areas with trees and vegetation and hence the habitat of the animal. The photo was taken on Wednesday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## Annisul Huq had courage, dynamism and creativity

FBCCI remembers the late mayor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Late mayor Annisul Huq believed in the motto "If not me, then who; if not now, then when", said top business leaders of the country while commemorating him at a memorial programme yesterday.

Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) organised the meeting at FBCCI auditorium to mark former Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) mayor Annisul Huq's first death anniversary.

Annisul, who had been undergoing treatment at a hospital in London, breathed his last on November 30. He was laid to eternal rest at Banani graveyard on December 2 last year.

Annisul had courage, dynamism, charisma, and creativity, and with these abilities he achieved feats that others could not, said the speakers.

"Tejgaon truck stand would never be cleared without mayor Annisul's initiative, and that proved that he was the only one who could do it," said Atiqul Islam, former president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

Former president of FBCCI, AK Azad said that they never thought the government would allocate money to a private organisation, but Annisul made it possible during his time as FBCCI president. The organisation built chamber buildings in 64 districts with that budget.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

## Emergencies hit women the hardest

Speakers say at roundtable on gender-based violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

During emergencies like natural calamities and national crises, women are hit the hardest, and the recovery period is also the longest for them due to existing inequalities, gender discrimination and incompatible emergency response mechanisms, speakers said yesterday.

In this context, the policymakers and other stakeholders should address gender-based violence (GBV) by following a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach.

This was discussed at a roundtable, titled "Gender-based violence in development and humanitarian settings: Accountability of stakeholders and policymakers", held at Azimur Rahman Conference Hall at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

ActionAid Bangladesh, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and The Daily Star jointly organised the event as part of the ongoing international campaign "16 Days of

Activism Against Gender-based Violence 2018."

Farah Kabir, country director of ActionAid, conducted the discussion while Eiko Narita, UNFPA deputy representative, was the chief guest at the event.

Speaking at the discussion, Eiko Narita said, "Gender-based violence is a very sensitive topic and it has to be handled carefully. It is about the very dignity of a human being."

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Participants at the roundtable yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Charges against Mainul accepted

HC orders health checkup; seeks report by Dec 6

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A tribunal in Dhaka yesterday accepted charges in a case filed against Barrister Mainul Hosein under Digital Security Act over defaming journalist Masuda Bhatti during a television talk show on October 16.

Judge Ash Sams Joglul Hossain accepted the charge sheet submitted by police on November 4, after scrutinising the case dockets and other relevant documents.

The tribunal also fixed January 3 next year for further hearing on Mainul's bail petition in the case.

Earlier on October 24, Sumona Akhter Lily, member of Awami League's Youth and Sports

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

## Justice not ensured to victims of communal violence

Shahriar Kabir says

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Authorities have to ensure that communal violence surrounding national elections in 2001 and 2014 will not be repeated this time, said a national coordination committee of minorities.

The group that uses religion as a tool to gain political advantage becomes active ahead of polls and organises "Waz Mahfil" (religious programme) where hate speeches against minorities, secularism and women are delivered on the pretext of giving lessons on religion, said eminent writer and President of Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee Shahriar Kabir at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad and Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee organised the conference yesterday, demanding protection of minorities from pre- and post-polls violence targeting them.

Father Albert Rozario, a leader of the Christian community, said all are protected when the minorities are protected since they

are the most vulnerable.

Expecting that there will be free and fair polls with participation of all parties that believe in democracy, Oikya Parishad and Nirmul Committee said whoever win the polls and form government, people want them to ensure equal rights and dignity for all – irrespective of religion, gender, language and wealth.

The organisations placed a 12-point demand focusing on the rights of minorities. In a press release, they said they want to see reflection of their expectations and demands in manifestos of all political parties contesting in the polls.

Justice cannot be ensured to victims of communal violence under the existing Penal Code, which is why a minority protection act is necessary, Shahriar said.

When an incident of communal violence occurs, a chaotic situation arises and people get displaced. It becomes very difficult to get medical evidence of crimes like rapes of minority women, he said, adding that in

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

## Parliament mustn't have war criminals

Says Shajahan Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan yesterday said the 11th parliament has to be kept free of war criminals and urged the youth to vote for pro-liberation people.

He made the call at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity while announcing a series of programmes from December 1 to 28 to mark the 47th Victory Day.

Sammilito Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Sramik Karmachari Peshajibi Muktiyoddha Samannay Parishad and Muktiyoddhar Sontan will jointly organise the programmes.

The programmes include several rallies at Shahbagh, placing wreaths at Rayer Bazar killing ground and at the mural of Bangabandhu in Dhanmondi, and setting up of "Bijoy Mancha".

## 'Jiner Badsha' arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The advertisement ran like this: If you have a problem, he has a solution.

Be it marital dispute, financial crisis, curing diseases, collecting debt, subjugating a loved one or what not, claiming himself a "Jiner Badsha" (king of genies), he used to offer people hope of solving all their problems.

However, those who responded were duped and eventually robbed off their money after falling into the trap of Jubair Ahmed – the so-called Jiner Badsha.

The 27-year-old has been conning people for a long time, but luck finally ran out for Jubair as the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police arrested him from a hotel in Dhaka's Farmgate area yesterday morning.

Law enforcers arrested him in connection with a fraud case filed last year, Shah Alam, deputy inspector general of CID, told a press briefing at its headquarters in Malibagh around noon.

Jubair's three accomplices – Zafar Iqbal alias Kajal, Sagar and Samir -- were also arrested recently.

Syeda Jannat, special superintendent of CID, said the accused are members of an organised criminal gang and they used to embezzle money from people by posting advertisements in two weekly magazines. They used the name of "Darbar Sharif"

(shrine) and pictures of some huzurs (religious leaders) to lure people, she added.

"One Taiyubur Rahman, on a monthly payment of Tk 20,000, helped Jubair publish those advertisements," she said, adding that many people became victims of such fraudulence.

One such victim was Sohel Rana of Bhola. Sohel was assured of "winning a lottery" and thus he gave Jubair around Tk



Jubair Ahmed aka 'Jiner Badsha' (centre).

42.25 lakh through an online money transfer service. But all the money was embezzled, the police official added.

Sohel filed a fraud case with Borhan Uddin Police Station in Bhola on July 22 last year.

The CID officials said Jubair was also convicted in another case with the same police station in 2011.

## 14 foreigners held over fraudulence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

They came to Bangladesh as football players or for business purposes. But after the end of their visa tenure, they formed a nexus and started amassing money by duping Bangladeshis using social media platforms.

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-1) came up with the disclosure after arrest of 14 foreign nationals from Dhaka's Khilkhet and Bashundhara early yesterday.

Of the arrestees, seven are from Nigeria, two from Uganda and one each from Cameroon, Congo, Liberia, Tanzania and Mozambique, said Lt Col Sarowar Bin Kashem, commanding officer of Rab-1.

The elite force also seized 29 cell phones, 2 laptops, Tk 1 lakh and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

## US Ambassador Earl R Miller presents credentials to president

UNB, Dhaka

Newly appointed US Ambassador to Bangladesh Earl R Miller yesterday emphasised that a strong Bangladesh-US relationship is in the interest of US and

Bangladeshi people as well as the regional and global community.

Ambassador Miller presented his credentials to President Abdul Hamid at a ceremony at Bangabhaban in the afternoon.

The ambassador, who arrived in Dhaka on November 18, was sworn in at the Department of State in the United States, said the US embassy in Dhaka.

Ambassador Miller, a career member of the US senior foreign service, joined the Department of State in 1987.

He served as US Ambassador to Botswana from 2014 to 2018 and Consul General at the US Consulate General in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 2011 to 2014.

Ambassador Miller also served in Washington, San Francisco, Miami and Boston and at US embassies in El Salvador, Malaysia, Indonesia, Iraq, and India.

He was confirmed as US Ambassador to Bangladesh by the US senate on October 11.



Newly appointed US Ambassador Earl Robert Miller presents his credentials to President Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday.

PHOTO: PTD

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