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"They are Muslims and they are our neighbours and they certainly deserve the same kind of sympathy as non-Muslim minorities who get into difficulties in the neighbouring countries..." NOBEL LAUREATE AMARTYA SEN ABOUT THE ROHINGYAS (PAGE 16)



"One of the problems at educational institutions is the shortage of teachers. Transparency will be ensured in recruiting new teachers." EDUCATION MINISTER DIPU MONI (PAGE 3)



"What I did was at the direction of and for the sole benefit of @realDonaldTrump @POTUS." EX-TRUMP LAWYER COHEN SAYS ABOUT RIGGING ONLINE POLLING DATA IN 2015. (PAGE 8)

Mass promotion for cops sought

Proposal for promoting 280 senior officials in in-situ posts sent to ministry less than 3 months after another large-scale promotion

Additional IG

Additional DIG

DIG

SHARIFUL ISLAM

ary promotion in large numbers, the police sent the government another list of 280 officials, ranging from superintendent of police to additional inspector general, for promotion.

The police headquarters forwarded the list to the home ministry on January 8, a police high-up told The Daily Star, seeking anonymity.

In November last year, the government promoted 230 additional SPs to SPs in situ amid police officials' demand for promotion.

An in-situ official is someone who continues to hold the same office and perform the same duties despite being promoted to a higher position. Since no post is currently vacant in the department's top tier, the police headquarters came up with the

British-era in-situ formula for promotion.

The fresh police proposal came just a Buoyed by the recent in-situ or supernumer- week after the December 30 parliamentary election in which the ruling Awami League and its allies won by a landslide, securing 288 seats.

Transparency International Bangladesh,

which conducted a survey on 50 out of 299 constituencies, observed on January 15 that the role of a section of polling officers and law enforcement agencies was biased. The Election Commission and the AL, however, rejected the findings.

On July 4 last year, the police headquarters sent a

proposal to the home ministry for promotion of 495 officials, ranging from additional SPs to additional IGs, based on the insitu formula. And the government promoted 230 officials in November.

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A thick plume of smoke billows from a blaze at a warehousing facility in Chattogram city's Pahartoli area yesterday. The fire broke out at a hired warehouse of RFL Plastics Ltd in the afternoon and spread to four other adjoining warehouses.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Oikyafront can't sustain

Says Quader; AL's 'victory rally' today STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The opposition alliance --Jatiya Oikyafront -- cannot last as ties between communal and non-communa

forces cannot continue, Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader said yesterday. "Elements of split are

there [within the Oikyafront], so it cannot exist," he said, adding, "We spotted the splitting factors in the Oikyfront from the beginning."

Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, was talking to journalists at Suhrawardy Udyan after overseeing the preparation of today's grand rally of the party celebrating its landslide victory in the December 30 election.

Prime Minister Sheikh SEE PAGE 12 COL 5

What's the colour of your eatery?

People will know food quality, hygiene of restaurants thru coloured stickers under food safety regulator's initiative

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA and MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

38

The Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA) has come up with a grading system for restaurants on the basis of quality of food and overall hygiene of the establishments.

As part of the system, coloured stickers -- green, blue, yellow and orange -- will be used to signify the grades of A+, A, B and C respectively awarded to the restaurants after scrutiny. A+ would mean excellent, A good, B average and C grade pending.

The stickers will be pasted at a visible place on restaurant premises for the convenience of its patrons. Bangladesh Restaurant Owners' Association (BROA) would help the BFSA encourage restaurant owners to comply with BFSA's standards.

On January 20, the BFSA will formally hand over the stickers to the restaurants owners at an event in a hotel in the capital.

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GRADES MAIN CRITERIA Necessary proof/certification documents Individual hygiene EXCELLENT Legitimate source (of food and others) A Relative contamination Cleanliness GOOD (Food) processing procedures and temperature control Equipment/ machinery AVERAGE

Chemical substance

GRADE PENDING Police Station.

Pests and insects control Drainage and pipeline management. Rape accused found dead with a note

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The key suspect in the gang-rape and murder of a female garment worker has been found shot dead in Savar on the outskirts of the capital.

Police recovered the body of Ripon, 39, from a field in Khagan area around 6:00pm on Thursday. There was a bullet wound on the head and a note reading "I am the prime accused in a rape . case" was found tied around his neck, said Abdul Awal, officer incharge of Savar Model

In the early hours of January 7, an 18-year-old girl was found dead in her house in Ashulia's Berun area, hours after she had filed a case with Ashulia Police Station against Ripon, of

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PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

As cruel as it gets Horrific tale of a teen

· A domestic help was allegedly raped · by her employer for about two years · at his flat in a two-storey building in the city's Halishahar area.

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN, Chattogram

As the victim told her uncle, a security guard of the building, about her . ordeal on the night of December 29 last year, he also allegedly raped her.

This only came to light on Thursday night when the girl's father

' filed a rape case with Halishahar Police Station against the two alleged Police on the same night arrested the security guard from his rented

. house in Halishahar. However, the other accused went into hiding. Law enforcers said the father used to visit her 17-year-old daughter once

· or twice a month, but she didn't tell him about the sexual assault for fear of · losing the job. To support her day labourer father financially, the girl went to the house

in Halishahar's Madhyam Rampura area on January 01, 2017 to work as a domestic help.

Her father had no worries over sending her to the house as his younger · brother, 40, was a security guard there. The girl was raped by the 63-year-old homeowner many times till last

month when his family members were away from home, police said.

Ashikur Rahaman, assistant commissioner (Double Mooring Zone) of

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Shakib roars against Sylhet

SPORTS REPORTER

Skipper Shakib Al Hasan's all-round performance helped Dhaka Dynamites return to winning ways as they recorded a six-wicket win over Sylhet Sixers in yesterday's first Bangladesh Premier League game at the Sylhet International Stadium.

After bagging two wickets for just 34 runs from four overs, the champion cricketer struck his first fifty of the sixth edition and remained unbeaten on a 41ball 61, which included eight fours and two sixes, to comfortably chase the target of 159 runs with three overs to spare.

It was Shakib's first fifty in the BPL since he scored 59 runs for Dhaka Gladiators against Chittagong Vikings back in 2013 in the second edition of the tournament and his celebration after

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The water of the Karnaphuli has turned blackish due to continuous dumping of liquid and solid waste of Chattogram city through different canals. The photo was taken from the Karnaphuli bridge recently.

CLASHES IN RAKHINE STATE

Myanmar army kills 13 rebels

UN rights envoy voices alarm, urges restraint on all sides

REUTERS, Naypyitaw

Myanmar's army has killed 13 rebel fighters in the western Rakhine State, a military spokesman said yesterday, as government troops battle to contain a new insurgency in the troubled region.

Fighting between security forces and the Arakan Army, an ethnic armed group seeking greater autonomy for Rakhine, has forced some 5,000 civilians to flee their homes since early December, according to the United Nations.

The violence has brought fresh turmoil to the region, the site of a massive crackdown on the Rohingya Muslim minority in 2017, and represents another setback for the

Buddhist-majority country's embattled peace process. "Between January 5 and 16, 2019, there were eight clashes and five landmine explosions," said Major General Tun Tun Nyi, speaking at a rare press conference in the capital, Naypyitaw.

"Thirteen enemy bodies and three weapons were seized, and some soldiers died and were injured on our side," he

He declined to elaborate on the number of government troops killed, saying it was "not necessary" to give the figures.

The Arakan Army could not be immediately reached for comment, but a spokesman outside Myanmar previously told Reuters five bodies seized by the military did not belong to their fighters.

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