



Sylhet city's Kajalshah Dighi is covered with duckweeds and garbage due to careless dumping of rubbish and lack of maintenance for a long time. Inset, residents along with schoolchildren formed a human chain in Kajalshah yesterday, demanding that the large pond be cleaned as its water has become unusable due to pollution.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## 17 burglars held in port city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police claimed to have arrested 11 members of a burglar gang from a hotel in Chattogram city's Laldighi area early yesterday.

Police said they used to commit burglary in different districts including Dhaka, Chattogram, Barishal and Cumilla.

Two guns, four rounds of cartridges and different tools used for theft were also seized from the arrestees, they added.

Law enforcers identified the arrestees as Liakat Hossain, Akram alias Arman Sagor, Hanif, Towfiq, Masum, Noyon Mallik, Milan, Kamal Hossain, Jamal Uddin, Kamal alias Bhusi Kamal, and Mizan.

Among them, Hanif -- alias Hatpora Hanif -- is the ringleader of the group, while Kamal is his second in command, police said.

Mehedi Hasan, deputy commissioner of Chattogram Metropolitan Police (South Zone), said two theft cases were filed with Kotwali Police Station in February and June.

Investigators found clues about the gang through CCTV footage, he said while addressing a press conference at his office.

Inspector (Investigation) of Kortali Police Station Md Kamruzzaman said Hanif has 45 operatives, working in nine other small groups.

"Hanif supports them financially when they are arrested," said the inspector. They were shown arrested in the two cases, he added.

Meanwhile, Bandar police arrested six alleged burglars from different areas along with looted valuables and cash, said Additional Deputy Commissioner (port) Arefin Juwel.

## Prof Muzaffar Ahmed laid to rest in Cumilla

UNB, Cumilla

National Awami Party (NAP) chief Prof Muzaffar Ahmed was laid to rest with state honour at his village home in Debidwar upazila of Cumilla yesterday.

Prof Muzaffar was buried after Zohr prayers. Earlier, his fourth namaz-e-janaza was held at the courtyard of his house at Elahabad.

Krishak Sramik Janata League President Kader Siddique, local MP Razi Mohammad Fakhru Awami League and NAP leaders spoke before the burial.

The third namaz-e-janaza was held at Cumilla Town Hall ground at 10am.

His body was taken to Cumilla on Saturday night, a day after his death at a hospital in Dhaka.

The 98-year-old was suffering from old age complications.

Prof Muzaffar was part of the wartime Bangladesh government in exile and a close friend of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

## Tech-based skills necessary to secure country's future

Speakers say at views-exchange meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a views-exchange meeting yesterday stressed the need for creating opportunities for the country's students so that they can develop technology-related skills for building the nation in future.

They said the future of mankind will be based on technological advancement and Bangladesh's next generation should take preparation in that direction from now.

The views-exchange was arranged as part of the 2nd Standard Chartered Bangladesh-Prothom Alo Inter School and College Programming Contest

2019 at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka.

Addressing the meeting, noted scientist Prof M. Kaykobad said developing technology-based skills among students is a necessity because Bangladesh's transition into a middle-income country will not be possible only through earning foreign remittance and exporting RMG goods.

He emphasised on developing problem-solving skills among students.

Matiur Rahman, editor and publisher of Prothom Alo, said, "Bangladesh is making progress. We always think about the future of the nation. For that purpose, we will try to

make this year's programming contest larger, more effective, and preparatory than last year."

Naser Ezzaz Bijoy, CEO of Standard Chartered Bangladesh, said they need skilled individuals who have the ability of critical thinking and are capable of solving various problems.

Last year, 60 schools took part in the competition, while this year it will start with participation from 100 schools, said Munir Hasan, coordinator of Prothom Alo's Youth Programme.

The computer programming competition aims to provide a

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## Sylhet City Corporation announces Tk 789cr budget

Focus on sustainable infrastructural development

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Focusing on infrastructural and service development, Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) Mayor Ariful Haque Choudhury yesterday declared Tk 789.38 crore budget for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

The budget is Tk 41 crore more than that of last year.

In his speech at a hotel in the city's Dargah Gate area, the mayor said that the city corporation has targeted to earn Tk 79.42 crore from different sources, among which holding taxes will be key.

The budget mentions no separate allocation for anti-mosquito drives, despite the recent outbreak of dengue.

The city is also about to get Tk 200 crore from the government for infrastructural development, the mayor said, adding that the key income will come from government allocations in different sectors.

The mayor said that this budget aims for sustainable infrastructural development, including modern waste management, drainage, and



Mayor Ariful Haque Choudhury at the programme.

road development.

To provide quality services to city dwellers, SCC already initiated city bus service, health cards for school students, free WiFi zones etc, said Mayor Ariful.

In the budget speech, the mayor said that the waterlogging problem

of the city has reduced dramatically due to the canal excavation in the last couple of years, but the river Surma needs to be dredged.

He said that the city corporation asked the government and concerned authority to take necessary steps for dredging the river.

## US Coast Guard team inspecting security system at Ctg port

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A three-member team of the United States Coast Guard yesterday arrived at Chattogram Port to inspect security measures at the country's premier sea port.

The delegation, on a two-day tour, reached the country on Saturday to inspect security measures at the port -- in compliance with International Ship and Port Security (ISPS) code, said sources.

The team met with senior officials of Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) at the CPA conference room yesterday morning, said CPA Secretary Md Omar Faruk, adding that the team is scheduled to visit

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## NSU holds discussion on Bangabandhu

CITY DESK

North South University held a discussion, marking the 44th death anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, on its Bashundhara campus in Dhaka yesterday, says a press release.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader was present as chief guest on the occasion.

Sheikh Kabir Hossain, chairman, Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh, was present as special guest. Benajir Ahmed, NSU trustee board chairman, was guest of honour.

Other members of the board -- MA Hashem, MA Kashem, Mohammed Shajahan, Mahbubur Rahman, Yasmin Kamal and Rehana Rahman -- also attended the programme. NSU Vice Chancellor Prof Atiqul Islam chaired the programme moderated by Jamil Ahmed, director, public relations office of the university.

Obaidul Quader said, "We need to know who amended the constitution to protect



Obaidul Quader addresses the discussion as chief guest.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

the killers of Bangabandhu. They have to be exposed in front of the nation."

Sheikh Kabir Hossain requested university authorities to launch a Bangabandhu research centre on its campus.

Benajir Ahmed said Bangabandhu's March 7 historic speech provided guiding directions for the nation.

Among others, NSU Pro-VC Prof M Ismail Hossain, deans of different schools, directors, administrative heads, faculty members and students were present.

## JOURNALIST SHIMUL KILLING

### Charge framing deferred 3rd time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

For the third time yesterday, a speedy trial tribunal in Rajshahi deferred the date of the hearing on charge framing in the case of killing Sirajganj journalist Abdul Hakim Shimul.

At the same time, tribunal judge Anup Kumar also rejected the bail petition of the prime accused in the case, Halimul Haque Miru, suspended mayor of Shahzadpur municipality.

Once again, the defendant's side showed that an accused person was

absent in the court, and prayed for deferring the date, said public prosecutor Entajul Haque.

He said the defendant's side argued they were not prepared for the hearing on the initial date of August 8.

They argued that Kalu, an accused who was arrested in Chapainawabganj, could not be produced in front of the court on the second date of August 18, and yesterday, they claimed another accused, Shaheb Ali, who was arrested in Sirajganj, could not be produced, he said.

"The arguments of the defendants

are puzzling me. They are clearly bringing pleas to defer the hearing date," Entajul Haque said.

On February 2, 2017, Shimul, who was Shahzadpur correspondent of the daily Samakal, received bullet injuries in his head from the shotgun used by Miru while Shimul was covering a clash between two feuding groups of Chhatra League in the municipal area. Shimul succumbed to his injuries the next day.

Shimul's wife Nurunnahar Khatun filed a case in this regard with

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## Road accidents kill eight, injure nine

STAR REPORT

At least eight people were killed and nine injured in road accidents across the country in the last two days, according to reports from our correspondents and news agencies.

In Madaripur, three people were killed and one was injured in two separate accidents in Kalkini and Shibchar upazilas yesterday.

In Kalkini, two people were killed and one was injured when a bus of Sugandha Paribahan hit a rickshaw-van at Kornopara area on Dhaka-Barishal highway.

The deceased are Motaleb Matubbar, 60, from Minajdi area in Kalkini municipality; and Ummani Begum, 52, from Maizpara village of the upazila.

Locals said Motaleb and Ummani were travelling on the rickshaw-van. Motaleb died on the spot.

The puller and Ummani were seriously injured and were rushed to Madaripur General Hospital where the on-duty doctor declared Ummani dead. The puller was later sent to Faridpur Medical College Hospital.

After the incident, locals blocked the highway for one and a half hours but police brought the situation under control.

Badrul Alom, additional superintendent of police in Madaripur, said police seized the bus but the driver fled the scene.

In Shibchar, a rickshaw-van puller was killed when a truck hit his vehicle at Hazi Shoriattullah bridge area on Dhaka-Khulna highway.

The deceased is Zakir Fakir, 35, from Bablatola area of the upazila.

Quoting locals, police said the trucker had lost control

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# মাত্র ৭% হারে গৃহ ঋণ !

স্বপ্ন পূরণে আমরা আছি আপনার পাশে ...

পেরিআরবান, উপজেলা সদর এবং গ্রোথ সেন্টার এলাকায় কৃষক আবাসন ঋণের সুদের হার ৭%।

ঢাকা ও চট্টগ্রাম মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকা ব্যতীত দেশের অন্যান্য এলাকার বিএইচবিএফসির ঋণের সুদের হার ৮%।

ঢাকা ও চট্টগ্রাম মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকায় সকল ঋণের সুদের হার ৯%।

সারাদেশে ফ্ল্যাট ঋণের সুদের হার ৯%।

- বিএইচবিএফসি সরল সুদে ঋণ প্রদান করে থাকে, কখনই সুদের উপর সুদ আরোপ করে না।
- কোন প্রকার Hidden Charge নেই।
- Early Settlement এর ক্ষেত্রে কোন চার্জ প্রযোজ্য নয়।
- কিস্তির অতিরিক্ত জমাকৃত টাকা আসলে সমন্বয় করা হয়।
- ব্যাংকে না যেয়ে অনলাইনে ঋণের কিস্তি পরিশোধের সুবিধা।

বাংলাদেশ হাউস বিল্ডিং ফাইন্যান্স কর্পোরেশন  
Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation

বিস্তারিত জানতে নিকটস্থ শাখা অফিস অথবা [www.bhbf.gov.bd](http://www.bhbf.gov.bd) গয়েবসাইট ভিজিট করুন।  
হেল্প লাইন : ০২৯৫৬১৩৮০, ০১৫৫০০৪৩৩০৫-৬

গৃহাধিকারের দিকপন্থে প্রতিশ্রুতির স্মারক