



**THE BIG FISH...** A fisherman proudly shows off his catch -- a 150kg bagha ayer (dwarf goonch) -- at Lalbazar market in Sylhet city. It was netted from Kushiara river on Wednesday. The fish generated much curiosity but the Tk 4 lakh price tag did not attract that many buyers. The seller then announced over loudspeaker that it will be cut into pieces and sold to individuals separately. Within an hour, at least 50 people were willing to make a purchase and each kg was sold at around Tk 3,000. The photo was taken at 11:30pm.

Prof Mohammed Noman's 23rd death anniversary



CITY DESK

The 23rd death anniversary of Prof Mohammed Noman -- an eminent educationist, former vice chancellor of Jahangirnagar University and recipient of Ekushey Padak -- will be observed today, said a press release. His family has arranged Quran recitation and milad mahfil to mark the occasion. Food will be distributed in orphanages and among the destitute. Professor Noman Smriti Foundation has also chalked out elaborate programmes. All his relatives, well-wishers and students are requested to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

## CCC bans sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chattogram

Chattogram City Corporation (CCC) has issued a circular, banning the sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions. The circular which also includes ban on advertisements was published on September 3 in local dailies. The circular said sale, advertisement, and promotion of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions will be treated as punishable offence as per Cigarette and Tobacco Product Control Act 2005 (amendment 2015). The circular asked tobacco companies to stop sale of and publication, advertisement promoting tobacco products within the said periphery of educational institutions by September 10. CCC's mobile courts will take steps as per law if anyone is found selling and advertising tobacco products within the said area after September 10, the circular added. Md Shamsuddoha, chief executive officer of CCC, told The Daily Star that the circular comes as part of prime minister's directive to free the country of

tobacco by 2040. "If we can prevent our students from consuming tobacco, we will get an anti-tobacco generation. This is why we issued the circular as per the law," he said. Nazer Hossain, president of Consumer Association of Bangladesh's Chattogram chapter, told The Daily Star that the decision to ban tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions was a milestone for Chattogram. "Students are often tempted by sale and advertisement of cigarettes. Taking up smoking at an early age often leads to using narcotics. This ban is a step towards a tobacco-free nation," he said. Sisir Dutta, executive director of Bangladesh Institute of Theatre Arts -- a non-government organisation involved in generating awareness against tobacco products, told The Daily Star that laws were hardly implemented in the country. "We raised awareness and recently conducted a study on the sale of tobacco products within the periphery of educational institutions that helped CCC understand how rampant it is in Chattogram city. We welcome the ban which we hope will help us have a tobacco-free city gradually," he added.

DISMISSAL OF WORKERS, SHUTTING DOWN FACTORIES

## Ashulia RMG workers threaten tougher movement

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Workers of an RMG factory in Ashulia, which was declared shut on Wednesday, have threatened to go for a tougher movement if the authorities failed to resume operation by tomorrow. Workers of Eske Clothing Ltd in Ashulia industrial belt area also demanded reinstatement of 28 workers, who were sacked on August 29, and justice for female fellows allegedly beaten up for protesting the dismissal. More than 800 workers held a sit-in in front of the factory in Jamgora area from 8am to 10:30am yesterday. Later, they agreed to postpone their demonstration till tomorrow, after worker leaders assured them of fulfilling their demands. Contacted, Sarwar Hosen, joint organising secretary of Bangladesh Bastra o Poshak Shilpa Samik League, said they have sent an application to Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and the industrial police in this regard. "If the demands are not met within the stipulated time, we'll go tougher movement," he said. On Wednesday, two RMG factories were shut down for indefinite period, following an ongoing protest over dismissal of 58 workers. Workers alleged that Eske Clothing



Workers demonstrating in front of a factory yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Ltd and Naba Knit Composite Ltd sacked 28 and 30 workers respectively on August 29, without any valid reason. They have been protesting the decisions since then. Some of them also alleged that they were beaten by miscreants hired by the authorities of Eske Clothing on

September 1. At least five workers, most of them women, sustained injuries. The authorities of the factories denied the allegations. Contacted, SP Sana Saminur Rahman of industrial police (Dhaka-1), said, "We are trying to solve the matter." Additional police were deployed in the area, he added.

## 7 killed, 3 injured in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Seven people were killed and three others injured in road accidents during the last two days, our correspondents report. In the capital's Turag, Parvez Rob, 55, a singer and music composer by profession, was killed as a bus hit him around 11am, said police. Parvez was trying to board a bus in front of East West Medical College Hospital. He was taken to Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, they added. Police seized the bus, but its driver managed to flee. In Bogura, two trucks collided head-on in Sherpur early yesterday, leaving both drivers and one of their



A truck that collided head-on with another truck being removed from the spot in Bogura.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## 'IRREGULARITIES IN DEV WORK' Protests continue at JU

JU CORRESPONDENT

Students and teachers besieged the two administrative buildings of Jahangirnagar University (JU) for the third consecutive day yesterday, protesting alleged corruption of the authorities and unplanned development work which they claim will endanger the biodiversity of the campus. The protesters started gathering on the campus and blocked entrances of the two buildings around 8:30am under the banner "Jahangirnagar Against Corruption." Around 12pm, JU Vice Chancellor Professor Farzana Islam, along with administrative officials, spoke with protesters about holding a meeting to resolve the issue. The protesters bargained with the VC about their demands for at least one hour. They said if the authorities are sincere about a discussion, then it might happen. However, the authorities did not give any assurance about changing the masterplan. Ashikur Rahman, president of Jahangirnagar Sangskritik Jote and one of the leaders of the protest, said that they are willing to discuss all issues with the administration except the allegation of

corruption. He added, "We will agree to a meeting presided by an official of the state or of University Grants Commission, but the VC cannot preside over the meeting as the allegations have been brought against her." The protesters said their demonstration will continue during discussions. Meanwhile, JU unit Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) issued a press release saying that all allegations of graft against JU BCL and central BCL over the development project are "completely false and fabricated." A different faction of teachers yesterday protested the recent statement of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) over "irregularities" centring JU's development work. They demanded withdrawal of the statement, saying it is disappointing that such a statement has been released before an enquiry. Agitated students and teachers of JU have been demonstrating on campus since August 23 demanding the relocation of three male students' dormitories which the authorities planned to construct near Rabindranath Hall, and a judicial probe into the allegations of corruption.

## Cox's Bazar municipality culling dogs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Cox's Bazar municipality authorities launched a drive to cull dogs on Wednesday, in violation of a High Court injunction. Since Wednesday night, conservancy unit of Cox's Bazar killed at least 45 dogs at various points of the municipality, admitted Khurshed Alam, administrative officer of Cox's Bazar municipality. He said they launched the drive, as stray dogs are "a nuisance to public and tourists." Asked if it was done based on any specific complaint, he said, "No. All those killed were stray dogs. We have been doing this regularly," he said, adding that he was not aware of any legal restriction against it. Mojibur Rahman, mayor of Cox's Bazar municipality, did not receive phone calls requesting a comment. Trisha Bhattacharya, founder of Chattogram-based animal welfare group Society of Rise for Paws and Claws, said, "They did this last year as well. Because they did not face any consequence, they are culling dogs again." Over 250 dogs in Cox's Bazar were vaccinated in April, in an effort by several animal rights groups. The HC in 2014 issued an order, banning dog culling. The government earlier this year also passed the Animal Welfare Act-2019, which prohibits killing of ownerless animals, violation of which can warrant Tk 10,000 fine or six months in jail.



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## Appeal for help



CITY DESK

Md Mahtab Uddin, a senior journalist and former professor, has been suffering from thyroid cancer for more than three years. He underwent two major surgeries at CMC Hospital, Vellore in India, but his situation did not improve. Moreover, the cancer is spreading along his neck and upper chest area. He needs monetary support for treatment. Financial assistance can be sent to his Brac Bank account: 1505100834726001. His contact number is: 01763308264.

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award Foundation event held at DU

CITY DESK

Dhaka University's student counseling and guidance office held a discussion, celebrating the 10th anniversary of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Foundation Bangladesh, at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhavan of DU yesterday. DU VC Prof Akhtaruzzaman attended it as chief guest, says a press release. John May, secretary general, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation UK; and AK Shamsuddin Khan, chairman, board of trustees, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Foundation Bangladesh, were also present. DU Pro-VC, deans of faculties, directors of different wings, chairpersons and student



PHOTO: COLLECTED

advisors of departments, hall provosts, award coordinator and leaders, distinguished teachers, Rizwan Bin Farouq from the board of trustees, and executive committee members of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Foundation were also present. DU has been patronising the award since its inception in Bangladesh in 2008.