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INT'L LITERACY DAY

Literacy project heads nowhere

Designed to benefit 45 lakh people, the Tk 453cr scheme in crisis for fund crunch, wrong decisions

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR and WASIM BIN HABIB

Tk 453-crore literacy project meant to benefit 45 lakh people has suffered setbacks for fund crisis, a deviation from the original plan and wrong selection of beneficiaries. In 2014, the government took up the Basic Literacy Project to be implemented with own fund for providing basic literacy and life skills to people aged between 15 and 45 in 64 districts by June 2018. A couple of years after it was launched, the Bureau of Non-Formal Education, the implementing agency, had to drop the life skills component due to fund crisis. Besides, the project deadline was extended twice, yet only one third of the work has been implemented. Released in May this year, an in-depth government monitoring report has found that selection of 63 percent of the project beneficiaries were not done in line with the plan. In the report, the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the planning ministry said 40 percent of the 23 lakh beneficiaries are those who "dropped out" of formal education, although the project is designed to provide basic literacy to the illiterates. And 23 percent of the beneficiaries were enrolled in non-formal education programmes previously, read the report.

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Metal frames installed on the central reservation of a street near Phulbaria in Gulistan to protect the plants and trees there have been sawed off and stolen. The Dhaka South City Corporation had installed these as part of a beautification move.

PHOTO: STAR

BCL man beats up JU protester

Authorities forced to sue the BCL leader: talks postponed

JU CORRESPONDENT

Long-awaited talks between protesters and the Jahangirnagar University administration were postponed yesterday after a demonstrator was assaulted allegedly by a Chhatra League leader. Many teachers and students joined the protesters soon after the incident around 10:00am and demanded the authorities took immediate action over the matter. Amid protests, the university authorities around 2:00pm filed a complaint with the Ashulia Police Station against Abhishekh Mandal, organising secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra League's JU unit, for assaulting environmental sciences student Nurul Islam Saimum, said JU Chief Security Officer Sudipto Shaheen.

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Teen gangs to be uprooted

DMP chief says; home boss urges parents to keep an eye on children

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday urged parents to keep an eye in their children's activities to keep them from getting involved in teen gangs. He made the remarks while addressing a discussion at Police Staff College in Dhaka's Mirpur over prevention of harassment, negative uses of internet, child marriage and other social issues. "We are observing that some of the teenagers are staying out at night. I would request parents to look out for their children so that they do not get involved in teen gangs," he said. The home boss also said that actions would be taken as per the law if any teenager was involved in criminal activities. "There are laws for juvenile delinquents," he warned. Meanwhile, Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia vowed to uproot the gang culture. "Any sort of gang, may it be teen's or adult's, will be uprooted from Dhaka,"

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JASHORE RAPE

Fourth accused yet to be identified

SHARIFUL ISLAM and MOHSIN MILON

Police are yet to determine if the unnamed accused in a case filed over raping a woman in Jashore on early Tuesday is SI Khairul. Four people were accused in the case filed by the woman. Police arrested three named accused -- Kamrul, Abdul Latif and Omar Ali -- and are still looking for the unnamed suspect. Several police officers who are involved with the investigation said they would be able to identify the person after interrogating the three arrested accused in remand. Police have already appealed to a Jashore court seeking remand for the arrested accused. The court is scheduled to hear the appeal today. By the time the interrogations start, the investigators are expecting to complete some other investigations with the help of technology to determine whether SI Khairul had gone to the victim's house on early Tuesday, said a police official involved with the investigation. The victim, a mother of two, has been claiming that the fourth accused, who was not named in the case statement, is sub-inspector Khairul Alam, in-charge of Gorpara Police Camp under Sharsha Police Station in Jashore. Though the victim initially alleged that the police officer and his "source" had raped her, senior police officers said Khairul was not named in the case as the victim could not recognise him when he was produced before her on Tuesday night. The victim a day later claimed that she did not name Khairul fearing backlash. Evidence of rape has been found in the medical test and specimens of the victim and the three accused have already been sent to Criminal Investigation Department in Dhaka for DNA test.

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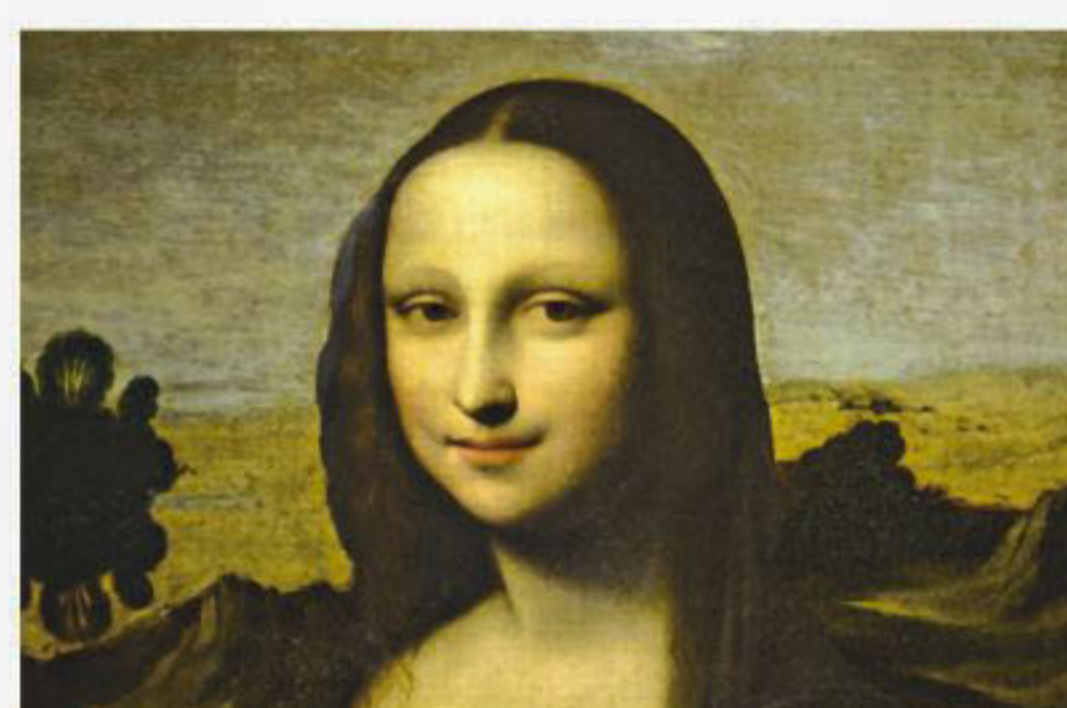
Con man steals Tk 4.6 lakh from ATM booths

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sometimes he would stand outside and sometimes inside ATM booths as if he was there to help those in need of support during transactions. The fact is he is a fraudster waiting to seal their debate or credit cards. And stealing was easy. When someone shared their PIN numbers with him in good faith, he would hand them over a fake card of the same bank after the transaction and keep the real one to withdraw the rest of the amount later. Using this method, Shahidul Islam, 35, swindled Tk 4.66 lakh from 12 accounts in Dhaka and Faridpur in the last one year before the detective branch (DB) of police arrested him from Mirpur on Thursday night.

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Who owns 2nd Mona Lisa!



CNN ONLINE

With her straight dark hair and beguiling smile, the so-called "Isleworth Mona Lisa" bears an uncanny resemblance to her namesake in the Louvre. To some experts, these similarities suggest the painting is a mere copy, though a handful of art historians believe it to be an earlier, unfinished version by Leonardo da Vinci himself. This debate has raged for decades. But now the portrait stands at the center of a new dispute: an impending legal battle over its ownership. And if 2017's record-breaking sale of another disputed Leonardo -- the "Salvator Mundi," whose authentication is still hotly debated -- is anything to go by, there could be millions of dollars at stake. Known to some as the "Earlier Mona Lisa," the painting has spent much of the past five decades hidden in a Swiss bank vault. Acquired by a

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Man killed by 'muggers'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man was stabbed to death allegedly by a group of muggers in Gazipur's Tongi early yesterday. The dead is Kamrul Islam, 35, a zonal officer (Sylhet) of Pran-RFL Group, said police. Sohrab Hossain, sub-inspector of Tongi Purba Police Station, said Kamrul was stabbed on his chest around 4:00am and died on the spot. Police recovered documents from Kamrul's pocket that helped them to identify the victim and

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 8
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:35 12:45 4:30 6:20 7:45
JAMAAT 5:10 1:15 4:45 6:25 8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

India loses contact with Moon lander

APP, NDTV

India's space programme suffered a huge setback yesterday after losing contact with an unmanned spacecraft moments before it was due to make a historic soft landing on the Moon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi sought to comfort glum scientists and a stunned nation from mission control in Bangalore, saying India was still "proud" and clapping the visibly emotional space agency head in a lengthy hug. Blasting off in July, the emerging Asian giant had hoped to become just the fourth country after the United States, Russia and regional rival China to make a successful Moon landing, and the first on the lunar South Pole. But in the early hours of yesterday, as Modi looked on and millions watched nationwide with bated breath, the Vikram lander -- named after the father of India's space programme

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A stone-laden lorry lies on its side at Manikchhari on Chattogram-Rangamati highway yesterday. Locals claimed that every month four to five overloaded trucks flip on the highway that goes through the difficult terrain.

PHOTO: ANVIL CHAKMA

EC installs server for Rohingya data

The move is aimed at preventing Rohingyas getting NIDs

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The Election Commission has set up a separate server to store information and fingerprints of Rohingyas in order to prevent the refugees from obtaining National Identity Cards and becoming voters. The authorities have names and fingerprints of the Rohingyas from a previous biometric registration programme. The EC would now cross-check those with the country's main NID data to identify the Rohingyas, officials said. "We have set up separate servers for Rohingyas... to identify them," Director General (NID) Brig Gen Mohammad Sidul Islam of the EC told The Daily Star yesterday. The EC has basic information and fingerprints of over 11 lakh refugees. The EC's Director (operations, NID) Abdul Baten said, "If someone wants to get an NID card from anywhere in the country, we will cross-check their details with Rohingyas' database." The EC's move comes amid allegations that many of the refugees have been obtaining Bangladeshi passports with the help of influential locals and officials. Through offering bribes and using their connections, a syndicate manages collects the NID card, citizenship certificate, birth registration certificate and police verification certificate for the refugees. On Thursday night, police in Chattogram arrested three Rohingya men with Bangladeshi passports in the city's Kattoli area.

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