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"Thousands of people are now roaming around the capital with their briefcases to lend money to Bangladesh."  
PLANNING MINISTER MA MANNAN AT A PROGRAMME IN CHATTOGRAM (PAGE 5)

"Corruption and abuse of politically-linked power is no monopoly of leaders of student and youth organisations ... nor are other front organisations of the political party immune to the malaise."  
TIB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IFTEKHARUZZAMAN IN A STATEMENT (PAGE 3)

"There is a huge difference between Australian women's football and our women's football. I think drawing against Australia is a big achievement."  
BANGLADESH U-16 WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM COACH GOLAM RABBANI CHOTON (PAGE 14)

GOPALGANJ SCIENCE &amp; TECH UNIVERSITY

## Outsiders attack students; 20 hurt

Food supply to resident students stopped; power, water lines of halls snapped; early puja vacation declared to quell protest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students demonstrating for the resignation of the vice chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University (BSMRSTU) in Gopalganj were attacked yesterday.

They alleged the attackers were goons hired by the VC, Prof Khondoker Md Nasiruddin, who wanted to quell the movement by intimidating them.

Wielding sticks, dozens of "outsiders" swooped on the students at four places when they were on their way to the campus from their homes in adjacent areas, the demonstrators alleged.

The attacks, between 10:30am and 1:00pm, left at least 20 students, including three university correspondents of different newspapers, injured. Many of them were being treated at Gopalganj Sadar Hospital, they said.

The incident triggered condemnation from teachers and journalists.

Assistant Proctor Humayun Kabir resigned in protest.

Since Thursday, several thousand students have been demonstrating for the VC's removal, bringing allegations against him of sexual harassment, nepotism in recruiting teachers and other employees, and corruption in development projects, including the construction of the Shaheed Minar and Bangabandhu's mural on the campus.

Some students are on an indefinite hunger strike to press home the same demand.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH VIDEO



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Students demonstrate at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University in Gopalganj demanding the removal of its vice chancellor. Inset, an injured protester being taken care of by his fellows after he was beaten up allegedly by goons hired by the VC.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## GK Shamim on remand

Sued in 3 cases for extortion, drug dealing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SM Golam Kibria Shamim was accused of tender manipulation, extortion, and running drugs and gambling rackets in one of the three cases filed against him yesterday.

He took money from bus terminals and cattle markets by causing fear with his armed bodyguards, the case added.

The firearms were licenced to his seven bodyguards but they wielded those breaching the conditions of licences, it reads.

Shamim and Shafiqul Alam Feroz, president of Kalabagan Krira Chakra club, were arrested on Friday. They were placed on 10-day remands each yesterday.

Popularly known as GK Shamim, the top government-listed

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## WORLD RIVERS DAY TODAY

## Authorities' inaction put rivers in peril

River Commission chief tells *Star*

TAWFIQUE ALI

The deplorable conditions of the rivers around Dhaka city and elsewhere in the country due to encroachment and pollution are the result of inaction of the river custodians and their complicity with the grabbers for decades, National River Conservation Commission Chairman Muzibur Rahman Howlader has said.

Landmark judgments were given by the highest court, repeated outcries were heard from the public and media, directives were given by the prime minister, and laws related to river conservation are all there. But encroachment and destruction of rivers continue.

Following the 2009 High Court verdict, the relevant district administrations arbitrarily set up demarcation pillars around the four Dhaka rivers in the dry season in the name of saving them. But there are shocking allegations that the river custodians had links with the grabbers,

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## No let-up in river grabbing

Nat'l River Commission identifies 45,148 grabbers in 60 districts

TAWFIQUE ALI

The country's rivers and canals in sixty districts are in distress with at least 45,148 grabbers identified, according to official lists so far prepared by the respective deputy commissioners and submitted to the National River Conservation Commission.

Lists from the rest four districts -- Gaibandha, Panchagarh, Bagerhat and Mymensingh -- are due, said NRCC officials.

Of the country's seven divisions, Chattogram has the highest number with 18,411 grabbers.

According to the lists, the illegal grabbing of these rivers and canals have been going on for ten to fifty-five years with concrete, semi-concrete and makeshift structures mostly used commercially by powerful quarters.

Though the local land administrative authorities intermittently carry out eviction drives, in most cases the grabbers go merrily making money at the cost of public property, thanks to a lack of fund, manpower and logistics of the authorities.

The total number of grabbers identified in thirteen districts of Dhaka division is 6,688 with the highest 1,843 in Faridpur, according to the lists.

The list of river grabbers in Dhaka district is still partial, said NRCC Chairman Muzibur Rahman Howlader.

"The river commission has already asked the DCs to undertake a year-long crash programme to evict the river grabbers in accordance with their lists," he said. "They will get required funds from the land ministry."

The DCs prepared the lists following the river commission's formal request in February, he said.

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A piece of land created by filling up the Turag is now shrouded by grass. Although the High Court has accorded all rivers across the country the status of "legal persons" or "living entities", the Turag is yet to be freed. The photo was recently taken from Birulia bridge over the river on the outskirts of the capital.

PHOTO: RASHED SUMON

## EXTORTION CASE Two Kushtia Jubo League leaders held

STAR REPORT

Two Jubo League leaders were arrested in Kushtia on Friday night, hours after they were sued in an extortion case by a local contractor.

The arrestees are Mijanur Rahman Miju, 36, general secretary of Kushtia Sadar upazila Jubo League, and Ashrafur Islam Sujon, 40, convener of the Kushtia town unit.

A team of the Detective Branch of police picked up Mijanur from his home in Kushtia's Hasanbag village around 11:30pm on Friday. Another DB team arrested Ashrafur at his home in Kushtia town's Kalishankarpur area around the same time, said DB sources.

Al Amin Joarder, contractor of a Tk 10 crore project at Kushtia Islamic University (IU), filed the case with the university police station on Friday evening, accusing six people, including five named, of demanding Tk 50 lakh in extortion money.

The other named accused are Kushtia Sadar upazila BCL President Anisur Rahman Anis,

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## AUDIT OBJECTIONS 2013-18

## CAG detects Tk 11,710cr anomalies

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

Financial anomalies involving Tk 11,710 crore have been detected in 16 ministries between the fiscal years 2013-18 during audits by the Office of Comptroller and Auditor General.

The constitutional body raised 434 objections in 34 audit reports in the five fiscal years.

The anomalies ranged from breaching laws and policies, disregarding government instructions and public procurement rules 2008, weak internal control, irregularities, corruption, administrative and technical weakness, and laxity in realising government revenue and depositing them to the national coffer.

Mohammad Muslim Chowdhury, comptroller and auditor general, submitted a compilation of the audit reports to the president recently, an official of the Office of Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG) said.

The ministries under question are finance, LGED, housing and public works, law, justice and parliamentary affairs, youth and sports, industries, civil aviation and

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COMPANIES/ DEPARTMENTS	AMOUNT INVOLVED IN AUDIT OBJECTIONS
BASIC Bank	Tk 3,885 cr
Large Taxpayer Unit, Dhaka	Tk 1,862 cr
Karnaphuli Paper Mills	Tk 1,593 cr
Livestock department, Textile Mills Corp, Jute Mills Corp	Tk 791 cr
Civil Aviation Authority	Tk 549 cr
Agrani Bank	Tk 547.66 cr
National Board of Revenue	Tk 415 cr

SOURCE: AUDIT REPORTS OF OCAG

## Shakib powers Tigers to win

SPORTS REPORTER from Chattogram

Skipper Shakib Al Hasan led from the front and remained unbeaten on a match-winning 70 as Bangladesh finally managed to break the Afghanistan hoodoo, registering a four-wicket win in the tri-nation T20I series in Chattogram yesterday.

Although it was a dead rubber at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium, ahead of the final between the same sides, Bangladesh will surely gain plenty of confidence despite a not-so-convincing win after four consecutive T20I losses to Afghanistan.

Shakib smashed eight fours and a six during his 45-ball stay while Mosaddek Hossain provided valuable support, remaining unbeaten for a 12-ball 19, as the hosts reached the target with an over to spare.

Requiring 27 from the

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## Two killed in 'gunfights' with police

One of them was murder-accused

STAR REPORT

Two people, including a prime accused in a murder case, were killed in separate "gunfights" with police in Chattogram and Laxmipur early yesterday.

In Chattogram, the dead was identified as Md Russell, 23, from Darji Para area in Chandgaon.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Abdur Rahim, inspector (investigation) of Chandgaon Police Station, said, "Russell was the prime accused of a murder case filed with the station

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary

On 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015, **Nurjahan Begum (Pakhi)**, the second daughter of Late Abul Khair, the founder of Abul Khair Group had left us by the will of Almighty Allah the beneficent. Remembering her memories we pray for the salvation of her departed soul with our distressed heart and request all our friends, relatives and well-wishers to pray for her from the core of the heart. May Almighty Allah the beneficent bless her with eternal bliss of paradise. Ameen.

Bereaved Family Members