



Clockwise from left, two students take pictures of a banner on Buet campus that draws parallels of Abrar Fahad being called out from his room by his "elder brothers" to intellectuals who were murdered in 1971 after being taken from their homes; a group of youths depict a scene of the torture on Abrar; Ducusu VP Nur talks to journalists during a rally at Raju Memorial Sculpture; Bangladesh Chhatra League brings out a mourning procession on campus.



## Murder for exercising opinion attack on constitution

Dr Kamal says about Abrar's death

UNB, Dhaka

Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday said the killing of Buet student Abrar Fahad for exercising freedom of expression is an onslaught on the constitution. "I don't call them (who killed Abrar) sons; they are beasts. They kill innocent people. We've turned our sons into animals, and it's very appalling. We must free the country from this appalling situation," Dr Kamal said while speaking at a press conference by Gonoforum at the Jatiya Press Club, demanding proper trial of Abrar killing.

He further said, "Only those who are sick can indulge in such acts. A boy was beaten to death in such a brutal way for expressing his own opinion. It's an onslaught on our civilisation, achievements of our independence and the constitution."

Dr Kamal said people's freedom of expression has been clearly enshrined in the country's constitution, and killing anyone for expressing dissenting opinion is completely against the constitution and the state.

OIKYAFRONT TO BRING OUT MOURNING RALLY ON SUNDAY

Meanwhile, Jatiya Oikyafront yesterday announced a 'civic mourning rally' in the city protesting the killing of Abrar Fahad.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the steering committee of the alliance at the Motijheel chamber of its convener Dr Kamal Hossain.

Talking to the news agency, Gonoforum Executive

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## Free student organisations from party politics: TIB

UNB, Dhaka

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday called upon the government to free all student organisations and educational institutions in the country -- including Buet -- from party politics.

The gruesome murder of Abrar Fahad is not only a blow to freedom of speech, it is the result of the influence of sick and criminalised politics on educational institutions and student organisations, said a press release of TIB.

In a statement, TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman said, "The ruthless influence of this criminalised politics on student organisations is eroding the glorious past and the extraordinary role of student movement in Bangladesh."

Expressing his concern, Dr Iftekharuzzaman hoped the responsible section of the political leadership would realise the gravity of the worry, and free student organisations from the clutches of sick politics considering the welfare of future generations and to establish rule of law.

Teachers are responsible for inspiring students to become ideal citizens, but a section of them have failed miserably due to their political affiliation,

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## Teenager, woman die of dengue

316 hospitalised across the country in 24 hours

STAR REPORT

Although the number of hospital admissions from dengue are coming down steadily, the death toll continues to tick up.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services, a total of 316 dengue patients were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning. Of them, 91 were admitted to different hospitals in Dhaka while 225 to district hospitals, DGHS added.

Yesterday, a teenager and woman died of dengue in Dhaka and Khulna respectively, taking the death toll to 164.

Abdul Kader, 13, son of Amin Gazi of Jamtola road in Chandpur city, died while undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with dengue fever.

Medical officer Md Asibul Hasan of Chandpur General Hospital said Kader was admitted to Sadar

Hospital on Wednesday. He was referred to DMCH for better treatment, he added.

In Khulna, Masura, 25, wife of Habibullah of Abhaynagar upazila in Jashore, died at Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH), reports UNB.

Shahin Biswas, a physician at KMCH, said Masura was admitted to the hospital on Monday with dengue fever. "She had been suffering from the fever for last few days. She passed away around noon," he added.

So far, 20 people, including 14 women have died of dengue fever in Khulna. Of them, 17 died in KMCH.

Currently, 1,294 dengue patients are now undergoing treatment at hospitals nationwide, of whom, 842 are outside Dhaka, according to DGHS.

Meanwhile, the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) confirmed

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## DHAKA TODAY

### PROTEST

Demanding Justice for Abrar  
Organiser: Rastrachinta  
Venue: Jatiya Press Club  
Time: 10am

Venue: Tejgaon Thana Health Complex  
Time: 9am

### DISCUSSION

Thoughts on State  
Organiser: Rastrachinta  
Venue: Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh  
Time: 4pm

### PUBLIC SPEAKING

On mental health  
Organiser: Brac University  
Venue: Brac Centre, Mohakhali  
Time: 9am

### CONFERENCE

International Cancer Congress  
Organiser: Oncology Club, Bangladesh

RALLY  
Celebrating World Egg Day  
Organiser: Bangladesh Poultry Industries Central Council  
Venue: Jatiya Press Club  
Time: 9:30am

## DG-LEVEL TALKS ON DRUG TRAFFICKING

# Bangladesh and India agree to share real-time intel, involve Myanmar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and India, who share one of the longest land borders in the world, have agreed to share "real-time intelligence information" and involve their common neighbour Myanmar to stop drug trafficking in their frontiers.

The decision was taken at the sixth director general level talks between the narcotics control departments of Bangladesh and India yesterday in Dhaka.

Md Jamal Uddin Chowdhury led the Bangladeshi side while Rakesh Asthana led the Indian side.

In a joint press briefing -- after holding the meeting at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka hotel -- they said that they have agreed to do whatever is necessary to stop drug trafficking.

Codeine-based syrup, which is illegal for cough treatment in India, is illegally trafficked into Bangladesh as Phensedyl.

Yaba tablets, heroin and cannabis also make their way into Bangladesh and many traffickers go through India to illegally bring these narcotics from

Myanmar.

The director general from Bangladesh said the Indian side proposed to involve Myanmar and have a tripartite meeting, because they are common neighbours and drugs come from Myanmar as well.

"We have agreed to the proposal and asked them to contact Myanmar. We are even ready to host the meeting in Dhaka," Jamal said, adding that it will be more fruitful for Bangladesh.

Indian Director General Asthana said they are committed to eliminate this social evil.

In the discussion, they reiterated their home minister's commitment that the land of India will not be allowed to use for drug trafficking.

"We have identified various areas of cooperation, as the Bangladesh DG has mentioned in his address," Asthana said.

First and foremost is real-time sharing of intelligence and subsequent action on that, he added.

"The formalities have been chalked out and it will be designed and

redesigned further. The basic fact remains, we have agreed that whatever intelligence, whatever information is gathered by us shall be exchanged in real time and should be pursued in real time," he said.

Unless and until they take actions against the drug traffickers actively, this problem is not going to be over, he said.

Asthana said they also discussed the modalities for detailed investigation -- for some big cases where major syndicates are involved.

The Indian official also promised to take "effective and timely" actions against those who push drugs into Bangladesh if investigators in Dhaka inform them about their connections in India.

"So far, as the investigation part is concerned, Bangladesh authorities have expressed the desire to inform us of the drug traffickers' connection in my country and in turn, we have promised to take effective and timely actions against those pushing drugs into Bangladesh," he said.



## PHOTO OF THE DAY

SK ENAMUL HAQ



Rickshaw-pullers in Arambagh area found a creative use for the sewage pipes kept beside the road, as they escaped yesterday's downpour by taking shelter inside the cylinders.

## JUSTICE FOR ABRAR

# Decline in values behind current state of student politics: SSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sammilita Shamajik Andolon (SSA) yesterday urged the government to ensure exemplary punishment of the killers of Buet student Abrar Fahad.

It's a matter of concern that Abrar had to give up his life at the hands of "thugs" associated with the ruling party for expressing his opinion on social media, members of the platform said at a human chain in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Such gruesome killing has shocked not only the nation but also the international community, they added.

Abrar, a second year student of Buet's electrical and electronic engineering department, was mercilessly beaten to death allegedly by some Bangladesh Chhatra League leaders at Sher-e-Bangla Hall's room-2011 between 7:30pm Sunday and 2:30am Monday.

Addressing the human chain, veteran left-leaning politician Pankaj Bhattacharya, also a member of SSA, said that such brutality is not a remote,



Ganosamhati Andolon yesterday organised a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club.

PHOTO: STAR

one-off incident but a reflection that "day by day Chhatra League has turned into a monster".

SSA President Ziauddin Tareque Ali blamed student politics that has seen

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## Breast cancer takes 6,844 lives in Bangladesh every year: report

Speakers demand govt initiatives to raise awareness

UNB, Dhaka

Some 12,764 women are detected with breast cancer in the country every year and 6,844 of them die of the disease, according to a report of International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).

To reduce the number and remove the threat of breast cancer, speakers at a programme yesterday urged the government to work in full capacity to raise awareness on the disease across the country.

They also urged women to be aware and undergo regular check-ups to identify whether they have any symptom of the disease.

Speakers came up with the remarks at a roundtable organised jointly by Bangladesh Breast Cancer Awareness Forum (BBCAF) and Rotary International District at the Jatiya Press Club, marking the 7th Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Before the discussion, a human chain

was formed in front of Jatiya Press Club by members of both organisations.

Citing the IARC report, Head of Cancer Epidemiology Division at the National Cancer Research Institute, Dr Md Habibullah Talukder Ruskin, said, "If detected early, 90 percent of breast cancer patients have the possibility to recover with proper and complete treatment."

The organisation wants to create social awareness on the disease among people of all classes, he added.

Vice-chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Prof Kanak Kanti Barua, said although the mortality rate is seemingly high for women, awareness and proper care can eradicate the threat of breast cancer.

Prof Shubhagat Chowdhury, Prof Mojaherul Haque and Prof Sabera Khatun also spoke at the programme.

According to Global Cancer Statistics, every year, 2,088,849 women suffer from breast cancer worldwide.

## Saad Ershad takes oath as MP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rahgir Al Mahi Saad, son of Jatiya Party founder HM Ershad, yesterday took oath as a Jatiya Party lawmaker from Rangpur-3.

Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury administered the oath at her parliament office. Jatiya Sangsad Senior Secretary Jafar Ahmed Khan moderated the function.

The by-polls to the Rangpur-3 constituency was held on October 5.

Deputy Speaker Fazle Rabbi Miah; Opposition Leader in parliament Raushan Ershad; Whips Iqbalur Rahim, Atiur Rahman Atique and M Shamsul Haque; Awami League MPs Faruque Khan and AB Tajul Islam; JP MPs Mujibul Haque Chunu, Fakhrul Imam, Masud Uddin Chowdhury and Syed Zakia Nur, among others, were present.