

British High Commissioner visits Mainamati War Cemetery

UNB, Cumilla

British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert Chatterton Dickson visited the Mainamati War Cemetery in Cumilla's Burichang upazila yesterday.

Dickson visited the cemetery at 10am, where 737 soldiers who lost their lives during World War II were buried.

Additional Superintendent of Cumilla Police Azim Ul Ahsan, Inspector of Cumilla District Police's Special Branch (DIO-1) Mahbub Morshed and other police personnel were present there.

Many soldiers were buried at Mainamati War Cemetery between 1941 and 1945. In 1962, relatives of the soldiers took their remains from the cemetery to their respective countries.

Dickson stayed there for an hour and signed the visitors' book.

Facilities to increase at Hili port

Indian high commissioner says

UNB, Hili

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das yesterday said steps will be taken on the Indian side of the Hili port to increase business facilities.

She said this while visiting the port around 11am. Many travellers use this port regularly, she said, noting that export-import activities through the port are good.

The high commissioner said she had also spoken to local businesspersons.

After visiting Hili immigration office, customs office, private operator Panama Hili Port and international check post areas, Riva Ganguly entered the Indian side and later left the spot at 1pm for Dhaka.

Assistant High Commissioner of India in Rajshahi, Sandip Mitra; Joypurhat-20 Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Commander Lt Col Rashed Mohammad Anisul Haque; Upazila Chairman Harun-ur-Rashid; Upazila Nirbahi Officer Abdur Rafiqul Alam; and Municipality Mayor Jamil Hossain, among others, were present.

Want leaders with

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Later in the council session, Quader announced the names of newly-elected leaders.

Md Saifur Rahman and Sheikh Ajar Laskar were elected president and general secretary respectively. Saidul Alam Manik was made the executive president while Abul Bashar, Abdul Gafur, Mohammad Alam, Babul Miah, Mir Asaduzzaman, Shahe Alam Mia and Nasrin Sultana became vice presidents.

Abdul Alim, Tipu Sultan and Rafiqul Islam Rafiq were made joint general secretaries.



Even after multiple evictions, rice traders come back to set up their shops once again, storing the bags beside the railway. This photo was taken yesterday in the capital's Karwan Bazar. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Relax organ transplant laws

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Speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session, Prof Matiur Rahman, founder of Bangladesh Renal Association, said the Transplantation of Human Organs (amendment) Act 2018 has some strict provisions, which make organ transplant more complex in the country.

According to the act, only "close relatives" can donate organs.

"I think those provisions need to be amended. If it can be done, we will be able to save many lives..." said the noted nephrologist. He also urged the government to prepare a list of patients who are undergoing dialysis and provide them the opportunity to have kidney transplant in priority basis.

Prof Quazi Deen Mohammad, president of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons, said kidney dialysis used to be complex and expensive, but the situation has changed due to modern technologies. "However, it is still expensive. On the

other hand, the option of kidney transplant is much better, we cannot provide this treatment due to shortage of donation, which need to be solved as soon as possible," he added.

He called upon all to be encouraged in posthumous organ donations.

Prof Brig Gen (ret'd) Mamun Mostafi, chairman of the conference organising committee; Prof Vivekanand Jha, president of International Society of Nephrology; and Syed Modasser Ali, former health adviser to the prime minister, also spoke at the inaugural session.

Four distinguished doctors were also awarded with "Gonosasthaya Kendra Gold Medal" for their outstanding contributions to medical services.

They are: Syed Anwarul Hafiz, professor emeritus of Gonosasthaya Samaj Vittik Medical College; Prof Mohammad Nurul Amin, an ear, nose and throat specialist; Prof Rabiul Husain, an eye specialist, and Prof Rafiqul Alam, a nephrologist.

A saviour of the city

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People used to gather in the area to look at it, often with awe. Legend has it, many also put garlands on the cannon as a sign of reverence.

Around 1917, under the initiative of Dhaka Museum (now Bangladesh National Museum), it was shifted and placed on a platform at Sadarghat river bank. After Partition, it was moved to Gulistan. As the place became too crowded, it was taken to its present site in the 1980s, mentioned eminent historian Prof Muntassir Mamoon.

While visiting the spot this week, this correspondent found Bibi Mariam right next to the main gate of Osmani Udyan. There is, however, no insignia or information regarding its history or importance in saving this city, where it remains neglected.

According to Dhaka South City Corporation, Osmani Udyan is under renovation as part of its project to spruce up parks and playgrounds of the city.

Contacted, Saiful Islam Joy, executive engineer of DSCC (zone-1), said along with the park, they are also planning to preserve the cannon.

"We will keep it in the park and maintain it properly so that people can know about its history," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

'Boycott Myanmar'

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justice and believe Myanmar will eventually have to grant them citizenship, which has been denied since 1982, and all other basic rights, including freedom of movement, health and education. The Rohingyas across the globe are campaigning to mobilise support from the international community.

Nay San Lwin, campaign coordinator of Free Rohingya Coalition, said they are mobilising some 100 Rohingyas in The Hague from all across the globe, mostly from Europe.

"We will hold protest rally against Myanmar's genocide. The ICJ case can change things for us. There's a lot of enthusiasm among the Rohingyas all over the world," he told The Daily Star from Germany where he lives.

"If the Court orders Myanmar to take provisional measures to stop genocide, it will mean a lot for the Rohingyas," Lwin said on Tuesday.

To keep the global pressure on, Lwin said, Free Rohingya Coalition is going to launch an online campaign called "Boycott Myanmar" on December 9. On this day in 1948, UN General Assembly adopted the genocide convention.

There are a number of western and Asian countries making big investments in Myanmar, he said, adding that they are urging all to cut ties with Myanmar.

Anyone from any part of the world can sign the online petition and send those to the countries and companies calling for boycotting Myanmar, he said.

"We urge all to join our campaign," Lwin added.

Nirmul Committee

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Advisor to Nirmul Committee Justice Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik read out an outline of the proposed commission's function.

The proposed commission will swiftly investigate allegations centring violation of constitutional and legal rights, vandalism, and attack on minority religious establishments, said Justice Manik.

He said the commission will allow any individual from a religious minority group to file complaints in person, and seek intervention of authorities concerned if constitutional and legal rights of the group are violated.

The commission will be an autonomous body like Anti-Corruption Commission and will be able to summon any person for interrogation, he added.



Protesting violence against women and children, Samajtantrik Mahila Forum formed a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday. They also urged the government to ensure safety of female migrant workers. PHOTO: STAR

National

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Vision 2021 and Vision 2041.

Income tax collection is not only a source of revenue but also an effective medium of establishing socio-economic justice by eradicating discrimination, the president said.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in her message, said the main goal of income tax collection is to ensure establishment of social justice and equality.

An income tax fair began on November 14 across the country. NBR said it collected Tk 357,79,55,734 as income tax during the fair.

NBR honoured 518 taxpayers with certificates, while 141 other taxpayers were awarded with tax cards in three categories.

Schedule next week

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Contacted, Abu Sufian, who contested as BNP candidate in Chattogram-8 constituency in the 11th parliamentary polls, said if the party decides to take part in the by-polls, he would seek nomination.

"Although my experience in the previous polls was bitter, I am ready to contest in the by-polls if the party nominates me," he said.

Sufian, however, said there was "no atmosphere for holding fair polls", adding, "Despite this, we will participate in the polls as part of our movement to free our chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia from jail and to restore democracy in the country."

Meanwhile, Selina Khan told The Daily Star that she was interested to vie for the by-polls.

"The honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, through a representative, asked me whether I am interested to vie for the by-polls. I said I am interested, as I want to complete the unfinished work of my husband."

"I would seek nomination from AL," she said.

This correspondent could not reach Moslem, Salam and Nurul as they did not answer calls despite repeated attempts.

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INVITATION FOR ONE-ON-ONE BUSINESS MEETING WITH MALAYSIAN COMPANIES AT FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON DHAKA

Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), invites Bangladeshi companies (importers, distributors & traders) for one-on-one business meeting with Malaysian companies at Four Points by Sheraton Dhaka, as per details below: *No charge of fees will be imposed for a participation in the b2b meeting*

VENUE	DATE	TIME
The Ballroom, Level 25, Four Points by Sheraton, Dhaka	Tuesday, 03 December 2019	9.30 am to 6.00pm

REPLY SLIP

Company Name:

Representative(s) Name: Designation:

Address:

Tel: Fax: Mobile:

Email: Web:

My/Our company is involved in the following activities:

WE ARE INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING MALAYSIAN COMPANIES:

COMPANIES	Select (✓)
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GULF FREIGHT LINE SDN BHD Logistics services, Cargo handling services, Hydrogenated vegetable fats	
ISC SDN BHD Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their fractions Hydrogenated vegetable fats	
PALLADIUM ENTERPRISE SDN BHD Biosurfactants, Detergent: MultiBiotek Bio-Solutions, Petrolink Bio-Solutions, Avionika Bio-Solutions, Oceania Bio-Solutions, Hfm Bio-Solutions, Automotiva Bio-Solutions	
UB ACRYLIC (MALAYSIA) SDN BHD Manufacture of Cell Cast Acrylic materials like modern designs, interior, construction and building industries	
METALS & CHEMICALS TECHNOLOGY SDN BHD Industrial chemicals & galvanizing industry	
IRISPRO INTERNATIONAL SDN BHD Irispro optical solar film, Nanog indoor air quality solution, Eva save electricity wastage recovery solution	
KIMIA ZUE HUAT SDN BHD Organic acids, Organic solvents, Petrochemicals, Waste management related chemicals	
PERINTIS AKAL SDN BHD Waste management, chemical, trading and technology solutions, Chemical Solutions (nano-technology inspired water treatment, products in the field of agro-based products, poultry, water) treatment	

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