



PHOTO OF THE DAY

ANISUR RAHMAN



Sector Commanders' Forum places a wreath at Shikha Chirantan in Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday, marking the month of victory. Throughout the month, different socio-political and cultural organisations, and educational institutions will organise numerous programmes to celebrate the nation's victory after a nine-month-long Liberation War.

## Dhaka to get 64 parking spots temporarily: DTCA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid an acute crisis of parking space in the city, Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA) has approved 64 parking spots on a temporary basis.

The approval was given yesterday at DTCA's 13th board meeting, held at Nagar Bhaban of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and presided over by Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader.

The decision comes fifteen days into the enforcement of Road Transport Act-2018, according to which, no vehicle is allowed to park or load and offload goods or pick up and drop off passengers at any place not designated for the purpose.

Violators would be fined Tk 5,000.

However, only a handful of commercial buildings in the city have parking spaces. For buses, there are no designated parking space or terminal in the capital. Therefore, many vehicles remain parked on roads, causing congestion.

At yesterday's meeting, a decision was also taken to shift all inter-district bus terminals of Dhaka city upon ensuring alternative places outside Dhaka.

Quader said the drive against illegal easy-bikes, battery-run rickshaws and non-motorised vehicles have lost momentum amid worsening dengue situation in the country.

At DTCA's 12th meeting on June 19, a special committee led by Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sayeed Khokon was formed to remove illegal vehicles from the streets and free footpaths from grabbers within two months.

But the move did not bring expected results.

The transport minister said both the north and south city corporations will intensify drives against illegal occupation of footpaths and such vehicles.

Talking to journalists, a DTCA official said Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) has initially proposed 68 places for on-street parking but DTCA

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## BCL has turned Ducsu into Ducsu League: VP Nur

DU CORRESPONDENT

Those who were elected from Chhatra League's panel in Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducsu) held a meeting with vice-chancellor Prof Md Akhtaruzzman on Friday night without notifying the student union's vice president and social service affairs secretary, Ducsu VP Nurul Haque Nur alleged yesterday.

"Most decisions of Ducsu were taken without informing the VP and social service affairs secretary Akhtar Hossen. On last Friday a meeting was held without us, which is contradictory to the rules and regulations," said Nur while speaking at a press conference in Ducsu auditorium.

Ducsu's assistant general secretary Saddam Hussain said they did not let Nur know about the meeting as he did not notify them of leading a protest demanding BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's release. Saddam is also general secretary of BCL's DU unit.

Nurul Haque Nur and Akhtar Hossen were elected on March 11 as vice president and social service affairs secretary from Bangladesh Sadharan Chhatra Adhikar Sangrakkhan Parishad's panel, the

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# Cheating in recruitment tests with spy gadgets

DB arrests seven with earphones, transmitters

MUNTAKIM SAAD

With a tiny wireless earphone inserted in his ear and an electronic transmitter attached to his arm with an elastic band, Rasel Ali sat for a recruitment test of a state-owned bank at Adarsha High School in Mirpur on Friday, when the detective branch (DB) of police detained him.

Taking him in custody, police conducted multiple drives on Friday and Saturday and arrested six members of a question-leaking gang from Kafrul and Lalbagh areas, said Masudur Rahman, deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police in a press briefing at the DMP media centre yesterday.

The arrestees were allegedly involved in helping candidates of recruitment tests of various government and private jobs cheat in the exam through electronic devices, he added.

Six members of this gang are still on the run, Masudur told the press conference. DB police also seized 12 such electronic transmitters, 16 micro-earphones, 15 cell phones, 25 SIM cards and four books used for solving question papers of different recruitment tests.

The arrestees are: Rasel Ali (29), Mahmudul Hasan Azad (36), Md Nahid (25), Ruhul Amin (25), Khalekur Rahman Titu (29), Ahmed Zubair Saimon (26), and Md Ibrahim (24).

Among them, Azad -- dubbed the master planner of the racket, has been working a

government job after being recommended as a non-cadre officer in the 36th BCS exam, Masudur said, adding that they were enquiring about the profiles of the other arrestees.

A case was filed under public examinations act and digital security act with Kafrul Police Station on Saturday against the arrestees and six others, he said, adding that drives are on to arrest the other accused.

The arrestees were produced before a Dhaka court with a 10-day remand prayer. The court granted two-day remand for each.

Sources said Azad and Nahid are charge-sheeted accused in a case over a question paper leak incident of Dhaka University on October 20, 2017.

On June 23, the charge-sheet was submitted against 125 people including five masterminds of the gang. Most of them are now on bail.

Of the ringleaders, Ebrahim Molla (35), was also accused in the latest case, as the arrestees named him to be involved with the racket. Ebrahim is on bail in the previous case.

Ebrahim, who came from a modest background owned a six-storey building in Khulna city and a duplex in Narail town. On November 3, a Dhaka court ordered to confiscate the two houses.

The latest arrestees were involved in leaking questions of Janata Bank's recruitment test on Friday, said Ashrafullah,

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## A class outside classroom

DU CORRESPONDENT

Rushad Faridi, the Dhaka University teacher who has been protesting since last Tuesday demanding to be reinstated at his department, yesterday conducted a class at the entrance stairs of Social Science faculty building.

Over 50 students of different departments of the university attended the class held from 12pm to 1:30pm.

As the department was not allowing him to return to the classroom, the DU economics teacher said he would continue to take classes at the staircase until the department reinstates him to the post.

"The proposition of taking class came from the students' end. I was compelled to give class at the stairs as the department did not allow me to use classrooms. The students seemed to appreciate the class. If they want, I'll continue taking classes," Rushad told The Daily Star.

The assistant professor said he will continue the sit-in in front of the department chairperson's room until the latter reinstates him.

The then vice-chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique sent Rushad on forced leave on July 13, 2017 after the Economics department filed a complaint with the VC, alleging that he personally attacked some of his



PHOTO: COLLECTED

colleagues in Facebook posts.

On July 24, 2017, the High Court questioned the legality of the syndicate's decision to send Faridi on forced leave after hearing a writ petition filed by the teacher.

The court then issued a rule asking the authorities concerned of DU to explain in two weeks why the syndicate's decision to send Faridi on forced leave should not be declared

illegal.

On August 25 this year, the High Court declared the syndicate's decision illegal, and ordered the DU authorities to allow Rushad Faridi to join work.

Economics department on Thursday stated that they are yet to receive any copy of the verdict and they will take further steps following directive of the university authorities.

## 'Culprits must be prepared for maximum punishment'

Law minister says on violence against women

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday issued a warning saying that people who commit violence against women must be prepared for maximum punishment.

"The culture of impunity has gripped us. We can achieve equal rights of men and women and come out of this culture of impunity, through quickly ensuring justice in cases like Feni madrasa student Nusrat Jahan Rafi murder," he said.

He was speaking as chief guest at the grand finale and prize distribution ceremony of "Anti-violence National Debate Competition" at BFDC.

Debate for Democracy organised the competition, where the final motion was

"Quick trial of Nusrat murder can reduce violence against women."

Debate for Democracy Chairman Hasan Ahmed Chowdhury Kiran presided over the function, where Dhaka College and Eden College jointly became champions.

Minister Anisul told the function, "We could at least start resisting violence against women through quick disposal of Nusrat murder case, though we cannot fully stop the violence."

Fair trial of Nusrat murder case has been ensured as law enforcers and prosecution have played their respective roles properly and fairly, he said.

The law minister said the government is

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## DHAKA TODAY

### DISCUSSION

Marking the 22nd anniversary of CHT Peace Accord  
Organiser: Jatiya Nagorik Uddyog  
Venue: Women's Voluntary Association, Dhanmondi  
Time: 10am

### FESTIVAL

Global Migration Film Festival  
Organiser: IOM UN Migration  
Venue: RC Majumdar Arts Auditorium, University of Dhaka  
Time: 9am

### DISCUSSION

On student politics in Bangladesh

Organiser: Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik  
Venue: VIP Lounge, Jatiya Press Club  
Time: 10am

### THEATRE

The Distant Drum  
Organiser: Arannyak Natyadal  
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Time: 7pm

### POSTER EXHIBITION

Stay United, Stop Violence  
Venue: EMK Center  
Time: 10am

## MANAGEMENT OF CHILDHOOD PNEUMONIA

# Daycare approach an effective alternative to hospitalisation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Management of severe childhood pneumonia by daycare approach is an alternative to hospitalisation, and can reduce the treatment cost by half, scientists of icddr,b at a seminar said yesterday.

Based on a clinical trial, they also said that some 80 to 90 percent children with severe pneumonia -- malnourished or not -- can be treated under this approach in the existing healthcare system in the country, and is as effective as the World Health Organization (WHO) prescribed mechanism.

Moderated by Prof George Fuchs of University of Kentucky in USA, experts from home and abroad and policymakers

attended the seminar at the Sasakawa Auditorium of icddr,b in Dhaka.

According to WHO, pneumonia is the single largest infectious cause of death in children worldwide -- killing some 8,08,694 children under the age of five in 2017.

This disease, a result of acute respiratory infection caused by a number of agents -- including viruses, bacteria and fungi -- can be prevented with simple interventions and treated with low-cost, low-tech medication and care.

However, lack of timely access to treatment intensifies the risk and causes death of "one child every 39 seconds globally", Unicef estimates.

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## Four Ansar al Islam operatives arrested: Rab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab yesterday claimed to have arrested four members of the banned militant group Ansar al Islam from the city's Khilkhet area.

They are -- Masum Mia (30), Abu Bakar Siddique (19), Rakibul Islam Siam (18), and Abdullah Al Roman (22).

A Rab team arrested them along with some "extremism provoking" books and leaflets when they gathered in Nikunja area around 9:40pm on Saturday, Mizanur Rahman Bhuiyan, an assistant director of Rab's legal and media wing, said.

According to Rab, the arrestees during preliminary interrogation admitted that they were active members of the banned group and did not support the democratic system.

"The accused wanted to establish Islamic law in the country and for this, they justified killing people whom they

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What may look like a foggy winter morning is actually a dust-laden Dhaka road. Unplanned construction works, burning garbage at dump sites and illegal brick kilns around the capital, continue to pollute the city's air and take a heavy toll on residents. The photo was taken from Airport Road in Uttara yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## EVICITION NOTICE TO ASK HC issues status quo for three months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to maintain a status quo for three months on the possession of the office of Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), a leading rights organisation, at Dhaka's Lalmatia.

It also imposed the status quo on the Rajuk mobile court order that fined ASK Tk two lakh and asked the organisation to leave its Lalmatia office in two months.

At the same time, the HC issued a rule asking the authorities concerned to explain in four weeks why the Rajuk mobile court order should not be declared illegal.

The bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman passed the order and issued the rule following a writ petition filed by ASK, challenging the legality of the mobile court's order.

There is no legal bar to ASK running its office at Lalmatia following the HC order, ASK lawyer ZI Khan Panna told reporters.

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## JS body suggests dope tests for univ students, entry seekers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday recommended carrying out dope tests of admission seekers at all universities, as part of the government's move to free the country from the menace of narcotics.

The parliamentary standing committee on home affairs also asked university authorities to carry out dope tests of all students before final examinations.

Awami League lawmaker Shamsul Haque, chief of the parliamentary watchdog, presided over the meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

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