



President Hamid takes a salute on the occasion of the 6th reunion parade of the Signal Corps of Bangladesh Army at Jashore Cantonment.

Prioritise public interest: President to army

UNB, Jashore

President Abdul Hamid yesterday urged members of Bangladesh Army to work for the welfare of people, alongside ensuring the country's security and sovereignty.

"All power belongs to people in a democratic system. All activities of the state and government are carried out for the welfare of people. You, therefore, should give the highest priority to public interest and their welfare while performing your duties," President Hamid said.

He was delivering his speech at the sixth reunion parade of the Signal Corps of Bangladesh Army at Jashore cantonment.

He also reminded them that people's hard-earned money is spent for the development of the country and to meet all expenses of the state. "So, you'll have to stand beside people in times of need, apart from ensuring national security," he said.

Hamid hoped that members of Bangladesh Army will follow the national integrity strategy while performing their duties and they will do that with honesty and sincerity.

Hamid, also the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Division (AFD), paid tribute to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the Liberation War, and the four

national leaders who were killed in jail.

The president said the present government has already taken different initiatives under Bangladesh Armed Forces Goal-2030.

The president said two Signal Battalions, three Static Signal Company in Barishal, Sylhet and Ramu and four Brigade Signal Company have been established throughout the country as a continuation of overall development of the army.

For the modernisation of information and communication technology, the army has adopted plans to incorporate cyber warfare groups, electronic warfare units and strategic transmission units under the Forces Goal-2030.

"These steps will further strengthen military capabilities and communication," the president added.

Lauding the contribution of the army both home and abroad, he said its members have shown remarkable efficiency in the global arena that upheld the country's image abroad. "You'll have to continue this contribution in the future for the country and nation," he said.

Chief of Army Staff General Aziz Ahmed, senior officials of the government and Bangladesh Army were present on the occasion.

Bidyapeeth Book Fair to open tomorrow

CITY DESK

A three-day book fair, organised by the Gyantapas Abdur Razzaq Foundation, will open tomorrow (December 5) at the Gyantapas Abdur Razzaq Bidyapeeth in the capital's Dhanmondi.

The book fair will be inaugurated at 11am on the day, says a press release from the nonprofit organisation.

Dr Ghulam Murshid and Surma Zahid, noted writers and researchers, will attend the inauguration ceremony, which will be chaired by M Syeduzzaman, former finance minister and a founding member of the board of trustees of the foundation.

The book fair will be open to all from 10am to 8pm everyday from December 5 to 7.

ADMISSION QUESTION LEAK

Hajee Danesh univ forms probe body

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Authorities of Dinajpur's Hajee Danesh Science and Technology University (HSTU) formed a probe body, following a question leak incident on Monday.

Dr Bidhan Chandra Haldar, treasurer of HSTU, is the convener of the five-member probe body, that was asked to submit its report within five days.

On Monday night, Dr Md Khaled Hossain, proctor of HSTU, filed a case with Dinajpur Sadar Police Station accusing Mahmudul Hasan, an examinee, and Aminul Islam, a laboratory technician of the university.

Police arrested Mahmudul, but Aminul has been absconding since the case was filed.

In the case, Dr Khaled Hasan said an invigilator of Dr Wazed Building caught a student with a question paper on which the correct answers were marked. While being questioned by university authorities, the student said that Aminul Islam, a university staff, supplied him the answer papers.

Bazlur Rashid, inspector (Investigation) of Sadar Police Station, said they sent Mahmudul Hasan to a court and police are trying to arrest Aminul Islam.

Action will be taken against Aminul after getting the report, said Fazlul Haque, registrar of HSTU.

Test for undergraduate admissions at HSTU began on Monday and will conclude on Thursday. Around 96,000 students registered to compete for 2,100 seats, said university officials.

4-year-old killed in Ctg road crash

Another minor, police official among six others killed across country

STAR REPORT

In another agonising day on the road, seven people -- including two minors and a police official -- were killed in separate road accidents across the country, based on reports from our correspondents and a news agency.

A minor was killed in Chattogram when a private car ran over him in front of Sitakunda Upazila Health Complex yesterday noon.

The deceased, four-year-old Md Siam, came to the health complex with his mother to receive treatment there.

Coming out of the facility, Siam let go of his mother's hand and started running across the road when an incoming private car hit him, officer-in-charge of Sitakunda Police Station Firoj Hossain said.

He was rushed back to the health complex in critically injured condition, where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

Upon receiving the news, Siam's father Kamrul went unconscious and was admitted to the same facility; reports our correspondent from Chattogram.

Another minor named Baizid Sheikh (5) was killed in a bus accident at Kachua upazila in Bagerhat.

The accident took place at Kismat Pinguria in Gabtala on the Signboard-Bogie Highway around 11:30 am yesterday.

The accident occurred when a bus hit Baizid while he was crossing the road with his mother.

The driver managed to escape, Kachua police told our Bagerhat correspondent.

In Mymensingh, a police official and his brother-in-law were killed at Roymoni area on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Trishal upazila when their private car fell into a roadside pond early yesterday, reports our Mymensingh correspondent.

The deceased were identified as Aminul Islam (32), Assistant Sub-Inspector of Phulbaria Police Station, and Md Jahidul Islam (27).

The accident occurred when their private car hit the road divider and skidded off into a roadside pond, killing both on the spot, according to police.

An elderly woman was killed after being hit by a covered van in Sahab

Bazar area in Old Dhaka around 10pm on Monday night.

The deceased was identified as Sufia begum (65).

Locals rushed her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where duty doctors declared her dead, UNB reports.

In Keraniganj, a college student was killed after his motorbike crashed into a roadside house in Char Joypara village in Dohar upazila on Monday night.

The deceased was identified as Md Jahidul Islam Antar (22) a first year honours student of Joypara College, reports UNB.

Jahidul's bike was also carrying two other passengers when the accident occurred.

All three were taken to DMCH where doctors declared Jahidul dead, Dohar police confirmed.

In Cumilla, Rakib Hawladar (32) was killed when a speeding truck ran over his motorcycle in Alekharchar in front of Mainamoti Highway Police Station yesterday evening.

The driver managed to flee the spot with the truck, Mainamati police told our Cumilla correspondent.

'ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS' 31 staffers of HC Division transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court administration has transferred all 31 employees of the affidavit and filing sections of the High Court Division for "administrative reasons".

SC spokesman Md Saifur Rahman told The Daily Star that the transfer orders were passed on December 1 and 2.

All 31 employees of the two sections of the HC have been transferred to other sections of the division, and employees from other sections of the HC have been transferred there, he added.

Meanwhile yesterday, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told reporters at his office on the SC premises that the transfer of the employees demonstrates the firm stand of the chief justice against corruption and irregularities.

Some stern action need to be taken when corruption takes place in an institution, he said.

Earlier on Monday during the proceedings of the Appellate Division, the chief justice expressed disappointment at the incident of including a case to serial 89 for hearing as it was scheduled to be included in the third serial.

FCC alumni elects new leadership



Mahbub Lutful
CITY DESK

Old Faujians Association (OFA), an organisation of Faujdharhat Cadet College alumni, has announced its new central governing body with Mahbub Anam as chairperson and Lutful Hossain and Mohammad Nasir Hossain as vice chairpersons.

The announcement followed an election held last month, says a press release.

The newly-formed body will run OFA for the next two years.

4th convocation of Cuet tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The fourth convocation of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology will be held tomorrow on its campus.

The following day, the university will celebrate its golden jubilee in port city's Institute of Engineers of Bangladesh through a colourful programme.

Addressing a press conference at Chattogram Press Club yesterday, Prof Asiful Haque, chairperson of Cuet's publicity and media committee, said President Abdul Hamid, also Cuet's chancellor, will attend the convocation.

Education Minister Dr Dipu Moni, Deputy Education Minister Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury Nowfel and University Grant Commission (UGC) Chairperson Prof Kazi Shahidullah will also be present.

"This year, UGC's former chairperson Dr AK Azad Chowdhury will be the convocation speaker," Asiful said.

A total of 2,231 students will be conferred degrees, and four students will be given gold medals.

Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud will be the chief guest of the golden jubilee programme, he added.



As winter descends, demand for blankets goes up. Potential customers examine a hand-sewn quilt, featuring intricate patterns sewn by rural women from Jashore. Each costs between Tk 1,200 and 6,000. This photo was taken near Ramna Park's eastern gate in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



A huge number of hawkers blocked the road in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday in protest of drives that removed them from different footpaths in the city.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

432 killed in accidents in Nov: SCRF

UNB, Dhaka

At least 432 people, including 72 children, were killed and 882 injured in 386 road, railway and shipping accidents across the country in November, said Shipping and Communication Reporters Forum (SCRF) yesterday.

Besides, at least 38 people remained missing in waterways accidents, according to an SCRF report.

The report is based on news items published in 22 national dailies, 10 regional newspapers and eight online news portals and news agencies.

A total of 314 road accidents occurred in November in which 342 people, including 62

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VIOLATING STAY ORDER

Kishoreganj judge apologises to HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Kishoreganj's Senior Judicial Magistrate Md Rafiqul Rabbi yesterday apologised to the High Court, for continuing trial proceedings of an extortion case despite the HC staying the proceedings earlier.

Rabbi appeared before the HC bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan and Justice AKM Zahirul Huq as per its November 12 summon, and offered unconditional apology to the bench.

The bench exonerated Magistrate Rafiqul from personal appearance before the court in connection with the issue.

Rafiqul's lawyer Barrister ABM Altaf Hossain told the court that his client could not properly understand the HC order, and he will remain cautious in future.

The bench had come up with the order on a voluntary move while hearing a bail petition filed by Md Atahar Ali and Sirajuddin, two accused in the case.

The same day, the HC directed presidents and general secretaries of all bar associations across the country to provide legal assistance to justice seekers if they fail to appoint any lawyer to defend them.

The court ordered Bangladesh Bar Council, a statutory body regulating the country's lawyers, to monitor this issue.

Capt Saifur Rahman new Gulshan Club president

CITY DESK

Capt Saifur Rahman, managing director of NetWorld Group, was elected president of Gulshan Club Ltd for the year 2019-20 at the 41st annual general club meeting on Saturday, said a press release.

Ten other elected members of the board of directors are Ahmed Kabir, Md Waseem Nabi, Mirza Khorshed Alam, Engr MKM Kamal Uddin, Musaur Rahman Khan, Rafiqul Alam, Syed Raihan Hasan Ali, Tahmina Rehman, Tareq Rahman and Zaki Ibrahim.

