



PHOTO: SHEKH NASIR

A vendor sets out with a cart full of white paniphal -- that is gaining popularity in Sylhet. The fruit comes to the city from Mymensingh, Netrakona and neighbouring districts, and is sold at Tk 100-Tk 120 per kg. The photo was taken from Sheikhghat-Kazirbazar road.

### ACC to sue former AL

FROM PAGE 3 building on it. The building was rented out to Pirojpur Rural Electricity Cooperative.

Awal, who was MP from Pirojpur-1 between 2014 and 2018, also illegally grabbed a government land near Swarupkathi upazila bungalow and built another modern bungalow there.

In Pirojpur town, Awal grabbed about 44 decimals of land and erected a boundary wall to keep it in his possession, ACC sources said.

3 ILLEGAL GAS CONNECTIONS SHUT IN MIRPUR Meanwhile, ACC yesterday led a drive in Mirpur and shut down illegal gas connections.

Three dying factories had been using a booster to pump in gas from household connections, that apparently deprived at least 63 families of Benarashipalli of Mirpur from gas facilities, said a press release from the anti-graft watchdog.

The factories had been using about 1,326 cubic feet of gas illegally, the monthly charge for which would be Tk 1.5 lakh, the release added.

A resident yesterday lodged a complaint through the ACC hotline 106, which sent a team to the spot.

The team, led by ACC's Assistant Director Shahriar Jamil, found the allegation to be true.

The team sealed four illegal risers and seized 26 burners of the factories.

Titas Metro Dhaka Sales Division-6 manager Shahidur Rahman said an ACC team informed them. Later, they accompanied the ACC team.

"It's difficult to find illegal connections unless neighbours complain," he said, adding they will fine the factories' owners Tk 10 lakh.

### Only 9 days of clean air

FROM PAGE 3 His recommendations include shutting down illegal brick kilns in and around the city as per a High Court directive, shifting chemical factories from Dhaka, limiting the number of private cars and increasing public buses on city streets, ensuring proper waste management, increasing greenery, placing construction material in designated places, cleaning and repairing roads and footpaths regularly, and above all, implementation of laws on pollution control.

Poba Chairman Abu Naser Khan presided over the dialogue which was addressed by the organisation's General Secretary Ferdous Ahmed Ujjal and Joint General secretary Hafizur Rahman, among others.

### EC trying to help

FROM PAGE 5 of manipulation of the election result."

Fakhrul said that nomination forms for the mayoral posts will be distributed from December 26, and deadline for submission is December 27.

The party will interview nomination seekers at its chairperson's office on December 28, he added.

JP TO DISTRIBUTE FORMS TODAY Jatiya Party will start giving out nomination forms from today among interested mayoral and councillor candidates for Dhaka north and south city polls.

Forms can be collected from the party president's Banani office from December 23-27.

All prospective JP leaders will have to submit the filled-out forms by December 27, the party said in a press release.

Interview of the prospective candidates will be held on December 29 at the party chairperson's office while the list of candidates will be declared on December

30, said the release. In the meantime, JP chairperson and deputy leader of the opposition GM Quader yesterday at a programme in the capital said JP will consider it if Awami League (AL) gives them any proposal to participate in the polls under an alliance.

AL will start distributing nomination papers among the party's prospective candidates today.

The polls to Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) and Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) will be held on January 30 next year.

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) KM Nurul Huda announced the election schedule at a press conference held at Nirbachan Bhaban in the capital's Agargaon following the EC's 57th commission meeting on Sunday.

As per the schedule, the last date for nomination paper submission is December 31; nomination paper scrutiny will be held on January 2, and the deadline for candidature withdrawal is January 9.

### Six 'Allahr Dal members' held

FROM PAGE 5 from Aziz, an additional nayek of the outfit -- now also in jail, said SP Faruq, who led the drive. They collected zakat from members of the group, but spent it for the welfare of their members. "Locals destroyed the house of arrestee

Osman in 2016 for his militant activities, but the outfit supported him financially to rebuild it," said Faruq.

A case was filed against the arrestees with Palashbari Police Station. "We are now conducting drives to arrest the absconding members of the unit," he added.

### Will uphold PM's faith

FROM PAGE 5 Managing Director and Chief Editor Abul Kalam Azad, among others, were present at the meeting.

Hasan said, "Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has selected me as joint general secretary of the party. I will try to perform the duty vested by the premier with honesty and utmost sincerity."

Replying to a query, the newly-elected AL joint general secretary said the national council is a milestone for the country.

District and upazila-level councils of the party were also held across the country centring the national council, Hasan Mahmud added.

"There is no room for opportunists, infiltrators and people who will work against the party," he further said.

### New intercity train

FROM PAGE 5 Station-Jamalpur-Tarakandi route. Four intercity trains now operate on Dhaka-Jamalpur route but all of those go to Jamalpur via Mymensingh, according to BR.

So, travel time from Dhaka to Jamalpur will reduce once the new train is introduced, said a railway official.

While visiting Jamalpur in early October, the railways minister declared that a new train would be launched on Dhaka-Jamalpur route soon.

This year, BR introduced four trains on different routes. It launched "Banalata Express", a nonstop intercity train service, on Dhaka-Rajshahi route in April. Later, the train service was extended up to Chapainawabganj.

A month later, a semi-nonstop intercity train service -- "Panchagarh Express" -- was launched between Dhaka and Panchagarh. "Benapole Express" was launched in July on Dhaka-Benapole route while "Kurigram Express" on Dhaka-Kurigram route was launched in October.

### Cabinet approves two

FROM PAGE 3 services to over 40,000 expatriate Bangladeshis living in Florida, he added.

The cabinet secretary added the office of the consulate general will play a vital role in strengthening diplomatic ties of Bangladesh with the USA and other countries of the world, as most countries have consulate offices there.

The cabinet was also apprised of the premier's visit to Dubai from November 16-19 to join the Dubai Air Show-2019. It also greeted the PM Sheikh Hasina for her reelection as the president of Awami League and being ranked 29th in Forbes' list of the "World's 100 Most Powerful Women". It also adopted obituary references at the deaths of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, founder of the world's largest non-government development organisation Brac; former chief justice Mahmudul Amin Choudhury; and PM's military secretary Maj Gen Mia Mohammad Zainul Abedin.

### Envied

FROM PAGE 3 and were looking for an opportunity to "change their fortune".

Enamul strangled Gao with a towel while Rauf grabbed him by the waist.

Rauf dug up a pit in the back of the building and buried Gao with Enamul's help.

Another Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Ziaur Rahman recorded the confessional statement of witness Joy Nandi yesterday.

After recording their statements, the courts sent Rauf and Enamul to jail.

On December 11, police recovered the body of Gao (47) from the backyard of the building he lived in.

Gao's friend Zhang Shu Hong filed a murder case with Banani Police Station against unnamed accused on December 12.

A Dhaka court placed Rauf and Enamul on four-day remand each, a day after they were arrested from Banani on December 17 in connection with the murder.

Gao used to supply stones and other construction material to the Padma bridge and Payra port projects.

### Eminent citizens condemn

FROM PAGE 3 The signatories to the statement include Advocate Sultana Kamal, Hameeda Hossain, Khushi Kabir, Justice Nizamul Haque Nasim, Advocate Rana Dasgupta, Dr Iftekharuzzaman, Shaheen Anam, Ziauddin Tarique Ali, Advocate ZI Khan Panna, Barrister Sara Hossain, Sheepta Hafiza, Shamsul Huda, Dr Meghna Guhathakurta, Saleh Ahmed and Shirin Huq, among others.

Condemning the attack, rights organisations Bangladesh Mahila Parishad and Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) also demanded punishment of the attackers, belonging to Muktiyuddho Moncho and Chhatra League.

"This attack is against the establishment of democracy and good governance," the Mahila Parishad statement said.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International's South Asia Campaigner Saad Hammadi wrote on Twitter: "Repeated violence at the universities committed by supporters of the ruling party on students undermines discipline, rule of law and most importantly the right to peacefully exercise freedom of expression."

Universities are formative stages where students should have the freedom

to learn and contest ideologies. Such demonstration of power by supporters of ruling party is damaging for the academic environment and integrity of the institutions, he added.

"The attack on Nur, Farabi and others is deeply troubling, as it happens three months into the killing of Buet student Abrar Fahad. It appears that the perpetrators are confident about getting away with such violence. The authorities have a responsibility to prove otherwise," reads the tweet.

Meanwhile, Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) yesterday also protested and condemned the attack on Nur and his aides.

In a statement, it demanded to ensure proper treatment of the injured, and urged Nur to be "more responsible" in his work or statements.

The teachers' body also requested university authorities to take tough steps if any outsider's involvement is found in the attack.

They held Muktiyuddho Moncho activists responsible for the attack, but did not mention Chhatra League's involvement in the incident.

Bangladesh Communication Satellite Company Limited. CORRIGENDUM. The following amendments have been made for the EOI Notice No. 14.39.0000.003.14.032.19-SE/254; dated 04-12-2019 "Selection of International Consulting Firm to Determine the Type and Functionalities of Next Satellite(s) of BCSC." EOI closing date and contact details hereby amended as follows:

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Invitation for Tender (Works). e-Tender Notice No. 06/2019-2020. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

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Muzibur Rahman's 3rd death anniv. Today is the third death anniversary of Shaikh Muzibur Rahman, former additional chief engineer of Public Works Department.

Dilruba Selim passes away. Dilruba Selim, daughter of late Sarwar Jahan Chowdhury and wife of AYM Selim, former country director of UNDP Sri Lanka, passed away on December 19 in New York.

প্রধান প্রকৌশলীর অফিস. টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি (সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি). মেমো নং ২৬৮৮(২)/প্রকৌঃ. তারিখ: ২২/১২/২০১৯

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