



Damaged traffic cones demarcating a bus stop lie on a road while a helper calls passengers from the middle of Mirpur Road in the capital's Dhanmondi-4. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

No outdoor event on 31st night: home boss

Bss, Dhaka

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal yesterday said no musical events will be allowed in open places on the occasion of celebrating 31st night.

"All bars will remain closed from the night of December 30 to 6pm on January 1. Carrying arms will also be prohibited during the time," he told the news agency.

Kamal said the government has banned musical activities including fireworks after 6pm from December 31 to January 1.

"Stern action will be taken if anyone tries to create anarchy centring the December 31 night. The government will ensure tight security across the country," he said.

Additional member of law enforcement agencies including intelligence agency and Rapid Action Battalion will also be deployed.

The minister said movement of all vehicles (except vehicles carrying stickers) has been restricted on the Dhaka University premises on December 31.

Interference must

FROM PAGE 3

"If the judiciary is not pro-poor then what am I going to do with its independence?"

Supreme Court lawyer Barrister Tania Amir said all the state organs must be co-equal. One organ should not control the other, she said, pointing towards the importance of separation of the judiciary from the executive. Separation of the judiciary is contemplated in the constitution itself, she added.

Retired bureaucrat Mokammel Hasan said demand for the judiciary's independence is not new. Such demand

continued for centuries and those who are progressive have won the battle, he added.

A superior nature of the rule of law could be established through ensuring coordinated relationships among the three state organs, said Kazi Arifuzzaman, joint secretary of the law ministry.

Chairing the symposium, noted jurist and Bilia Chairman Barrister M Amir-ul-Islam said they would organise similar programmes in future and encourage participation of young law practitioners.

Prof Rumana Islam, deputy director of research at Bilia, delivered welcome speech.

Country not

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Fakhrul said India's NRC and the Citizenship Amendment Act may harm Bangladesh, but the government is playing a silent role in this regard and saying it is an internal matter of India.

Stating that the country is going through a political crisis, the top BNP leader said there is no alternative to a mass upsurge of people to come out of this dire situation.

JSD president ASM Abdur Rob chaired the session.

Krishak Sramik Janata League president Abdul Kader Siddiqui, BNP standing committee member Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan, Nagorik Oikya Convener Mahmudur Rahman, Manna, Ganosamhati Andolon's chief coordinator Zonayed Saki and Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury, among others, addressed the programme.

Children, elderly the worst

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Dr Bakir Hossain, director of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH), said the hospital has been providing treatment to 175 children daily on an average at the hospital.

"My daughter was admitted to the hospital four days ago with pneumonia. She is now undergoing treatment. Doctors said she needs to remain admitted here for one more week," said Mansur Akter Bithi, while talking to this correspondent at SBMCH yesterday.

In Dinajpur, at least 30 children were admitted to different hospitals with cold-related complaints.

In Lalmonirhat, a total of 163 child patients -- including 125 with diarrhoea and 38 with pneumonia -- have been admitted to Lalmonirhat sadar and four other upazila hospitals in the last five days, said the district's Civil Surgeon Dr Kashem Ali.

Meher Ali, 45, a resident of Kalmati village in Sadar upazila, said his two-year-old son Sahidul was admitted to Lalmonirhat Sadar Hospital after

coming down with diarrhoea.

In Kurigram, a total of 55 patients were receiving treatment at Kurigram General Hospital yesterday, said the hospital's resident medical officer (RMO) Dr Shahinur Rahman.

Meanwhile, Shanjeev Kumar Bhati, assistant high commissioner (Rajshahi) of India to Bangladesh, distributed blankets among 200 cold-hit people at Shree Rum-Krishna Ashram of Krishnapur (Pal Para) village under Kurigram municipality yesterday noon.

In Rajshahi, over 100 people were being admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital daily with cold-related health problems, said Saiful Ferdous, deputy director of the hospital. Children and elderly persons are worst victims of it, he added.

The hospital authorities formed special teams of doctors to deal with the increased number of patients, set up 30 room heaters and increased supply of medicines for cold-related illnesses, he told The Daily Star.

What better way to bring in a new year than by moving to a new home! This photo of a man with truck-load of household goods was taken in Chawkbazar area of port city yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



Five held for murder of businessman in Tejgaon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police last night arrested five youths in connection with killing of 70-year-old businessman Tobarak Hossain at his Tejgaon flat on Wednesday.

The arrestees are: Imon Hossain (20), Sohel Pradhan (29), Babul Pradhan (28), Al Amin Khondkar Rihan (21), and Golam Rabbi (24). They were arrested from Narayanganj and Cumilla,

said police sources.

The miscreants had planned the killing seven months back, and stabbed Tobarak to death on that day aiming to loot his valuables from his flat, police said.

Sahadat Hossain, additional deputy commissioner of the Detective Branch (DB) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police confirmed the arrest to The Daily Star, without elaborating further.

According to police

sources, the killers bought a knife, scotch tape and rope from Chawkbazar and a crowbar from Mohakhali area on Tuesday as part of the murder plot.

The next morning, they went to the Tobarak's house and entered the building when its security guard went to a mosque to offer Fazr prayers.

The killers entered the victim's bedroom and tied up him along with his house help Saiful, before stabbing Tobarak.

They later broke an almira with the crowbar and made away with cash and other valuables, the sources said.

They left Dhaka after sharing the valuables.

Tobarak, a businessman by profession, used to live in his own flat at Shanti Niketon of Tejgaon. On Wednesday, masked men entered the flat and stabbed Tobarak.

Jute mill workers

FROM PAGE 5

ownership, payment of provident fund gratuity for retired workers, regularising weekly wages and implementation of the wage commission, and payment of outstanding bills. They also demanded that the government buy jute products for other sectors.

Sahana Sarmin, president of CBA (Collective Bargaining Agent) of Platinum Jute Mill, told The Daily Star, "The hunger strike is part of our demonstrations, and we will continue to protest until the wage commission is implemented."

Md Boniz Uddin Miah, liaison officer of BJMC Khulna zone, said, "Our high authorities arranged three meetings with CBA and Non-CBA leaders, but could not

reach an understanding."

"If they begin a hunger strike, there is nothing we can do," he told this newspaper yesterday.

Around six weeks' wages of workers at Crescent, Platinum and Star jute mills, five weeks' of Khalishpur mill workers and four weeks' of Daulatpur mill are due, said workers.

The other mill workers are also not being paid regularly, and their salaries of at least five to weeks are due.

The government announced a wage board for jute workers in June 2015, but it is yet to be implemented.

Over 31,000 workers have been working at nine state-owned jute mills in Khulna-Jashore industrial belt.

Children imagine a better

FROM PAGE 3

An eighth-grader at ABC International School in Narayanganj, won the first prize while Adeena Hasan, an eighth-grader at Manarat Dhaka International School and College, won the second prize. Nabiba Zaman, a sixth-grader at Manarat, and Shibraj Deb, a seventh-grader at Mount Royal Academy, jointly won the third prize.

Besides, other participants were given certificates and gift hampers.

Before the prize-giving programme, the artists described to the judges what they had imagined to create the artwork. Some imagined a city free of traffic jam, while others imagined a developed country that cares for its animals and environment -- all were expressed through the artworks.

The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam was present as chief guest at the prize-giving programme. Contemporary visual artist Nazia Andaleeb Preema was one of the jury members.

Speaking at the programme, Mahfuz Anam said, "We casually say that young people are the future of our nation. But

how? You [young people] are the future because of your qualities...by your skills and potential to imagine."

"All of us may have heard about Uber, the ride-hailing company that does not own a car...Amazon, one of the biggest tech companies of the world dealing with e-commerce. How did these companies form? Someone had imagined and come up with these new ideas..." he said.

He also thanked parents for their devotion to the children.

Nazia Andaleeb Preema said children have effectively expressed themselves through their creative artworks and imagination.

"The artworks created, that too at this age, were really thought-provoking and fully utilised their freedom of expression," she added.

Ayman Sadiq, founder and CEO of 10 Minute School; Osama Bin Noor, co-founder of Youth Opportunities; and artist Zahangir Alom were also present at the prize-giving programme, which was moderated by Tajdin Hassan, The Daily Star's head of marketing.

মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক সাংবাদিকতার জন্য
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Invitation to Bid

Consultancy service to improve 33KV/11KV transmission/distribution overhead line for uninterrupted power supply.

Meghna Group of Industries (MGI) is one of the leading conglomerates of Bangladesh, who has 6 power plants in 6 separate location with 200MW power generation capacity and also owns transmission and distribution network like a small grid.

Site Location : Meghna Group of Industries, Sonargaon upazila, Narayanganj.

Total Line Length : 44 KM Approx. (33KV & 11KV line)

Scope of work :

- Investigation of present line condition.
- Provide proven solution to protect line tripping in any rough weather.
- Supplier/vendor list of the equipments to be needed.
- Estimated cost for improvement.
- Recommendation about work execution.

Bid must be submitted within 31st January, 2020 to the following address -

Mgi Meghna Group of Industries
Fresh Villa, House no: 15, Road no: 34, Gulshan-1, Dhaka 1212.

Bidders are requested to visit the site at Sonargaon, Narayanganj before submitting the bid

Contact Person:
Mr. Syed Jaker Hossen
Deputy General Manager
Cell no: +8801313498058
E-mail: jaker.pp@meghnagroup.biz

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e-Tender Notice for procurement of the following items for The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd., Gazipur as per e-Tender schedule.

Name of the items of e-Tender for procurement:

- Supply of 59 reams White Paper and 1,166 packets Green Board.
- Supply of 300 reams Green Proof Sheet.
- Supply of 3,600 kgs rust free Steel Strap.
- Supply of 200 reams White Offset Paper.
- Supply of 4,265.25 yards Uniform Cloth.

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Rashid Ahmed
General Manager (Local Purchase & Sales)
GD-2128 Phone: 88-02-9205103

স্থান পরিবর্তন

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