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Many univs keen on final year exams

*They want to avert session jams;
students want to be able to sit for BCS*

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

Many public universities are in favour of holding semester exams for final year students to negate session jam and make students qualified for sitting in the upcoming BCS exams.

Students, mostly of honours final year exams, are holding demonstrations demanding exams and some of them are contacting with authorities with the same demand.

Universities are waiting for the decision of the University Grants Commission (UGC) as it, in June, asked universities to hold online classes and exams and practical classes will take place after normalcy returns.

Against this backdrop, the University Grants Commission is scheduled to hold a discussion in a meeting today about the exams.

"We have monthly meeting on Sunday, and one of the agenda will be exams of public universities," UGC Member Prof Muhammed Alamgir told The Daily Star yesterday.

He said that many public universities had sent letter or contacted UGC about decision on exams specially those for honours final year and master's level.

"In some places, students are protesting on the demand of exams, so we will discuss the matter and hopeful that we will be able to know all a decision soon," he said.

Alamgir said that they came to know that students of

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It may look like a tailback of human hauliers and buses on a busy street, but it actually is an image of illegal parking on Tantipara-Gulistan road in the capital's Phulbaria area. The law enforcers seem to be overlooking this illegal parking for quite some time now. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO:
ANISUR RAHMAN

BREXIT IMPASSE
UK, EU call in
leaders to save
trade talks

REUTERS, London/Brussels

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was scheduled to speak to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen yesterday to try to break an impasse in trade talks with time running out to avoid a chaotic end to the Brexit saga.

Britain left the European Union on Jan 31 but rules governing trade, travel and business have remained unchanged during a transition period which ends on Dec 31, when a new relationship will be established - with or without a deal.

The talks between Johnson and von der Leyen could provide the political impetus to move the sides closer to bridging their substantial differences, or highlight how the "red lines" on both sides mean a deal remains out of reach.

If the two sides fail to reach a deal, the five-year Brexit divorce will end messily just as Britain and

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US sets new record of Covid cases

225,201 new infections
recorded in a day;
UK eyes major fall in
deaths by early 2021

AGENCIES

For the second day in a row, the United States on Friday notched a record number of coronavirus cases in 24 hours, reaching 225,201 new infections, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University.

The novel coronavirus has killed at least 1,519,213 people since the outbreak emerged in China last December, according to a tally from official sources compiled by AFP at 1100 GMT yesterday.

At least 65,865,820 cases of coronavirus have been registered. Of these, at least 41,777,200 are now considered recovered.

On Friday, 12,177 new deaths and 677,808 new cases were recorded worldwide. Based on the

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**FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH
BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES**

Anti-socials must be routed: Mujib

December 6, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

**RAKKHI BAHINI ASKED TO
COOPERATE WITH PEOPLE**
Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman reiterates today that miscreants must be wiped out from the country, and corruption eradicated from society.

Addressing the passing-out parade of the second batch Jatiya Rakkhi Bahini at the parade ground of the Bahini at Savar, Bangabandhu remarks that the nation, which lost almost everything, has only within 11 months since the liberation progressed a great extent towards a sound footing. He, however, regrets that some miscreants who are still in possession of illegal arms and ammunition are committing robberies in villages.

Observing that the people want to sleep



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**Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
addressing the passing-out parade of
the second batch of Rakkhi Bahini at
Savar on December 6, 1972.**

Vaccines no magic bullet

*Reminds WHO; Russia starts inoculating
vulnerable workers against coronavirus*



AFP, Washington

The World Health Organization warned that vaccines were no magic bullet for the coronavirus crisis, as Russia started vaccinating its high-risk workers yesterday and other countries geared up for similar programmes.

The WHO warned about what it said was an erroneous belief that the Covid-19 crisis is over with jabs on the horizon, nearly a year after the start of the pandemic that has killed 1.5 million people worldwide.

"Vaccines do not equal zero Covid," said WHO emergencies director Michael Ryan, adding that not everyone will be able to receive it early next year.

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Rape victim, rapist married at Rajshahi jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The Rajshahi Central Jail authorities arranged the marriage of a rapist with the victim at the jail gate yesterday in line with a recent High Court order.

Prodip Khalko, 30, of Chaitanyapur village in Rajshahi's Godagari upazila is serving a life sentence in a case over the rape. He has been behind bars for the last eight years. Jail Superintendent Subrata Kumar Bala told The Daily Star.

The marriage was solemnised under Hindu rituals, he added.

The victim, her eight-year-old son and nearly a dozen members of both the bride and groom's families were present at the marriage ceremony.

According to the case statement, Prodip and the victim are cousins. They were in a relationship.

The victim became pregnant in 2011 when

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Ring with 12,638 diamonds sets world record



AFP, New Delhi

An elaborate floral-shaped ring sporting 12,638 tiny diamonds has earned a place in the Guinness World Records -- but its Indian creator has no plans to sell his priceless design just yet.

Called "The Marigold - The Ring of Prosperity", the chunky circular band weighs a little over 165 grams (5.8 ounces).

"It's wearable and comfortable," said 25-year-old Harshit Bansal, who described his audacious creation as a dream project.

Bansal said he got the idea two years ago while studying jewellery design in the western city of

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BGB seizes 60 gold bars in Jashore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Border Guard Bangladesh officers seized 60 gold bars on Shahajatpur border in Chaugacha, Jashore early yesterday.

Li Colonel Selim Reza, commanding officer of BGB Battalion-49, said a special patrol team conducted an operation following information that a large number of gold bars would be smuggled to India through the area.

The bars worth about Tk 4.96 crore were found "in

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PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 6

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrab Esha
AZAN 5-15 12-45 3-45 5-19 7-00

JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-00 5-22 7-30

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