

# Conservation work of Boro Kuthi starts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, RAJSHAHI

The Department of Archaeology has started conservation works of Rajshahi's Boro Kuthi yesterday. The historic building bears the history of Dutch indigo and silk business in the 18th century.

Rajshahi Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton inaugurated the works at a function organised at Boro Kuthi premises by the Department of Archaeology.

The department is spending Tk 4.85 lakh for the initial conservation works, deputy director Nahid Sultana said in her speech.

After the initial works, more will follow in the future in order to turn the building into a museum, she said.

The two-storied building with 12 rooms was used as the centre of silk and indigo trade by Dutch and British traders.

After the fall of Nawab Siraj-ud Doula in 1757, the Dutch East India Company purchased it and sold it to Robert Watson and Company in 1833.

After the partition of 1947, the building housed government supplies for a while.

Rajshahi University acquired it in 1953 and used it as its administrative building and later turned it into a teachers' club.

Rajshahi City Corporation has been bargaining with RU for handing it over to the Department of Archaeology since 2011.

In 2018, the department declared the building as a protected archaeological site.

In his speech, Mayor Liton said the conservation works is being undertaken so that it will attract visitors to the site.



With rising number of Covid-19 cases causing alarm in recent weeks, the government has started to ramp up health guideline maintenance again. Across key streets of Barishal, an executive magistrate of the district administration distributed masks and raised awareness in this regard yesterday. This photo was taken from the city's Sadar Road area.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

# Worker succumbs to injuries in steel factory accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CG

A worker of Bangladesh Steel Re-rolling Mills (BSRM) Ltd died at Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH) on Wednesday night, from an injury sustained while working in the factory.

The deceased was identified as Joyal Abedin (52), hailing from Sandwip upazila of Chattogram, said police sources.

Omar Shoaheb, assistant manager (public relation) of BSRM, said Joyal was appointed by a third party at the BSRM SML factory in Mirsarai upazila.

He was injured in the scrapyards of the factory on Wednesday while working there, and was rushed to the upazila health complex. From there he was shifted to CMCH for treatment.

"He died at the hospital on the same day while undergoing treatment there," he added.

Inspector Jahir Hossain of CMCH Police Outpost said the worker died at Ward No. 28 with the injuries.

The BSRM official said the company has started investigating the reason behind the accident.

# Ensure its

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Besides, protection, relief and recovery refers to ensuring safety, physical and mental wellbeing, security and respect for women and girls' rights, as well as their specific needs during and after conflict, emergency and disaster situations.

Gender specialist Sheepa Hafiza said the action plan is an "important, contemporary and inclusive" instrument.

If it is implemented effectively, there will be no need for doing many other things regarding women's safety, she said.

Kashfia Feroz, director of Girls' Right Project of Plan International Bangladesh, said the action plan's implementation is challenging as coordination gap appears when multiple organisations work together.

BNPS Executive Director Rokeya Kabir said women mainly face challenge from non-state actors such as religious fundamentalists who propagate hate crime.

It is essential to work against hate speech, she said.

Nazneen Ahmed, senior research fellow of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, said sufficient budgetary allocation for peace-building programme is essential. Besides, women's economic empowerment is important, she said.

Prof Sayema Haque of Dhaka University's economics department emphasised proper monitoring and evaluation while implementing the national action plan.

Considering post-Covid-19 situation is essential while renewing the action plan in future, said Meghna Guhathakurta, executive director of Research Initiatives Bangladesh.

Deputy Commissioner Farida Yasmin of Dhaka Metropolitan Police said cybercrime against women is a big concern.

Police received 691 complaints of cybercrime within 48 hours of launching a cyber-support facility for women in November last year, she added.

Tania Sharmin, programme analyst on women, peace and security at UN Women; Shima Moslem, joint secretary of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad; and rights activist Falguni Tripura; among others, spoke at the event.

# HC cautions

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the books containing the distortion.

In the petition, Kazi Ertaza Hasan said Bangladesh Bank published the book in December of 2017. In it, pictures of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was not included, and his contribution in establishing Bangladesh Bank was not mentioned in detail.

In the book, pictures of then Pakistan president Ayub Khan and then East Pakistan provincial governor Abdul Monem Khan were published instead, he said.

The independence and the Liberation War of Bangladesh have been diminished due to this act, he added.

Following the petition, the High Court in October 2018 issued a rule asking respondents to explain why the distortion of history in the book should not be declared illegal.

Lawyer Jyotirmoy Barua appeared for the writ petitioner while lawyer Ajmalul Hossain stood for BB officials and Deputy Attorney General Kazi Mynul Hasan represented the state.

# JUBO LEAGUE LEADER MURDER

## HC confirms death for five convicts

Five others' death sentences commuted, one acquitted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday confirmed death penalties of five convicts for killing Gazipur's Jubo League leader Jalal Uddin Sarkar more than 17 years ago.

At the same time, the HC commuted death sentences of five other convicts to life imprisonment and acquitted another accused in the murder case.

Jalal Uddin, then Jubo League president of Kapsia upazila unit in Gazipur, was hacked to death in Balkhela Bazar area on August 17, 2003 following a political dispute.

On November 30 in 2015, a Gazipur court sentenced 11 people to death in connection with the murder case.

Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice Shahidul Karim and Justice Md Akhtaruzzaman delivered the verdict after hearing the death reference and appeals of the convicts challenging the trial court verdict.

The five convicts, whose death penalties were confirmed by the HC are Joj Mia, Al Amin, Faruque Hossain, Md Belayet Hossain Baltu and Md Abdul Alim.

Joj Mia and Al Amin are absconding while Faruque, Belayet and Alim are in a condemn cell, Deputy Attorney General Bashir Ahmed told The Daily Star.

He said the HC bench confirmed their death penalty as their direct involvement in the killing has been proved.

DAG Bashir said the HC commuted the five convicts' death penalties as they did not directly hit Jalal although they participated in the killing.

He also confirmed the other five convicts whose death penalties have been commuted to life imprisonment are Farhad Hossain, Md Ataur Rahman, Mahbubur Rahman, Halim Fakir and Jewel.

Among them Farhad and Ataur are in jail while Mahbubur, Halim and Jewel are absconding, he said.

The HC has acquitted Md Jaynal Abedin, who is now in jail, as his involvement in the murder was not proved, DAG Bashir added.



# Death anniv of Rebeka Mohiuddin

CITY DESK

Today is the 3rd death anniversary of Rebeka Mohiuddin, an organiser of the Liberation War and an activist of the country's women rights movement, according to a press release.

On the occasion, her family and well-wishers will pay their respects at her grave in Mirpur Intellectuals' Graveyard in the capital at 10:30am, it added.

Besides, a milad and doa mahfil organised by Mothbaria Mohiuddin Ahmed Women's College and Gulishakhli Mohiuddin Ahmed Smriti Sangsad will also be held at her Lakarta village home in Bhederganj of Shariatpur.

On this day in 2018, Rebeka Mohiuddin, wife of Mohiuddin Ahmed, former acting president of Awami League and its presidium member, passed away in the capital.

# A bastion

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His student Dr Shafiqul Alam, a retired professor of Chittagong University's Department of Philosophy, told The Daily Star that the Pakistan army marked Abani Mohan Dutta as a target as he was a progressive teacher who professed his support for the Liberation War. Loudly.

"I was an HSC student at Chattogram College at the time. Abani sir was my direct teacher," said Dr Shafiqul. "He was such a nice person; everybody loved him. But he became a target of the Pakistan army in no time, due to his influence and his support for the Liberation War."

Information for this piece was also collected from the articles "Aaj o Diptimoy Chattogram College" by Belal Hossain, published in Prothom Alo on January 09, 2019, and "Muktijuddhe Chattogram Bishwobidyalyog" by Anupam Sen published in Bhorer Kagoj, February 28, 2019.

# Four scammers

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registered the SIMs with fake identities. They sold the raised credit to top-up outlets and embezzled Tk 13 lakh.

In October 2019 and January 2020, they stole a total of another Tk 72 lakh in the same way.

The official said that the individuals maintained contacts with various top-up agents to whom they sold the mobile phone credit at discounted rates. Later, the mobile operator found it had not received the cash against the credit to those post-paid SIMs.

When Gramephone sensed the fraud, it froze the suspicious SIMs which held back huge sums of money. However, by that time they had stolen lakhs of taka.

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