

NEWS IN brief

Sust to reopen halls in phases from October 25

UNB, Sylhet

After nearly 18 months, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) will reopen its halls to students in phases from October 25.

Sust Vice-Chancellor Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed announced the date after the 167th Academic Council meeting on October 5.

Postgraduate students will be able to enter the hall on October 25, according to the decision of the Academic Council.

Final-year undergraduate students will be allowed to enter on October 26, while third-year students on October 27, second-year students on October 28, and first-year students on October 29.

However, only those students who have received at least one dose of the Covid-19 jab will be allowed to enter the residential halls on submission of the vaccine card.

The authority plans to resume physical classes in some departments from the first week of November, while online classes will continue, said the VC.

Switzerland proposes aviation agreement with Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Switzerland yesterday proposed to sign an aviation agreement with Bangladesh.

Swiss Ambassador to Bangladesh Nathalie Chuard handed over a proposal in this regard while meeting state minister for civil aviation Md Mahub Ali at the latter's office at the Secretariat.

Chuard said Switzerland wants to sign an agreement to celebrate the 50 years of bilateral relations between the countries, and to increase trade and commercial relations, including tourism.

The ambassador also expressed interest in working together to develop the tourism industry.

During the meeting, Mahub Ali said Switzerland's proposal will go through due process before implementation. The agreement will increase communication, trade, and commerce relations between the people of the two countries.

A vacuum

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joint secretary Ashraf addressed the programme.

Family members of the deceased also spoke in the programme. The 34 departed souls are senior journalists Hasan Shahriar, Khandarker Muniruzzaman, Mohammad Atiqullah Khan Masud, Syed Abul Maksud, Shahiduzzaman Khan, Zahiduzzaman Faruk, AUM Fakhruddin, Fakir Abdur Razzak, Abul Hasnat, Ershadul Haque, Hannan Khan, Humayun Sadeque Chowdhury, Khandokar Ataul Haque, Mizanur Rahman Khan, Hilali Wadud Chowdhury, Syed Lutful Haque, Ahmad Akhtar, Shaheen Reza Nur, Atiyar Rahman Atique, AZM Anas, Md Nurul Huda, Quaium Khan Milon, Khandaker Shahadat Hossain, Md Rafiqul Alam, Enamul Haque, Syed Shahjahan, Khandokar Fazlur Rahman, Muhiuddin Ahammad, Muhammad Ruhul Quddus, Md Lutfur Rahman Binu, Bazlul Karim, Md Abdur Rahim, Golap Munir and Hamiduzzaman Robi.



This broken section at Sylhet city's Nayorpu area is actually a drain that the city corporation has been working on for the last six months. With no signage to warn pedestrians and drivers, many get injured while traversing the debris. Locals say such negligence by authorities can lead to accidents and even loss of lives. This photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Charge framing hearing

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According to charge sheet, Kajol published fake news on his Facebook page regarding arrest and alleged crimes of expelled Jubo Mahila League leader Shamima Nur Papia. He was shown arrested on May 14 last year. On June 28, he was placed on two-day remand. He faced 53 days of enforced

disappearance and spent seven months in prison. He disappeared on March 10 last year and was "found" by Border Guard Bangladesh roaming around the Benapole border 53 days later. He, then, landed in jail for a case filed under DSA by lawmaker Saifuzzaman Shikhor, and two Jubo Mahila League activists over a

Facebook post.

The lower court concerned kept denying him bail for seven months, until the High Court on November 24 granted him bail in one case and ordered the investigation officer and Cyber Tribunal to submit reports in the two others.

Finally, on December 17, the HC granted him bail in two cases after

Kajol's lawyer pointed out that the probes had to be concluded within 75 days of the filing of the cases, and the investigators failed to do so.

The investigators of two other cases filed with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar and Kamrangchir police stations under the same act had pressed charges against Kajol, and later, the tribunal accepted them.

Four held for raping widow in Khulna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police have arrested four members of a robbery gang -- in a case filed over raping a widow during robbing her house in Paikgachha upazila of Khulna.

The arrestees are Ferdous Dhali (51), Sheikh Wahidul Islam (28), Rakibul Islam (28) and Sheikh Monayem Hossain (24) -- all from Paikgachha.

They were arrested from different parts of Paikgachha and Koyra upazilas on Tuesday and yesterday, said Md Ezaz Shafi, officer-in-charge of Paikgachha Police Station, yesterday.

During primary interrogation, the arrestees admitted to raping the victim, he said.

They were produced before the Senior Judicial Magistrate Court in Paikgachha, added the OC.

According to the case statement, the four stormed into the house of a widow in a village in Paikgachha upazila in the early hours of September 2 and looted some gold jewellery, two mobile phone sets and Tk 40,000 in cash. They also raped the woman during the robbery, the case statement said.

The OC also said the victim filed a rape case against four unidentified people with Paikgachha Police Station the same day.

Devote yourselves

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enforcement of laws, stay beside people, and make sure people get justice and not a single person suffers from starvation, remains homeless, is deprived of treatment and education. Discharge your responsibilities keeping eyes on these issues, we want that," she said.

Talking about the food scarcity in the Covid-19 pandemic across the globe, the prime minister said the food scarcity has increased around the world and many countries are suffering from this.

Hasina said every piece of land in every area of the country must be put under cultivation to increase production and mentioned that many developed countries are in deplorable condition regarding food production.

"We may have to provide food assistance to many developed countries, maybe. Keeping this view

in mind, we've to make sure there's no scarcity of food and protein in the country."

Hasina asked all concerned to add more food and processed food items to the country's export basket.

She said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman devoted his entire life towards changing the fate of people as they were poor and destitute. "So, you'll have to think about them (people) and work to change their fortune."

The government wants to build Bangladesh as a hunger- and poverty-free non-communal country where everyone will live with dignity, she added.

Hasina said the government wants to develop government employees suitable for keeping the pace of the world to develop the country further.

She asked the trained officers to utilise their knowledge acquired in the

training course for the development of the country.

Presided over by State Minister for Public Administration Farhad Hossain, the event was addressed, among others, by Public Administration senior Secretary KM Ali Azam and Rector of the BCS Administration Mominur Rashid Amin.

On behalf of the prime minister, Farhad Hossain handed over the awards to the best performers of the 119th and 120th training courses respectively.

Two fresh officers and rector award winners -- Swikriti Pramanik of the 119th course and Umme Salma Naznin Tosha of the 120th course -- spoke at the programme on behalf of the participants of the training course.

A video documentary on Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy was played at the programme.

Tk 6.24CR GRAFT CASE Court accepts charges against Papia, husband

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday accepted the charges against Jubo Mahila League's expelled leader Shamima Nur Papia and her husband Moizur Rahman Sumon in a case filed over amassing about Tk 6.24 crore illegally.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka passed the order after scrutinising the case dockets and other relevant documents in the case, according to court sources.

Papia and her husband, now in jail, were produced before the court during yesterday's hearing.

The judge fixed November 8 for hearing on charge framing.

On March 30, Anti-Corruption Commission Deputy Director Shahin Ara Momtaz, investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the Senior Special Judge's Court.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case against the couple with its Integrated District Office-1 of Dhaka on August 4 last year.

Bangladesh to appeal

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Bashar was charged for carrying 4,980 pieces of contraband amphetamine pills after disembarking at the airport in Jeddah, said the consulate general's letter which was sent to the expatriates' welfare ministry on Tuesday.

According to the letter, the consulate general has to file an appeal against the Saudi court verdict within October 24.

Contacted, Aminul Islam, labour welfare counsellor at Bangladesh Consulate General in Jeddah, yesterday said they are taking necessary steps to file the appeal.

"We will take all kinds of preparations we deem necessary," he told this newspaper over phone.

Bashar's wife Rabeya Begum alleged that her husband was forced by a HSA employee to carry the amphetamine tablets from the airport.

Rabeya said Bashar's flight was on March 12 this year. When he was waiting for his flight, the staffer asked him to carry a package to Saudi Arabia.

Bashar refused to take the package initially, but he threatened him saying that if he refused, he would not be allowed in the flight, Rabeya alleged.

As Bashar's flight time was nearing, he agreed to carry the package seeing no other option, she added.

Rabeya said she came to know about the incident three weeks later when Bashar called her from jail and narrated the whole incident. She later communicated with the armed police battalion officials at HSA and sought their help.

Later, the whole incident was found recorded on close circuit camera. The airport staffer also admitted to the armed police that he gave the package containing amphetamine pills to Bashar, she further said.

"My husband has been punished despite being innocent," she said, demanding punishment of the real culprit and acquittal of her husband.

She said that staffer was a complete stranger to her husband or any of their family members before the fateful incident.

With their four-year-old daughter, she is now facing both financial and emotional hardship since Bashar is the only bread earner of the family.

On Tuesday, Rabeya staged a protest in front of the expatriates' welfare ministry, demanding justice for her husband.

World Food Programme Expression of Interest (EOI) Prequalification of Retailers and Food Wholesalers for WFP Cox's Bazar Ref. CXB21NF01EOI

Reg must

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"Once it is passed in parliament, the workers of electronic media and even the online ones will get legal protection. There'll be no retrenchment without any prior notice. There'll no chance to say 'Don't come to office from tomorrow'," he added.

The minister said cable operators will not be allowed to broadcast foreign channels until they ensure add-free programmes.

He said the cable operators do not pay any tax to government from their incomes. "When the cable operating system will be digitalised, then they won't get any chance to evade tax."

Among others, BSRF president Tapan Biswas and general secretary Masudul Hoque were present at the event.

203 hospitalised

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Among the deaths, 68 have died in Dhaka division, two each in Chattogram and Khulna and one in Rajshahi division. Though most of the patients who were hospitalised have so far been released, 863 are still undergoing treatment at hospitals in Dhaka, and 143 outside the capital, the DGHS data shows.

Office/Residence Purana Paltan: Office/Residence: 830/916/870/772 sft. Office: 2542/5037 sft. Mobile: 01711733182, 01766207840

Lost My Original Admit Card Reg Card Mark Sheet & Provisional Certificate of my B Com (Pass) Examination 1993 Roll-12468 Reg No. 28862 Session 1987-88 under Dhaka University has been lost. GD No. 150 Dated 04/10/2021 has been filed with Tejgaon Shilpanchal Thana in this regard. Ahmad Masihul Anam Mobile 01711623964

We have no connection

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Chief Coordinator Shyamol Kumar Roy, and Executive Secretary General and spokesperson Palash Kanti Dey.

They added that implementing agendas of any political party or individual is not the motto of the Hindu Mahajote, rather they work to protect religious harmony and build a secular Bangladesh.

A former Hindu Mahajote member, who was suspended from the organisation for conducting unethical and anti-organisational activities in 2016, was still been using the name and pad of "Hindu

Mahajote" while indulging in controversial activities and thereby confusing the community, explained the statement.

There is no organisational or individual connection between Hindu Mahajote and the group led by the suspended member, it stated.

"We never support such questionable activities using the name "Hindu Mahajote"," read the statement.

Hindu Mahajote disassociates itself with these questionable activities for personal gain, by people suspended from the organisation, added the statement.

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY Center of Excellence in Higher Education Tender Notice Tender No. NSU/21-22-03 North South University is inviting sealed offer from bona fide/reputed organization/ tailoring house engaged in making & supplying of Convocation Attires.

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