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'Unexpected' obstacles

TIB study finds 44pc of 45 female UNOs faced challenges while taking steps against graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nearly 44 percent of 45 female upazila nirbahi officers have faced challenges in taking steps against corruption, finds a study by Transparency International Bangladesh.

The challenges include pressure from local influential people and politicians, false allegations, and noncooperation from district administrations, upazila parishad chairmen, and law enforcement agencies.

According to the TIB report, 89.1 percent of the 45 female UNOs could take steps against corruption.

The graft watchdog disclosed the findings of the report -- "Role of Women Upazila Nirbahi Officer in Establishing Good Governance at the Local Level: Challenges and Way Forward" -- at a virtual press conference yesterday.

An online survey for the report was conducted between June 2020 and March 2021.

The TIB says out of the total 485 upazilas in the country, 149 (31.1 percent) had female UNOs in June last year.

Questionnaires were sent to all 149 female UNOs for the survey, but only 45 of them took part.

Speaking at the programme, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said UNO offices play the most centralised role in strengthening the integrity system at the local level.

"Our integrity system will be strengthened if good governance is ensured at [UNO] offices and those are made conducive to women's playing their due role in ensuring good governance."

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Dejected Bangladesh players walk off the ground as they end their T20 World Cup campaign with a thumping eight-wicket defeat against Australia in their last Super 12 stage encounter in Dubai yesterday. Australia bundled out the Tigers for a meagre 73 before chasing the target down in just 6.2 overs.

PHOTO: BCB

Tigers go down without a fight

MAZHAR UDDIN from Dubai

Bangladesh's final Super 12 game of the ICC T20 World Cup summed up the sordid state of the Tigers, who displayed poor body language and no fighting instincts as they were crashed to an eight-wicket defeat against Australia after being bundled out for just 73 runs at the Dubai International Stadium yesterday.

It was Bangladesh's second-lowest total in T20Is and only three batsmen were able to reach double-figures. Young Shamim Hossain's 19 was the top score as Bangladesh somehow regressed even further from a poor batting display that saw them bundled out for 84 runs against South Africa in their previous game.

Leg-spinner Adam Zampa was unlucky to miss out on a hattrick but the 29-year-old can take solace from bagging a maiden five-wicket haul. He ended

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'Law applicable to everyone'

HC says loan defaulters cannot have legal rights to contest polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Loan defaulters cannot have legal rights to contest elections, a High Court bench observed yesterday.

Law is equally applicable to everyone, the bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman said while hearing a writ petition.

Mohiuddin Siddique, a member candidate for Sonaigachhi Union Parishad polls in Chattogram's Sitakunda, recently submitted the petition challenging the legality of a decision of the district's election office that cancelled his nomination paper for being a loan defaulter on October 25.

The elections to the union are scheduled to be held on November 11.

During the hearing, Mohiuddin's lawyer Rezaul Hossain Morshed told the HC his client cannot take part in the polls and his constitutional rights are being violated.

The HC told the lawyer that the petitioner could have paid off the loan as he is very keen to run for the polls.

The bench dropped the petition from the cause list, meaning cancellation of his nomination will remain in force.

ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

350 scholars ask for ban on Pakistan aid

NOVEMBER 5, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

SCHOLARS URGE NIXON TO STOP AIDING PAKISTAN

More than 350 scholars signed a statement urging US president Richard Nixon to withdraw his country's support for Pakistan until there was a peaceful settlement of the India-Pakistan crisis.

A proposal from an ad hoc committee asked Nixon to inform the Pakistan government that the United States would not provide military or economic assistance nor continue aid programs "until there is political settlement with the elected Awami League leadership of East Bengal".

The statement was signed by five Nobel Laureates and many of leading US specialists on Asia, including Henry S Rosovsky and Benjamin I Schwartz of Harvard and Myron Weiner and Harold R Isaacs of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Weiner and Isaacs began circulating the statement for endorsement within the academic community at the beginning of November, 1971.

Other signatories, who were Nobel Prize winners, were Paul Samuelson and Salvador Luria of MIT; Simon Kuznets of Harvard and Linus Pauling and Richard Hofstadter of Stanford. The signers also included economists James Tobin of Yale, Wassily Leontief of Harvard and Otto Eckstein of MIT; Seymour Martin Lipset, Harvard political scientist, and Noam Chomsky, MIT expert on linguistics.

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ROZINA'S DETENTION

Five UN experts seek info from govt

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Five UN independent experts have requested the Bangladesh government to provide information on the legal basis of journalist Rozina Islam's arrest in May and asked if the detention and charges against her are compatible with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

They also sought views of the government on the use of Official Secrets Act against the media in the light of the state's obligation to disclose information of public interest under the Right to Information Act.

In a letter issued on June 28 this year, the UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (OHCHR)-appointed special rapporteurs also

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Scientists create fuel 'out of thin air'



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Scientists say they have created a new system that can create fuel out of sunlight and air.

The new system is notable because it can work under field conditions, rather than in the specialised and specific conditions of a laboratory.

Eventually, it could be used to create carbon-neutral fuels for things like aviation and shipping -- but significant amounts of development and upscaling would be required first, the engineers behind the discovery note.

The system is part of a broader attempt to build new processes that could help reduce the 8 per cent of humanity's carbon dioxide emissions that come from flying and shipping. One option is to make new drop-in fuels that would work

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No breach of law

Law minister says on execution of 2 Chuadanga men

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The executions of Abdul Mokim and Golam Rasul Jharu have been completed following relevant legal and official procedures, said Law Minister Anisul Huq and Attorney General AM Amin Uddin yesterday.

"I have collected relevant documents and examined those. I found no mistake in the executions of Mokim and Jharu," the law minister told The Daily Star.

He also said, "They had been convicted and sentenced to death by the trial court in a murder case. The High Court confirmed their sentences and then the Appellate Division affirmed after hearing and disposing of their jail appeals."

"The President has rejected their mercy petitions and only then the jail authorities executed

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A red avadavat, red munia or strawberry finch, popularly known as Lal Munia in Bangla, feeding on lichen on a wetland in the capital's Aftabnagar. This strikingly beautiful bird, which eats seeds of different grasses, is mainly seen in Dhaka, Munshiganj, Sylhet and Rajshahi.

PHOTO COURTESY: MOSABBER HOSSAIN RIBON

6-MURDER IN CAMP

Accused gives 'confessional statement'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

An accused in the case filed over the murders of six Rohingyas in a refugee camp in Cox's Bazar yesterday gave a confessional statement before a court.

Cox's Bazar Senior Judicial Magistrate Zerin Sultana recorded the statement of the accused, Arafat Ullah, 22, under section 144.

Talking to The Daily Star, Commander of 14th Armed Police Battalion (APBn), SP Naimul Haque, confirmed the confessional

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PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 5

Fajr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
4:55	12:30	4:00	5:30	7:15	
JAMAAT	5:30	1:15	4:15	5:34	7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Psoriasis: NOT JUST ABOUT THE SKIN



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Psoriasis is fairly common globally as well as in Bangladesh. Although the condition is classified as a dermatological disease, it doesn't start in the skin, and its damage is also not limited there.

The disorder causes skin cells to multiply up to 10 times faster than normal. This makes the skin build up into bumpy red patches with white scales. They can grow anywhere. But most common places where such bumps are

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