



## AN EQUALITY in question

JU allocates same amount of research funds for all teachers without judging merit

Md ASADUZ ZAMAN, JU

Bizarre as it may sound, Jahangirnagar University treats all teachers equally when it's about releasing funds for research.

From a lecturer to a professor, the university hands the equal amount of money to all teachers, irrespective of their research proposals and faculties.

Such a fund disbursement has long been drawing criticism from JU teachers who termed it lop-sided. They pointed out that research fields and topics differ from department to department. It is also frustrating because a teacher with a solid research background receives the same fund as a junior researcher.

Talking to The Daily Star, several teachers said the university tasked a high-powered committee, led by the vice-chancellor, to

"There is no scope for giving funds for research this way. There has to be competition and funds should be given on the basis of a proposal's merit."

PROF DIL AFROZA BEGUM  
MEMBER, UGC

disburse the funds, but the body hardly evaluates any research proposal before releasing the money.

There is no example of any research proposal getting rejected in recent times, they said.

"It's a sort of discrimination when a senior

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This metro train travelled between Diabari in Uttara and Agargaon for the first time yesterday. The photo was taken in Kazipara in Mirpur on Rokeya Sarani during the journey.

PHOTO:  
AMRAN HOSSAIN



People ready to make ours a developed country: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said soldiers have been prepared for making Bangladesh a developed country by 2041 as the young generation is availing of the opportunities to flourish their talents in this Digital Bangladesh.

"Now, I don't have to worry anymore. Of course,

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## Murad returns

4 DSA cases filed against former state minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Disgraced state minister for information and broadcasting Murad Hassan was forced to return to the country yesterday.

He arrived at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) at 4:56pm in an Emirates flight from Dubai, an aviation security officer told The Daily Star.

Being denied entry to Canada and having no visa to enter the UAE, Murad had little choice but to return to Bangladesh, said sources close to the ruling party lawmaker from Jamalpur-4.

Meanwhile, four pro-BNP lawyers yesterday filed four separate cases against



Murad at Dhaka airport on his return from the UAE.

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## METRO RAIL Roll-out on Victory Day next year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's first ever metro rail will go on its commercial operation in the Uttara-Agargaon section on December 16 -- the Victory Day -- next year.

The metro rail authorities will start the partial operation of the new mode of public transport in the country with 10 sets of metro trains, an official said.

The Agargaon-Motijheel section will be operational for the second phase by December 2023, said MAN Siddique, managing director of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited (DMTCL),

METRO RAIL

## Roll-out on Victory Day next year

which is implementing the fast-track project.

He was speaking to reporters at the under-construction Agargaon station after a metro train reached there from the depot in Uttara's Dia Bari for the first time during a performance test yesterday.

As per the prior announcement, the train reached the Agargaon station at 11:00am. It started from the depot at 9:39am and after completing necessary tests, it reached the station, a DMTCL official said.

Earlier on November 29, a metro train travelled to Mirpur-10 for the first time.

Formally known as the Mass Rapid Transit Line

## PANDEMIC FALLOUT Three in 4 homes faced hardship

Finds CPD survey on 1,600 households

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 75 percent of the 1,600 surveyed households of marginalised communities had experienced additional financial hardship caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, according to a research presented by the Centre for Policy Dialogue.

Most of those households have yet to recover from the hardships, Afra Tahsin Chowdhury, research associate at the CPD, told a session at a two-day conference at the Brac Centre Inn in the capital.

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No extrajudicial killings in Bangladesh  
Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Issuing restrictions on seven former and current high officials of Rab by the United States from entering that country is "unfortunate", said Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday.

The allegation on which the US issued the restrictions is "imaginary", he added.

The law minister was replying to queries from journalists after attending a meeting on the occasion of the inauguration of the 26th



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US SANCTIONS ON RAB  
It'll encourage terrorism and militancy  
Says Obaidul Quader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The recent US sanctions on Rab and its seven current and former top officials are politically motivated and one-sided, said Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday.

No member of Rab is above the law and at least seven Rab men were sentenced to death in connection with an incident in Narayanganj, said Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister.

Rab itself and the ministry



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Rab works in line with law, constitution  
Says its DG

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion is performing duties in accordance with the constitution and rules of Bangladesh, its Director General Chowdhury Abdulla Al Mamun has said.

He made the comment while addressing reporters at Barguna Patharghata launch ghat yesterday, after the United States on Friday imposed sanctions on Rab and seven of its top former and current officials.



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# Congratulations

Designer Fashion Ltd. achieved another milestone by winning the "Green Factory Award 2020".

Md Jashim Uddin, Vice-Chairman of Bengal Group & President, FBCCI and Tasnia Jashim, Director, Designer Fashion Ltd. received the award from Monnujan Sufian, the State Minister of Labor and Employment on behalf of the honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina while the honorable PM was virtually present.

## GREEN FACTORY AWARD 2020

globally 7th highest scored LEED Platinum RMG Green Factory

**CERTIFICATIONS**

## শোকবাতা



আমাদের পরম শ্রদ্ধের আকরা এবং আল-নুর গ্রন্থের প্রতিষ্ঠাতা ও ব্যবহাপনা পরিচালক জন্মব আলহাজ মো. নুরুল হক সাহেব ১২ ডিসেম্বর ২০২১ইং, ২৭ অগ্রহায়ন ১৪২৮ বঙ্গাব্দ, রোজ: রবিবার, তার ৪.২০ ঘটিকায় ইন্ডোকাল করেছেন। ইন্হানিলাইভি ওয়াই ইন্হাইভি রাজেন্ট।

আমরা পরিবারের পক্ষ থেকে মরহুমের বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত ও দেয়া কামনা করছি।

শোকাত পরিবারের পক্ষে

আলহাজ মো. ফজলুল হক, আলহাজ মো. আরিফুল হক ও পরিবারের সদস্যবৃন্দ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh entered a new era of digital connectivity as state-run mobile phone operator Teletalk launched the fifth-generation (5G) of mobile internet connectivity yesterday.

The trial run of the "super-speed technology" inaugurated at a programme titled "New Era with 5G" at the Radisson hotel in Dhaka yesterday evening in collaboration with Huawei.

Initially, most of Teletalk's subscribers will not get the connection as the mobile operator

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