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UK honours Prof Huq with OBE

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The UK has conferred the Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) honour on Bangladesh's climate expert Prof Saleemul Huq for his contributions to combating climate change and building climate expertise in Bangladesh, the UK, and around the globe.

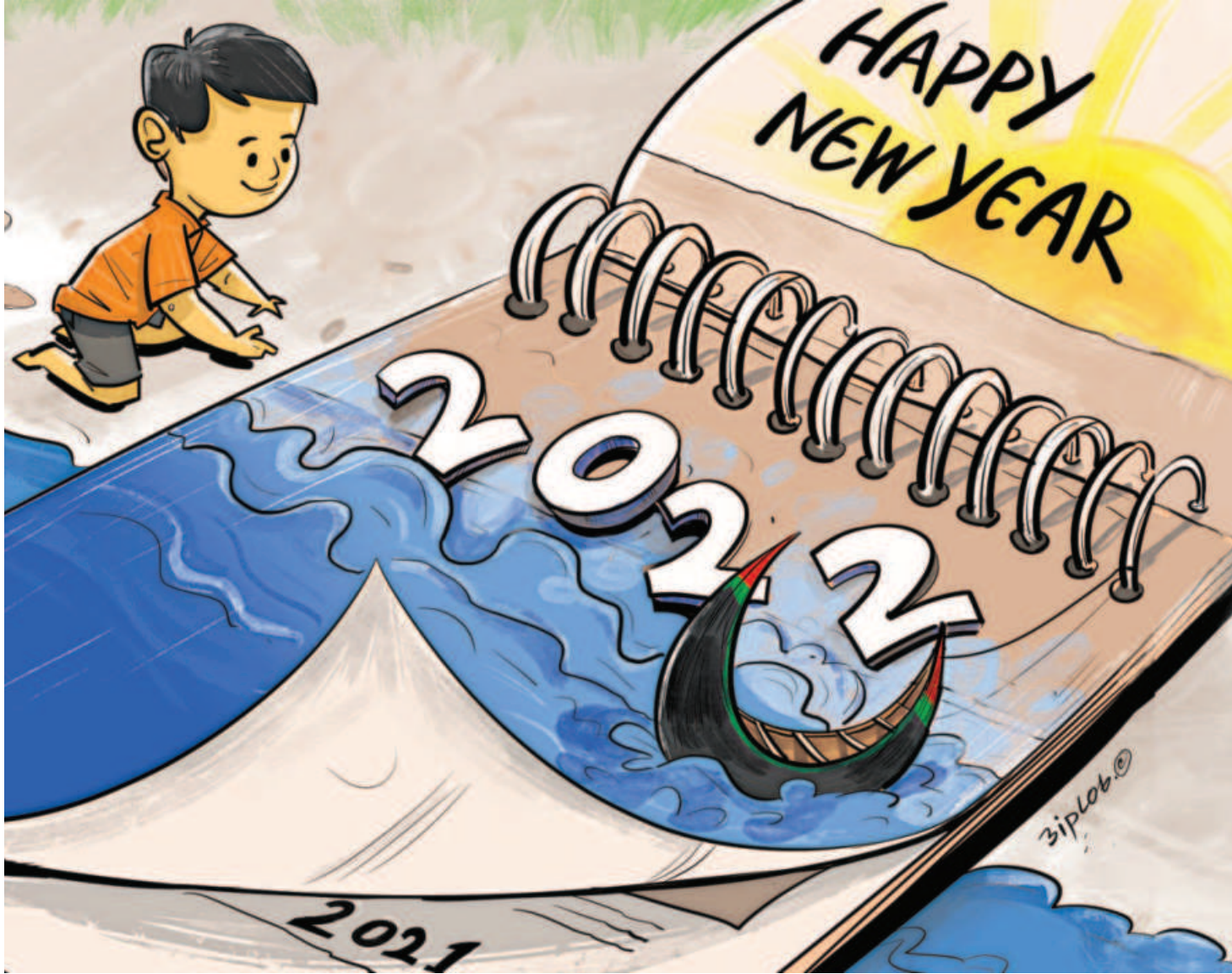
Prof Huq has dedicated his professional life to helping developing countries and vulnerable communities adapt to the impacts of climate change. His scientific research, at leading universities and centres of excellence in the UK and in Bangladesh, has helped frame international policy on climate change for over 35 years, said a press release.

In Bangladesh, Prof Huq has been a leading author of the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. He also contributed to devising the Nationally Determined Contribution and National Action Plan on Adaptation.

Accepting his OBE, Prof Huq said, "It is a great honour and pleasure for me to receive the OBE. As a dual Bangladeshi and British citizen, I have been working for two decades to enhance collaboration between the universities and researchers in both countries to tackle the twin global challenges of poverty eradication and dealing with climate change."

Robert Chatterton Dickson, British high commissioner to Bangladesh, said, "I am delighted that Prof Huq has been recognised with one of the UK's most prestigious honours. With his passion, eloquence, and commitment to an

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2021 FOR JURNOS, CRITICS

Frightening all year round

ASK report paints grim rights picture, says it's 'agonising' for minorities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The entire 2021 was frightening for rights activists, journalists, critics of the government and opposition party men, according to Ain o Salish Kendra.

The rights watchdog also said it was an agonising year particularly for the minorities.

"At least 204 idols, mandap or temples were attacked, and 184 households and 50 business establishments were vandalised and looted this year," ASK said yesterday at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity where it unveiled its annual report.

In a statement, the ASK said Hindu people's homes and holy sites were attacked, torched and looted in Cumilla, Chandpur, Feni, Noakhali, Lakshimpur, Chattogram and Bandarban during the Durga Puja.

The statement also said at least 210 journalists were harassed, including many prosecuted under the Digital Security Act (DSA).

The rights watchdog tracked at least

six cases of enforced disappearance in 2021 and said the victims were later shown on documents as arrested in different cases.

There has been a case of alleged enforced disappearance where the person is still missing. The missing person, Imam Mahadi Hasan Dollar, from Mymensingh's Fulbaria, was detained by a

80 people died in extrajudicial killings, eight in custody; 1,321 women raped

group of people in two motorcycles and a microbus, the ASK said in the statement.

According to the ASK report, at least 80 people became victims of extrajudicial killings last year. Fifty-one of them died in so-called shootout or crossfire with law enforcers.

The number was 188 the previous year.

The ASK prepared the report based on news items run by different media outlets in the country.

It said at least eight people were killed custody and six of them were reportedly tortured to death. One died before being arrested while the other had suffered a heart attack.

Besides, at least 81 people died in jail, ASK Secretary General Nur Khan said at the press conference.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Although incidents of rape and violence against women declined last year compared to the previous one, such incidents continued to remain a cause of concern.

The ASK report said at least 1,321 women were raped or gang-raped across the country last year. Of them, 47 were killed after rape and nine died by suicide.

This means over three women were raped every day on average.

However, the actual number may be higher as many incidents go unreported,

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All eligible in Bagerhat's Fakirhat get jobs

UNB, Bagerhat

One hundred percent of the eligible population received at least one dose of coronavirus vaccine in Bagerhat's Fakirhat, which has become the first upazila in the country to be so.

It is a remarkable achievement at a time when countries around the world are struggling to convince people to take the vaccine.

According to officials, the success was achieved on Thursday.

In this upazila of 1.63 lakh people, for months, day after day, long and orderly lines formed outside the vaccination centres.

Students, teachers, farmers, potters -- young and old, rich and poor, highly- and barely-educated -- showed up when their names were called; then returned weeks later for the second dose.

"Fakirhat is the first upazila in Bangladesh to have achieved 100 percent vaccination of all eligible population. This is quite an achievement. We will use Fakirhat experience in other upazilas of the country," Lokman Hossain Miah, senior secretary to the Health Services Division, said yesterday while addressing a programme in the upazila.

"All the eligible target group people above 12 years of age in Fakirhat have been vaccinated. Around 1.63 lakh people live here. Against an eligible population of 1,26,000 in the upazila, 1,20,000 people have been inoculated and 6,000 residents who live outside the upazila also got

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Childhood obesity raises DIABETES RISK

Dr Rukhsana Parvin Diabetes is a chronic disease that occurs either when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin or when the body cannot effectively use the insulin produced by the pancreas.

Type 1 diabetes, once known as juvenile diabetes or insulin-dependent diabetes, results from a deficiency of insulin secretion because of pancreatic beta-cell damage.

On the other hand, type 2 diabetes occurs when the body becomes resistant to

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Four children gazing intently up at the sky as they control their kites, while another sits with his own kite in hand watching the action unfold. Kite-flying is a rich tradition all over Bangladesh, but with open spaces shrinking in urban areas the pastime is often restricted to rooftops and river banks. The photo was taken from the banks of the Buriganga in the capital's Lalbagh area recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

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Happy New Year

2022

Wishing every day of the new year to be filled with success, happiness, and prosperity for you. Happy New Year.

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