

RU ENTRY TEST

Teacher, two students jailed for taking proxy exam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four, including two students of Dhaka University, were sentenced to jail yesterday for taking the Rajshahi University (RU) admission test on behalf of candidates.

A lecturer of Khulna's Gazi Medical College, Dr Shamir Ray, was sentenced to a year's jail.

Ekhlashur Rahman, who was also jailed for a year, is a student of DU's music department and hails from Joypurhat's Panchbibi.

He is a resident of Hazi Muhammad Mohsin Hall and was a joint secretary of the hall unit of Chhatra League's former committee, said DU sources.

Jannatul Mehjabin of DU's public administration department was held from another room during the test. She was jailed for two years, as she did not cooperate with authorities after arrest. Jannatul is from Cumilla's Burichang.

The other person is Bayezid Khan, a former student of RU's folklore department.

Prof Pradip Kumar Panday, administrator of RU's public relations office, said invigilators in different rooms caught them when they were found to be taking the test as proxies.

They were later sentenced to jail by a mobile court. It was the second day of RU's admission tests.

LOAD SHEDDING

BNP to hold nationwide protests

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP will hold demonstrations across the country, protesting the ongoing load shedding and "mismanagement" in the energy sector.

The party will hold protests in all city corporations, including Dhaka north and south, and in all the district headquarters.

Party's Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir came up with the announcement at a press conference at the party chairperson's Gulshan office yesterday. He said the party's standing committee has decided that BNP's Dhaka north city unit will hold demonstration on July 29 and Dhaka south unit on July 30.

The party will hold demonstrations in the district headquarters on July 31.Fakhrul said a chaotic situation in the energy sector was created due to "blanket corruption" in the sector.

JINJIRA PALACE

a tale of treachery and negligence

HELEMUL ALAM

Its history is intertwined with melancholy and treachery.

After the fall of Sirajuddaula, the last independent nawab of Bengal, his grandmother Sharifunnessa (Alivardi's wife), aunts Ghaseti Begum and Amina Begum, wife Lutfunnisa Begum and her daughter Qudsia Begum alias Umme Zohra were sent to Jinjira palace, where

However, Jinjira palace, which has played an important role in the history of Bengal, lies neglected and forgotten at present.

According to Banglapedia, Jinjira Palace consisted of the palace edifice, two-storey rectangular extensive hammam (bathhouse) complex, the two-storey gateway with provision for guard rooms and two octagonal side towers on the south.

hang at the sites, while its illegal occupants have started to claim ownership.

During a recent visit, this correspondent talked to Mohammad Alamgir (67), a local who has been living in the area since his childhood.

"We've heard from our elders that when the British government was there, the governing body of the palace sold the site to different people," said Alamgir.

"When we were young, we could get



The structure, having originally been built just on the riverbank in Keraniganj, is said to have been connected to Dhaka by a wooden bridge thrown across the river at Bara Katra point.

they were kept under close watch.

It is said that one Jamadar Bakr Khan put Ghaseti and Amina on a barge, on the pretext of taking them to safety in Murshidabad, and drowned them in a river in June 1760, under instructions of Mir Sadeq Ali Khan (Miran), son of Nawab Mir Jafar Ali Khan.

Mentionable, along with Mir Jafar and Miran, Ghaseti was also a part of the conspiracy against his nephew. But the two eventually betrayed her.

According to historians, Mughal

The rooms of the palace were rectangular with plastered walls and a vaulted roof.

However, it's impossible for a visitor to locate it without the help of a local.

It is mostly occupied by the area's residents. Locals call the place

the whole view of Dhaka from the palace top."

"Since the 1970s, new buildings have been constructed here, and the palace started to disappear around the 1990s," claimed Alamgir.

Alamgir, however, claims the area to be "people's property". "But if the government instructs, we're bound to leave the place," he said.

"At least 200 buildings have already been constructed over the years, and if the residents are evicted, the question arises -- where will they go?" he added.

Golam Azam, owner of the adjoining land of one of the two remaining structures, said they've been living there since 1892. His grandfather, Haji Ojjiullah, purchased the land when it was empty.

The traces of the remaining structure of the palace can be found amidst the newly built buildings, he said.

Golam added that the small rooms in that part of the palace are in a dilapidated condition. No one lives there.

When asked, State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid said the entire area was under Jinjira palace, but it has been occupied by encroachers.

Hamid, also Dhaka-3 (Keraniganj) lawmaker, said he had submitted a demi

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Subedar Ibrahim Khan II (1689-1697) built Jinjira palace to be his recreation resort. The palace used to be surrounded by rivers and had the natural characteristics of an island.

It was hence named "Qasr-i-Jazirah", meaning palace of the island.

The structure, having originally been built just on the riverbank in Keraniganj, is said to have been connected to Dhaka by a wooden bridge thrown across the river at Bara Katra point.

"hawli". The word originated from the Persian word "haveli", a generic term used for mansion.

The palace's view is now blocked by walls and newly built houses.

Only some parts of the palace remain -- one near the BNP office surrounded by new buildings, some old structures that are encroached and dilapidated, and another located near Pir Mohammad Pilot High School.

Two upazila administration signboards

This year's DSCC budget Tk 6,741cr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) yesterday approved Tk 6,741.28 crore budget for 2022-23 fiscal.

The budget was approved at the 15th board meeting of DSCC, held at Nagar Bhaban.

"With the tireless efforts of our councillors and officers, we have been able to lay foundations of a better Dhaka in the last two years, to meet the expectations of Dhaka residents," said DSCC Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh at the meeting.

He said they have earned a record Tk 879 crore revenue in 2021-22 fiscal. They have turned a fragile corporation

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SHEIKH FAZLE NOOR TAPOSH
DSCC Mayor

into one trusted by the people of Dhaka in just two years, he added.

The mayor said revenue was only Tk 514 crore when he took charge as mayor. They managed to earn Tk 703 crore in 2020-21 fiscal and made Tk 176 crore more in the last fiscal.

In the meeting, chief state officer Rasel Sabrin was given the "Shuddhachar Puroshkar", and Ward-42 Councillor Mohammad Selim received the best councillor award.

Sabrin received one-month basic salary, a crest and certificate, while Selim received Tk 50,000, a crest and certificate.

Timely steps taken to face crisis: Quader

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League general secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said the government has taken timely steps to face the fall-out of the ongoing global economic crisis.

Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, said his party thinks that it would not be difficult to overcome any crisis if the people make a united effort.

Criticising BNP leaders for raising questions over the country's reserves of foreign currencies, the AL general secretary said the stock was never above US\$ 5 billion during their regime.

He said Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves hit the country's record highest of more than US\$ 48 billion due to the economic development and good governance. The export income of Bangladesh has exceeded US\$ 50 billion, he said.

Shohoz seeks HC stay on Tk 2 lakh fine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shohoz.com has filed a petition with the High Court challenging the decision of the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection that fined the ticketing platform for its negligence in the process of selling tickets.

The platform submitted the petition to the HC on Monday, also seeking a stay on the decision, petitioner's lawyer KM Tanjib-Ul-Alam told The Daily Star yesterday.

The lawyer, however, refused to provide any details about the petition.

Bangladesh, a true champion

Says IOM deputy DG on migration management

UNB, Dhaka

International Organization for Migration (IOM) has appreciated Bangladesh's overall migration management and gradual prevention of irregular migration enabling regular migration.

"Bangladesh is a champion in this regard," said IOM Deputy Director General Ugochi Daniels while responding to a question from the news agency yesterday.

During a small group media briefing at a hotel in the capital, Daniels appreciated bilateral agreements on workers recruitment which will help prevent irregular migration.

She emphasised continued efforts to address the root causes -- access to education, healthcare and access to livelihoods -- and make people well-prepared



Ugochi Daniels

with adequate knowledge, skills and requirements before going abroad.


The IOM DDG said Bangladesh has sent more than 13 million Bangladeshi nationals overseas since 1976 to date who have contributed to the national economy through remittances and contribute to their host societies and countries.

Bangladesh sends the 6th most migrants of any country in the world and receives the 8th highest remittances.

Daniels stressed that IOM continues to support the government of Bangladesh to view migration as a positive and beneficial phenomenon, holistically and strategically and IOM is committed to assisting Bangladesh in that regard.

Responding to a question on the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Death toll **8**

Total number of patients **2,305**

301 still undergoing treatment

Number of recovered patients **1,996**

99 more hospitalised yesterday

SOURCE: DGHS

PRAYER TIMING

JULY 27

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:20	12:45	5:00	6:50	8:15
JAMAAAT 4:55	1:15	5:15	6:55	8:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

As soon as vehicles near the exit of the neat and clean Sultana Kamal Bridge in Demra, they are greeted with a heap of garbage on the side of the road. This situation has persisted for almost a year now, as authorities responsible for cleaning up the trash fail to do their due diligence. This photo was taken yesterday.