

Golam Mortuza passes away

STAR REPORT
Md Golam Mortuza (Motu), a retired officer of Bogura District Election Commission office, died early yesterday at his residence in Chalklokman area of Bogura town. He was 77. He had been suffering from various old age complications for a long time, said family members. Mortuza left behind two daughters, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends to mourn his death. He was buried at his family graveyard in the town following a namaz-e-janaza at Chalklokman Jame Mosque after Asr prayers.



Ordinance issued to adjust tariff

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34 (A), which mentions that in special cases, the government can fix, re-fix or adjust electricity and energy prices considering production, transmission, stock, marketing, distribution and consumption. It would adjust the prices to ensure uninterrupted energy supply for agriculture, industries, domestic users, as well as adjust subsidies. The ordinance also added a line to the sub-clause 34 (3) of the act, which talks about the authorisation of the commission to determine tariff. With this addition, BEREC will now need to consult with the government before any move towards holding a public hearing on retail power tariff hike proposals, reports UNB. "We think we should

first consult with the government before starting any process for public hearing on the submitted proposals," Mohammad Bazur Rahman, member (power) of BEREC, told the news agency. The BEREC hiked the new electricity bulk price by 19.92 percent recently, and the six distribution companies proposed around 20 percent price

hike at retail level. Experts expressed concern over this development. They said that the government bypassed the basic principle of the BEREC act. "An implementing agency will now be able to fix the prices of power and energy, which is unfortunate for a country," said Prof M Shamsul Alam, a prominent energy expert.

All 10 mayor

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them, 10 submitted their papers on Tuesday. The 10 aspirants are Mostafizur Rahman Mostafa of Jatiya Party, Hosne Ara Lutfa Dalia of Awami League, Shafiqur Rahman of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (Jasad-Inu), Md Amiruzzaman of Islami Andolon Bangladesh, Touhidur

Rahman Mondal Raju of Khilafat Majlish, Khorshed Alam Khokon of Zaker Party, Abu Raihan of Bangladesh Congress, and independent candidates Mehdi Hasan, Latifur Rahman (AL rebel) and Aatur Zaman Babu (AL rebel). BNP is not taking part in the polls, which will be held using electronic voting machines.

Job festival starts at DIU

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar
A three-day long job festival started at Daffodil International University yesterday. DIU and UNDP's FutureNation Project are jointly organising the event. State Minister for ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak inaugurated the job fair as chief guest. DIU VC Prof M Lutful Rahman; Van Guen, resident representative, UNDP Bangladesh; Prof SM Mahubul Haque Majumdar, pro-VC; Sardar M Asaduzzaman, assistant resident representative, UNDP; and Hans Martin Hoeg Henriksen, chief corporate affairs officer, Gramophone; also spoke at the event.

Concerned over lack of foreign

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(ATAB) -- an apex body of travel agents of the country -- organised the fair, titled "Bangladesh International Travel and Tourism Expo (BITTE)", at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) in Dhaka. The fair will go on till December 3. The state minister also said, "We will have to meet the needs of foreign tourists. We have to overcome all the shortcomings by staying united." Mahubul Ali said the government prioritises creating a positive brand image of Bangladesh. "Creating a positive tourism brand image of Bangladesh is the top priority now," he also said. Mahubul said the tourism and hospitality sector is expanding in line with the country's development despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic as the current government has taken various measures to boost the tourism industry. "A tourism recovery plan has already been prepared

to deal with the challenges of the industry due to the impact of Covid-19, ways to overcome the crisis and gain an advantage in the competitive tourism market in the future," he said. Besides, Mahubul said, the work of formulating a tourism master plan for ensuring planned and comprehensive development of the tourism industry is near completion. The country's tourism industry will enter a new era through a tourism master plan that is scheduled to be completed by this month, he added. "I believe that the tourism industry will play an important role in economic prosperity to make Bangladesh a developed country by 2041. We have to utilise the immense tourism potential of the country through creativity, innovation and diversification," Mahubul said. Civil Aviation and Tourism Secretary Mokammel Hossain,

Religious Affairs Secretary Kazi Enamul Hassan, Nepal Ambassador to Bangladesh Ghanshyam Bhandari, Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) Chairman Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman, ATAB President Manzoor Morshed and Secretary General Abdus Salam Aref were present at the programme among others. Different airlines, hospitals, and tourism boards from more than 15 countries, including India, Malaysia, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Oman, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Azerbaijan, South Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, and United Arab Emirates (UAE), are participating in the fair. A seminar titled "Investment opportunity in Bangladesh Tourism Sector" was held at the fair today, while two more -- "Aviation and Tourism opportunity, Connecting Bangladesh to the world" and "The impact of 4th Industrial Revolution in Tourism Industry" -- are scheduled to be held.

High Court seeks

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to the Anti-Corruption Commission in 15 days, so that the commission can take necessary steps. At the same time, the HC bench ordered the media not to publish any report on the case's merit. The media can make reports on the case's proceedings, the court said, adding that the reporters can take help from the deputy attorney general, assistant attorney general, lawyers and bench officers concerned in making reports if they don't properly understand the court proceedings. Following the writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Syed Sayedul Haque Suman, the HC bench on November 1 this year issued a rule asking the authorities concerned to explain why their inaction to take steps against Murshedy for illegally occupying the house of the Public Works Department in Gulshan should not be declared illegal. Housing and public works secretary, Rajuk chairman and Murshedy were asked to submit the documents before the HC bench. Abdus Salam Murshedy,

lawmaker from Khulna-4, and senior vice-president of Bangladesh Football Federation, submitted his documents regarding the house to the HC on November 13 through his lawyer Mohammad Sayeed Ahmed Raza, but the housing and public works secretary and Rajuk chairman were yet to submit any documents to the court. Murshedy's lawyer Raza told the HC bench yesterday that his client has been prejudiced and is victim of media trial, as some print and electronic media published reports on his house at Gulshan. Writ petitioner's lawyer Aneek R Haque told the bench that the media published the reports based on the finding of a probe committee formed by the ministry of housing, led by a joint secretary. Attorney General AM Amin Uddin and Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin Manik appeared for the state, while senior lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan and lawyer Zakir Hossain Masud stood for ACC and Rajuk, respectively, during the hearing.

Police launch 15-day drive

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PHQ on November 29. The instructions were given against the backdrop of the escape of two militants on death row on the court premises November 20, said Khandker Golam Faruq, commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police. Raids should be conducted on hotels, messes, hostels, community centres and other possible hiding places of criminals. The PHQ ordered the

field-level officials to arrest militants, narcotics traders and addicts and fugitives, and recover illegal weapons. SM Aktaruzzaman, DIG of Barishal range, said they have already started the drive and mainly focused on absconding and warrant-listed accused, which is also routine work for them. The directives came at a time when the BNP is preparing to hold its rally in the capital on December 10. BNP leaders

have alleged that law enforcers are arresting the party activists and raiding their houses. Meanwhile, DMP has suspended leaves of its officials for the next two months, according to sources. Along with the special drive, DMP has to manage several political programmes in the first week including the BNP's rally on December 10, it added.

Once a source of clean water

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Rotten food from nearby restaurants are also thrown into the pond, while authorities remain silent. Seeking anonymity, some alleged that one Ranjan Goswami has been keeping bamboo for his decoration business occupying a portion of land beside the pond for

some 30 years. Contacted, Ranjan claimed the bamboos aren't piled up regularly, but said he keeps them there occasionally. Rakesh Chakraborty, priest of the twin-temple, said the pond was cleaned recently in collaboration with the local administration, but it all went back to square one

within a few days. "We don't have sufficient funds for cleaning the pond regularly as the temple is run from local donations," he added. Contacted, AKM Lutfor Rahman, UNO of Muktagacha, said necessary action would be taken to keep the pond pollution-free in the future.

Living amidst piles

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Echoing the same, another resident Shukjan Begum, said, "The presence of insects have increased significantly in our area due to pollution caused by such garbage dumping stations." "People are suffering from different kinds of diseases. We want the government's immediate attention to solve the

problem," said Abdul Hamid Khan, an environmental activist in Pabna. Contacted, Pabna municipality waste management officer Md Abdul Rahim said they are forced to dump wastes under the open sky as they don't have enough space and modern technologies for waste management. The municipality's executive engineer

Md Nazmul Islam said the government has undertaken a project to modernise waste management system in the country's 10 municipalities, including Pabna. "We will get modern technologies, equipment and vehicles under this project," he added, without mentioning any timeframe of when they may get these facilities.

50pc fresh produce lost every

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harvest loss is more or less around 45 percent in India and Bangladesh. The lack of preservation and processing mechanism leads to 50 percent of produce being lost in Bangladesh. "Post-harvest mechanism is not often available in South Asian countries. The storage in Bangladesh is mostly full of rice and potatoes. We are struggling to preserve the perishable produce, including fish, meat and vegetables," she observed. She underscored the need for advertisement, awareness campaigns, seminars, workshops, and advocacy by the civil society to mitigate the loss and achieve sustainable food security in the country. During winter in Bangladesh, there is a massive growth of tomatoes. However, farmers do not get their fair share of prices and are forced to destroy the produce, mentioned Nasreen. "If we can set up a processing facility, the farmers would be able to sell those later in the market," she advised. Dechen Tshering, chief of the National Post Harvest Centre under Bhutan's

Ministry of Agriculture, said they encourage farmers for post-harvest management in many ways -- like the use of tools and mechanisms in an eco-friendly way. In terms of regional cooperation, we are looking at every possible means to collaborate on reducing post-harvest losses, and take support from neighbouring countries to develop capacity, alongside sharing human resources, research, and supporting infrastructure development, he said. Nilanthi Wijewardane, principal research scientist, Head of the Division of Research of the National Institute of Post-Harvest Management in Sri Lanka, said they have found that a maximum of 70 percent of post-harvest losses occur during transportation in her country. She stressed on policy and institutional support to protect the produce during transportation, from the location of production till it reaches the consumer. Begum Matia Chowdhury, chair of the parliamentary standing committee on the Ministry of Agriculture, said, "The government has ensured substantial progress in ensuring food security for

the population. Bangladesh is prone to frequent climate shocks that can potentially disrupt the food system, increase inequality and jeopardise people's access to food." "I hope Sapling will play a catalysing role in steering regional cooperation to develop sustainable food systems across South Asia," said the former agriculture minister and chief guest of the event. Dr Shamsul Alam, state minister for planning, said to ensure accessibility and availability of safe, nutritious food in South Asia, institutional setup -- complemented by multi-sectoral and multi-country cooperation -- is necessary. Siddharth Chaturvedi, senior programme officer, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, stressed on the importance of connecting the dots and translating country level-issues to regional collaborations for effective solutions in countries under the Sapling initiative. Amadou Ba, senior agriculture economist at The World Bank, Dhaka, re-emphasised the need for regional collaboration among South Asian countries and their alignment with the UN Food Systems Summit.

Executed before trial

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declare. After scanning her luggage, the customs officials seized the narcotics. The next day, Firoz Alam, an assistant customs officer of the Customs House in Dhaka, filed a case against Molapisi with Airport Police Station under the Narcotics Control Act. On August 17, investigation officer Mohammad Jahangir Alam, a sub-inspector of the same police station, submitted a charge sheet before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka against Molapisi and one Mohibul Islam Masud, stating that the two are active members of an international drug-smuggling syndicate. During investigation,

police on January 26 arrested Masud, managing director of Mehrab Industries Limited, located in Dhaka's Uttara Paschim area. The charge sheet states, "Masud invited Molapisi to come to Bangladesh for business purposes, but she could not show any suitable evidence in favour of her business." "Molapisi took three handbags from her friend Evans Chukaka, a resident of Johannesburg in South Africa, before coming to Bangladesh; the heroin was hidden inside the bags," the charge sheet read. "No definite evidence against Chukaka or his address was found during investigation, so he was not named in the charge sheet," it added.

Country not at risk

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of faults, the scenario of sediments and the actual possibilities of mega earthquakes. Fazlul made the observation at a seminar, titled "Understanding the Structure and Tectonic Configuration of Bengal Basin for Earthquake Magnitude Prediction", organised by Dhaka University's geology department. The 2016 study, titled "Locked and loading megathrust linked to active subduction beneath the Indo-Burman Ranges", by Michael Steckler -- a geophysicist at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University

-- mentioned that the northeastern corner of the Indian subcontinent is actively colliding with Asia, potentially posing a risk of an earthquake with a magnitude of 8.2 to 9 in the region. A 9-magnitude earthquake is equivalent to 8 billion tonnes of explosives, said Fazlul, also the former director of Geological Survey of Bangladesh. "We cannot accept a study without validation. One model is not enough to say that Bangladesh is at risk of a mega earthquake," he said. The Bengal Basin is a living model of an active and complex geological

entity, consisting of dynamic depositional complex, heterogenous and multidimensional tectonic deformational settings from three tectonic plates, he said. It should be mentioned that the 1918 Sreemangal earthquake is of the highest-ever magnitude (7.5) in the country. Since then, no seismogenic structure has been found to cause great earthquakes in Bangladesh. Dr Badrul Imam, honorary professor of geology at Dhaka University; and Dr Zillur Rahman, dean of DU's Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences, also spoke at the seminar.

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বিদেশি ভাষার নাম	আরবি, চীনা, ইংরেজি, ফরাসি, জার্মান, ইতালীয়, জাপানি, ফার্সি, রাশিয়ান, স্পেনীয়, কোরীয়, তুর্কি, হিন্দি এবং বিদেশী ভাষা হিসেবে বাংলা।
কোর্সের মেয়াদ	১২০ ঘণ্টা (১ বছর সমাপ্ত)
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ক্রাসের কালব্যাপ্তি	সপ্তাহে ২/৩ দিন, ২ ঘণ্টা করে।
ভর্তির ন্যূনতম যোগ্যতা	ক) বিদেশি ভাষার ক্ষেত্রে: কমপক্ষে এইচ.এস.সি সমমান পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ। ন্যূনতম দ্বিতীয় বিভাগ/বি শ্রেণি/জিপিএ ২.৫ থাকতে হবে। বিদেশিদের জন্যে কমপক্ষে ১২ বছর অধ্যয়নকালের সনদ প্রয়োজন হবে। খ) ইংরেজি ভাষার ক্ষেত্রে: শুধুমাত্র ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নিয়মিত স্নাতক (সম্মান) এবং স্নাতকোত্তর-এর শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য।
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ভর্তি সনাক্তকৃত ব্যাপারে বাবতীয় তথ্য ইনস্টিটিউটের ওয়েব সাইট এবং বিজ্ঞপ্তি ফলাফল প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে।
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