

Star journo wins 2 CRAB media awards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Daily Star's senior reporter Mohammad Jamil Khan has won two "CRAB Media Award 2022" for his work on graft.

Bangladesh Crime Reporters Association (CRAB) gives out the awards.

He won in the categories of "anti-militancy and extremism-awareness" and "cybercrime awareness".

A total of eight journalists will receive awards tomorrow.

Other recipients (print and online category) include Nuruzzaman Labu, special correspondent of Dainik Bangla; Shahadat Hossain Parosh, special correspondent of Samakal; Nurul Amin Jahangir, staff reporter of Prothom Alo; and Adnan Rahman, senior reporter of Dhaka Post.

Abu Jahed Muhammad Selim, senior reporter of Maasranga Television, will get an award in the television and radio media category.

BYLC celebrates 14th founding anniversary

STAR REPORT

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) celebrated its 14th founding anniversary at a hotel in the capital on January 5, said a press release.

Since 2009, the institute has been standing by the young women and men of the country by equipping them with relevant skills.

Over the last decade and a half, BYLC has trained more than 50,000 youths through leadership, professional, entrepreneurial, and online education.

"BYLC's programmes have been proven to have a profound impact, not only in developing the skills of young people to act as leaders but also to create the motivation and attitude to do so..." said Chairperson of BYLC Akhter Matin Chaudhury.

Executive Director of BYLC Tahsinah Ahmed and its founder and president Ejaj Ahmad also spoke on the occasion.

One dead

FROM PAGE 5

(28), an engineer of Bangabandhu Rail Bridge, and Kanai Halder (30), a fisherman, said OC Humayun Kabir of Sirajganj Sadar Police Station.

A group of fishermen was travelling in an auto rickshaw from Malshapara area around 5:00am yesterday. When they reached the New Market area, a bus hit the three-wheeler and sped away. Kanai Halder died on the spot. Meanwhile, Hamidur was going to work on a motorcycle. When he reached Mulbari area, a speeding truck hit his motorbike. He died on the spot, said the OC.

TO LET

3000sqft (approx) 4 Bed room flat at South Khulshi, Chattogram. Suitable for Corporate Office/Guest House. Contact No: 01816185565, 0181929833

47th DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF MOHAMMAD SIRAJUDDIN



Today the 8th January is the 47th death anniversary of Late Mohammad Sirajuddin founder Chairman & Managing Director of Modhumita Group, Sirco Soap & Chemical Industries, Kohinoor Jute Mills Ltd. founder Director of Standard Bank of Pakistan also the founder of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Though he is not in this world, he lives in our hearts, in our minds, in our memory. Entrepreneurs like him are rare who left behind foot prints for generations to follow.

All friends, relatives and well-wishers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

All Members of Modhumita Family



Police intercept the activists of Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad at the capital's Shahbagh yesterday when its procession, right, was moving towards the Prime Minister's Office to submit a memorandum to ensure the rights of minorities. Later, an eight-member delegation took the memorandum to the PMO.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Keeping the tradition alive

2 siblings successfully cultivating flowers in Fulgachh village

S DILIP ROY

also providing for their family.

Once upon a time, flowers were cultivated in acres and acres of fields in a Lalmonirhat village, so much so that the place was named Fulgachh, which literally means a flower tree.

But the tradition has almost died with the passage of time for some reason; almost no one cultivates flowers in their backyard anymore. No one except two siblings -- Mabia Khatun (22) and Asadul Islam (21), the children of Fakhar Ali and Asma Begum.

Fakhar was a flower farmer himself, and passed his knowledge on to his next generation. The siblings are final-year undergrad students, studying political science in Rangpur Carmichael College.

They have been cultivating flowers near their house since their school days at Fulgachh in Lalmonirhat's Moghalhat union. The duo are currently growing different varieties of local and foreign flowers on one bigha of land.

They earn a handsome amount of money by selling flowers and flower seedlings. With that, they are not only meeting their educational expenses but

aparajita, keya, champa, chameli, zinnia, zoey, jasmine, togar, dolanchapa, nayantara, madhabilata, malati, azalea, cosmos, Krishnakali, camellia, calendula, gazania, chrysanthemum, zinnia, daisy, nasturtium, potuleka, morning glory, sylvia and various other domestic and foreign varieties.

Asadul Islam told The

Daily Star that wholesalers buy flowers from them. They keep different varieties of rose flower seedlings in the garden throughout the year.

"The demand for flowers increases during winter," he said.

Mabia Khatun told The Daily Star that flower farming is profitable, but

now that scene is no longer visible at Fulgachh.

Nawshed Islam, a flower trader at Misionnor area of Lalmonirhat, said he buys flowers from the siblings. "These flowers are also sold to traders of Rangpur and Bogura."

Hamidur Rahman, deputy director of Lalmonirhat Department

of Agriculture Extension DAE, said many people are benefiting from seasonal flower cultivation in Lalmonirhat. However, there is still no commercial cultivation of flowers on a large scale in the district.

"If anyone is interested in floriculture, necessary advice will be given from the agriculture department," he said.

He stated that they will arrange the exhibition for two months instead of one next year.

This year, the theme of the exhibition was "Home and Displacement". It displayed two and three-dimensional artworks, including paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures, installations, and new media arts.

PRAYER TIMING

JANUARY 8					
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrub	Esha	
AZAN 5:30	12:45	4:00	5:30	7:00	
JAMAAT 6:05	1:15	4:15	5:35	7:30	

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Govt snatched

FROM PAGE 5

"We are now under an authoritarian rule, and it is impossible to work independently in almost every sector in the country," he said.

It is very surprising that a traditional political party like Awami League, following the previous autocratic governments, wants to snatch all the democratic rights of the citizens," he said. People will not tolerate that, he

added. He also urged the government to step down. Chairman of Bangladesh Kalyan Party Maj Gen (Retd) Syed Ibrahim said the present system of the country favours the corrupt, which must be changed.

Speaking as the chief guest, BNP vice chairman Abdullah Al Noman said Siddiqui Islam worked for establishing the rights of people throughout his life.

AL always

FROM PAGE 5

to bring BNP to the polls. It will be known by next September whether the party will participate. I strongly believe it will," he said.

The minister said even if BNP does not, the election will be accepted internationally. Some members of BNP may participate even if the whole party does not, and other parties will join the election. Ahead of the election,

BNP is trying its best to create anarchy in the country again, Razzaque said. Violent incidents in the name of agitation will be strictly dealt with. The party will not be allowed to hold blockades and strikes.

Deputy Commissioner of Tangail Jasim Uddin Haider, Superintendent of Police Sarkar Mohammad Kaiser, Madhupur Upazila Parishad Chairman Sarwar Alam Khan Abu and others spoke on the occasion.

up in the Batiaghata-Hatalbunia canal. As a result, these canals have lost their natural flow of water.

Pallob Biswas, chairman of Batiaghata Sadar union, said local farmers could not irrigate their agricultural land in time as most canals in the area have been grabbed by influential people in the name of fish cultivation.

Identically, over a hundred grabbers have occupied the Mohammad Nagar, Alutala and Ramdia canals of Jalma union. Similarly, around 250 enclosures have been set

resident of Mohammad Nagar area, said at least 50 people including 15 developers have grabbed the Mohammad Nagar canal, blocking its natural flow.

"Local administration as well as public representatives should come forward to evict the grabbers at the area," he added.

Batiaghata Upazila Nirbahi Officer Sheikh Nurul Alam said, "If any one digs a pocket pond in government canals, we will conduct eviction drives on receiving complaints."

Md Mosaddek Hossain,

Protect rights



FROM PAGE 3
memorandum containing their demands to the PMO.

Earlier at the rally, Rana Dasgupta said, "We

have seen the secular '72's constitution transformed into a communal one. We witnessed how the state religion got included in the constitution in 1988. It not only divided the nation on the basis of religion, but also turned the religious ethnic minorities of the country into state minorities. Many religious ethnic minority people have been forced to emigrate due to years of deprivation, discrimination and oppression."

He said, "We want to make it clear that we do not want to be a commodity. Political parties use us as guinea pigs. We will not allow you to use us again..."

Ushaton Talukder, who presided over the rally, said thousands of people from all over the country gathered there to talk about their sufferings.

The Oikya Parishad leaders said the AI's promises in the 2018 election manifesto include enactment of the Minorities Protection Act, elimination of discriminatory law, and formulation of Intestate Property Conservation Act, National Commission for the minorities, proper implementation of Entrusted Property Transfer Act and Chattogram Hill Tracts Peace Accord.

The Oikya Parishad also demanded formation of a ministry for the minority communities.

Nurunnahar

FROM PAGE 5
provides for the education and upbringing of her four sons.

Md Robiul Islam, her husband, said, "When my wife started agriculture work two decades ago, relatives and locals often mocked us, but we didn't care... We are all proud of her."

WATCHING OVER LOCAL WOMEN

Nurunnahar established "Joy Bangla Nari Unnayan Samity" for the welfare of underprivileged women in her village.

ACCOLADES

Nurunnahar received Bangabandhu Krishi Award (gold medal) and AIP award in 2022 for her contributions to the agriculture sector. Besides, she achieved countless awards in the last two decades.

She now dreams of establishing a hospital and a home for the elderly at her village.

"I want the poor to receive all medical facilities for cheap and for them to live the last days of their lives with dignity," she said.

Curtain falls

FROM PAGE 3

year's Asian Art Biennale

was the participation of 114 countries from all over the world. I hope Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy continues to enrich the young people of our country through its different exhibitions and programmes," said Speaker Shirin.

"The Asian Art Biennale

is so popular among the youth that the line to enter the premises reached the main road on all days," said Lilaquat.

He stated that they will

arrange the exhibition for

two months instead of one

next year.

This year, the theme of

the exhibition was "Home

and Displacement". It

displayed two and three

dimensional artworks,

including

paintings,

prints,

photographs,

sculptures,

installations,

and new

media arts.

Deputy Commissioner of

Tangail Jasim Uddin Haider, Superintendent of Police Sarkar Mohammad Kaiser, Madhupur Upazila Parishad Chairman Sarwar Alam Khan Abu and others spoke on the occasion.

"According to the

corresponding act, the

executive power is given to

the ACC's chairman and

commissioners. In what

logic has the power been

given to the secretary?"

said TIB Executive Director

Dr Iftekharuzzaman.

TIB termed the decision

to be against the prime

minister's "zero tolerance"

declaration.

Cold brings misery

FROM PAGE 3

Pneumonia, caused by

bacteria, viruses or fungi,