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BNP demands withdrawal of cases against Prof Yunus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday issued a statement demanding immediate withdrawal of the cases filed against Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus and an end to his harassment.

The statement, undersigned by BNP's Deputy Office Secretary Md Munir Hossain, was issued on behalf of Fakhru.

"Muhammad Yunus is a heroic son of the soil. People of this nation will remember him with respect for hundreds of years to come, and they will be ashamed of how such a revered man was treated by the government of this country," the statement reads.

Fakhru further said those who want to belittle and insult Yunus will never be able to reach his level, even if they are reborn.

"Accept this inevitable fact and stop harassing him. Withdraw these cases," the statement added. BNP issued the statement a day after 104 Nobel laureates and 79 other global figures expressed concern in an open letter to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina about the safety and freedom of Yunus.



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

A school van-puller struggling to get through the dilapidated Salimullah Road Mohammadpur yesterday. Road development work sometimes causes suffering to locals in urban areas, due to unplanned road digging and delay in completing such projects.

7 DU-AFFILIATED COLLEGES CGPA criteria might be relaxed

DU CORRESPONDENT

Following demonstrations by students of its seven affiliated colleges, Dhaka University authorities are considering to relax the CGPA criteria for promotion at the respective institutions.

The development came from a meeting that took place at DU yesterday, chaired by DU Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) Prof ASM Maksud Kamal. Apart from him, the deans and respective colleges' principals were present at the meeting.

"The meeting in principle decided to relax the CGPA conditions required to go to the next academic year. However, the final decision will be taken during the academic council meeting of the university," said Professor Md Abdus Samad, dean of the Faculty of Science.

According to DU's existing criteria,

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Stop enforced disappearances Demand 12 human rights organisations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twelve human rights organisations yesterday issued a joint statement, expressing concern over the enforced disappearances and calling on the government to put an end to the practice, harassment of the victims' families, and to hold the perpetrators accountable.

The organisations came up with the joint statement ahead of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance, 2023, which is being observed today.

The twelve organisations are Anti-Death Penalty Asia Network (ADPAN), Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (AFAD), Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (F O R U M - A S I A), Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRIC), Capital Punishment Justice Project (CRJP), International Coalition Against Enforced Disappearances (ICAED), International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Eleos Justice- Monash University, Maayer Daak, Odhikar, Robert F Kennedy Human Rights and World Organization Against Torture (OMCT).

Referring to the Odhikar's report from January, 2023 to June, 2023, the statement said over the last six months, 16 people, most of them opposition leaders or

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Honouring a stellar woman

bti, Star award Shamima Akhter in 'corporate' category

STAR REPORT

To recognise special contributions of emerging, young and promising women from different walks of life, bti and The Daily Star jointly honoured Shamima Akhter of Unilever Bangladesh with the coveted Stellar Women title in the "corporate" category.

The prestigious Stellar Women recognition, which celebrates exceptional women leaders from various sectors, was presented to Shamima on August 22, 2023 by bti Managing Director FR Khan.

The event -- Stellar Women Awards -- was held at bti Celebration Point, Gulshan-2 in Dhaka.

Shamima has made significant contributions to gender equity and parity in her organisation, encouraging female participation and leadership.

Previously, women from development, technology, architecture, education, and culture categories have been honoured with this award.

Shamima is currently the director of corporate affairs (partnerships and communications) at Unilever Bangladesh.

With more than a decade of experience in the development sector, she has taken her career to a whole new level in the corporate world with equal vigor and skill.

She has also made significant



bti Managing Director FR Khan hands over the award to Shamima Akhter at an event.

contributions to gender equity and parity in her organisation, especially encouraging female participation and leadership.

The awardee previously worked in Coca-Cola Bangladesh, Qube, Steps Towards Development, USAID, and UNDP.

The award stands as a testament to her visionary leadership and dedication in the corporate sector.

"We are delighted to honour Shamima with the Stellar Women title. Her achievements set an example for aspiring women in our country who would like to reach the pinnacle of corporate success. Acknowledging and celebrating women's contributions is crucial for a more inclusive and egalitarian society," said FR Khan.

Imran Kadir, head of marketing at The Daily Star; Aysha Siddiqua, executive director of communication and brand management at bti; and several other senior officials of both the organisations attended the event.

DENGUE OUTBREAK

Jatrabari worst affected, co-infection adding to woes

HELEMUL ALAM

Sajid Ahmed, a 14-year-old from Jatrabari, is battling a co-infection of dengue and typhoid. He has been undergoing treatment at Mugda Medical College and Hospital since Friday.

His mother, Shantana Begum, said he had been suffering from high fever for about one week before he was admitted to the hospital. He was initially diagnosed with dengue, but further tests revealed that he was also infected with typhoid.

"He is now feeling better after being admitted to the hospital, but he still needs more time to recover," Shantana said.

Another patient from Jatrabari,

Top Ten affected areas in Dhaka From January 1 to August 26

Jatrabari	17.08 %
Sabujbagh	12.87 %
Kadamtali	8.29 %
Mohammadpur	4.03 %
Khilgaon	3.72 %
Keraniganj	3.71 %
Cantonment	3.54 %
Uttara	2.92 %
Dhanmondi	2.67 %
Pallabi	2.60 %

6-year-old Mohammad Nishad, is also being treated for a co-infection of dengue and typhoid. Nishad's father, Jahangir Alam, said his son had initially had a fever, but it went away after three days. However, the fever returned a few days later and Nishad was diagnosed with dengue. He was later diagnosed with typhoid when his condition started to improve from dengue.

Jahangir said their area is a lowland, which makes it difficult to get fresh water. This could be a possible reason for Nishad's typhoid infection.

Both Sajid and Nishad are being treated at Mugda Medical College and Hospital. The hospital is currently treating a large number of patients with

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'Bangladesh has independent judicial process' Claims state minister for foreign affairs on open letter regarding Yunus

STAR REPORT

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam yesterday said the court would take decisions based on evidence regarding Prof Muhammad Yunus while claiming Bangladesh has an independent judicial process, reports UNB.

"They can observe the proceedings. We welcome that," he told reporters regarding the world leaders' open letter in favour of Nobel Laureate Yunus to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The state minister wondered if there was any instance in the world where allegations against a person could not be investigated.

"What I want to say is that there has been no influence of the government in the past, and there will be no such influence in the future either. Bangladesh's judiciary is independent, and the independent judiciary will take decisions based on evidence," he said.

"They must have the courage to accept the

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28-STOREY BUILDING IN BANANI 'Settle possessions, shares in a month' HC orders DNCC, Borak Real Estate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed Dhaka North City Corporation and Borak Real Estate Ltd to settle their possessions and shares of a 28-storey building, constructed by the company on DNCC land in Banani in accordance with the principle of equity of law and agreement, within a month.

Both the parties have also been ordered to submit reports after complying with the directive before the HC.

The court fixed October 9 for further hearing and passing order on this issue.

The HC bench of justices Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Khizir Hayat Lizu passed the order during hearing of a rule issued over this matter.

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FARDIN'S DEATH

CID asked to submit probe report by October 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked Criminal Investigation Department to submit by October 1 the probe report in a case filed over the death of Buet student Fardin Noor Parash in November last year.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Ali Haider set the new date after CID failed to submit a probe report yesterday.

On April 16, another Dhaka court ordered further investigation into the case after Fardin's father filed a no-confidence petition against the DB report clearing Amatullah Bushra, an accused in the case, of murder charges.

In the petition, the victim's father Kazi Nooruddin, also the complainant in the case, sought further investigation alleging that the investigation officer did not probe the case properly.

He also accused the IO of being biased in favour of the accused in the final report.

Bushra, who was

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PRAYER
TIMING
AUGUST 30



Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:30	12:45	4:45	6:33	8:00
JAMAAT 5:05	1:15	5:00	6:36	8:30

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