

কর্মজীবনের শেষে
অবসরকালীন ভবিষ্যৎ আর্থিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করতে

সর্বজনীন পূবালী পেনশন স্কীম

আকর্ষণীয় সুদহার
(৬ মাসের এফডিআরের চেয়ে ১% বেশী হারে মুনাফা)

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Resolve conflicts thru talks

President urges global community

BSS, Dhaka

President Mohammed Shahabuddin yesterday urged the international community to ensure permanent solutions to all kinds of conflicts and to stand by the under-privileged and oppressed people.

He said this while speaking at an event in a city hotel on the occasion of Human Rights Day 2023.

The president condemned the barbaric attacks by the Israeli occupation forces in Palestine. He also thanked the government of Qatar for its recent ceasefire initiative in Gaza.

He hoped that all countries, rights bodies and activists, irrespective of party, religion and caste,

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Ruma Akter, wife of deceased constable Amirul Islam Parvez, speaks at an event yesterday while her seven-year-old daughter Tanha Islam stands beside her. Parvez was killed during a clash between BNP men and law enforcers in the capital's Fakirapool during the party's October 28 rally. The programme was organised by two platforms titled "Mayer Kanna" and "Ogni Sontrasher Artonad", demanding justice for human rights violations, at Shilpakala Academy in the capital.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

'She still waits for her father'

Families of political violence victims share their plight at event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"My daughter still waits for her father; she keeps asking me when her father will return," said Ruma Akter, wife of deceased constable Amirul Islam Parvez, who was killed during a clash between BNP men and law enforcers in the capital's Fakirapool during the party's October 28 rally.

"He went there to carry out his professional responsibilities. He was never affiliated with any political party, so why was he killed?" asked Ruma with a teary voice.

Ruma was talking at a discussion organised to mark International Human Rights Day at the Shilpakala Academy in the capital yesterday.

Her seven-year-old daughter, Tanha Islam, was also present there.

"Whenever my daughter sees any police official at a distance, she starts asking if that's her father," said Ruma.

The programme was organised by two platforms titled "Mayer Kanna" and "Ogni Sontrasher Artonad", demanding justice for human rights violations.

Relatives of Bangladesh Army and Bangladesh Air Force officers who were killed on different occasions after 1975, along with the family members of the victims of recent political violence, narrated their plights and suffering at the event.

The speakers held late BNP founder Ziaur Rahman, BNP and Jamaat responsible for the fate of their loved ones and demanded their trial.

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JAN 7 NATIONAL POLLS

Security beefed up across country

STAR REPORT

Police have started special drives across the country to keep the law and order situation under control ahead of the January 7 national election.

The drive against "illegal arms and narcotics" will continue till December 31, according to a notification signed by Nasian Wazed, additional deputy inspector general (operations), dated December 5.

The deputy inspector generals of all ranges, superintendents of police of 64 districts and commissioners of all metropolitan police have been asked to send reports regarding the drives to the Police Headquarters every day.

Enamul Haque Sagor, AIG (media) of PHQ, told The Daily Star that surveillance has been increased across the country.

Last week, while speaking to reporters, Mahid Uddin, additional commissioner (crime and operations) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said licensed firearms are also required to be submitted to designated police stations before the election. Police have also taken steps to arrest warrant-listed top criminals ahead of the elections.

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The government has also strengthened security at the country's three international airports ahead of the election.

Gender equality remains a far cry

Speakers call for proper monitoring of budget spending

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Even though 53 ministries have introduced a gender budget in the country, there is a lack of proper monitoring to track the spending, said speakers at an event yesterday.

They also said storage of essential gender-disaggregated data needs supervision.

The remarks were made at a roundtable titled "Human rights of Women in Bangladesh", organised by Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS) at the capital's Jatya Press Club, marking Human Rights Day.

Speakers noted that the allocated budget for enforcing laws against gender-based violence is insufficient, and that there is inadequate funding for implementation of the National Women Development Policy.

Rokeya Kabir, executive director of BNPS, said over half the population comprises women, yet the national

budget lacks sufficient allocation for them. Activists have long emphasised the necessity of establishing a dedicated ministry for this segment of the population, which will facilitate the formulation of targeted action plans.

Over half the population comprises women, yet the national budget lacks sufficient allocation for them.

ROKEYA KABIR
Executive director of BNPS

Despite constitutional assurances of equal rights for all citizens, the inheritance law does not reflect this principle. There is a call for the elimination of gender discrimination and the establishment of equal

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Mainul Hosein laid to rest

CJ suspends SC judicial functions partially

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People from all walks of life yesterday bade farewell to former caretaker government's adviser Barrister Mainul Hosein, who passed away on Saturday.

The Supreme Court lawyer was laid to rest at the capital's Azimpur graveyard around 4:00pm yesterday.

Earlier, SC judges, former judges, lawyers, law officers, and Mainul's family members paid their last respects to him on the Supreme Court Bar Association premises where his second namaz-e-janaza was held.

Meanwhile, Chief

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Hajj registration deadline extended till December 31

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday extended the deadline for hajj registration till December 31.

The Religious Affairs Ministry issued a circular in this regard.

Registration for hajj 2024 began on November 15 and was supposed to end yesterday.

The deadline for the registration will not be extended any further, the notice added.

Around 1.27 lakh Bangladeshis will be able to perform hajj in 2024. Among them, 10,198 can avail of this facility under the government management while the remaining 1,00,017 will be under private hajj management, according to the ministry.

A pilgrim will have to spend minimum Tk 5.89 lakh to perform hajj under private hajj agencies.

On the other hand, pilgrims will have to pay Tk 5.78 lakh for the general package, and Tk 9.36 lakh for the special package to perform hajj under the government hajj management. Hajj is likely to take place on June 16 next year depending on moon sighting.

According to the recent decision of the Saudi government, the final list of Hajj pilgrims for 2024 must be sent to the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah by January 7, 2024, the religious affairs ministry said in the notice.

Nine more lives lost to dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least nine dengue patients, four from Dhaka, died in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

With this, the total number of deaths rose to 1,661, of which 958 are from Dhaka, according to the DGHS.

With 459 new dengue cases, the total number of cases this year rose to 3,17,232, of which 1,08,998 were from Dhaka.

A total of 2,291 dengue patients are still undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country, 580 of which are in Dhaka.

Among the total cases, 3,13,280 dengue patients have already been released.

GM Saifur Rahman, assistant professor of medical and applied entomology at National University, said the current weather conditions are still favourable for Aedes mosquitoes, the vector of dengue fever, to breed as the temperature hasn't dropped significantly yet.

Not conducting mosquito control activities properly is one of the main reasons for the continuous rise in number of dengue cases this year, he said.

If herd immunity is developed or if temperature comes down to below 16 degrees Celsius, then the infection rates are likely to come under control, Saifur said.

To contain the spread next year, the authorities must chalk out a plan now and take necessary steps, he said.

"The absence of surveillance and initiating necessary steps outside Dhaka, especially in district towns, are causing higher infection rates this year," Saifur added.



Three writers were recognised by The Daily Star yesterday for their writeups on human rights at an event titled the "World Human Rights Day Write-up Competition-2023". Around 28 students, professionals, rights activists and others participated in the competition this year. The Law and Our Rights section of newspaper has been organising the competition since 2017.

PHOTO: STAR

Star awards three for write-ups on human rights

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Daily Star recognised three of the best writers on human rights and handed over certificates at the World Human Rights Day Write-up Competition-2023 yesterday.

The Law and Our Rights section of The Daily Star has been organising the competition since 2017.

Around 28 students, professionals, rights activists and others participated in the competition this year.

A panel of legal experts evaluated the submissions and selected the three best write-ups for publication in the newspaper's special supplement of "Law and Our Rights".

The event was organised at the capital's The Daily Star Centre.

The awardees include Nafis Anwar, a law student at the University of Dhaka,

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