

Amin Uddin Ahmad passes away

STAR REPORT

Amin Uddin Ahmad, former chief engineer of the Public Health Engineering Division, passed away on January 23. He was 87.

He was undergoing treatment at a Dhaka hospital. Amin Uddin was among the first batch (1962) of graduate at Buet. All are requested to pray for the salvation of departed soul.



Bachchu Munshi's buffaloes grazing in a char on the Arial Kha river in Barishal's Muladi upazila yesterday. The 60-year-old takes his herd to the meadow every morning and stays there till afternoon.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Inequality rising for lack of democracy

Says BNP leader Nazrul Islam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan yesterday said the lack of democracy in the country has caused a rise in inequality between the rich and poor.

"Due to the absence of democracy, the majority of people are affected by rising prices while a handful of wealthy people are buying crore-taka houses every day," said Nazrul at a discussion at BNP office in Nayapalton.

"Five percent of the people are looting the country's wealth, and this is happening because the government does not need the support of the majority anymore," said Nazrul.

He claimed the current government has discarded democracy that was earned through Liberation War.

"There is no democracy in Bangladesh today. The democracy we earned with the blood of people does not exist today," he added.

Hospitals overrun with patients amid cold snap

MASUK HRIDOY, Brahmanbaria

The recent cold wave has led to a surge in diarrhoea and pneumonia cases across Brahmanbaria district.

As of 3:00pm yesterday, 41 diarrhoea patients were admitted at the Brahmanbaria General Hospital's designated ward for the disease, against its capacity of 20 beds. Of the admitted, 25 were children.

"It's hard to find a place even on the floor for my three-year-old Jamiya and one-and-a-half-year-old Jannat," said Marufa Akter from Naroi village, who admitted the girls at the hospital three days ago.

48 patients, including 21 with pneumonia, had been admitted to the hospital's children's ward until yesterday afternoon.

Meanwhile, patients at the hospital's outdoor unit have tripled since yesterday noon.

The situation is mirrored in other health complexes and private hospitals across Brahmanbaria.

One Md Lukman said he had to purchase



medical items from the market for his eight-and-a-half-month-old son Arman at high prices, as the hospital did not provide any.

Hospital Superintendent Dr Mohammad Wahiduzzaman attributed the spike in diarrhoea cases to Rotavirus.

The virus is mostly active in winter. However, there is nothing to fear as proper treatment ensures full recovery, he said.

He refuted the allegations of insufficient medical supplies.

India to stand beside Bangladesh

Pranay Verma reaffirms commitment at event marking India's Republic Day

UNB, Dhaka

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pranay Verma yesterday said the friendship between the two countries will continue to grow as the shared sacrifices of 1971 Liberation War remain a constant inspiration driving the relationship forward.

He said this at an event marking the 75th Republic Day of India in Dhaka.

Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury spoke as the chief guest at the event joined by cabinet members, political leaders, civil society members, business leaders, cultural personalities and journalists.

Verma said as they celebrate the 75th Republic Day, it is time for them to reaffirm their commitment that India will stand beside Bangladesh in realising its vision of a stable, progressive and prosperous Bangladesh.

'UK to focus on democracy, human rights'

British envoy calls on foreign minister

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The UK will continue to engage constructively with Bangladesh government and political parties on democracy and human rights issues, said British High Commissioner Sarah Cooke yesterday.

"The UK came up with a statement on January 8 after the elections, which spoke of democracy and human rights. We will continue to engage constructively with the government and political parties on these issues," she told journalists after her courtesy call on Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud at the ministry.

Following the elections, the UK Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office issued a statement saying that the standards of credible, open, and fair competition were not consistently met during the election period.

"The issue of human rights is an issue in many countries. This was not discussed in detail with Sarah Cooke," said Hasan Mahmud. "We will work together with the UK," he added.

He said they discussed multidimensional aspects of relations with the UK, including deepening relations on climate change and supporting Bangladesh in solving the Rohingya crisis.

He said they also spoke about trade in the areas of ICT, cyber security, and improving financial management.

On extraditing Tarique Rahman, Hasan Mahmud said the government will do everything possible in this regard at an appropriate time. However, whether he will be extradited depends on the UK government, he added.

Dhaka Advertising Association gets full committee

STAR REPORT

A full committee of Dhaka Advertising Association was formed on Wednesday with SM Delwar Hossain being elected as president and Liakat Ali Khan general secretary, read the press release.

Besides, Shahidullah Shah Nur and Md Abu Kaiser were elected vice-presidents.



SM Delwar Hossain



Liakat Ali Khan

Invest 4pc

FROM PAGE 5 teachers for implementing the new curriculum.

Rasheda K Choudhury, executive director of Campe, said if there is any problem in the new curriculum, those should be addressed. But a vested group has engaged in a smear campaign against it.

Emeritus Professor Manzoor Ahmed of BRAC University, said, "To overcome challenges in our education sector, we need to move forward by recruiting better quality teachers and improving infrastructure."

Other recommendations included ensuring midday meals for students, increasing stipends, and training more teachers for ICT-based education.

Rumana Ali, state minister of primary and mass education, also spoke.

Put water at the heart

FROM PAGE 3 acting high commissioner of Australia to Bangladesh, said that they are working with the government's agricultural sector and with different NGOs to improve water governance and address climate change in Bangladesh.

Farah Kabir, country director at ActionAid Bangladesh, said, "It is now crucial to build a platform that brings different people together, sparks new ideas, and focuses on what the community can do to address climate change."

At the third session, titled "Development, Inclusion, and Resilience," three papers were presented on impacts of salinity on reproductive health, drinking water, and the impacts of mega development projects on socio-economic and environmental factors in the country.

Ashrafi Binte Akram from Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University and Marzia Islam from Dhaka University highlighted in their papers that women in coastal areas endure diverse challenges such as gender-based violence, mental and financial issues, and various diseases caused by salinity.

Abul Kalam Azad, manager of Just Energy

Transition at ActionAid Bangladesh, said in his paper that communities in coastal areas face livelihood and land losses due to mega projects. He emphasised the necessity of sufficient financial support for their recovery.

Youth rescued

FROM PAGE 3 as ransom from the mother. They also sent her videos of them torturing Himel.

Later, the abductors threatened to kill Himel if the mother did not pay Tk 30 lakh. DB's Lalbagh Division then began a shadow investigation and conducted multiple raids in Haluaghat and Dhubaura of Mymensingh, Durgapur and Kalmakanda of Netrokona, and Tanguar Haor area in Tahirpur.

The DB also engaged Meghalaya Police in India to conduct raids in hilly areas of Nanglam, south-west of Khasi Hills district.

An abduction case was then filed with Uttara West police station. The first breakthrough of the case came when police detained two women from Turag area, who are the wives of two of the kidnapers, leading to the arrests of perpetrators and rescue of the victim.

Abul Mansur Ahmad

FROM PAGE 3 Prof Tanveer Ahmad of RU's journalism department said, "Abul Mansur Ahmad practiced literature, but became a journalist and politician when the community he was serving needed him to be. Today's Bangladesh needs a journalist like him."

Faruk Wasif, writer and planning editor of Samakal, said Abul Mansur Ahmad always represented the underprivileged of his time.

Eminent economist and essayist Prof Sanat Kumar Saha said the relevance of Abul Mansur Ahmad's work is still very much present. His works should be studied rigorously, he said.

Abul Mansur Ahmad's son and Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam said

his father always took the side of the underprivileged Bangalee Muslim.

"He played the brave role of a journalist. He also had a rich sense of humour," he added. Anam said his father's best political accomplishment was introducing the 21-point, which subsequently evolved into the manifesto of the Jukto Front.

At the event, the speakers also conducted a question-answer session with the participating teachers and students.

They recommended the audience to explore Abul Mansur Ahmad's two books, namely "Amar Dekha Rajnitir Ponchash Bochor" and "Atmakotha". Convener of Abul Mansur Ahmad Smriti Parishad Emran Mahfuz also spoke.

16 get Bangla

FROM PAGE 3 academy's premier award for their contribution to folklore. Afroza Parvin and Asaduzzaman Asad were recognised for writing on the Liberation War, and Saifullah Mahmud Dulal and Md Mojibur Rahman got awarded for writing on Bangabandhu. Ishak Khan was recognised in the biography category.

The award was introduced in 1960 with six categories: poetry, novels, short stories, essays, juvenile literature and translation. Two more awards were introduced in 1985 to recognise the overall contributions to Bangla language and literature.

Ethics crucial

FROM PAGE 3 Chowdhury of Rangamati, Chaman Arasta Seuli of Sirajganj, and Muhammad Jasim Uddin of Bandarban, and music teacher Ganesh Soren of Dinajpur.

The event was part of a two-day celebration on "Ethics Day" that ECB has been observing on January 25 each year since its inception in 2008.

Addressing as chief guest, Social Welfare Minister Dipu Moni said upholding ethics is crucial to building a society without inequality, ensuring inclusive development, and upholding the rights of the

underprivileged. Artist Rafiqun Nabi said to depict social inconsistencies, he created the iconic cartoon character "Tokai", a street urchin below the age of 10, thinking that any other form of fine art might not be as striking as a cartoon.

Prof Fakhru Alam praised ECB's efforts in recognising the "role model teachers" and said upholding ethics is crucial for society's progress.

ECB President ME Chowdhury Shameem also spoke. Marking the day, ECB will hold an event at the Central Shaheed Minar premises today.

PRAYER TIMING
JANUARY 25

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------|------|---------|------|
| Fazr | Zohr | Asr | Maghrib | Esha |
| JAZAM 5:35 | 12:45 | 4:15 | 5:46 | 7:15 |
| AZAMAT 6:10 | 1:15 | 4:30 | 5:50 | 7:45 |

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Request for Quotation: Website Revamp and Development

BRAC Bank PLC delivers a full array of banking services to individuals as well as business entities with a network of 187 Branches, 36 Sub-branches, 329 ATMs, 457 SME Unit Offices and 1,040 Agent Banking Outlets across the country. Currently the Bank is seeking for a vendor for the development of a dynamic website for the bank.

A Request for Quotation (RFQ) for Technical Offer Submission is issued for the mentioned purpose. The RFQ along with details of the bidding process can be found on the bank's website <https://www.bracbank.com/en/information/e-tender>

Interested eligible bidders are requested to submit the Technical offer by February 2, 2024 as per the mentioned bidding process.



রাজউক পূর্বাচল এবং গাজীপুরে পট বিক্রয়

রাজউক কর্তৃক ১০ তলা মাননিক ভবনের তিজাইয়ের নকশা অনুমোদনসহ রাজউক পূর্বাচলে আইনিক টাওয়ারের পাশে ২০ নম্বর সেক্টরে ৫ কয়ার একটি পট ৫ কোটি টাকা এবং পূর্বাচলে নতুন শহর একত্বের ২৯ নম্বর সেক্টরে নিকটে লাকা মসজিদপূর্ব এবং বড় আমদিয়া মৌজায় এবং পাকা রাস্তা সংলগ্ন আবাসিক/বিনিমিত/ইভিসি/স্থান করার উপযোগী ৩ তলা ভবনসহ ৩০ বিঘা পট ৫ লক্ষ টাকা শতক এবং গাজীপুর সিটি কর্পোরেশনের দক্ষিণ শাখা মৌজায় কৃষি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় স্কলার হাইওয়ে রাস্তার পাশে গার্মেন্টস, বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, হাসপাতাল, শিল্প-কারখানা, বড় বাড়ি তৈরী করার উপযোগী উঁচু নিফটক ৬৯ শতাংশ জমি ২০ লাখ টাকা শতকমতো বিক্রি হবে।

যোগাযোগ: ০১৯৯২-০৭৭০৩৪, ০১৬২৪-৬৫৯০৫৫, Email: founder.digital.co@gmail.com

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বন সংরক্ষণের কার্যালয়
বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ অঞ্চল
বন ভবন, আগারশাঁখা, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা।

Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation-2024

সংশোধনী

বিগত ২৪/০১/২০২৪খ্রি: তারিখে The Daily Star, জোরের কাগজ ও বাংলাদেশ প্রতিদিন পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation-2024 সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে পূর্ণাঙ্গ আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ২৪/০১/২০২৪খ্রি: এর স্থলে ২৪/০২/২০২৪খ্রি: হবে।

(ইমরান আহমেদ)
বন সংরক্ষক
বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ অঞ্চল, ঢাকা।
ফোন: ০২-৫৫০০৭১১১
E-mail: cf-wildlife@bforest.gov.bd

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Food Safety Authority
BSL Office Complex, Bhaban-02 (Level-04, 05 & 06)
119, Kazi Nazrul Islam Sharak, Dhaka-1000

Memo No: 13.02.0000.511.07.001.22.11 Date: 24 January, 2024

e-Tender Notice No-07/2023-2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of good as follow:

| Sl. No. | Tender ID | Description of Procurement Package | Name of Works | Last Selling Date & Time |
|---------|-----------|---|--|--------------------------|
| 01. | 940760 | Procurement of Consumable Items (Framework Agreement) | Procurement of Consumable Items for Bangladesh Food Safety Authority | 07 February, 2024 15:30 |

- This is an online Tender, where e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP system Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
- To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
- The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal, have to be deposited through online at any branches of registered Bank's Branches.
- Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Mohammad Atiqur Rahman Mazumder
Director (Establishment, Finance & Human Resource Management Wing)
Bangladesh Food Safety Authority