# DHAKA

DHAKA SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2024 **FALGUN 5, 1430 BS** The Daily Star

#### পুবালী ব্ৰ্যাৎক থেকে বেমিট্যান্স গ্ৰহণ सांतरी षिञ्चप लाख... যে কোনো শাখা থেকে পিন নম্বর এর মাধ্যমে রেমিট্যান্স গ্রহণ করলে

সরকার নির্ধারিত ২.৫% প্রণোদনার সাথে পাবেন আরও ২.৫% পূবালী ব্যাংক প্রণোদনাসহ মোট ৫% প্রণোদনা।

সাথে আরও আছে নিশ্চিত আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার



ঘরে বসেই পাই ব্যাংকিং (PI Banking) -একটি পূবালী ব্যাংক অ্যাপস

পূবালী ব্যাংকে সঞ্চয় করুন, নিরাপদে থাকুন

# **Beware of** conspirators

#### PM warns Bangladeshi diaspora

#### UNB, Munich

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has urged all to thwart conspiracies of antiliberation forces, emphasising the importance of unity in sustaining the nation's progress towards prosperity.

"We have been taking Bangladesh ahead towards

prosperity. The progress must go on. Stay alert so that no one can push the country back and make it the country of Razakars," she said.

The prime minister said this while addressing a reception accorded by the Bangladeshi diaspora in Germany at Hotel Burgerhaus Garching at Munich on Friday.

She also asked all to stay alert against conspiracies against the people of Bangladesh.

She reiterated her commitment to build Bangladesh as a secular state, where people of every faith will enjoy equal rights.

We will materialise the dream of the Father of the Nation to transform Bangladesh into a prosperous, developed and smart Sonar Bangladesh in the spirit of the Liberation War and secularism," she said.

The prime minister said her goal is to serve every citizen of the country.

"Before my personal needs, I always think of what I can do for the betterment of the country and its people," she said.

Hasina said people of the country have got everything SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

### 'Now govt trying to take over Yunus' orgs' Alleges BNP leader Selima Rahman

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government, not satisfied with the harassment of Nobel laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus, is now trying to take over his organisations, alleged BNP standing committee member Selima Rahman vesterday.



Koruna Mistri and Mita Gain take a walk back home after a long day's work by the banks of a local canal in Dhangmari village under Khulna's Dacop upazila yesterday. The duo sets off early every morning, catching fish in local waterbodies till sunset and later sell their catch to the markets. They make Tk 300-400 every day. PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

# Unite to protect dignity of Language Movement

established in

for the state

language.

### Ganoforum leaders tell discussion

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The nation must unite to protect the dignity of Language Movement, said

leaders of Ganoforum at a programme vesterday. Within the Language

Movement there was The Language demand for secularism Martyrs' Day has and freedom from been established as exploitation, but sadly.

the state language."

'We must stand united to preserve the dignity of the Language Movement," he added.

Abdul Latif Masum, former vice chancellor of Patuakhali Science and Technology University,

the Crack said, "In the last 17 Platoon, years, the spirit of vesterday afternoon. He Language Movement was 75.

Platoon "Crack

passed away

Fateh Ali

no more

Fateh

Chowdhury,

a freedom

fighter and

one of the

members of

Chowdhury

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ali

Country sees Covid death for 2nd straight day STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For a second consecutive day, Bangladesh witnessed another Covid-19 death in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

A patient died at a private hospital in Dhaka. With this, nine Covid-related deaths were reported this year, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

The number of fatalities now stands at 29,486 since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, taking the overall fatality rate to 1.44 percent.

Another 48 new cases have been reported in last 24 hour and the total number of confirmed cases now stands at 20,47,844.

The Covid-19 infection rate slightly dropped to 7.48 percent yesterday from Friday's 9.03 percent. The overall positivity rate currently stands at 13.08 percent.

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## 57 'members' of teen gangs held in Dhaka, Savar

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rapid Action Battalion claimed to have arrested 57 suspected members of teen gangs from Dhaka and Savar areas.

Of them, the Rab-2 arrested 36 teen gang members from Mohammadpur, Adabar and Hazaribagh areas in the capital on Friday, said Rab-2 Commanding Officer Additional DIG Md Anwar Hossain.

Among them, five are from "Patali" and "Lou Thyala" groups each, six from "Level High" and "Chan" groups each, seven from "Maura Imran" group and remaining seven are members of other groups. During the raid, local weapons including machetes and knives were seized from them. The Rab official said that the "Patali group' has been operating for a long time under the leadership of Sujan Mia alias Forma Sajib. Now they are divided into two-three groups due to infighting among themselves. The "Level High" group is led by Sharif alias Mohan. They used to carry out extortion, robbery and other criminal activities in Mohammadpur, Adabar, Beribadh and Dhaka Udyan areas, he added.

"Today, people are seeing the government's authoritarian side. How the organisation of a Nobel laureate is being occupied. Not only have they harassed him... they have also fully taken control over his Grameen Telecom... rural organisations," Selima said at a rally in front of Jatiya Press Club.

Pointing fingers at the government's use of state apparatuses to silence critics, she said, "You cannot say anything to the police, you cannot say anything to Rab. You won't get justice anywhere."

Speaking as chief guest, she said prices of commodities continue to spiral out of control, making it difficult for people to feed their families.

"How can a common man feed his family? I belong to a middle-class family but I also feel that we have become helpless," she said.

The government says every day that prices will come down. I say they won't come down... their syndicate will SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

that achievement has been largely stripped away today, they said.

The Ganoforum leadersmadetheremarks in a discussion marking the International Mother Language Day held at Tofazzal Hossain Manik Mia Hall of Jativa Press Club in Dhaka yesterday

DR KAMAL HOSSAIN afternoon. as

Speaking chief guest, Ganoforum's emeritus president Dr Kamal Hossain said, "The Language Martyrs' Day has been established as the International Mother Language Day in continuation of what we have established in exchange for blood for

and our independence the International has been lost in the **Mother Language** country. We have to Day in continuation revive it.' of what we have

Ganoforum general secretary Mizanur Rahman exchange of blood said, "During the Pakistan regime, our voting rights were stripped off as we were deprived of

state power even after winning the elections. That was why we had to fight for our liberation. But today, we can see an Awami League vs Awami League election is being held in the name of national polls, while thousands of people are being kept in jail. We have to fight again."

the squad was known, conducted extremely dangerous operations on army convoys and important installations in Dhaka flawlessly during the Liberation Each successful War. operation demonstrated that the long-cherished independence was just a matter of time.

He died from oldage complications and pneumonia at a Dhaka hospital, said Habibul Alam Bir Pratik, a fellow freedom fighter.

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Meanwhile, the Rab-4 arrested 21 members of teen gangs from Mirpur, Darussalam and Savar. SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

### Shraddha of Preeti Urang held

#### OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazaı

of "Shraddha" The Preeti Urang, 15, from Moulvibazar's Kamolganj upazila, who died after falling from the eighthfloor flat of The Daily Star's Executive Editor Syed Ashfaqul Haque on February 6, was held yesterday.

The rites are performed between the 11th and 31st day after death.

The ritual was observed at her birthplace in the Halki village of Mirtinga Tea Garden.

As part of the rite, the male family members of Preeti, according to their rituals, shaved their heads while all the family members took a bath at a river.

Besides, people from the Urang community of the district visited her house.

The case over Preeti's death is being investigated by the Detective Branch of police.

Ashfaqul and his wife are now in DB custody.

# No alternative to adequate climate funding

### Says foreign minister

#### UNB, Munich

There is no alternative to strong global partnerships, collective action and more fund to developing nations to deal with climate change impacts, Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud said yesterday.

He said the flow of climate financing for the developing countries is gradually shrinking but it is the need of the hour to ensure adequate funding for these countries to reach climate goals.

The minister made the call while speaking at an event titled "Cause and Effect: A Two Front Battle against Climate Change" held on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference last evening.

He said Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries, despite being the country with one of the lowest carbon emissions (0.48 percent of global emissions).

At the same time, he said, Bangladesh is also identified as a unique example to the world in dealing with climate change.

Norway's International Development Minister Anne Beathe Tvinnereim, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani, United Arab Emirates' Minister of Climate Change and Environment Mariam Binte Mohammed Saeed Almheiri and other panelists reiterated the importance of global concerted efforts to deal with the climate issues.



Climathon, a hackathon addressing local climate challenges held during February 16-17 at the capital's The Daily Star Centre, brought the country's brightest minds together to advocate climate change vulnerability, sustainable entrepreneurship, academia, and policymaking. Curated by GenLab, Climathon Dhaka is an integral part of the global initiative launched by EIT Climate-KIC, an entity within the European Union dedicated to combating climate change through innovation. PHOTO: STAR