



New Gulshan Society exec committee sworn in

STAR REPORT
The newly-elected 11th executive committee of the Gulshan Society took oath through a programme at the Westin Hotel, Dhaka yesterday, said a press release.

Barrister Omar Sadat is president, Syed Ahsan Habib secretary general, Syed Almas Kabir and Israt Jahan vice presidents and Ali Ashfaq (FCA) treasurer in this newly elected committee of 19 members.

Nurul Alam, chief election commissioner of the society, conducted the oath taking ceremony in presence of the outgoing president of Gulshan Society Dr ATM Shamsul Huda, former chief election commissioner of Bangladesh.

Samsul Arefeen's death anniv

STAR REPORT

A doa mahfil on the occasion of the 24th death anniversary of Samsul Arefeen will be held in Narayanganj today, said a press release. His relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the prayers at his residence (T Hossain Bari, Nayanganj, Narayanganj).



SHOAL AREAS IN SIRAJGANJ, JAMALPUR

Farmers celebrate bumper chilli yield

SAHIDUL ISLAM NIRAB, Jamalpur

Farmers in shoal areas of Sirajganj and Jamalpur districts are celebrating a successful season, reaping abundant profits from this year's bumper chilli harvest.

Around 900 farmers from Munsurnagar, Sindurkata, Kajolgoira, Dighulichar, Nischintopot, Rupshachar and other areas under Kazipur upazila cultivated chilli on 1,470 hectares of land, said Biplop Kumar Sutradar, district agriculture officer in Sirajganj.

In Jamalpur, around 1,100 farmers from Sataria, Char Rowha, Chiladuli, Mankarchar, Nanduniachar and other areas cultivated chilli on 7,545 hectares of land, said sources at the district agriculture office.

A total of 17,000-tonne chilli has been produced in the two districts, at an average yield of 40 maunds from each bigha.

Traders from different districts, including Dhaka, Bogura, Narayanganj, Mymensingh and



Rajshahi, were seen busy with wholesale purchase of green chilli from makeshift markets in different areas of Jamalpur and Sirajganj.

Earlier this season, each maund of green chilli fetched Tk 3,500-4,000 but the price gradually declined to Tk 1,400, following increased supply, said farmers, adding that the price is still satisfactory.

"I harvested over 110 maunds of green chilli from my 40 decimals

of land, spending Tk 30,000. It brought me a profit of Tk 1.30 lakh," said Bablu Miah of Satpoa village.

Several other farmers from both districts echoed him.

Zakia Sultana, deputy director of Department of Agricultural Extension in Jamalpur, said, "Siltation in the shoal areas by the Jamuna last monsoon had aided the soil quality. Besides, the weather was favourable to help with the yield."

Election brings 'rewards' for cops

FROM PAGE 3

usually place a list of problems we face while discharging duty."

THREEFOLD INCREASE OF AWARDEES

According to sources, the initial number of awardees for this year was around 140.

But the commanding officials, including inspector-rank ones, requested recognition for their efforts centring the election, which caused the number to jump to around 420, said sources.

Talking to the correspondent, several unit chiefs of police claimed they deserve this award, as they have worked hard to ensure a peaceful atmosphere as per the Election Commission's instructions.

A committee led by Atikul Islam, additional inspector general (crime

and operations) of PHQ, is finalising the list of the awardees.

"We hope to complete the list within a day or two," Atikul told this newspaper yesterday. He, however, refused to disclose the actual number of nominees.

In 2019, all 80 police officials who held commanding posts in divisions, districts, and metropolitan areas, got the prestigious medals, alongside their 269 colleagues.

Statistics show that in 2013, the number of awardees was 67, which jumped to 105 in 2014 after the AL won the general election. Last year, the number of BPM and PPM awardees was 117, but this year it is going to increase three times.

LIST OF DEMANDS

According to sources, divisional

police hospitals lack specialist doctors, and over 90 percent of pathology tests have to be done from outside, while every divisional city houses around 15 to 16 thousand police officials.

So an increase in divisional medical facilities will be prioritised by them, while upgrading central police hospitals into medical colleges will also make the list.

Deputy secretaries and above-ranked government officers, including major or equivalent armed forces officers, get interest-free car loans.

But SP and above-ranked police officers don't get the facility. So, they are planning to seek interest-free car loans during Police Week. They made the demands before, but in vain.

Controversial Man, father-in-law killed in road accident

FROM PAGE 3

Shahnewaz Babu and Yusuf Tuhin, accused of torturing a student all night at Bijo Ekattor Hall on January 22 last year, have been appointed as organisational secretary and programme and planning secretary, respectively.

Shahriar Shahid Shuvo, who attacked Chhatra Odhikar Parishad members at TSC in February last year, was appointed deputy secretary for Liberation War and research. One Sifat Ahmed, who faced allegations of dining without payment at a Shabbagh restaurant on May 6 of the same year, was appointed as social welfare secretary.

Farzana Parveen, accused of assaulting another BCL leader at Rokeya Hall in July last year, now holds the position of vice-president.

Tanveer Hossain, whose audio recording demanding extortion money went viral this month, has been named as the drama and debate secretary, while Emdadul Haque, accused of student torture at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall, is now the agriculture secretary.

Contacted, Tanbir Hasan Shaikat, general secretary of DU BCL, said, "We appointed them after reviewing the allegations and examining documents proving their innocence as declared by the court. As the court has cleared them of charges, we cannot label them as accused."

The full committee of Dhaka University's Chhatra League was declared on Monday.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A man and his father-in-law were killed and another person was injured as their car collided with a vehicle in Narayanganj early yesterday.

The accident occurred on Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Bandar upazila while they were heading home in Cumilla from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka, according to police.

Mohammad Ullah, 35, a Malaysian expatriate, died

on the spot, said Rezaul Haque, officer-in-charge of Kanchpur Highway Police Station.

His father-in-law Siddikur Rahman, 58, a Saudi expatriate, was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said the OC.

The injured could not be identified immediately, said police.

Mohammad Ullah, who returned from Malaysia on a vacation a few days ago, went to the Dhaka airport to receive Siddikur Rahman, said the family members.

Nuha, Nuba

FROM PAGE 3

from one another, doctors say they will have to undergo another surgery.

Health Minister Samanta Lal Sen, a member of the medical team, visited the two children at BSMMU yesterday afternoon.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has provided all the expenses, said Prof Sharfuddin Ahmed, vice chancellor of BSMMU.

The twin's mother Nasrin Akhter told The Daily Star, "They [Nuha and Nuba] regained

consciousness after the surgery. They moved their hands and feet."

Their father said, "I spent around Tk 5 lakh for the treatment. However, we did not spend any money on the surgery performed at BSMMU. It was not possible from our part to bear the cost of such an expensive surgery."

"The prime minister has taken the responsibility for the cost of this treatment. We sincerely thank her and the doctors," he said.

India for joint ventures

FROM PAGE 3

the Defence Line of Credit of USD 500 million extended by the Indian government.

Principal Staff Officer of Bangladesh Armed Forces Division Lt Gen MR Shameem also spoke at the event.

A number of premier defence manufacturing companies of India, from both public and private

sectors, participated in the event.

At the seminar, they also gave presentations showcasing a range of "Made in India" defence equipment, technology and platforms.

The seminar was also attended by representatives from Bangladesh Armed Forces as well as paramilitary and police forces.

PRAYER TIMING
FEBRUARY 21

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:30	12:45	4:15	5:52	7:15
JAMAAT 6:05	1:15	4:30	5:56	7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Afreen Akhter

FROM PAGE 3

officials of the foreign ministry and discuss development partnership, trade, the Rohingya crisis, etc.

During her previous visit on October 16-17 last year, she met senior government officials, civil society members, Rohingya refugees, and representatives from humanitarian organisations. She also visited the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar.

At a briefing at the Foreign Press Centre in Washington on February 14, she told journalists that Washington is focusing on engaging civil society, labour organisations and media to build institutions that will enable Bangladesh to become more democratic.

"We are really wanting to focus on building up the institutions of democracy, the levers of democracy, in Bangladesh," she said.

HC forms new probe body

FROM PAGE 3

inquiry report in 30 days. The HC bench of Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam and Justice Md Atabullah passed the order while hearing a petition.

The petition was filed by Supreme Court lawyer ABM Shahjahan Akanda Masum and Ayaan's father Shamim Ahmed.

On January 29, the HC bench expressed dissatisfaction with the probe report submitted by DGHS on Ayaan's death, terming it an "eyewash" and its recommendations "ridiculous."

On December 31 last

year, Ayaan, a nursery student at a private school in the capital, was circumcised at United Medical College Hospital in Dhaka's Badda. Doctors allegedly administered excessive anaesthesia to the child for the procedure without his parents' consent.

Since Ayaan did not regain consciousness several hours after the operation, he was transferred to the hospital's Gulshan branch.

After seven days on life support in the paediatric intensive care unit, doctors declared Ayaan dead, said lawyer Shahjahan.

10 injured in AL infighting

FROM PAGE 5

know about the bullet-shots."

However, Ali Hossain Sarkar said, "Suruj Mia's people attacked our supporters with weapons

at Bakultala. Three of them - Jewel, Shakeel and Aynal - were shot. Several others were also injured in the attack. But I don't know about vandalising their shops."

Munshiganj Additional

Superintendent of Police (Sadar Circle) Thandar Khairul Hasan said the incident happened to establish dominance in the area. Legal action will be taken after investigation, he said.

World Health Organization
Bangladesh

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

The World Health Organization in Bangladesh invites proposals/bids from the interested Companies in Bangladesh for the following service:

- RFP/BAN/2024/005:** Proposal for Updating Health National Adaptation Plan with Roadmap and Costing for Implementation.
Deadline for the submission of RFP: 14:00hrs, 05 March 2024 (Dhaka time).
- RFP/BAN/2024/006:** Proposal for Conducting Screening and Intervention for Suicide Prevention in Two Upazilas of Bangladesh.
Deadline for the submission of RFP: 14:00hrs, 05 March 2024 (Dhaka time).

Interested Companies can view and download the relevant RFP documents from: <https://www.who.int/bangladesh/about-us/procurement-notice>.

Interested bidders are requested to submit their financial and technical proposals in two separate sealed envelopes as per the instructions provided in the RFP documents at the Reception of WHO Bangladesh, House-SW(I)1/A, Road-8, Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

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- 4) Security Officer
- 5) Laboratory Assistant (Department of Civil Engineering)

Details can be obtained from the website (www.aust.edu). Candidates are requested to fill up the online form, download the online generated CV and send it to regr@aust.edu with cc to ve@aust.edu. Send the hard copy of the online generated CV to the Registrar along with a full resume, two recent passport-size colored photographs, and attested copies of all certificates, mark sheets/ transcripts, testimonials, etc. on or before 07 March 2024.

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