

Koko's 10th death anniv today

UNB, Dhaka

The tenth death anniversary of Arifat Ramman Koko, the younger son of ex-president Ziaur Rahman and former prime minister Khaleda Zia, the founder and current chairperson of the BNP respectively, will be observed today.

BNP and its associate bodies have taken various programmes to mark the day with due solemnity.

Koko, also a sports organiser, died of cardiac arrest in Malaysia on January 24, 2015. He was 45 years old. He was buried at Banani graveyard.

Two houses, 11 shops burnt

BSS, Noakhali

At least two houses and 11 shops were burnt in a fire that broke out at Hatiya on Wednesday night.

The fire originated from a cosmetic shop after an electric short circuit at Afazia Bazar of Shukchar union around 11:45pm. Two units of Hatiya Fire Service station brought the blaze under control after two hours, said Harun Ar Rashid, an official of Hatiya Fire Service station.

Most people

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leaders in Dhaka.

Accusing the government of discrimination against his party, GM Quader said, "False murder cases are being filed against us. Whenever our leaders and activists take to the streets, false cases are lodged against them."

The political situation in the country is unstable and uncertain. Even those running the country do not know what will happen a month from now. Before August 5 last year, the Awami League seemed to dominate the country, but within a day, they disappeared."

"People are also annoyed with different groups showing off their strength these days. They are acting like ruling parties. Jatiyo Party is the only one standing against this tide in the field," he added.

Criticising the government for its failures in various areas, GM Quader said, "Price hikes have left people unable to manage their expenses with their income. Thousands of workers are becoming unemployed as factories are shut down."

ফ্লাটের শেয়ার বিক্রয়
প্রাচীর বাড়িনগায় ঘরনারার হাতজির
এ বিনামূলীন বিক্রি এর পাড়ি
পার্কিং স্ট ক্ষেত্রে ক্ষেত্রে ২টি
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A bus parks to pick up passengers right next to a sign saying "No Bus Parking Here". In Dhaka, irony sometimes knows no bounds and blatant disregard for rules is the norm. The photo was taken opposite Dhaka College yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Medical waste poses severe health risks in Phulbari

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

Improper management and lack of disposal facilities for the medical waste in Phulbari upazila of Dinajpur have led to serious environmental pollution and health risks due to negligence from the local authorities.

Despite government guidelines mandating proper waste management and incineration, these regulations remain largely ignored.

Medical waste -- including used needles, syringes, expired medications, and blood-contaminated materials -- is often dumped openly near healthcare facilities. Stray animals scatter the waste, creating foul odours and attracting disease-spreading mosquitoes and flies.

Experts warn that if immediate action is not taken, the current practices could lead to a public health crisis.



Locals said drug users collect discarded syringes for reuse, raising the risk of spreading diseases such as Hepatitis B, C, and HIV/AIDS.

Phulbari upazila hosts one health complex, four private clinics, and 13 diagnostic centres, none of which possess environmental clearance certificates. Most facilities lack

proper waste management systems, and licences remain unrenewed.

At the Phulbari Upazila Health Complex, medical waste is stored near the premises and collected by municipal vehicles only twice a week.

Dr Moshirul Rahman, health and family planning officer at the health complex, admitted that

the lack of incinerators and staff shortages exacerbate the issue.

Abdul Malek, a patient's relative, expressed concern over open dumping within the health complex, saying it pollutes the environment and spreads diseases.

Managers of private clinics, including Sabuj Kumar Mahanta and Faruk Hossain, said they have complained repeatedly to the Department of Environment, but to no avail.

Without proper disposal facilities, waste is often buried or dumped into rivers.

Contacted, Dinajpur Civil Surgeon Dr Md Asif Faisal emphasised the importance of incinerating medical waste. He said they have plans to coordinate with clinics to hire specialised waste disposal services.

Doi inspector Prabhat Rani said they are currently in process to hire a waste management contractor in this regard.

Step up fight against

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the chief adviser was scheduled for yesterday, the third eventful day since he arrived in the Swiss city on January 21.

In another meeting, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk told Yunus that the UN fact-finding report on the atrocities during the July-August uprising will be released by mid-February.

Türk said the report would be shared with the Bangladesh side ahead of its publication from the UN rights office in Geneva.

The chief adviser urged the UN human rights chief for his support in resolving the Rohingya crisis, which has worsened in recent months following the influx of new refugees from Myanmar.

Türk said he was in conversation with relevant stakeholders, including the UN special envoy on

Myanmar, Julie Bishop, in this regard.

Meanwhile, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam told reporters in Davos that Prof Yunus urged global investors to invest more in Bangladesh, highlighting the country's business-friendly climate.

Alam said Bangladesh has eased condition on investment and improved capacity of Chattogram port. With a huge young population, Bangladesh can become an export hub, he added.

Agnes Callamard, secretary general of Amnesty International also met the chief adviser.

Meanwhile, DP World Group Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem met Yunus yesterday and discussed issues of mutual interest, said CA's Deputy Press Secretary Apurba

Jahangir.

DP World is a multinational logistics company based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. It specialises in cargo logistics, port terminal operations, maritime services and free trade zones.

Over 50 heads of state and government gathered at the WEF being held from January 20-25.

The Summit is being held under the theme of "Collaboration for the Intelligent Age" and it welcomed close to 3,000 attendees from over 130 countries.

PRAYER TIMING
JANUARY 24

Faz Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-30 12-30 4-15 5-43 7-15
JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-30 5-47 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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5 Bangladeshi women conquer Himalayan peaks

STAR REPORT

In celebration of Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain's "Sultana's Dream" being recognised as a Unesco "Memory of the World," five Bangladeshi women mountaineers embarked on a special Himalayan expedition, said a press release.

Inspired by "Sultana's Dream Unbound," the team recently returned to Bangladesh after overcoming the challenges of the Himalayan peaks.

Organised by Abhijatri and endorsed by Unesco, in association with the Liberation War Museum, the expedition was supported by Mastercard and led by Nishat Mazumder, the first Bangladeshi woman to conquer Mount Everest.

The journey highlighted Begum Rokeya's vision of women's emancipation.

Local organisers in Kathmandu announced plans to publish a Nepali translation of "Sultana's Dream," with Unesco's Memory of the World office in Bangkok celebrating the initiative.



We should focus

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underrepresented groups, particularly the youth and women.

expanding investments, deepening people to people exchange and championing global trade system.

The programme brought together a distinguished group of participants, including scholars, diplomats, government officials, young researchers, media representatives, senior leadership and experts of SIIS, and officials from the Shanghai Foreign Affairs Office.

It featured a welcome address by SIIS President Dr Chen Dongxiao, and speeches from key participants, including Director of the Academic Advisory Board at SIIS Dr Yang Jieman, and presentations by six renowned experts.

The event concluded with closing remarks by Bangladesh Ambassador to China Md Nazmul Islam, the release added.

He underscored the transformative role of China's development assistance and investments in Bangladesh's various sectors which have significantly contributed to the country's socio-economic development.

He underscored the need for working towards strengthening multilateral institutions,

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Ref. 57.03.0000.020.20.069.24-25

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited through e-GP portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods mentioned below:

e-Tender ID No	Description of goods	Last Selling Date and Time	Opening Date and Time
106532	Supply of Engineering & Other Equipment for CE	12/02/2025, 17:00	13/02/2025, 14:00
1065331	Supply of Engineering & Other Equipment for CSE	12/02/2025, 17:00	13/02/2025, 15:00
1065330	Supply of Engineering & Other Equipment for EEE	12/02/2025, 17:00	13/02/2025, 16:00
1065327	Supply of Raw Materials & Spare parts for CSE	09/02/2025, 17:00	10/02/2025, 14:00
1065322	Supply of Other Stationary	09/02/2025, 17:00	10/02/2025, 15:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP portal and no off line/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>)

(Prof. Engr. Md. Mizanur Rahman)
Principal (Addl. Charge)

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