

ফ্রুট ও তিতাপাদে টেলিট্যাক্স পাঠান
প্রিয়জনকে প্রয়োজনে...
যেকোনো শাখা থেকে রেমিট্যান্স গ্রহণ করলেই
পাবেন সরকার নির্ধারিত ২.৫% প্রমোদনা
সাপ্তে আটও আশ্বে তিশ্চিৎ আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার
 * শর্ত প্রযোজ্য

পূবালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি.
PUBALI BANK PLC.
 Best Financial Institution
 DHL-The Daily Star Business Awards.

AAA
 Rated Bank

ISO/IEC
27001:2022

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

অনলাইনের মাধ্যমে পূবালী ব্যাংকের সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখা হতে ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদান করা হয় (কেবলমাত্র জমা ও উত্তোলন)

SAGAR-RUNI MURDER

13 years on, justice remains elusive

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI and CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

A 73-year-old mother, Saleha Monir, has sought justice for the last 13 years, but it remains a far cry for them.

Ever since journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi were killed on a fateful February night in 2012, the investigators could not complete the probe in the sensational double-murder case till yesterday, according to the court documents.

The victims' families expressed their frustration, citing it as 13 years of failure on the part of the investigators.

"We always want justice. But where are we getting justice," Saleha, mother of Sagar, told The Daily Star yesterday.

"There is a big one behind the killings. So, it was not disclosed in the past. If any thieves or robbers did it, it might be disclosed soon," she said.

"I told them [investigators] one thing -- do not use the excuse of theft or robbery. I will not accept that...," she also said.

"We are in the dark. There is no hope or expectation. The PBI has taken over the investigation. They came to meet us. Let's see how far they go and what they do," added Saleha.

Runi's brother Nowsher Alam Roman, who filed the double murder case with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station on February 12, 2012, now wants to keep faith in the investigators after the fall of Sheikh Hasina-led government on August 5 last year.



SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



Exposed cables lie across the side of this footpath, posing a risk to pedestrians. The photo was taken in the Bakshi Bazar area yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Tawfiq Aziz Khan's death anniv today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 24th death anniversary of Tawfiq Aziz Khan, former executive editor of The Daily Star, sports writer and commentator.

A leading journalist, Tawfiq joined the then-Pakistan Observer as a staff reporter in 1958 while he was a Dhaka University student.

He joined The Daily Star in 1990 as its founding managing editor. He became executive editor in 1997 and worked in that capacity till his death.

The first English sports commentator of the country, Tawfiq Aziz was the resident editor of Cricketer Asia of Hong Kong and Sports Times of Lahore. He was also the founding editor of the fortnightly Krira Jagat.

His well-wishers are requested to pray for the departed soul.



Canada to help return laundered money

Canadian int'l dev minister tells CA

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Canada does not want corrupt and plundered money in the country, said Canada's Minister of International Development, Ahmed Hussen, during a meeting with Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus at the latter's Tejgaon office yesterday.

Hussen assured cooperation in returning money laundered from Bangladesh over the past decade, according to the Chief Adviser's press wing.

Prof Yunus sought Canada's assistance in recovering the funds, mentioning that "Begum Para" in Canada is home to families of corrupt individuals.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Amend Article 116, form SC secretariat

Recommends Judiciary Reform Commission

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Judiciary Reform Commission has recommended amending Article 116 of the constitution to ensure the judiciary's full independence and the separation of powers. The commission has proposed transferring control and discipline of lower court judges from the president to the Supreme Court and establishing a Supreme Court secretariat.

In its 351-page final report, submitted to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus on February 5, the commission said, "Under Article 116 of the existing constitution, the Supreme Court's role is merely consultative. Necessary amendments are required to empower the Supreme Court as a regulator instead of a consultant."

Article 116 currently says, "The control (including the power of posting, promotion, and grant of leave) and discipline of persons employed in the judicial service and magistrates exercising judicial functions shall vest in the President and shall be exercised by him in consultation with the Supreme

Court."

The commission emphasised that the Supreme Court secretariat is vital for achieving judiciary's independence and effective separation from the executive. It proposed enacting a separate

Article 116 currently says, "The control (including the power of posting, promotion, and grant of leave) and discipline of persons employed in the judicial service and magistrates exercising judicial functions shall vest in the President and shall be exercised by him in consultation with the Supreme Court."

law or ordinance to establish the secretariat, amending the Rules of Business, 1996, and formulating rules and guidelines for its operations.

The report also recommended

constructing a dedicated building for the Supreme Court secretariat, which would have two units: the Supreme Court unit and the judicial unit. These units would oversee functions such as transfers, promotions, disciplinary measures, budget management, development planning, and supervising daily court activities. The commission also stressed incorporating information technology into the judicial system.

Further decentralisation measures were proposed, including establishing permanent High Court benches in divisional cities and civil and criminal courts at the upazila level.

Additionally, the commission suggested curbing the president's power to pardon convicts, reducing mobile courts' authority to only impose financial penalties, and creating an independent criminal investigation agency through new legislation. It also recommended a law to prevent the filing of false cases.

To ensure transparency, the commission proposed introducing

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

ROW OVER BOOK

Cops shut down stall at Boi Mela

Chief adviser condemns attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday temporarily shut down a stall at the Amar Ekushey Boi Mela following an altercation over books by feminist writer Taslima Nasrin.

The incident took place around 6:15pm at the stall of Sabyasachi Publication in the Suhrawardy Udyan.

Witnesses said a group of people gathered in front of the stall around 6:15pm and demanded the removal of Taslima's books. At that time, a person inside the stall protested the matter, leading to a heated exchange. At one point, the two sides started shouting slogans.

Later, police went to the spot and covered the stall with a tarpaulin.

The Sabyasachi stall

SEE PAGE 5 COL 7

TEACHER CANDIDATES

Police swoop on protesters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police used batons, tear gas, water cannons, and sound grenades yesterday to disperse protesters staging a sit-in at Shahbagh, demanding reinstatement of their cancelled appointments as assistant teachers in government primary schools.

Despite the police action, protesters partially blocked the intersection for over four hours, causing severe traffic congestion in nearby areas. Traffic resumed at Shahbagh after 4:30pm.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Ensure six-month paid maternity leave for all women

Demand speakers at rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at an event yesterday urged the government to implement legal reforms ensuring six months of paid maternity leave for all women, eliminating disparities across government, private, and labour sectors.

They also demanded that maternity benefits be calculated based on total monthly earnings.

The demands were made at a protest rally titled

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

This mango orchard has been coated in the layer of dust, owing to the pollution in the area. Dust pollution continues to be a menace in the capital. The photo was taken from the Chat Bari area of Mirpur yesterday.

No more politics under AL, BCL: Nahid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League, as a political party, will have to face legal consequences for its activities, said Information Adviser Nahid Islam yesterday.

"We have stated that the Awami League and the Chhatra League will no longer be able to engage in politics in Bangladesh under this ideology and name. This is our commitment to the martyrs [of the July uprising]," he said.

Nahid was addressing an event titled "Heroes of Dhaka University", organised by the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement at the Teacher-Student Centre of Dhaka University.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

In Remembrance of the
Late Mrs. Hasna Abedin
 Founder and Former Chairperson
 American International University-Bangladesh

On her 8th Death Anniversary
February 11, 2025

Her kindness and warmth brought us together, and her legacy continues to inspire. She will always hold a special place in our hearts. May the Almighty bless her with eternal peace in Jannah.

- AIUB Family

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-BANGLADESH
 where leaders are created