

Six HSTU dorms renamed

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Thakurgaon

The administration of Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University (HSTU) in Dinajpur has renamed six residential halls and one academic building.

The decision was made during the university's 59th Regent Board meeting held on May 29.

An official order, signed by HSTU Registrar Prof M Jahangir Kabir, was issued on June 2 to implement the changes.

According to the order, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall has been renamed Bijoy 24 Hall, while Tajuddin Ahmad Hall is now Shaheed Abrar Fahad Hall.

Sheikh Russel Hall has been renamed Shaheed Nur Hossain Hall, and Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall is now Begum Rokeya Hall.

Meanwhile, Ivy Rahman Hall has been renamed

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Fishermen carry a variety of fish, including loitta, shrimp, and rupchanda, ready for processing and cleaning. Since the fishing ban ended on June 12, they have returned to sea to resume their livelihoods. However, unfavourable weather has hindered their ability to meet expected catch targets. The photo was taken at Fishery Ghat in Chattogram yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

From sea to summit

Shakil walks from Cox's Bazar to reach the peak of Everest in iconic eco-climb

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On May 19, mountaineer Ikrumul Hasan Shakil stood just metres away from achieving his lifelong dream -- reaching the summit of Mount Everest.

Despite being the closest he had ever been to turning his dream into a reality, doubt began to creep in. The weather had turned against him, reducing visibility completely.

However, despite the hurdles, Shakil steeled his mind and made the ascent. And then finally, he had done it. The boyhood dream had come true.

Even though his time at the peak was brief, he had managed to stand on top of the world, a feat very few can claim, that too against all odds.



Shakil, who hails from Baghchala village of Gazipur, successfully conquered Mount Everest after completing the "Sea to Summit" expedition that began on February 25 in Cox's Bazar.

At a press conference at Bishwo Shahitto Kendra yesterday, Shakil shared the experience of his adventures with mountaineering enthusiasts and environmental advocates.

Ghanashyam Bhandari, Nepal's Ambassador to Bangladesh; MA Muhit, an Everest summiteer; and Tosan Paul, general manager of marketing at PRAN Agro Limited, were present at the event.

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SOUTHERN REGION

Hilsa supply surges, retail prices still high

STAR REPORT

The supply of hilsa has increased considerably, alongside a drop in wholesale prices across markets in the southern districts, following the end of a 58-day fishing ban in the Bay of Bengal.

Traders say prices have fallen by at least Tk 600-800 per kilogramme (around 30 percent) since last week due to the increased supply. Fisheries officials predict prices could drop by another 50 percent once the peak monsoon harvest reaches the markets.

However, buyers are still struggling to purchase hilsa at reasonable retail prices due to alleged market manipulation.

Traders have urged the government to introduce fixed pricing to prevent syndicates from manipulating the market.

At Barishal's Port Road wholesale fish market, hilsas weighing one kilogramme or more are currently being sold for Tk 2,100-2,200 per kg, down from Tk 3,000 per kg last week. Similarly, fish weighing



around 600-700 grammes are now priced at Tk 1,600-1,700 per kg, compared to Tk 2,500 earlier.

At Patuakhali's Mohipur, one of the country's largest hilsa wholesale hubs, hilsas weighing 1kg or more are being sold for Tk 50,000-55,000 per maund, while those weighing around 600g are fetching about Tk 50,000 per maund.

"Just a week ago, the prices ranged between Tk 75,000-95,000 per maund," said Mohammad Rakib Hossain, a trader at the market.

Shariful Islam, manager of the Alipur Fish Landing Station under the Bangladesh Fisheries Development Corporation in Patuakhali, said prices have declined slightly due to the increased hilsa supply.

"This week, five tonnes of hilsa landed here. Hilsas weighing around 1kg are priced at Tk 60,000 per maund, while those weighing around 500-600g are selling for Tk 50,000-55,000 per maund," he added.

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Once one of Dhaka's oldest and most notable canals, the Khilgaon canal has now turned into a dumping ground for plastic waste and garbage. Years of neglect have led to its steady decline. The photo was taken from the Khilgaon Amtala Mosque area yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Hold dialogues to implement CHT accord

Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indigenous community members yesterday called for an immediate dialogue between the interim government and Parbatai Chattogram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) to resolve key issues from the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Accord, including the functioning of the Land Dispute Resolution Commission.

They also demanded a series of dialogues between the government and various stakeholders -- such as political, social, and circle leaders of the region, civil society groups, and development partners -- to speed up the implementation of the accord.

They made the demands while speaking at a discussion organised by the Bangladesh Indigenous People's Forum at the Women's Voluntary Association auditorium in the capital.

The CHT Accord, also known as the CHT Peace Accord, was signed in 1997 between the government and PCJSS, ending a protracted armed conflict in the region.

At the discussion, Ushatun Talukder, vice president of PCJSS and former lawmaker from Rangamati, said since

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Resolving the issues of the indigenous people should be seen as a way of eliminating all forms of discrimination in society.

Iftekharuzzaman
Executive Director, TIB

Murder or 'death by stroke'?

Case filed 10 months after incident; BRUR teacher Mahmudul sent to jail as accused

S DILIP ROY



Mahmudul Haque, an assistant professor of journalism at Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur (BRUR), who had marched alongside students and citizens during the July uprising in Rangpur last year, now finds himself behind bars. He has been arrested and sent to jail in connection with a murder case filed ten months after the incident.

Mahmudul had joined the street protests demanding justice for the killing of BRUR student Abu Sayed, who died on July 16 during the uprising.

However, Mahmudul has now been charged in a murder case that his family and students describe as "fabricated" and "motivated." His wife, Masuba Hasan, along with fellow teachers and students, claims he is being framed as part of a "conspiracy."

The case concerns the death of Samesh Uddin, a grocery shop owner from the Radhakrishnapur area of Rangpur city, who died on August 2, 2024 -- during the peak of the July uprising.

Ten months later, on June 3, 2025, his wife Amena Begum, 60, filed a murder case with Hajirhat Police Station, accusing 54 individuals -- including the ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina and Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader -- of causing the death of Samesh.

Mahmudul was named the 54th accused in the case and was identified as a central assistant secretary for information and research at the pro-AL Bangabandhu Parishad.

However, his affiliation with the group remains unclear, as it could not be verified independently.

In this regard, Dr Tuhin Wadud, head of the

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