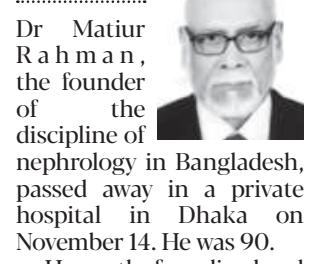


Matiur Rahman passes away



Dr Matiur Rahman, the founder of the discipline of nephrology in Bangladesh, passed away in a private hospital in Dhaka on November 14. He was 90.

He was the founding head of Nephrology in I.P.G.M.R (now Bangladesh Medical University). He also helped establish Bangladesh Kidney Foundation, and set up the first kidney transplant in Bangladesh.

Born in Nazirpur village, part of Natore, he completed his MBBS from DMC and undertook his specialisation in nephrology in the UK.

A former president of Bangladesh Renal Association, Rahman also served as a long-term president of the Bangladesh chapter of Japan International Cooperation Agency.

He left behind his two daughters and two sons and their spouses, four grandchildren and a host of admirers and well-wishers.

His namaz-e-janaza was held Azad Mosque in Gulshan yesterday after zuhr prayers.



BORO, MAIZE CULTIVATION Fertiliser shortage leaves farmers in Kishoreganj worried

TAFSILUL AZIZ, Kishoreganj

Farmers in Kishoreganj are grappling with an acute shortage of fertiliser ahead of the upcoming Boro and maize cultivation season, raising concerns that production targets may fall short this year.

Farid Mia, a farmer from Purba Shingpur village in Nikli upazila, said he planned to cultivate 12 acres of land this Boro season.

But when he went to purchase fertiliser from a local dealer of the Bangladesh Chemical Industries

Corporation (BCIC), he received only two bags, fewer than what he needed.

"The dealer told me that the district's fertiliser allocation has been cut in half. Now I don't know how I will manage to cultivate my land properly," he said.

Farmers across the district expressed similar frustrations, saying they are having to queue for hours only to get one or two bags.

Abul Hossain of Goradigha village said even after waiting all day, they could not buy enough fertiliser.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Kishoreganj, the district received 4,877 tonnes of urea against a demand of 10,164 tonnes, 215 tonnes of TSP against 2,677 tonnes, 4,391 tonnes of DAP against 7,655 tonnes, and 3,120 tonnes of MOP against a demand of 7,436 tonnes.

Dr Sadiqur Rahman, deputy director of the DAE and member secretary of the District Fertiliser-Seed Monitoring Committee, said, "The agriculture ministry is finalising the Integrated Policy on Fertiliser Dealer Appointment

and Distribution-2025, expected by December. Once approved, it will bar appointing dealers outside their own upazilas, which should help address supply inconsistencies."

He said 30 BCIC dealers in the district currently operate outside their own upazilas.

This season, Boro cultivation has been targeted on 1,68,260 hectares with a production goal of 7,96 lakh tonnes of rice, while maize will be cultivated on 11,780 hectares, producing an estimated 1.2 lakh tonnes.

Jatiya Chhatra Shakti

FROM PAGE 3
Meanwhile, Jatiya Chhatra Shakti, formerly Bangladesh Gonotantrik Chhatra Sangsad, also announced its 20-member panel, titled "Oikkoboddho Jobian," yesterday.

The panel was announced by the organisation's central president Zahid Hasan.

The panel has nominated Kishore Anjum Sammo, former joint secretary of B.G.C.S. central unit, for the VP post, while Md Faisal Murad, president of the JnU unit Chhatra Shakti, for the GS post.

Shahin Mia, member secretary of the JnU unit of Chhatra Shakti, will

contest for the AGS post from the panel.

A total of 312 students had collected nomination forms for the central and hall union elections, while 249 candidates -- 211 for central and 38 for hall union -- submitted their nominations on the last day of submission yesterday.

According to the schedule, the nomination forms will be scrutinised on November 19 and 20.

The final list of candidates, following objections, settlements, and dope tests -- scheduled for November 27 and 30 -- will be published on December 3. The election is scheduled for December 22.

Witness recounts

FROM PAGE 3
He said BCL leaders and activists, along with university officials and staff, hurled bricks at the students as police launched the attack.

According to Rownok, the students eventually forced the gate open, but the situation escalated when police inside the campus fired again, causing panic. He took cover near Biam Market just outside the gate.

From there, he said, he saw a student with his arms raised and chest exposed facing the police. "Suddenly, police fired several rounds. He collapsed on the road divider," Rownok told the tribunal.

Thirty individuals, including former BRUR VC Prof Hasibur Rashid and former Rangpur Metropolitan Police commissioner Md Moniruzzaman, have been accused in the case.

Country in state

FROM PAGE 3
may be criticisms of Moudud as a politician, but there is little criticism of his historical writings."

New Age Editor Nurul Kabir said the book documents the role of the ruling class from 2009 to 2019. He said Moudud wrote most of his books while in jail and completed his last work during the Covid period.

The book, he said, would be a useful resource for understanding Bangladesh's political history, adding that Moudud's writings contained objective information that could help rebuild democracy in the country.

In her introductory remarks, Moudud's wife, writer and activist Hasna Moudud, said the ideals he left behind would continue to inspire patriotism.

She said he did not believe in politics driven by conflict and revenge, and that his books would help guide the country toward a stronger democracy.

Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shaliquil Alam said Moudud had the rare ability to view government

Rownok and others rushed to help, but before they could reach the park corner, he himself was hit twice -- once in the waist and once below the knee. He did not seek medical treatment for his injuries.

Rownok later learned the student was Abu Sayed, 25, an English Department student. Around 3:30pm, he came to know that Sayed had died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Thirty individuals, including former BRUR VC Prof Hasibur Rashid and former Rangpur Metropolitan Police commissioner Md Moniruzzaman, have been accused in the case.

actions with neutrality.

He said had Moudud been alive, he would have written more on the judiciary and other key issues.

Senior advocate Sarwat Siraj Shukla, a former associate of Moudud, called the new book a fact-based document that would play a significant role in national politics.

Political analyst Zahed Ur Rahman, former ambassador Farooq Sobhan and UPL Managing Director Mahrulk Mohiuddin also spoke.

UPL published Demise of Democracy: Bangladesh on the Way to a Failed State 2009-2019. It received the manuscript in August 2020 and decided to publish it now following requests.

The book details human rights violations, enforced disappearances, killings and other key incidents that took place between 2009 and 2019.

Moudud, 81, passed away on March 17, 2021, while undergoing treatment in Singapore.

He previously served as prime minister, deputy prime minister, vice-president and minister.

NOAKHALI MEDICAL COLLEGE Students suffer for teacher shortage, poor facilities

ANWARUL HAIDER, Noakhali

Academic activities at Noakhali Medical College have been severely hampered due to a shortage of teachers and poor infrastructure.

The college was established in 2008 to expand medical education in the greater Noakhali region (Feni, Laksmpur and Noakhali), starting with 50 students in a few rooms of the 250-bed Noakhali General Hospital. In 2012, academic and administrative activities were shifted to its permanent campus in Mirwarishpur of Begumganj.

Seventeen years on, the college is still struggling with significant challenges. At present, there is not a single teacher in the anatomy department, while other departments also face acute shortages.

"There is a crisis of accommodation and security in the female hostel. There are not enough rooms, and sometimes there is no water," said Farhana Haque, a 4th year student.

Student Miskat Smarani Meem said rainwater leaks through the roof during monsoon.

The college now has 440 students, with around 100 admitted each year. However, there are not enough classrooms, no modern auditorium, no well-stocked library, and laboratories lack facilities.

Principal Dr Aminur Rahman said, "Construction of buildings to solve the student housing crisis is underway. We are also working to recruit new teachers."

Ashraf Uddin, PWD executive engineer in Noakhali, said a tender has been invited for constructing a 500-bed hospital and nursing institute on the campus at a cost of Tk 254 crore.



PHOTO: STAR

০২ (দ্বিতীয়) SMS প্রেরণ করে বার্ষিক পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ বাবদ ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা ও টেলিটক এর সার্ভিস চার্জ বাবদ (ড্যুটি অফেরতেওয়ে) ৬/- (ছয়) টাকাসহ মোট ৫৬/- (চাহুড়া)

টাকা অনধিক ৭২ (বাহাতুর) ঘটার মধ্যে জমা দিবেন। এখনে বিশেষভাবে উল্লেখ যে, "Online এ আবেদনপত্রে সকল অংশ পূরণ করে Submit করা হলেও পরীক্ষার ফি জমা না দেয়া পর্যন্ত Online আবেদনপত্র কোন অবস্থাতেই গৃহীত হবে না।"

প্রথম SMS: BPDB<space>User ID লিখে Send করতে হবে ১৬২২২ নম্বরে।

Example: BPDB ABCDEF

Reply: Applicant's Name, Tk. 56 will be charged as application fee. Your PIN is 12345678. To pay fee Type BPDB<Space>Yes<Space>PIN and send to 16222.

দ্বিতীয় SMS: BPDB<space>PIN লিখে Send করতে হবে 16222 নম্বরে।

Example: BPDB YES 12345678

Reply: Congratulations Applicant's Name, payment completed successfully for BPDB Application for post XXXXXXXX User ID is (ABCDEF) and Password (XXXXXXX).

৩. প্রবেশপত্র প্রাপ্তি বিষয়টি <http://bpdb.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে এবং প্রার্থীর মোবাইল ফোনে SMS এর মাধ্যমে প্রয়োজন পূরণ করতে হবে।

৪. প্রবেশপত্র প্রাপ্তির প্রয়োজন পূরণ করে বিভিন্ন প্রকার প্রয়োজন পূরণ করতে হবে।

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