

Elderly man killed trying to save daughter-in-law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An elderly man was killed trying to protect his daughter-in-law from being violated by a hoodlum in the city in the early hours of yesterday.

Md Mozaher, 65, was injured seriously when he came to the rescue of his daughter-in-law as one Hasan, 27, tried to violate her.

Hasan entered the house at Shahid Nagar under Bayezid thana at around 4.00am when the housewife was in sleep and her husband was not at home, police and witnesses said.

Hasan smashed the testicles of old man when he tried to prevent the attacker, injuring him seriously. He died on the way to hospital.

Local people caught Hasan and handed over him to police. A case was filed with Bayezid police.

Malaysian envoy calls on Altaf

BSS, Dhaka

Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Ashaary Bin Sani paid a courtesy call on Home Minister Air Vice-Marshal (ret'd) Altaf Hossain Chowdhury at his office here yesterday.

They discussed matters related to mutual interests.



People who allegedly suffered repression during the Awami League rule stage a sit-in in front of the Supreme Court in the city yesterday demanding referendum on hartal and reforms in opposition politics.

STAR PHOTO

River erosion takes serious turn in flood-hit areas

Thousands of families made homeless

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As the floodwater started receding, river erosion has taken a serious turn in the affected areas rendering thousands of families homeless.

According to the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC), the overall flood situation in the affected districts of Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi, Pabna, Rajbari, Manikganj, Munshiganj, Madaripur and Magura are improving with the recession of water levels in the rivers of Brahmaputra-Jamuna, Gangaes-Padma and the Mohananda.

All these rivers recorded fall at most of the points in last 24 hours and are likely to fall further.

FFWC bulletin said the Brahmaputra-Jamuna recorded fall at all points except a slight rise at Aricha and the Ganges-Padma recorded

further fall at all points except at Goalundo where it remains steady.

Out of the country's 85 monitoring stations, 19 points recorded rise, 40 points recorded fall and 7 points remained steady during the last 24 hours.

However, rivers are flowing above their respective danger marks at six points- Aricha, Pankha, Rajshahi, Goalundo, Bhagyakul and Chapainawabganj.

Report from Rajbari said erosion by the river Padma has taken a serious turn in Sadar and Gualonda Upazila of the district rendering at least 2,000 families homeless in last one week.

The river became turbulent with the sudden onrush of waters from across the border.

The worst erosion-hit villages are Furshahata, Malikanda, Gachiadha, Char Moukuri, Dhumchi, Sazapur and

Noyan Sukh of Sadar Upazila and Chota Vakla, Gualondo, Puruli, Dhopagathi of Gualondo upazila.

Hundreds of acres of land have already been eroded during the period.

Maulana Azad essay contest

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations has organised an essay competition in memory of late Indian leader, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, says a press release.

Entries are invited in English while the topic is 'Human Rights under Democracy'.

The first prize amounts to Indian Rs 25,000, the second Rs 20,000 and the third Rs 15,000.

Each participant must submit one original and three copies of his/her essay. Typed in double space or written, the pages should be clearly numbered. The length of the essay should not exceed 5,000 words.

Any participant who resorts to plagiarism will be disqualified. The competition is open to all born on or after January 1, 1973. A certificate/proof of age indicating the date of birth, complete address and photograph should be enclosed with the essay.

The essays may be sent directly through registered post/courier or hand delivered to First Secretary (I&C), High Commission of India, Dhaka, House No-2, Road No-142, Gullshan-1, by October 20, 2003 or Director General, ICCR, Azad Bhaban, IP Estate, New Delhi-110002 by October 31, 2003. Essays received after the last date will not be accepted.

SUST students form human chain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Students of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) Wednesday formed a human chain in the city's court point area to press home their 4-point demand including resumption of their classes.

The other demands include opening of the newly-built dormitory

through allotment of seats to meritorious students, appointment of new teachers and procurement of more buses.

The students also handed over a memorandum to the deputy commissioner to send it to the Chancellor of the University seeking his intervention to resolve their crisis.

They had been agitating as the new academic session is yet to begin even months after their admission.

The varsity is in a deep crisis as the teachers are refusing to take classes demanding fresh appointment of teachers while the authorities are unable to do it due to government embargo on new appointments.

The problem has already created a session jam of 26 months.

Lightning kills fish trader

BSS, Pabna

A fish trader was killed by lightning at Charghosepur village under Sadar upazila of the district yesterday.

Police said the victim was identified as Azahar Ali, 34.

Socio-economic progress in Bangladesh

CPC assures all cooperation

BSS, Dhaka

Communist Party of China (CPC) has assured all cooperation and assistance to Bangladesh for attaining its socio-economic progress.

The assurance came during a bilateral meeting on Wednesday between the leaders of Sanxi provincial chapter of CPC and members of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) delegation now visiting China at the invitation of CPC.

A BNP press release issued here yesterday said the CPC leaders lauded the progress and achievements attained by Bangladesh government.

Earlier, the delegation members including BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and Senior Joint Secretary General Tareque Rahman were given a rousing

reception by the CPC leaders when they reached Xian city from Shanghai Wednesday noon.

Expressing great satisfaction over the tremendous achievements attained by China, the delegation members told the meeting that Bangladesh attained great progress and prosperity through executing the experiences gathered from China.

Terming China as a tested friend, the delegation members recalled with deep gratitude the contribution of China in overall development of Bangladesh.

Paying rich tributes to late President Ziaur Rahman the CPC leaders said this great leader took initiatives to develop amity between the two countries. They said Bangladesh attained desired prog-

ress and prosperity due to implementation of his (Zia's) philosophy, programmes and policies.

The BNP delegation was represented in the meeting by Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and Tareque Rahman while the Chinese side was represented by Deputy Chief of Sanxi provincial chapter of CPC Uyan Chunsing.

Later, the delegation members were apprised of overall development plants of the Xian city at Shanghai Urban Plant Centre. They also visited Xian Aircraft Factory, Hot Spring Palace and the historic Terracotta Museum.

The delegation left Shanghai for Beijing Wednesday night where they will hold discussions with the CPC central leaders today.



State Minister for Environment and Forest Jafrul Islam Chowdhury speaks at the certificate distribution ceremony of a training programme on 'Environmental Management Systems' organised by the University of Asia Pacific on its campus in the city on September 24.

Int'l workshop on expansion of cub scouting

A two-day international workshop on 'Expansion of Cub Scouting: Right strategy for strengthening the Movement' begins at the National Scout Training Centre, Mouchak, Gazipur, today, says a press release.

The workshop is being held under the auspices of Bangladesh Scouts. State Minister for Religious Affairs Mosharef Hossain Shajahan will attend the inaugural ceremony as chief guest while Prof. Dr Tehmina Hussain, secretary, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, will be present as special guest.

Manzoor Ul Karim, president of Bangladesh Scouts, will chair the function.

Scouters from India, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives will take part in the workshop along with 80 local senior scout leaders.

Change in CU grading system likely

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong University (CU) authorities are likely to bring change in the grading system in evaluating the answer script soon.

Deans of all the five faculties have submitted separate reports with recommendations to the vice chancellor with a view to overcome the pitfalls in the present grading system.

Earlier, the syndicate urged the deans to prepare separate reports with proposals to resolve the crisis.

Campus sources said, the reports recommend another chance for the students who will get C minus, C plus and B minus for improvement test.

Earlier, only those who got F grade could appear for improvement examination.

An announcement will come soon

with the revision of the grading system, sources said.

The CU authorities are revising their grading system comparing with the international system.

The prevailing system of evaluating answer script and question paper will also be changed.

When contacted, Prof Mahbub Ullah, dean of social science faculty, told this correspondent that they are not in favour of reviving old class system.

"We have recommended some additional facilities for the students so that the system can be made student oriented", he added.

Meanwhile, the authorities have postponed all the examinations and other related activities since August 20.

Since then at least 600 examinations of 33 departments and two institutes of the university could not be held.

Session jam has gripped the university due to the postponement of the examinations.

The authorities were compelled to postpone the examinations due to tough agitation launched by the general students last month.

They launched a strong movement on the campus from August 11 demanding immediate cancellation of the grading system.

They also boycotted examinations and classes to intensify their demands.

Following their movement, the authorities sent the matter to the syndicate to take final decision on the grading system.