

## 8 killed in road accidents

BSS, Dhaka

Eight people were killed and 25 others injured in separate road accidents across the country yesterday.

Two people, including an elderly man, were killed in separate road accidents in the capital.

Police said Arifa Akhtar, 30, a garment worker, was killed this afternoon as a speedy passenger bus hit her at Darus Salam when she was crossing the road.

In another accident, Abul Bashar, 70, was killed when a microbus hit him at Nayapalitan this evening. Police seized the microbus.

In Feni, two people were killed and 14 others injured when a Dhaka-bound passenger bus hit an autorickshaw at Mollaghata Bazar on the Feni-Majidee road.

Driver of the autorickshaw Abdul Karim, 38, and its passenger Rumki, 8, died on the spot while 14

others sustained injuries, police and witnesses said.

In Faridpur, a woman was killed and seven others were injured in a road accident at Tambulkhana Bazar on the Faridpur-Saltha road. The dead was identified as Sakhina, 45.

The accident occurred when a Saltha-bound passenger bus skidded off the road and fell into a road-side ditch after crushing the woman, who was crossing the road with her minor child. Her daughter along with six bus passengers were injured in the accident.

A helper of a truck was killed and two drivers were injured in a road accident at Modern More at the outskirts of Rangpur town on the Rangpur-Dhaka highway.

The dead was identified as Anwar Hossain, 35, son of Mostak of Shyampur in Dhaka, police said.

The accident occurred when a Dhaka-bound rice-laden truck from Rangpur and a Rangpur-bound

rod-loaded truck from Chittagong collided head-on at Modern More.

In Habiganj, a madrasah teacher was killed when a speedy microbus hit him at Shewratoli under Bahubal on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway.

The victim was identified as Qari Abdun Nur, teacher of Kashimul Ulm Madrasah of Akkipur village. Police seized the microbus and arrested its driver.

A cyclist was killed and another injured in an accident at Tonki Bazar in Melandah upazila of Jamalpur district.

Police said Abu Raihan Sabuj, 25, son of Shafiqul Islam of village Fakirpara under Islampur upazila was killed when his motorbike rammed into a roadside tree with full speed as he lost his control over steering. His nephew Akash sustained serious injuries in the accident.

## G-8 leaders condemn Mumbai blasts

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The leaders of G-8 and other countries have condemned the recent serial bomb blasts in Mumbai and expressed solidarity with the Indian government.

"We are united with India in our resolve to intensify efforts to fight terrorism, which constitutes a threat to each of our countries, as well as to international peace and security," they said in a joint statement.

The leaders of G-8, Brazil, China, India, Mexico, South Africa, Chairman of the Council of the Heads of State of the CIS, Chairman of the African Union, and the Heads of the International Organisations issued the statement in St. Petersburg on July 17, said a press release of High Commission of India in Dhaka.

Expressing deepest condolences to the victims and their families, the leaders said, "We are outraged by the barbaric terrorist acts, carried out on 11 July 2006 in Mumbai and other parts of India."

"We are determined to continue the fight against terrorism by all legitimate means. We express our readiness to undertake all necessary measures to bring to justice perpetrators, organisers, sponsors of these and other terrorist acts, and those who incited the perpetrators to commit them."

"We shall do it in accordance with our obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, refugee law and humanitarian law."

## Housewife killed for dowry, husband arrested

BSS, Kishoreganj

A housewife was killed allegedly by her husband at Chardheki village under Pakundia upazila of the district on Thursday night, police and local sources said.

The victim was identified as Runa Begum, 20, wife of Ripan Miah, 25.

The sources said Ripan Begum was stabbed to death by Ripan for dowry.

Police arrested Ripan along with his parents in connection with the killing.

## Housewife electrocuted

UNB, Laxmipur

A housewife was electrocuted at her rented house at Korotola Bazar in Ramgati upazila on Thursday.

Family Sources said Shikha Rani, 22, while working in her house, came into contact with a live electric wire.

She was rushed to the Ramgati Government Hospital where the doctors declared her dead. Shikha, wife of Swapan Roy, hailed from Jangalia village of the upazila.

## Democracywatch holds workshop on UP budgeting

Democracywatch in association with Swapno Sahajiya Shongtha organised a daylong workshop on participatory planning and budgeting of Union Parishad at the auditorium of Jagoroni Chokro at Jessore yesterday, says a press release.

Afzal Hossain, chairman of Ramnagar Union inaugurated the workshop that was participated by a large number of people, including UP chairmen, members, doctors, advocates, NGO activists and teachers.

The speakers said that good governance can only be achieved through a strong local government with the contribution and participation of the local people. The participants presented some observations that they want to be considered by the policy makers, like poor knowledge of local government representatives on accountability and transparency, lack of communication and sharing of information among NGOs and negative image of UP.

To resolve the problems they have been underscored to sensitive community to develop their own strategy, capacity building of UP representatives, establishing an effective coordination among the local government authorities and NGOs.

The key discussions were Mostafa Sohel, programme manager of Democracywatch, Feroze Nurunnabi, Shariful Haq, Mujtoba Shamim, Saiful Islam, Nahid Akhter Baby, Shakhina Khatun, Abdul Hye and Yakub Ali.

Democracywatch has undertaken a five-year programme on accountable and transparent local government, funded by human rights and good governance programme support unit of DANIDA. Under this programme Democracywatch is organising many workshops with different stakeholders.



Hill Womens Federation and Gonotantrik Jubo Forum stage a demonstration in Chittagong city yesterday protesting attack on a marriage ceremony at Mohalchhari and repression on UPDF.

## Keep Karnaphuli bridge issue above politics

Says Noman

BSS, Chittagong

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman yesterday urged all, particularly the people of Chittagong, to keep the 3rd Karnaphuli Bridge issues above politics.

Construction of the 3rd Karnaphuli bridge is a long-felt demand of the people here. It is not important which government has initiated this project as the previous Awami League government has also tried to build this bridge," he said, while addressing the inaugural session of a 10-day Tree Fair at Laldighi Maidan in the port city.

Meanwhile, the Roads and Highways Department has fixed August 7 as the date for starting physical construction work of the bridge through a ground breaking ceremony.

Chittagong Mayor Alhaj ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury announced a series of agitation programmes demanding hanging bridge instead of a concrete-pillar structure.

Abdullah Al Noman said the bridge would protect the economic interest of the region as the area has vast potentials with natural resources. The bridge would also greatly help promote industrialisation and cross-border trade, he

said. He thanked Prime Minister Khaleda Zia for her sincere and personal efforts in arranging foreign funds for the project by convincing the Kuwait government in a short span of time.

The minister said the government considering the priority of Chittagong port as the country's economic lifeline has attached utmost importance for its development and modernisation to elevate it to an international port.

"Adequate funds have already been allocated for carrying out dredging of the port channel to maintain its navigability," he added.

## Vegetable prices up

BSS, Dhaka

Prices of various vegetables went higher this week while green chilli price which experienced an abnormal rise during the last few weeks, fell remarkably in different city markets.

Market sources yesterday said the price of green chilli went down by straight half while other essential kitchen commodities including onion, ginger and garlic were also being sold at cheaper rates in the markets.

However, rice of all varieties are still being sold at previous higher prices despite adequate supply during the week. But the traders are expecting a fall in the prices of rice within the next couple of days, the sources said.

Although the markets are filled with enough supply of various fishes, a fish trader told BSS that their prices are still higher due to artificial demand being created by the wholesalers.

In the city's wholesale markets, green chilli was sold between Tk 45 and Tk 50 per kg and in the retail markets between Tk 60 and Tk 75 per kg over the weekend.

During the period, prices of the local onion ranged from Tk 18 to Tk 19 per kg in the wholesale market, while it was between Tk 20 and Tk 22 per kg in the retail market.

Imported onion was sold at Tk 12 to Tk 13 per kg in the wholesale market while it was between Tk 15 and Tk 17 per kg in the retail market.

Imported garlic was sold at Tk 42 to Tk 44 per kg in the wholesale market while it was Tk 60 to Tk 65 per kg in the retail market.

Potato, the premier item in everyday food menu, was sold at Tk 17 per kg in the wholesale market while it was Tk 18 to Tk 20 per kg in the retail market.

Brijnal, also another popular item in the domain of vegetables, was sold between Tk 167 and Tk 18 per kg in the wholesale market, while it was between Tk 22 and Tk 28 per kg in the retail market.

## Children need more exercise to cut heart risk: Study

REUTERS, London

Children need to do more exercise than recommended in international guidelines to reduce their risk of developing cardiovascular disease, a team of researchers said yesterday.

Instead of one hour a day of moderate physical activity, young people may need to do 90 minutes to stave off high blood pressure, raised cholesterol levels and other risk factors that can lead to heart problems.

"Physical activity levels need to be higher than the current international guidelines of at least one hour per day," said Lars Bo Andersen of the Norwegian School of Sports Science in Oslo.

Andersen and his team assessed the impact of exercise on 1,732 children from Denmark, Estonia and Portugal, aged either nine or 15.

They compared the amount of exercise they did every day and measured their risks of developing heart disease.

They found that the more the children exercised, the more their combined risks factor score decreased.

Nine-year-olds who did 116 minutes of moderate to vigorous exercise a day and the teens who exercised for 88 minutes daily had the lowest risk factor scores, according to the research published in The Lancet medical journal.



PHOTO: STAR

Eduardo Carlos Meno, vice minister for economy of Chile, talks with Asif A Chowdhury, honorary consul of Chile in Bangladesh and Masud Mannan, director general at the Foreign Ministry, at a poetry recitation in observance of the 100th birth anniversary of Chilean Noble laureate Pablo Neruda at Spectra Convention Centre in the city yesterday. The Chilean minister is now in Dhaka on a three-day visit.

## 58 dogs killed on JU campus

JU CORRESPONDENT

Fifty-eight dogs were killed on the campus of Jahangirnagar University (JU) yesterday in a drive to kill stray dogs sparking huge resentment among the students on the campus.

Most of the dogs killed in the drive were pet and not ill, said a university student.

Though the drive was aimed at killing ailing and infected dogs to prevent spreading of diseases, employees of estate and security offices assisted by Dhaka City Corporation killed the dogs including the pets that came on their way.

"The dogs were killed indiscriminately without conducting any test to detect whether the dogs were ill or not, and their bodies were put on the roadside throughout the day," he added.

Earlier on Thursday, a notice was circulated at every dormitory and departmental offices asking everyone to keep their pet tied inside for yesterday or put a belt round its neck to differentiate it from others.

The students whose pet dogs were killed in the drive, have however alleged that the university authorities did not give them enough time and most of them were not know aware of the drive.

The employees were also blamed for killing a pet dog snatching from its owner.

"Though I told them that it was my pet, they snatched 'Tike', a one-year-old pet, away from me and injected it to death," said Probrir who was having fun with the pet at university transport area at around 10:00am before it was killed.

"No student can keep any dog or tame it in any dormitory. How a student can keep a pet in a dormitory?" asked Abu Bakar Siddik, deputy registrar of the university, brushing aside the allegation of killing any pet of any student.

"If anyone informs us that stray dogs are still roaming on the campus, the drive will be launched again," he added.

## Robber beaten to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A man was beaten to death at Mokamtola area under Shibganj upazila of the district for his involvement in a night coach robbery in the early hours of yesterday.

Police sources said a gang of robbers, who got on the coach as passengers, looted gold and cash worth Tk 1 lakh from Thakurgaon bound night coach passengers.

## 12000 cervical patient detected every year

BSS, Rajshahi

Specialists at a scientific seminar here on Thursday revealed that some 12,000 cases of cervical cancer are being detected every year in the country.

They also said cervical and breast cancers are the foremost causes of cancer mortality of women in the developing countries.

Local unit of Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) in collaboration with Reneta Limited arranged the seminar styled "Visual inspection of cervix with acetic acid (VIA): a new era in cancer cervix screening" at the conference hall of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

Associate Professor of the Gynecology and Obstetrics Department of RMCH Dr Fatema Ashraf presented a keynote paper elaborating risk factors and precautionary measures to prevent the disease.

Director of RMCH Brig Gen Bazley Kader, Principal of RMC Prof Fazlur Rahman, local BMA President Dr Wasim Hossain, Prof ARM Saifuddin Ekram of medicine and Prof Mahbul Alam of radiotherapy,

among others, took part in the discussion. Local OGSB President Prof Merina Khanom presided over the seminar.

Keynote speaker Dr Fatema Ashraf said unconsciousness, early marriage, early child birth, onset of sexual activity at the young age, multiple sexual partners, history of presence of sexual transmitting infection (STI), low socio-economic status and venereal diseases have been identified as the risk factors of the disease.

Referring to a study conducted from July 2005 to June 2006 at RMCH, she said some 111 cases of cervical cancer were detected among 567 female cancer patients.

Dr Fatema Ashraf said creating awareness, education to reduce high-risk sexual behavior and measures to reduce and avoid exposures to STIs were proved as the primary prevention measures of the disease. Treatment of pre-cancerous lesions and required practical test were found as the secondary preventive measures, he added.

She, however, said pre-detection of cervical cancer by VIA was found effective to manage the disease successfully.



## Moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions in the next 24 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places over southern part of the country, Met Office said, adding that day temperature may remain nearly unchanged.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Rangpur and the lowest of 23.0 degrees at Sandwip.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:47pm today and rises at 5:23am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.7	26.0	83	71
Chittagong	32.0	26.0	77	78
Rajshahi	33.0	25.9	76	89
Khulna	31.6	26.1	83	88
Barisal	30.4	25.6	83	90
Sylhet	32.2	25.5	75	76
Cox's Bazar	31.5	24.5	83	100