DHAKA TUESDAY JULY 25, 2006

11 killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least eleven people were killed in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Comilla, Manikganj, Sirajganj and Pabna yesterday.

Our Staff correspondent reports: Three people, including two women, were killed in separate road accidents in the city yesterday.

A woman aged about 35 was severely injured when a car hit her while she was crossing the road at Malibagh area around 12.30am.

She was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where she succumbed to her injuries. Her identity could not be known immedi-

Another woman aged about 25 was run over by a train at Kawla railway line. Government Railway Police (GRP) recovered her body at

8:00am. Meanwhile, a rickshawpuller died on the spot when a passenger bus hit him from behind at around 7:00am at Bishwa Road area in Muqdapara.

UNB from Comilla adds: Three people were killed as a private car and a covered van collided head on at Harikhola in Chandina upazila in the district yesterday.

The dead were identified as Mujibur Rahman, 32, of Jinglatoli village in Devidwar upazila, Nasiruddin, 27, of Kamarikhola village of the same upazila and car driver Jasimuddin.

Police said the Dhaka-bound covered van from Chittagong rammed the Chittagong-bound private car killing two passengers of the car on the spot at about 4:00am.

The injured car driver Jasimudidn, hailed from Chandina upazila, succumbed to his injuries at a local hospital.

Police seized the covered van but its driver managed to flee.

Our Correspondent from Manikganj reports: Two people were killed in a road accident on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Manikganj

Dewan Abdul Jalil, 40, a field worker of Shivalaya Upazila Livestock Office and inhabitant of Mirzapur village in Tangail district and Sona Banu, a hotel worker and inhabitant of Tepra under Shivalava Police

Station in Manikganj. Police sources said the accident took place at around 5:15am when a Paturia-bound truck hit them at Tepra bus stand area while they were walking along the roadside. Jalil died on the spot and Sona succumbed to her injuries at the local Uthuli Health Complex.

The bodies were sent to the Manikganj Sadar Hospital for

Our Correspondent from Sirajganj says: Two people were killed in two separate road accidents at Mulibari and Panchilia on the Dhaka-Bogra highway in Sirajganj district yesterday.

Police and witnesses said a pedestrian was run over by a speeding bus at Panchilia Bazar area. The be known immediately.

On the other hand, Shariful of Gopalganj district died on the spot when a Bogra-bound coach from Dhaka hit him from behind at Mulibari.

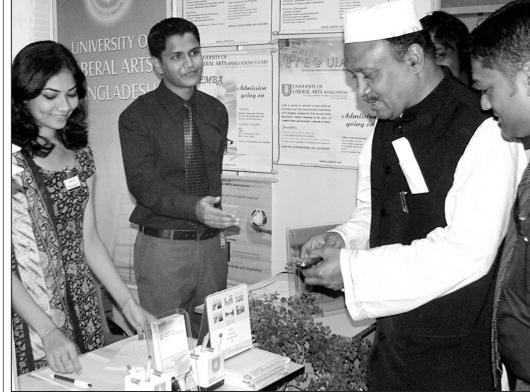
Police recovered the bodies and sent those to Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Our correspondent from Pabna adds: A boy was run over by a Pabna-bound passenger bus at Bera bus stand yesterday.

The victim was identified as Joni, 10, son of Rajai Mondol of village Maitraleandha at Shanthia upazila in Pabna.

Police and witnesses said the accident occurred when the driver of a Pabna-bound speeding bus from Mymensingh lost his control over its steering at Bera bus stand and was trying to overtake a 'Sochimon', a cal motorised cycle.

The bus ran over Joni while he was crossing the road, leaving him



Today is the 4th

death anniver-

sary of National

Professor Sved

a poet and served as vice-

Chittagong city Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury visits a stall after inaugurating a three-day 'Emerge Education

Saarc centre to assess state of oil pollution in Indian Ocean region

Bss, Dhaka

Saarc Coastal Zone Management Centre in the Maldives has launched a programme to assess the state of oil pollution in the Indian Ocean region.

Bangladesh High Commissioner Mijarul Quayes inaugurated the programme in Male on Sunday, according to a message received here.

The programme of monitoring oil pollution called "tar ball" involves students drawn from over 100 schools across 21 atolls of the Maldives.

Speaking as chief guest on the occasion, the Bangladesh High Commissioner welcomed the involvement of school children in environmental issues.

He underscored the need for sustainable environment management through public discourse on environmental issues.

The director of the centre made a presentation on oil pollution and "tar balls" monitoring.

The inaugural programme was attended by government functionaries including ministers. South Asian states which are

washed by the Indian Ocean face critical risk in terms of oil pollution and accidental spill. Tanker and shipping routes from

the Middle East passes through here

to East Asian countries. Almost 82 percent of Middle Eastern oil is exported to Japan,

China and Singapore. Maldives, which stretch kilometres from north to south in the Indian Ocean, is ideally located to monitor the level of oil pollution through documenting "tar balls" prevalence on its beaches.

The Bangladesh Mission in Male has been working closely with the Saarc centre.

Transport strike in Sylhet from tomorrow

Owners, workers divided over strike call

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A section of transport owners and Workers will enforce an indefinite strike in Sylhet from tomorrow to press their 11-point demand. Sylhet Zila Sarak Paribahan

Malik-Sramik Oikya Parishad announced the strike at a press conference at Sylhet Press Club vesterday afternoon. However. some rival organisations have opposed the strike call. Maulana Lokman Ahmed, secre-

tary general of Sylhet Zila Sarak Paribahan Malik Group, read out a written statement at the press conference attended by leaders of five other organisations.

Their demands include establishment of a truck terminal at a suitable place, development of two central bus terminals, removal of irregularities in toll collection on different bridges of Roads & Highways Department and steps to stop movement of unauthorised

trucks and buses. The transport leaders alleged that they had deferred the strike several times in the last one and a half months at the request of district administration officials who assured them of arranging a coordination

meeting to solve the problems But the administration had been dillydallying on the issue for reasons

unknown, they said. Meanwhile, officials of 11 other organisations led by Sylhet Zila Sarak Paribahan Malik Samity in a joint statement yesterday termed the 'strike call' a conspiracy against

the transport owners and workers. They called upon all not to respond to the strike call. Md Saiful Islam and Haji Zamir Ahmed, president and general secretary of the Samity, and leaders of other organisations signed the joint statement.



covers of two ADB Country Director Hua Du exchanges views with journalists at Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium yesterday.

MOHAMMADPUR GENEVA CAMP

'People live miserable life'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 40 percent of some 230 Urdu-speaking families having seven to 21 members in each family are living roughly in 80 square feet space at Geneva camp in the city's Mohammadpur area, revealed a study yesterday.

Apart from citizenship problems, they are also facing water, sewage and educational problems in the camp, the study added

The findings of the study on Socio-economic problems of Urdu-speaking residents at Mohammadpur' were presented by the Gender and Governance Training Programme (GGTP) of Democracy Watch at the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) in the

The study was conducted on 230 families at the Geneva camp on May this year by the third batch

According to the study, houses at the camps are mainly semipucca with one bedroom where an average of 10 members live in a congested environment.

They use kerosene and firewood for cooking as there is no gas in the camp, said Foysal Habib, a participant in the study, while presenting a paper.

Out of a total 170 toilets, most are unusable and there is no toilet in eight and nine blocks, he said. adding, women, children and aged persons use drains due to long

The drains are also clogged with

12 hours until 6:00pm today

major cities and towns yesterday were:

5:25am tomorrow.

Dhaka

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Rajshahi

Barisal

Thundershowers likely

at Jessore and lowest 23.6 degree Celsius at Sandwip.

34.0

35.0

34.0

32.5

32.5

32.0

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary

gusty wind is likely at a few places over all the six divisions in the next

period, Met Office said, predicting nearly unchanged day temperature

Moderately heavy falls are also expected at places during the

Highest temperature 35.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday

The sun sets in the capital at 6:45pm today and rises at

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some

27.3

25.5

26.8

27.6

26.4

25.8

25.7

Temperature

in Celsius percentage

huge garbage which is not cleared by the city corporation, he added. Though the water supply is adequate, it is often filthy with bad

smell, Foysal said quoting the residents for whom water and sewage are two main problems

Out of 230 respondents, 10 percent are illiterate. 38 percent have primary education, 27 percent have lower secondary while 11 percent have secondary and higher secondary level education, revealed the study

High cost of education, crisis of nationality and lack of security hamper their education, he added.

They are however conscious about the health of mother and child and 43 percent of couples use family planning devices, it added.

According to the study people living at eight and nine blocks are still willing to go to Pakistan but the new generation thinks themselves as Bangalees

Most of the family members are engaged in income generating activities.

The researchers also put some recommendations including providing government assistances in building houses, providing gas facilities and assistance in solving the water and sewerage problems until the citizenship crisis is solved.

Lauding the study, Taleya Rahman, executive director of Democracy Watch, said these types of research are important in changing the traditional impression about the Urdu-speaking people.

Humidity in

Morning Evening

92

83

78

71

85

81

85

92

patients in the country. "We have now decided to go for

Referring to the use of stevia in

Researchers both at home and abroad found that the green plant could help control blood sugar and glucose level in human body and also help secretion of insulin in

It also inhibits the growth and production of some bacteria and infectious organism, including the bacteria that cause tooth decay and gum disease. It also could be used

Brac, which developed the plant through tissue culture in the country, is marketing the plant under the name of 'Brac Medicinal-11.

Moderated by Dr ASM Atiqui Rahman, professor of social welfare department of Dhaka University, the programme was also addressed by Dr C R Abrar, professor of international relations department of Dhaka University, Taherunnesa Abdullah, project director of Democracy Watch, and Dr Latifa Akhand.

Stevia to meet calorie-free sugar need of diabetic patients

Bss, Dhaka

It's a good news for diabetic patients in Bangladesh as a non-government organisation is going to cultivate stevia, a small green plant that could be used as an alternative to sugar, on a commercial basis

Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (Brac), a leading NGO which is the pioneer in developing stevia plant through tissue culture in its laboratory, is expected to go for commercial cultivation of the plant from December.

Brac collected tissue of the plant from Australia one year and six months ago and started cultivation of the plant, especially for diabetic

commercial cultivation of stevia from December next, considering the huge demand of the plant," said Dr M A Razzak Shah, Tissue Culture Specialist of Brac.

other countries, he said Japan provides 41 percent of white sugar from stevia while China and the USA use the plant as an alternative

Stevia (scientific name: Stevia rebaudiana) is a health restoration plant that has immense medicinal value as its leaves are 300 times sweeter than normal sugar. On the other hand, stevia, a calorie-free sweet provider, is being widely used in different developed countries including the USA, Canada and Japan as an alternative to sugar.

pancreas

for skin care.

Fair-2006' at the auditorium of Engineers' Institution in the port city yesterday.

Govt trying to

foil road march

Says Hasina

UNB, Gopalganj

Criticising the government for the wholesale arrest of opposition leaders and activists ahead of their road march, opposition leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday alleged the government is trying to foil the opposition's peaceful demonstration programme. Hasina made the allegation

ing the reopening of Sheikh Sahera Khatun Red Crescent Hospital at Tungipara that was reportedly closed by the BNP-led four-party government. Bangabandhu Welfare Trust

while addressing a function mark-

will now finance the hospital. Reiterating her demand for implementation of the opposition's proposed electoral reforms, information about protocol and she said her party would not objective journalism is needed for participate in the election until their demand is met.

The AL chief also lambasted

Mechanical Engineering Division of the

Institution of Engineers will hold a

Unnavan Onneshan organises a

workshop on 'WTO and Bangladesh:

Beyond Hong Kong'. Venue: Hotel

distributing khas land among the

Darul Ihsan University organises a

discussion on 'Life, works and vision of

Syed Ali Ahsan' to mark the 4th death

anniversary of poet and educationist

Syed Ali Ahsan. Venue: Russian Culture

American Chamber of Commerce in

Bangladesh organises a meeting on

'Doing business in Bangladesh:

landless', Venue: Biam, Time: 9:30am,

5:00pm

Workshop

Sarina. Time: 10:30am.

Discussion

Centre. Time: 11:00am.

Meeting

View exchange

said raising the prices of essentials through syndicates and alleged that the prime minister's family has made a fortune of Tk 2.86 lakh crore through the business syndicates. Earlier, Hasina attended a

the alliance regime for what she

milad mahfil at the complex of Bangabandhu's mazar. Hasina's daughter Saima

Wajed, son in-law Mashrur Hossain, granddaughters, her younger sister Sheikh Rehana, Rehana's daughter and son, AL Industrial Affairs Secretary Lt Col (Retd) Faruq Khan MP, Religious Affairs Secretary Sheikh M Abdullah, Sheikh Helal MP, Nur-e-Alam Chowdhury Liton MP and Dr Aktaruzzaman were also present Hasina, who went to Tungipara

on Sunday, returned to Dhaka last

Ali Ahsan, savs a press release. He was also

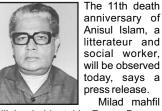


chancellor of a number of public universities. A discussion on the life and works of Prof Ali Ahsan will be held

Death anniversary

at the Russian Cultural Centre at 11:00am today.

Anisul Islam



Milad mahfil will be held at his Rayer Bazaar residence in the city after Maghrib prayers and at the family mosque at Radhanagar in Pabna after Asr prayers.

Another milad mahfil will be held at the Bangladesh Survey Organisation Limited at House # 34/A. Road # 4. Dhanmondi after Asr prayers tomorrow.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the milad mahfil

Md Azizur Rahman Today is the 5th

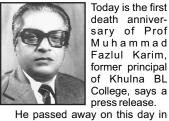


Azizur Rahman former DGM of Janata Bank says a press On the occasion, Qurankhwani

will be held and food will be distributed among the destitute at his Lalmatia residence on July 28.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Prof Muhammad Fazlul Karim



Muhammad Fazlul Karim. former principa of Khulna BL College, says a

2005 at the age of 78. On the occasion, foods will be distributed among the destitute in the afternoon and a doa mahfil will be held at his residence after Asr

Rotary Sonargaon

Sonargaon Dhaka will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5:30pm



PHOTO: STAR

Chandpur district by helicopter and he was buried with full military honour at his family graveyard.

New drugs have less side-effects

HYPERTENSION

Study reveals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Drugs currently taken by people with high blood pressure should be replaced with newer and more effective medications, experts said. According to a recent study

conducted in the United Kingdom, while beta-blockers help many people control blood pressure and cut associated risks of strokes, heart attacks and death, other treatments work better and have less serious side-effects. Beta-blockers reduce the risk of

percent. But the study, involving 19.000 patients, shows that switching from beta-blockers to the newer drugs not only reduces the risk of heart attacks by 20 percent, but halves the risk of stroke. Beta-blockers also increase the

heart attacks and strokes by 20

risk of type-2 diabetes by 20 percent, the study said.

However, patients, who are at risk of pregnancy, those with angina or who have no side-effects and whose blood pressure is 'perfectly in control' should stay on beta-blockers, the experts said. "It is important that beta-blockers

are effective drugs. But they are just

ess effective than some of the new drugs," said Gordon McInnes, vicepresident of Hypertension Society in Noted cardiologist Prof Nazrul Islam advised the hypertension patients not to be scared by the recent reports on the

side-effects of beta-blockers, saying, "Nothing to be worried about this report and doctors will advise the patients it required." Prescriptions should be given on the basis of physical and financial

condition of the patients, he added. Prof FM Siddiqui of Medicine Department, Dhaka Medical College and Hospital, said the modern drugs reduce the possibility of stroke with-

President unveils

books Bss, Dhaka

President lajuddin Ahmed yesterday emphasised the need for creating clear idea of protocol among people. He said, "Dissemination of more

clear perception of the subjects among people. The president said this while unveiling covers of two books titled 'Samakalin Sangbadikata' and Protocol Nigor' at the

Press Secretary to the President M Mukhlesur Rahman Chowdhury wrote the two books. Information Minister M Shamsul slam, Secretary to the President A F M Solaiman Chowdhury and high

present. The president said the media could play a significant role in highlighting the dignity of the country abroad.

officials of the Bangabhaban were

Obituary

Bangabhaban here.



Colonel Md Nabir Uddin of Bangladesh Army passed away due to a cardiac arrest on Sunday at Chittagong Cantonment at

the age 52, says an ISPR press release He left behind his wife, two sons two daughters and a host of rela-

He was buried at Military Graveyard at Banani in the city yesterday with full military honour after namaz-e-janaza at Army Central Mosque in Dhaka

tives and admirers to mourn his

Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Moeen U Ahmed and senior Army officers and a large number of Army personnel attended

His qulkhwani will be held after Asr prayers at 231, South Kafrol (ground floor), Dhaka on July 27. Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the

Lt Col Abdul Based Khan

Lieutenant

road accident

on Sunday at

the age of 53,

says a press



He left behind his wife, three sons, one daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death. Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant

General Moeen U Ahmed, senior army officers and a large number of army personnel attended the namaz-e-ianaza on the Army Central Mosque premises at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday. Later, his body was flown to his village home at Gunrajdi of

Opportunities and challenges'. Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 12:30pm

seminar on 'Shipbuilding Industry in Bangladesh: Prospects and limitations'. Venue: Institution of Engineers. Time:

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh organises a lecture on 'Object relations: the Holy Curiosity in Psychoanalysis and Relationships' by Prof Nilanjana Sanyal, former head of the Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta. Venue: Society room. Time: 4:30pm.

Roundtable

Save Environment Movement will hold a Samata will hold a view exchange roundtable on 'Controlling use of private meeting on 'poverty reduction through cars: Necessity and duty'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:30am.

Memorial meeting

A memorial meeting will be held for

eminent lawyer Abdus Salam Talukdar.

Venue: Supreme Court Bar Association

auditorium. Time: 4:15pm.

The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of

Save the Environment Movement and Bangladesh Photojournalists' Association hold a press conference on the formation of Environmental Watchdog at the association auditorium in the city yesterday.