

Youth stabbed to death in Khulna

Assailant killed by mob

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A youth was stabbed to death by her neighbour outside his home in Bajua area of Khulna's Dacope upazila yesterday morning over "grazing the latter's cows" in the field of a local college.

Incensed at the attack, a mob of locals beat the attacker to death.

The dead are Nilotpal Roy, 27, and his attacker Imran Hossain Emon Sheikh, 19.

Shyamal Roy, principal of Bajua Surendranath Degree College, told The Daily Star that Nilotpal's father Sukumar Raptan, assistant librarian of the college, was given the responsibility to look after the educational institution as it was closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

On Monday afternoon, Emon's cows were grazing on the grass of a field of the college. Sukumar asked him to take his cattle away as they were dirtying the area. The two exchanged heated words.

Informed about the matter over the phone, the principal asked Sukumar to let Emon's father know about the incident.

Yesterday, Sukumar went to Emon's home around 8:30am to inform the latter's father about the matter.

Angered at this, Emon rushed to Nilotpal's home nearby, called him out and stabbed him with a knife, leaving him dead on the spot, said the principal.

Nilotpal, a Master's in physics from Khulna Government BL College, was looking for a job while his attacker Emon was an HSC examinee from Bajua Surendranath Degree College.

Saifuddin Ahmed, on-duty doctor of Dacope upazila health complex, said Emon was brought dead to the health complex around 11:00am. He said there were stab wounds to Nilotpal's abdomen.

Dacope OC Shafiqul Islam Chowdhury said the two bodies were sent to the morgue of Khulna Medical College for autopsies.

First trial

FROM PAGE 12
DEATH SENTENCE FOR RAJAKAR CHIKAN ALI

RK Biswas, Kushtia session judge and a member of Special Tribunal, today hands down the death penalty to Rajakar Chikan Ali. This is the first trial under the Collaborators Act 1972. Rajakar Chikan Ali is found guilty of collaborating with the Pakistan army and actively participating in killing, rape, and looting and burning properties. BANGLADESH GETS ITS FIRST OCEAN-GOING SHIP

Indian Shipping Corporation today hands over ocean-going ship Banglar Doot to Bangladesh Shipping Corporation. This is the first ocean-going vessel in Bangladesh. India donated this ship as a friendly gesture towards its neighbour.

SOURCES: June 11, 1972 issue of Purbodesh.

Asymptomatic

FROM PAGE 12
"It goes against my impressions from the science so far that suggest asymptomatic people - who never get symptoms - and pre-symptomatic people are an important source of infection to others."

Officials at the WHO were not immediately available for comment on the subject yesterday. Van Kerkhove was due to answer questions at a social media session later yesterday.

Smeeth and other experts said understanding the risks of transmission among people with mild or no symptoms is crucial as governments begin to ease the lockdown measures they imposed to try and reduce the pandemic's spread and gradually replace them with case tracking and isolation plans.

"This has important implications for the track/trace/isolate measures being instituted in many countries," said Babak Javid, a Cambridge University Hospitals infectious diseases consultant.

Some experts say it is not uncommon for infected people to show no symptoms.

A non-peer-reviewed study from Germany in May based on 919 people in the district of Heinsberg - which had among the highest death tolls in Germany - found that about one in five of those infected were symptomless.

But data is sparse on how likely such people are to transmit the disease.

The co-head of Singapore's coronavirus task force told Reuters on Monday there had been asymptomatic transmission cases there, between people living in close quarters.

China said last week that 300 symptomless Covid-19 carriers in its central city of Wuhan, the pandemic's epicentre, had not been found to be infectious.

Keith Neal, a professor of the epidemiology of infectious diseases at Britain's University of Nottingham, said that while the question of how big a role asymptomatic transmission plays in new infections is unclear, what is known is that people with symptoms are responsible for most of the spread of the disease.



Mourners wait in line to pass by the casket of George Floyd during a public viewing at the Fountain of Praise church in Houston yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Floyd laid to rest in his hometown

FROM PAGE 12
delivered an emotional eulogy at the funeral before Floyd was laid to rest next to his mother Larcenia Floyd.

Thousands of well-wishers filed past Floyd's coffin in a public viewing a day earlier as a court set bail at \$1 million for the white officer charged with his murder last month in Minneapolis.

Many made the sign of the cross as they approached the open casket to say a last goodbye, while others took a knee or bowed their heads in silent prayer for a man who has become emblematic of America's latest reckoning with racial injustice.

Derek Chauvin, the 44-year-old white officer who was filmed pressing his knee on the handcuffed Floyd's neck for nearly nine minutes, made his first court appearance on Monday.

The 19-year veteran, who appeared by videolink from prison, faces up to 40 years if convicted on charges of second-degree murder, third-degree murder and manslaughter.

Chauvin did not enter a plea and the Hennepin County District Court judge set his bail at \$1 million with conditions, or \$1.25 million without.

The conditions would require him to surrender his firearms, not work in law enforcement or security in any capacity, and have no contact with Floyd's family.

Three other policemen involved in Floyd's arrest appeared in court last

week to face a charge of aiding and abetting his murder.

All four officers have been fired. 'BRINGING US TOGETHER'

In Houston, mourners waited patiently in stifling Texas heat, wearing face masks because of the coronavirus outbreak.

"It's bringing us together as a country," said Kevin Sherrod, 41, who was accompanied by his wife and two sons, aged eight and nine.

"Being here with my boys means a lot," Sherrod added. "It is a time in history and they will remember they were part of it."

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden flew to Houston on Monday for a private meeting with Floyd's family.

"He listened, heard their pain, and shared in their woe," said Benjamin Crump, the Floyd family attorney. "That compassion meant the world to this grieving family."

Floyd's death, the latest in a litany of similar deaths of black men at the hands of police, has unleashed protests for racial justice and against police brutality in the US and beyond.

Some US cities have already begun to embrace reforms -- starting with bans on the use of tear gas and rubber bullets.

'WE HEAR YOU'
Democrats unveiled a wide-ranging police reform bill, one of the chief demands of demonstrators who

have taken to the streets for the past two weeks in the most sweeping US protests for racial justice since the 1968 assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

The Justice in Policing Act, introduced in both chambers of Congress, would make it easier to prosecute officers for abuse, and rethink how they are recruited and trained.

"The protests we've seen in recent days are an expression of rage and one of despair," House Democrat Steny Hoyer said. "Today, Democrats in the House and Senate are saying: 'We see you, we hear you, we are acting.'"

It is unclear what support the proposed reforms might find in the Republican-controlled Senate -- or whether President Donald Trump would sign such legislation into law, reports AFP.

Trump has adopted a tough approach to putting down the protests and he voiced his support for the police at a roundtable on law enforcement at the White House on Monday.

"There's a reason for less crime. It's because we have great law enforcement," he said. "There won't be defunding, there won't be dismantling of our police."

Trump suggested yesterday that an elderly man seen bleeding from the head after he was pushed to the ground by US riot police was faking.

Damage 3 times worse

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West Sundarbans.

Only 26 trees in the Sharankhola and Chadpai range of the eastern part of the forest were damaged. However, timber worth Tk 7,06,830 recovered from smugglers was washed away by the tidal waters in East Sundarbans.

Among tree species, garans worth Tk 10,10,560 received the hardest blow.

The report also mentioned that damages to infrastructures including jetties, wooden trails and watchtowers in the western and eastern part were Tk 47.50 lakh and Tk 1.8 crores, respectively.

Regarding the fauna, Modinul Hasan, Khulna divisional forest officer, said harm to wildlife did not come to their notice during the survey.

Md Mahmood Hossain, professor of Forestry and Wood Technology department of Khulna University, supported the findings.

He said since the cyclone mainly went over India, the damage to the flora and fauna of the Sundarbans has not been massive.

The compiled report also

mentioned that 40 out of around 100 freshwater ponds were contaminated with saline water by tidal waves during Amphan.

"As the salt water entered the ponds, the forest animals as well as the forest guards are having some problems. Now, under the pond re-excavation project, rain water will be preserved by removing the saline water from the contaminated ponds," said Md Moyeenuddin Khan, conservator of forest of the Khulna region.

He assured that with time the Sundarbans will be able to overcome the loss caused by Amphan just like it recovered after Sidr, Aila and Bulbul.

Md Bashirul Al Mamun, divisional forest officer (DFO) of West Sundarbans, told The Daily Star that the worst-affected areas of the forest are by the Rayamangal and Hariabhang rivers near the Indian border.

"The storm damaged several stations, outposts, jetties and watch towers. However, we got an immediate allocation of Tk 16 lakh for repair," said the DFO.

BSMMU delays

FROM PAGE 12
said he would not delay approving the kits if those are proved effective in BSMMU trial.

Prof Mohib Ullah Khondoker, vice-principal of Gonoshasthaya Kendra Medical College Hospital, said, "We have submitted the kits for trial. Now, it is their kindness [to finish the trial early]."

On April 26, Gonoshasthaya approached the Directorate General of Drug Administration for validation of their kits, but was asked to go through contract research organisations.

Gonoshasthaya, however, refused to do so, saying that contract research organisations were a vehicle of corruption as well as they raise the kit price.

On April 30, the DGDA permitted Gonoshasthaya Kendra to have their kits independently validated by the BSMMU.

The BSMMU on May 2 formed a committee headed by virology professor Shahina Tabassum.

RT-PCR, which is widely considered the best coronavirus testing method, is being used in Bangladesh. But it is expensive and time-consuming.

On the other hand, a rapid test is a low-cost alternative that takes about 15 minutes.

Many countries are using these tests.

In this context, experts also suggested initiating rapid testing across the country to deal with the pressure of patients.

Nasa plans to build orbiting

FROM PAGE 12
space station that will orbit the moon.

The Gateway is part of the Artemis mission - that will see the first woman and next man return to the moon by 2024 and regular return trips over the next decade.

HALO and the Gateway's Power and Propulsion Element (PPE), will launch in 2023, a year ahead of the first mission to land humans on the moon since 1972.

Nasa says the Gateway will help them build a sustainable presence at

the moon as it expands its efforts to land astronauts on the surface and even build a base.

The Gateway will act as a "hotel" for travel on to the lunar surface - astronauts will arrive from earth, dock with the station, and then leave for the moon.

It will be much smaller than the International Space Station, even when all the modules are added on, and will be assembled on earth and flown to the moon.

Moscow emerges

FROM PAGE 12
reasons, after President Vladimir Putin rescheduled a high-profile military parade for June 24 and a vote on constitutional reforms for July 1.

But as large parts of Europe and the United States reopen, the WHO reported a record number of new coronavirus cases globally.

Director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said Monday that 136,000 cases had been reported in the previous 24 hours, "the most in a single day so far," with the majority of them in the Americas and South Asia. 'BIGGEST THREAT'

"Although the situation in Europe is improving, globally it is worsening," he told reporters.

Tedros said that in countries where the situation was getting better, "the biggest threat is now complacency".

"More than six months into this pandemic, this is not the time for any

country to take its foot off the pedal," he said.

Covid-19 deaths have passed 407,000 worldwide, with more than seven million infections, since the disease emerged in China late last year before sweeping the globe, subjecting billions to some form of lockdown and paralysing economies.

Governments around the world are cautiously peeling back those restrictions to resuscitate their economies while trying to avoid a resurgence of infections.

Cyprus yesterday welcomed its first tourists after nearly three months on lockdown, with flights scheduled from Israel, Greece and Bulgaria.

Desperate to save its summer tourism season, the Mediterranean island's government has pledged to cover the medical costs of any visitor who tests positive for the coronavirus while on holiday.

Less experienced drivers

FROM PAGE 12
Relaxing the experience requirement for licences for heavy vehicles was one of the major demands of transport workers when they enforced strikes in some districts in November last year, protesting the implementation of the Road Transport Act-2018.

Transport leaders said most of the bus and truck drivers were already driving vehicles with light or medium-sized vehicle driving licence.

In face of the demand of transport owners and workers' leaders, the government had in August 2018 relaxed the experience requirement for getting heavy and medium-sized vehicle driving licences. The relaxation of requirements in 2018 saw light-vehicle licence-holders needing just a year's extension to apply for medium-sized vehicle licences. Medium-size vehicle licence-holders, in turn, having already had a minimum of three years' experience driving light vehicles under the original rules, would be able to apply for a heavy vehicle after a year's more experience.

The government on several occasions extended the tenure of the relaxed requirements for up to six months. As per the latest extension order issued on November 27 last year, drivers could avail this opportunity until June this year.

In February, the government relaxed the rule further saying that it took the decision to make up for the shortage of licensed medium and heavy vehicle drivers and to keep the services of passenger and goods-laden

vehicles normal.

Osman Ali, general secretary of Bangladesh Road Transport Workers' Federation, alleged that BRTA could not issue licences in the last year due to a shortage of materials such as smart cards, so the shortage of drivers remained the same.

"If the government does not extend the deadline, then drivers would face harassment by law enforcers. So we demanded the extension of the deadline," he told this newspaper.

In Bangladesh, a person becomes a bus or truck driver after working in vehicles as helper and so they gain experience of driving a heavy vehicle, claimed Osman. So, a driver should be given licence if he can pass the practical test, he added.

'GIVING LICENCE TO KILL'
Asked about the decision, prominent transport expert Prof Shamsul Hoque said: "This decision was a result of pressure; it is not a fact-based decision. They did not take the decision considering its impact."

"When the procedure followed to issue licences in our country is not up to the mark, such decisions will increase the risk of accidents. It's actually a licence to kill," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

Driving without a proper licence is an old problem, but despite much time having elapsed with this problem, the system has not changed and thus road accidents, anarchy in transport sector and congestion has only intensified.

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www.police.gov.bd

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১.	নতুনায়/বিভাগ	৫	৫	৫	৫
২.	এজেন্সি	৫	৫	৫	৫
৩.	সংগ্রাহক সজ্জার নাম	৫	৫	৫	৫
৪.	সংগ্রাহক সজ্জার কোড নং	৫	৫	৫	৫
৫.	সংগ্রাহক সজ্জার বোনা	৫	৫	৫	৫
৬.	কি জন্য আহ্বান	৫	৫	৫	৫
৭.	দরপত্র সূত্র নং ও তারিখ	৫	৫	৫	৫
৮.	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	৫	৫	৫	৫
৯.	বাজেট ও তহবিলের উৎস	৫	৫	৫	৫
১০.	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং	৫	৫	৫	৫
১১.	দরপত্রের নাম	৫	৫	৫	৫
১২.	দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ	৫	৫	৫	৫
১৩.	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	৫	৫	৫	৫
১৪.	দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময়	৫	৫	৫	৫
১৫.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	৫	৫	৫	৫
১৬.	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়কারী, গ্রহণ ও খোলা প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা	৫	৫	৫	৫
১৭.	দরপত্রলাভার যোগ্যতা	৫	৫	৫	৫
১৮.	দরপত্রের সাথে যে সমস্ত কাগজপত্রাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে	৫	৫	৫	৫
১৯.	কাজের বিস্তারিত বিবরণ ও শর্তাবলী	৫	৫	৫	৫
২০.	কাজের বিবরণঃ	৫	৫	৫	৫

স্লট নং	বিবরণ	সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফেরতযোগ্য)	দরপত্রের সঙ্গে জামানত (অফেরতযোগ্য)	কাজের সময়সীমা
২১.	০১ মাইক্রোবাস-০৭/০৮ আসন বিশিষ্ট ভাড়ার সরবরাহ	১,০০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা	৭০,০০০ (সত্তর হাজার) টাকা	কার্যক্রম মোতাবেক ৩০ জুন/২০২১ খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত
	০২ মাইক্রোবাস-১২ আসন বিশিষ্ট ভাড়ার সরবরাহ		৭০,০০০ (সত্তর হাজার) টাকা	
	০৩ কার ভাড়ার সরবরাহ		৩০,০০০ (ত্রিশ হাজার) টাকা	
২২.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	৫	৫	৫
২৩.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	৫	৫	৫
২৪.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর সহিত যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা	৫	৫	৫
২৫.	দরপত্র গ্রহণ/মূল্যায়ন	৫	৫	৫
২৬.	অন্যান্য শর্তাদি	৫	৫	৫

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জিডি-১৭৫