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Tragic day on roads

17 killed; head-on collision leaves 7 dead in Mymensingh

STAR REPORT

At least 17 people were killed in four separate road accidents in Mymensingh, Chuadanga, Narayanganj and Manikganj between Friday night and yesterday afternoon.

In Muktagacha upazila of Mymensingh, seven people including six passengers and the driver of a CNG-run auto-rickshaw were killed in a road accident in Mankon area on Mymensingh-Jamalpur road yesterday afternoon.

Among them, five could be identified. They are Nurul Islam, his wife Taslima Akter and their daughter Liza Akter, of Madhupur in Tangail; and CNG-driver Ebadul Haque, and Nazrul Islam, of Muktagacha, said police.

Quoting locals, Md Jahangir Alam, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Muktagacha Police Station, said the accident took place when a Jamalpur bound bus from Mymensingh collided head on with the CNG coming from opposite direction, killing four on the spot and injuring three others critically around 4.00pm.

The injured persons were taken to Muktagacha Upazila Health Complex where the doctors declared them dead, said the OC.

On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies.

Police also seized the bus and detained its driver with the help of the local people. The driver was taken to the police station and was being interrogated as of filing this report, informed the OC.

In another development, six people were killed and nine others injured as a night coach rammmed a number

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A wall on Malibagh College Road is covered with mostly to-let notices of different colours to attract the attention of potential tenants. Many people have left the capital following the coronavirus outbreak and subsequent loss in earnings. Landlords are finding it difficult to get tenants in many neighbourhoods, including this one.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

INDIAN PLANE CRASH Death toll rises to 18

Inclement weather blamed; black boxes recovered

REUTERS, Kozhikode

The death toll from an Indian passenger aircraft accident has risen to 18, while 16 people have been seriously injured, a senior government official said yesterday.

The Air India Express plane, which was repatriating Indians stranded in Dubai due to the coronavirus pandemic, overshot the runway of the Calicut International Airport in heavy rain near the southern city of Kozhikode on Friday. It was India's worst passenger aircraft accident since 2010.

The flight was carrying 190 passengers and crew.

The plane's pilot and the co-pilot were killed in the accident, K Gopalakrishnan, chief of the Malappuram district in the southern state of Kerala, told Reuters.

All survivors were admitted to various hospitals and were also

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Submerged roads keep people marooned

STAR REPORT

Road communication in some districts has taken a hit as prolonged flooding has damaged a large portion of roads and bridges there.

For many flood-affected people, who are facing immense sufferings in those districts, boat is now the only mode of transport.

Meanwhile, a Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) report yesterday said although water of major rivers, including the Padma, the Jamuna, and the Brahmaputra, would continue to recede, 12 rivers were still flowing above the danger level.

Some 54.60 lakh people of 10.18 lakh families have been affected by flood in 163 upazilas of 33 districts since June last week, according to a recent report of the Department of Disaster Management.

In Sunamganj, an estimated 900km of road in all 11 upazilas have been damaged, as per the primary estimation of the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED).

Among them, 24 roads have become impassable while at least 40 approach roads to bridges and culverts have been damaged by floodwater, said Mahbub Alam, executive engineer of LGED in the district.

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Bangabandhu's meeting with British Foreign Secretary

August 9, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

HOME CALLS ON MUJIB

British Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas Home visits Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at London Clinic today and stays with him for nearly 30 minutes. Sir Alec tells reporters that he is happy to see Bangladesh prime minister recovering steadily. British Foreign Office describes the visit as a 'courtesy call' while Bangladesh High Commission in London says that Bangabandhu and the British foreign secretary have a general discussion of recent events in Bangladesh.

It is reported that Bangabandhu would decide within two days the date of his departure for convalescence in Switzerland in response to an invitation by the Swiss government. According to a health bulletin issued by Bangabandhu's personal physician Dr Nurul Islam, Sir Edward Muir removes stitches this morning. Other condition of the Bangladesh prime minister continues to be satisfactory.

OSMANY'S CALL TO CHINA

General MAG Osmany, minister for shipping, airways and inland water transport, today appeals to China to recognise the reality of Bangladesh. He says, "We had also supported China during her struggle and now it is her duty to recognise Bangladesh."

RELEASE STRANDED BANGALEES

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Deaths more in densely populated divisions

32 more reported dead, 2,611 infected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Divisions with higher populations are witnessing higher numbers of Covid-19 deaths.

At least 3,365 people, including 32 from yesterday, have so far died from coronavirus infection in the country.

Of them 1,613 were from Dhaka, 798 from Chattogram, 209 from Rajshahi and 252 from Khulna, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Till yesterday, the death toll stood at 132 in Barishal, 158 in Rangpur, 132 in Sylhet and 71 in Mymensingh.

According to the Population and Housing Census 2011, Dhaka has the highest population followed by Chattogram,

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China Airlines offer sight-seeing flights



AFP, Taoyuan

Faced with the coronavirus collapse in travellers, Taiwanese airlines have begun offering sight-seeing "flights to nowhere" on their passenger jets -- including flight attendant lessons for children.

At the headquarters of Taiwan's China Airlines in Taoyuan yesterday, 50 children took a morning course on how to serve passengers aboard a mock cabin.

Cheng Yu-wei, who works in the fashion apparel business and enjoys travelling abroad, came with his wife and six-year old daughter to "revive that old feeling of travelling".

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Bodies of 2 bikers found near highway

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police recovered two throat-slit bodies from a waterbody near Dhaka-Tangail Highway in Mirzapur upazila of Tangail yesterday morning.

The dead are Masud Rana, 30, of Kurigram's Chilmari upazila, and Mamun Miah, 32, of Rangpur town.

Masud was a garment factory worker in Gazipur and Mamun was a bKash agent in Chakraborty area of the same district, said police.

The locals saw their bodies floating in the floodwater along the highway at 7:00am and informed police.

Later, police and fire service members recovered the bodies at 9:00am and brought them to the police station.

Police also recovered a Yamaha motorcycle, clothes and

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Music director Alauddin Ali put on life support

UNB, Dhaka

National award-winning music director and composer Alauddin Ali has been put on life support at a city hospital.

His daughter Alif Alauddin, a singer and anchor, shared the information in a Facebook post yesterday.

He was admitted to the hospital as his condition deteriorated.

Alauddin's father, Jadob Ali, was a staff artist of Bangladesh Betar. His uncle, Sadek Ali, and cousins Dhir Ali Miah, Mansur Ali, Yunus Ali and Momotaz Uddin,

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Growers bring in guavas in boatloads on Bhimruli canal in Jhalakathi yesterday. The canal serves as one of the largest markets for wholesale guavas in the country. Some say the trade in the monsoon fruit has been going on at the floating market for around 200 years. These days the market attracts tourists too.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Covid deaths in LatAm top Europe

Schools reopen in virus hotspots in US; Fauci warns vaccine may be partially effective

AGENCIES

Latin America and the Caribbean surpassed Europe on Friday to become the region with the most Covid-19 deaths.

The world's worst-hit region has recorded 213,120 fatal cases, 460 more than Europe. Over the last week, 44 percent of global deaths from Covid-19 -- 18,300 out of 41,500 -- happened in the region.

Latin America is also the region with the largest number of infections in the world with 5.3 million. More than half, some 2.9 million, are in Brazil, which has also recorded 98,500 deaths among its 212 million people.

Only the United States has been worse hit. More than 160,000 people have died from virus in the US as President Donald Trump said he would unilaterally grant financial relief to Americans after talks with congressional Democrats stalled.

The grim milestone, which includes 10,000 deaths nationwide in the past nine days, comes as Americans and their political leaders remain divided over such issues as reopening schools, testing, business closures and mask orders.

Trump said he would issue an executive order suspending payroll taxes for all Americans through the end of this year

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PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 9

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:20 12:45 5:00 6:47 8:15
JAMAAT 4:55 1:15 5:15 6:50 8:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION