

3 killed, 42 hurt in road mishaps

By Staff Correspondent

Three people were killed and forty-two injured in two separate road accidents in the country Tuesday.

Our Rajbari Correspondent says two people were killed and 30 injured in a bus accident near Horail Bridge on the Bhalikandi-Rajbari Highway at noon Tuesday.

The accident occurred when a truck collided with a

passenger bus coming from Modhukhali.

A 40-year-old unidentified person died on the spot.

Among the injured, Mahub (30) succumbed to his injuries at Rajbari Hospital. The six other seriously injured people who were admitted to Rajbari and Bhalikandi hospitals are: Kalam (30), Jamjam (25), Shahdat (45), Nayan (10), Majharul (7) and Nizam (25).

The driver of the truck escaped immediately after the accident.

A case was lodged in this connection with the Bhalikandi thana.

Our Bogra Correspondent writes one person was killed and twelve others injured in a road accident Tuesday at Shajapur near Majhira, ten kilometres from Bogra.

The accident took place when a Dhaka-bound night coach (Dhaka Metro Ja-5995) from Naogaon fell into a ditch.

The dead was identified as Nazrul Islam (36), a member of Bangladesh Rifles.

Indo-Bangla accord to check border crimes

NEW DELHI, Apr 21: India and Bangladesh today agreed to take stringent measures to eradicate the growing menace of smuggling of narcotics and other trans-border crimes, reports PTI.

The decisions were taken at the India-Bangladesh Director General level talks here today.

The Bangladesh delegation was led by Maj Gen Muhammad Abdul Latif, Director General, Bangladesh Rifles, while the Indian side was led by T Ananthachari, Director General of the BSF.

Azam's writ

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Mohammad Ismail Uddin Sarkar and Justice Badrul Islam Chowdhury.

Assistant Attorney General Obaidur Rahman Mostafa prayed for four weeks time to prepare the affidavit-in-opposition. He submitted that the Court had also issued rule on a writ petition of Prof Golam Azam's citizenship which is very much inter-related with the rule on his detention under Foreigners Act and for that matter both the rule may be heard one after another. But priority should be given to the writ petition challenging the citizenship of Golam Azam.

Barrister A R Yusuf appearing for the petitioner submitted that the detention matter being very urgent should be disposed of early.

After hearing both the sides the Court allowed two weeks time to the government for filing affidavit-in-opposition and thereafter allowed two weeks time to the petitioner for filing reply to affidavit-in-opposition if any.

Barrister A R Yusuf, Barrister Mohammad Karban Ali, Barrister Abdur Razzak, Advocate Shaikh Anwar Ali MP and Advocate Ashraf-uz-Zaman appeared for the petitioner.

Assistant Attorney General Obaidur Rahman Mostafa appeared for the government.



Jamaat-e-Islami's public meeting in front of the northern gate of Baitul Mokarram Mosque Tuesday afternoon. — Star photo

Jamaat

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demand of Azam's release.

Jamaat secretary general Mattur Rahman Nizam said that the so-called Gana Adalat wanted to foil the nascent democratic process in the country.

"How can the people who sell national interest to other countries be patriots," he questioned and added "there are no pro or anti-independence forces in the country after December 16."

He alleged that Awami League-backed Chhatra League unleashed a reign of terror across the country and asked the government to take necessary action.

Presided over by city unit president A K M Azharul Islam the rally was addressed, among others, by Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujahid, Kamruzzaman, Abdul Kader Mollah, Sheikh Anwar Ali, Prof Mujibur Rahman, Jashimuddin, Saiful Alam Khan and Syed Abdullah Taher.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia called on Afghan Mujahideen guerrillas Monday to unite and resolve their differences so that they could instil peace and stability in their country.

In a message quoted by the Saudi news agency SPA, the King said the resistance fighters should "close ranks ... and settle their marginal differences with wisdom so as to guarantee the country's stability and independence and enable Afghan emigres to return home."

Riyadh has constantly supported the Afghan resistance, giving it large amounts of financial aid.

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Mujahideen fail

From Page 1 Col 5

Meanwhile, Pakistan, in a tacit warning to Afghan resistance radicals, said today a minority could not hold up the formation of a Mujahideen council to take power in Kabul.

"How can the people who sell national interest to other countries be patriots," he questioned and added "there are no pro or anti-independence forces in the country after December 16."

He alleged that Awami League-backed Chhatra League unleashed a reign of terror across the country and asked the government to take necessary action.

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Candidates want medical admission test cancelled

By Staff Correspondent

The action committee for cancellation of the medical admission test at a press conference Tuesday again threatened to go on a hunger strike unto death from April 25 if its demands were not met by then.

The committee demanded cancellation of the medical admission test held on April 10 this year alleging leakage of question papers on the night before the examination. It also demanded inquiry into the matter and punishment to the persons involved.

The press conference addressed by Jamuni Hossain, general secretary of the committee, claimed that they have adequate evidence in favour of their allegation. But the concerned authorities were not paying heed to their contention, she alleged.

The press conference held at the National Press Club accused a coaching centre in the city titled 'Classic Coaching Centre' of distributing question papers of the admission test to a number of candidates the night before the test. The press conference also said that all the branch offices of the coaching centre were now mysteriously closed.

It also mentioned a number of names of the candidates, who had got the leaked-out question papers.

The names included Tania, daughter of Dr Anisur Rahman, Professor of Surgery, Dhaka Medical College; Imon, B-12/E-1, AGB Colony, Dhaka; Shahanara Begum, daughter of Dayan, Al-Baraka Bank; Sabia Sultan, daughter of an Additional Superintendent of Police of the Special Branch and Montasim (Laboni) of the Holy Cross College.

The press conference was attended by Sazzad Ahmed of Dhaka College, Tanvira of Mymensingh Girls' Cadet College, Mohammad Shahidullah of Comilla Victoria College, Tauhida of Holy Cross College and Quamrul of Notre Dame College.

The hartal was called by Sylhet district unit of the Jamaat-e-Islami.

All kinds of vehicles including rickshaws were off the streets in this busy town during hartal hours. Attendance in all government and private offices including the commercial banks were thin. All shops at the markets also remained closed.

Twenty persons including two policemen were injured in a clash between Jamaat-Shibir activists and transport workers and members of other political parties during hartal hours at Golapganj upazila headquarters. The police fired several rounds of blanks to disperse the people. Later on, police arrested nine people who are stated to be activists of Jamaat.

The government had earlier announced that the Natural Gas Fertilizer Factory would be closed by the end of the current financial year as per a high-level decision.

A protest meeting was also held at Court Point with Dr Shafiqur Rahman, president, district unit of the Jamaat-e-Islami in the chair.

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BSC's dilemma

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sation or deduction by the charterer, the General Manager added.

Efforts are being made to settle the unexpected freight dispute raised by the owner of the tanker, he said adding, "We are contacting the owner's office in London time and again to settle the dispute and ensure the quick arrival of the tanker at Chittagong Port."

Talking to this correspondent an official of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation said the owner of the worn-out tanker was making an unnecessary and unusual bargain about the freight payment before arriving the destination port, though the extensive delay by the tanker in bringing the crude caused a serious dislocation in the oil sector with the country's lone refinery for some days.

The tanker T T Energy sailed from Zabaljana port of the UAE February 1 and was scheduled to arrive Chittagong Port February 12. But being an overaged and worn-out tanker, it developed engine troubles at Fujiara port. It took several days to get repaired and again developed similar trouble at Colombo port on its way to Chittagong.

After undergoing repairs at the Colombo port the tanker was supposed to arrive here April 19. But the tanker instead of doing so is lying in the Bay for a settlement of the bargain on advance payment of freight, both BSC and BPC sources said.

Meanwhile, the owner of the tanker declared 'General Average' on it which the BSC officials said could not be effective until the discharge of the cargo.

Normally general average is declared because of mechanical trouble or unfitness of a vessel for voyage. However, the sources said the whole problem was created only due to the carelessness of the BSC that chartered the worn-out tanker built in 1970.

The source further said that at the time of chartering, the BSC had the opportunity of availing a seaworthy vessel but failed to do so due to unknown reasons.

Besides, there were allegations of oil-spillage by the tanker T T Energy during its previous voyage when it anchored at the Kutubdia outer anchorage.

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'Participation of women in uplift a must'

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Tuesday said her government is determined to ensure women's participation in development activities to ensure the country's progress and prosperity, reports UNB.

"Development is not possible keeping the womenfolk neglected ... the Constitution clearly states equal rights for women and men and our progress rests on ensuring that," she told a workshop here today.

Inaugurating the workshop on "Science, Technology and Status of Women" at Osmani Memorial Hall this morning, the Prime Minister said women had been given centre stage at the national policy for alleviating poverty.

The government attached priority to women's education, she said adding it had plan to impart education to about 30 per cent women by 1995 and a sector styled "Women Development" had already been earmarked in this regard.

The Prime Minister further said that additional scopes were being created to create employment opportunities for women.

Organised by Women in Science and Technology: Asia Region (WISTAR), Bangladesh, the inaugural function of the workshop was chaired by its national coordinator Dr Shahida Rafique.

It was also addressed by Social Welfare Minister Tarique Islam, Education Minister Jamruddin Strcar, State Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Begum Sarwar Rahman, Chairman of Bangladesh Women's Federation Selima Rahman, MP, and UNICEF Representative Cole P Dodge.

A total of 100 women's representatives, including 60 from upazilas, are participating in the workshop which will focus on topics like women education, family planning, public health, nutrition, hygiene and vocational trainings.

Begum Zia said the government had a plan to raise women's quota in government jobs from 6 to 15 per cent in next three years.

Under the Fourth Five Year Plan, she said, about one lakh women would be trained in various vocational profession and another one lakh women would be given vocational training and credit facilities under "poverty alleviation programme."

A big portion of rural credit will be distributed among women while a separate bank for encouraging women entrepreneurs to participate in industrial development is under active consideration of the government.

Later, the Prime Minister distributed certificates among 36 women participants of a computer course.

She also went round different stalls set up outside the Osmani Memorial Hall in connection with the workshop.

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Najibullah's wife and three daughters are staying at a hotel in New Delhi's diplomatic enclave. Their sixth-floor suites are guarded round-the-clock by police commandos, who have barred entry to