

8 killed, 5 injured in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

At least eight persons were killed and five others injured in six separate road accidents in Manikganj and Ghorasal.

One Jahidur Rahman (24) was killed on the spot when a Dhaka-bound night coach hit a truck from behind near Balerpur on the Dhaka-Aricha highway at around 4:30 am Sunday.

In another accident two persons Nuru Mia (45) and Mojibur (28) were killed and another two injured when the driver of a Manikganj-bound truck lost control over the vehicle at Hemayetpur on the Dhaka-Aricha highway on Friday. The victims were identified as helpers of the truck.

In another incident, a motor cycle rider Mohammad Farhad (24) died on the spot as a passenger minibus knocked the motor cycle down near Jhitka under Harirampur upazila on Friday.

One Mamun Sikder (40), was killed and two others injured when a Dhaka-bound truck ran over a rickshaw near Borongal bus stand Thursday.

On the same day, one Nurul Islam died on the spot when he fell from the roof of a Dhaka-bound bus while crossing Boali bridge near Aricha Ghat.

In Ghorasal two people were killed and one injured in a road accident near Shilmandi Sunday morning.

The deceased were identified as Morshed Miah (28) and Jalal Miah (35), both workers of Janata Jute Mills.

Morshed and his brother-in-law Jalal were on their way to Narsingdi on a rickshaw when hit by a Dhaka-bound minibus coming from opposite direction. They died on the spot.

The rickshawpuller Barck (25) was seriously injured and admitted to a clinic at Narsingdi.

The driver fled the scene. Police, however, seized the truck.



POST EID PRESSURE: Heavy rush at Shishu Park yesterday.

— Star photo

Eid-ul-Azha

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Highly officials and elite of the city.

Prime Minister Begum Khalida Zia hosted a reception on the occasion held at Sugandha. The reception was attended by ministers, political leaders, diplomats, high civil and military officials and elite of the city.

The government declared a three-day holiday in celebration of Eid-ul-Azha.

The national flag was hoisted atop offices and buildings. Besides, road islands were decorated with the national flags and blue flags with inscription on it "Eid Mubarak".

Radio Bangladesh and Bangladesh Television put up special programme in celebration of the Eid festival.

Improved diet was served to the inmates of orphanages, hospitals and jails. In Chittagong, the main Eid congregation was held inside the Jamiatul Falah Complex because of inclement weather.

A report from Khulna said the biggest Eid congregation was held at Circuit House maidan.

US team in Kabul aims at reopening mission

KABUL, June 14: Three American officials arrived here Sunday on a unannounced trip that will help decide when to reopen the US Embassy, reports AP.

The embassy would open when security is adequate in Kabul, said Peter Tomsen, head of the three-member delegation and the US special envoy to the Mujahedeen, the guerrillas who fought for 14 years against communist rule in Afghanistan.

Tomsen met for two hours with caretaker President Sibghatullah Mojaddedi. Security was far less for the US delegation than for the Afghan leaders, who never travel throughout the city without a convoy of dozens of heavily armed bodyguards.

The new Islamic government has been hampered by frequent fighting among rebels loyal to diverse factions. The fighting has left at least 400



BUET student killed in road mishap

By DMCH Correspondent

Masudur Rahman Shuvro, a first year student of the department of Computer Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), died on Friday at the Combine Military Hospital (CMH) following a road accident in the city.

Shuvro, who stood first in the SSC examination in 1988 under Dhaka Board, was critically wounded when an army vehicle dashed a car carrying him and six of his friends near Navy Head Quarters at around 7:30 pm Friday, according to Police sources.

They were returning from a friend's residence at Uttara Model Town after exchanging Eid greetings.

All the seven passengers of the car were injured and immediately rushed to the CMH where doctors declared Shuvro dead.

Himu, who was driving the car, was still under treatment at the hospital while the rest were released after first aid.

Shuvro was buried at the Banani graveyard on the following day.

The only son of Shahidur Rahman, Asstt Headmaster of Sher-e-Bangla Govt High School, Shuvro stood sixth at the HSC examination in 1990 under Dhaka Board.

His qukhawni will be held at his Indira road residence today.

Power sector

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the acts on adhoc basis will not bring any good for the energy and power development sector unless a long-term plan is finalised.

The report criticized the complexities in project formulation and approval which has also contributed to the present crisis.

The Fourth Five Year Plan (FFYP) is yet to be finalised and the government is formulating and implementing the projects on rolling plan basis since 1987 as per the suggestion of 'priority investment programme' of the World Bank.

The suggestion was to implement the projects by ensuring local currency, the report says, adding that the plan has in fact no beginning and no end.

The PDB report, however, stressed the need for both long-term and medium-term plans for the development of the power sector and suggested that the master plans of the energy and power sectors be started as early as possible.

The report also termed defective management as a major cause behind the present crisis in the power sector and says that it needs properly educated and trained persons, although a modern and logical structure of management is a pre-condition to an effective management. It, however, suggested immediate implementation of the 'performance improvement plan' of the ODA(UK).

Death condoled

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Sunday expressed his deep shock at the death of Mohammad Masudur Rahman Shuvro.

He also expressed his sympathy for the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

Bangladesh Federation of Teachers Association, Bangladesh College Teachers Association and Uttara Association also condoled the death of Shuvro.

Convener of the Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) Dilip Barua also condoled the untimely death of Shuvro and expressed his sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

Pak, Indian haji camps gutted at Mina

A good number of Pakistani and Indian haji camps were destroyed in a blaze at Mina, Saudi Arabia Wednesday, an official accompanying the Bangladesh haji delegation told BSS over telephone.

UNB adds: No Bangladeshi haji was hurt or suffered any damage in a fire that broke out in pilgrim camps, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Break-ins

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Land, located on the fourth floor of Building Four, were ransacked.

Next day, three rooms of the Ministry of Agriculture on fifth floor of Building Six, were opened by intruders and ransacked. On March 23, four rooms of the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Flood Control including those of the secretary and an additional secretary were ransacked and three microphones were stolen. The last incident on May 2 involved Ministries of Finance and Ministry of Social Welfare and Women's Affairs. A total of 10 rooms in these ministries including that of the Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs, were ransacked. In most cases, nothing valuable was lost.

Police after investigating into the incident of Ministry of Social Welfare, ruled out the motive of theft, internal feuds between staff or any political reason. They, however, commented that it was the result of confrontation between the cleaners and peons over economic benefits.

Secretariat sources say about 60 to 70 cleaners live within the premises and since independence there had been about 100 incidents of this nature.

The measures suggested by police to stop these incidents include prior permission for overstay after office hours, strengthening of police patrol inside the Secretariat, no accommodation for cleaners and peons inside the premises and handing over of keys of the collapsible gates to different ministries to the assistant commissioner (security) after office hours.

Holiday mood persists

A holiday mood persisted in the capital Sunday despite opening of government offices, banks and some other private commercial establishments following a three-day closure on account of Eid-ul-Azha, reports BSS.

The official holiday ended Saturday but the city were almost a deserted look with only a few rickshaws, buses and other vehicles plying on the roads.

Attendance in government offices was thin Sunday as many employees either have taken casual leave or yet to return from home in different districts where they went to celebrate the holy Eid-ul-Azha with kith and kin. Transaction in the banks was minimum.

Most of the shops in busy shopping centres like New Market, Elephant Road, Baitul Mukarram and some other shopping arcade remained closed.

However, rush of passengers was reported from ferry ghats in Aricha, Nagarbari and Daulatdia.

The rush of incoming passengers from outside the capital is expected to increase from today, according to Inter-district bus services sources.

Youngman

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Islam, lodged a case with Dhanmondi police accusing six persons of whom one Shaheen, 22, has been arrested.

Police suspected that Shaqif was murdered as a sequel to a quarrel between two groups over collection of tolls from cattle market at Faridabad on Thursday morning.

The other accused are Bashar, Abu Nasir, Wahid alias Babu, Sheikh Nazrul Islam and Mohsin.

Shaqif was a resident of 48, Hari Charan Road at Faridabad under Sutrapur police station in the city.

Meanwhile, the autopsy of Shaqif's body was done at the forensic department of the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

4 held with illegal currency

By Staff Correspondent

Four persons including three Pakistani nationals were arrested with 28 thousand US dollars at Zia International Airport Saturday.

The arrested Abdus Samad, Tauhid, Hasan and Nasir Ahmed were identified as Pakistani nationals while another Nadeem was a Bangladeshi.

30 hurt as Adamjee workers clash

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, June 14: At least 30 persons were injured in armed clashes between two rival groups in Adamjee Nagar Wednesday and Thursday night, according to Adamjee Jute Mills workers.

The first clashes took place Wednesday night between the Awami League backed Rehan group and the BNP-backed Kashem group when news spread that two supporters of Rehan group, namely Bacchu Mia and Jamal, had been kidnapped by the Kashem group.

Supporters of both the parties locked in clashes near Moonlight cinema and put the area in panic blasting about 20 crackers. The situation was later brought under control by police.

The clashes resumed Thursday night and spread around Adamjee Nagar. More than 20 crackers were blasted and armed people were seen on the streets.

Workers said that at least 30 persons were injured in the clashes but the police did not confirm this.

Meanwhile, one allegedly kidnapped person Bacchu Mia returned home and said that Kashem group had held him for a couple of days, tortured him and then let him go. The other allegedly kidnapped person is still missing.

Sporadic clashes were reportedly going on in Adamjee Nagar since May 30 when Rehan group supporter Dulal was killed by rivals. Police guards have been increased in the area.

40 BJP workers hurt at Tinbigha

Left Front's call to foil 'communal' move

CALCUTTA, June 14: The chairman of the left front, Saiken Dasgupta, tonight urged the people to foil tomorrow's bandh in Coochbehar called by the 'communal and secessionist' forces and appealed to them to cooperate with the administration in order to implement the Tinbigha agreement, reports PTI.

In a statement here, Dasgupta said that although the survey work at Tinbigha had been completed, on the first day itself the BJP and some other 'unholy' forces tried to create chaos there. But there attempts were thwarted, he said.

He also urged, the people to be on the alert of the attempt by some 'persons and forces' to create chaos at Tinbigha.

Another report says, The BJP has claimed that at least 40 workers of the party, mostly members of its women's wing 'Durga Bahini' were injured today when the police burst teargas shells and lathicharged demonstrators protesting against survey work

Democratic forum

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sponse from those who were contacted," claimed one organiser and said that the purpose of initiating the forum was to create an environment for democratic practice and to promote healthy and responsible trend in politics.

According to sources, those who are already involved with the forum and likely to be inducted in its convening committee include: Poet Shamsur Rahman, Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, Fasihuddin Mahtab, Zohra Tajuddin, former ambassador C M Murshed, Major General (Retd) Kahlilur Rahman, Justice Debesh Bhat-tacharya, Dr M A Majed, Barrister Amirul Islam, prominent economist Dr Mujaffar Ahmed, former foreign adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed, artist Hashem Khan, Jamil Choudhury, Engineer Shahidullah, Mortuza Khan, Commander (Retd) Abdur Rouf, Shahed Ali, Ziaul Haque Tulu and others.

The office of the forum was set up at Segun Bagicha in the city.

Cyclone

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kutcha houses including educational institutions in seven villages under Madarganj upazila were damaged. The worst affected villages are Palisha, Zangalia, Gulabari, Adarvita, Bajitpur Zonal Char, Pakerdah Tegharria and Binoodontong. Crops on 5000 acres of land were completely or partly affected.

Dewanganj upazila office sources said 80 houses were damaged and five persons were injured.

Sixty families were rendered homeless. The affected villages are Chikajani Uttar Kalkapur, Charkalikakapur, Barakhal and Takimari villages. One injured person was hospitalised.

Pawar to visit China in Aug

NEW DELHI, June 14: Indian Defence Minister Sharad Pawar will visit China in August for talks on a long-standing boundary dispute, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Sunday, says AFP.

AL supporters kidnap 2 BNP men in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, June 14: Awami League supporters attacked the houses of two BNP men at village Gazaria in the sadar upazila today and allegedly kidnapped them, reports UNB.

Police and local people said 10 people were also injured by the attackers who ransacked the two houses.

Police arrested four AL activists, including Abdul Mannan Talukder who allegedly led the attack. Three others are Shahjahan Ali Master, Khoka Talukder and Helal.

They said a group of AL supporters with lethal weapons swooped on the houses this morning, assaulted the inmates, looted households and Tk 40 thousand and kidnapped Habibur Rahman and Gota Miah.

AL leader murdered

FARIDPUR, June 14: Azizul Islam Raju (27), Publicity Secretary of Faridpur town Awami League, was killed by a group of people on Friday night near his residence in west Aitpur area of the town, police sources said today, report BSS.

He was hit on his head and person by sharp weapons and was killed on the spot. A case has been filed with Kotwali thana in this connection.

Rio Summit concludes

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in danger of extinction. Consent was overwhelming on a broad, non-binding statement of environmental rights and responsibilities called the Rio Declaration. Consent was widespread on two companion pacts, the Agenda 21 blueprint of environmental action, and an accord aimed at preserving the world's forests.

Still, the World Wide Fund for Nature was not alone when it said, "the reality of Rio falls far short of the original vision" of the Earth Summit.

The summit did not take up many relevant issues — including toxic wastes, nuclear energy, overpopulation. It also considered some inadequately — for example, the precise terms by which "clean" technology and money will be transferred to countries that need them.

Not every country seemed to consider the effort worth-

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The Midnight File

Azeri troops capture over 12 villages in Nagorno-Karabakh

MOSCOW, June 14: Azerbaijani forces captured more than a dozen villages in Nagorno-Karabakh and killed more than 200 Armenians in one of the bloodiest battles in the four-year war, news agencies reported Sunday. The three-day offensive was the first major Azerbaijani assault since last week's election of Ebulfez Elçibey as president. He has pledged to regain all Azerbaijani territory seized by Armenian militants, reports AP.

Rao, Sharif agree to continue talks on Kashmir

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 14: The Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan met on the sidelines of the Earth Summit here today and agreed to continue talks on Kashmir at the ministerial level. Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao characterized his 72-minute conversation with Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif at the Copacabana palace hotel as 'cordial,' reports AFP.

Police disarm Inkatha supporters in Soweto

JOHANNESBURG, June 14: Police seized hundreds of guns, spears and clubs Sunday from Inkatha Freedom Party supporters going to a township rally, a police spokesman said. It was a rare attempt by police to confront a large group of armed Inkatha backers to fully enforce a law prohibiting the carrying of weapons in public, reports AP.

Tk 4 lakh postal property looted

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, June 14: A band of robbers broke 81 locks of the head post office here at Court Road yesterday night and looted cash, bonds and stamps worth nearly Taka four lakh.

Official sources here said today that a band of 10 robbers swooped on the lone night-guard of the post office at about 9:30 Saturday night and fled with Taka 15,210 in cash, prize bonds worth Taka 10,000 revenue stamps of Taka 1,42,500 and radio stamps worth Taka 40,000.

They said the robbers tied the nightguard Razmuddin (35) with chord, gaged him and broke open eight steel almirahs and four iron safes of the post office.

The robbers also ransacked 40 drawers of the office, the

officials said.

The Deputy Commissioner of Kishoreganj district, the police Superintendent visited the scene this morning while an Additional Post Master General from Dhaka arrived here this evening.

The Deputy Post Master General of the district and the Superintendent have been out of the office on the occasion of the Eid-ul-Azha.

Officials suspect that a section of the employees of the post office might have been involved in the robbery.

The post office remained closed today, a working day, because of the incident.

The Additional Post Master General fear that it would be difficult to open the office tomorrow (Monday).

Fenchuganj Fertilizer

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vectors to participate in equity funding for the project to rebuild NGFF.

Set up in 1961, the first fertilizer factory of the country, with a production capacity of 106,000 tons per year, was earlier reported to have reached a stage of becoming hazardous and cost prohibitive to operate any longer.

Both local and foreign experts recommended the closure of the factory as soon as possible.

The rebuilding scheme, just approved by the Ministry of Industries, will be undertaken on a 'scrap and build' process under which the infrastructure of the old factory will be retained and new processing machinery will be installed.

After necessary techno-economic studies by Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) and foreign consultants it was decided that the factory would be rebuilt by installing new and modern plants for the ammonia and urea sections while modifying and expanding the utility plants as required.

Under the plan the new factory would have a production capacity of 180,000 metric tons of granulated urea per year.

Of the total estimated cost, the foreign exchange component would be 135 million US dollars while the Letter of Credit (LC) component would be 35 million US dollars.

Thirty per cent of the total fund requirement for the plan will be arranged from suitable foreign loans while the remaining 70 per cent of the cost is expected to come from equity to be shared by BCIC and interested private equity partners.

BCIC will also consider setting up of a larger plant with a production capacity of 330,000 metric tons of urea per year.

In January this year, UNICO International Corporation of Tokyo, the consultant commissioned jointly by the BCIC and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan to review the renovation schemes of NGFF, said in its report that the economy of the factory has suffered because of the outdated processing machinery.

The condition of the machinery and equipment at the factory has also considerably deteriorated, the report said, despite rehabilitation works completed in 1978 and 1986.

The obsolete nature of the process and the deterioration of equipment has now reached the point where continuous operation of the existing plant has become questionable in

Editor: S. M. Ali
Executive Editor: Mahfuz Anam
 Published by S. M. Ali on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at Offset Printing Dialogue Publications Ltd., 19 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 28/1, Toynbee Circular Road, Dhaka-1000. Tel: PABX- 246023-4, 245061-2. Advertisement: 245063 & Ext. 20. Fax No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box No. 3257. GRAM: DAILY STAR, DHAKA.