

Nine killed in road mishaps

By Staff Correspondent

At least nine persons including a minor girl were killed and 12 others were injured in six separate road accidents in Dhaka and Narayanganj Tuesday.

Our Narayanganj Correspondent reports: Four people were killed, two of them on the spot, and another 10 injured, when a brick laden truck ploughed into a busy market place at Bholta in Rupganj of Narayanganj district Tuesday morning.

Witnesses said that the truck dashed two auto-rickshaws, four rickshaws and then ran into a sweetmeat shop in the market place.

An unidentified woman aged about 40 and a 50-year-old man, Abdus Salam died on the spot while two critically injured, Jahurul Islam, 25 and another unidentified woman succumbed to their injuries after admission into the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday.

Seriously injured Jamal Mia, 22 and another man who could not be identified were admitted to the DMCH while the rest were treated at the Rupganj Health Complex.

Rupganj police seized the truck but its driver managed to escape immediately after the accident.

In another accident at Siddirganj, 250 metres off the Katchpur Bridge on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway a 60-year-old man was run over by a Dhaka-bound bus at around noon yesterday and died on the spot.

Our DMCH Correspondent reports: Four people including a minor girl were killed and two others injured in four separate road accidents in the capital Tuesday.

A three-year-old girl, Sharna, was killed and her mother Shakhina, 24, and uncle Kalu Mia, 28, injured when a truck crushed their rickshaw at Bijoy Saroni in the city at around 4:30 pm yesterday.

Shakhina was admitted to the DMCH while Kalu Mia was rushed to the Pongu Hospital.

In another accident, Montu Kumar Sheel, 38, was killed when an auto-tempo overturned near the Judge Court at Johnson Road at 6 am yesterday.

Critically injured Montu was rushed to the DMCH where he succumbed to his injuries.

A garments employee, Abdur Rahim, 13, was killed when a staff bus of Janata Bank ran him over near the Farmgate overhead bridge at around 7 am yesterday.

In another incident, a minibus ran a 60-year-old man over near Sonargaon Hotel in the city at around 10:45 am Tuesday. The victim could not be identified immediately.

Rajshahi Medical College Prof stabbed

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Aug 25: An associate Professor of Rajshahi Medical College, Dr Habibur Rahman was stabbed on his left chest and hand Tuesday night, prompting the RMCH doctors to call a strike.

While Dr Rahman was returning home by a rickshaw, unidentified assailants stabbed him on the college campus at around 9:15 pm.

Critically injured Dr Habibur Rahman was immediately taken to the operation theatre. Operation continued till midnight and Habibur Rahman's condition was said to be critical, a doctor on duty said.

Hasina

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Hasina said the "anti-people" character of the post-75 governments had failed to bring welfare for the people in rural areas where the number of landless was increasing day by day for lack of incentives for agricultural development.

Criticising the rule of Begum Zia, she alleged that corruption, abuse of power, patronisation of terrorists and anti-liberation elements and overall anti-people activities of the government frustrated people's hopes and aspiration after the fall of autocracy.

"By ignoring people's wishes, this government, using arms and muscle power, is trying to silence the struggle for giving democracy an institutional shape to ensure economic development," she told the rally.

Referring to the no-confidence motion with nine-point charge against the government, Hasina said the people in power had totally failed to reply to the opposition charges in parliament.

The Awami League chief demanded repeal of the Indemnity Ordinance to clear the way for trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib and ensure human rights, rule of law and justice.

Menon

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The afternoon said Menon is a little better. His temperature was registered at 101 degree Fahrenheit this afternoon.

The bulletin said his temperature tends to fluctuate and in view of other clinical signs further investigations are on to establish and eradicate the cause.

Menon's jaundice remained unchanged at a high level, his family sources said. They said the physicians told that the general condition of Menon was better than it was on Monday.

Menon is taking solid food like biscuits and drinking sugarcane juice.

Menon had been admitted to CMH on August 17 after he had been shot at by gunmen in front of his party office at Tophkana.



Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman and his Malaysian counterpart Datuk Abdullah Bin Haji Ahmad Badawi signing an agreement on economic and technical cooperation yesterday on behalf of their respective governments. —PID photo

US State Department official says

Ties with one SAARC state not at the cost of another

The member states of South Asian Association for regional Cooperation (SAARC) have a long way to go to enter the world economy as well as to build relationships with the United States like other regional groups of the world, Director of US Department of State George Griffin said in Dhaka yesterday, reports BSS.

Griffin who is looking after India, Nepal and Sri Lanka affairs in the State Department, was responding to questions from a panel of journalists and policy researchers from Dhaka, Colombo, New Delhi and Islamabad at the world net symposium on "Relations Between the United States and the SAARC Countries."

The live satellite interactive programme was organised by the United States Information Service (USIS).

Griffin said the US had formal relations and meetings with the ASEAN — a large trade partner of the US — for both political and economic reasons, which it did not have with the SAARC.

In reply to a question, he said the US was trying to have best relationship with every member state of SAARC, adding improvement of relationship with one SAARC state was not at the cost of another.

BSS diplomatic and special correspondent Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury and research associate of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies Farah Kabir participated in the symposium from Dhaka.

Agreeing with the observation of a panelist, Griffin said the strengthening of SAARC could lead to relaxation of tension in the region on which, he hoped, political leadership of the member states would give due importance.

He said SAARC could also be helpful to bring South Asia in the world economy and as an extremely young regional grouping it will have to go a long way.

SAARC which was dreamt of by late President Ziaur Rahman was launched in Dhaka in 1985 at the initiative of Bangladesh with the objective to improve the standard of living of the peoples of South Asia through mutual cooperation.

The Malaysian Foreign Minister arrived Dhaka Sunday night on a five-day official visit to Bangladesh.

BSS adds: Datuk Abdullah Bin Haji Ahmad Badawi said yesterday that Bangladesh and Malaysia could help each other in the economic development of their two countries.

The Malaysian Foreign Minister was addressing a spontaneous gathering at Alhaj Zafar Bepari High School premises at Dhansura under Savar thana, about 20 miles from Dhaka.

He said that he had found similarity of the locality with his own village in Malaysia.

He expressed the hope that the people would work hard for their economic development in their own interest.

He and his wife planted two saplings in the school premises.

The Malaysian Foreign Minister also called on Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan at his office in Dhaka yesterday.

The Malaysian High Commissioner in Bangladesh, Planning Secretary and Member (Programming) of Planning Commission were present.

The samity in a press conference held in the National Press Club Tuesday said though it was apolitical it felt that the society was failing to assure security to the school students.

The conference was addressed by the convener of the samity Gazi Khaled Mahmood and attended among others by Asad Chowdhury, Ziaul Haq, Shaiful Islam, Abul Hasnat, Runa Laila and others.

Through the 10 points, the students demanded assurance of security of the school students, nationalisation of non-government secondary schools, free education, increase in the expenditure in the education sector at the district and thana levels and projection of the correct history of the Liberation War in the school text books.

They said, "We want to get rid of these terrorists." The 10-point demand was raised by the samity on August 1.

CID yet to get all Menon-papers

By Staff Correspondent

The two outlawed Sarbahara Party activists, who were arrested from Shatla launch ghat under Uzirpur Police Station early Monday, were handed over to Barisal CID police Tuesday.

A team of CID police started for Dhaka from Barisal with the two arrested persons Tuesday afternoon.

Ansar personnel arrested the two outlawed Sarbahara Party workers from a launch bound for Paisar Hat, Barisal, from Dhaka on suspicion and later handed them over to Uzirpur police.

According to police the two arrested persons might have link with the attack on Menon. Police declined to give any details as well as the names of the arrested persons.

Meanwhile, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police is yet to receive all the papers and documents from the Detective Branch till Tuesday to investigate into the attack on Workers' Party (WP) leader Rashed Khan Menon, according to a police source.

At a directive from high-level police authority, the charge of investigation was given to CID police from the Detective Branch (DB) Monday.

An ASP of the CID, M G Mostafa, was made the investigating officer (IO) of the case.

Unidentified assailants shot and critically wounded the WP leader near his party office at Tophkana Road in the capital at around 8:35 pm on August 17.

A high police official said that as the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) had its network all over the country, unlike the Detective Branch, the high-level authority decided to give charge of the case to CID.

Meanwhile, Shahnawaz, reportedly an Indian national, who was arrested from Jessore in connection with the attempt on Menon's life and taken on DB police remand, was taken into custody by CID yesterday morning for interrogation.

Tito's bail petition rejected

The Chief Metropolitan

Magistrate of Dhaka yesterday rejected bail petition of Khaledur Rahman Tito, a minister of Ershad government, and sent him to the central jail, reports UNB.

Khaled was arrested Saturday night from the city on suspicion. After a day's police remand, he was produced before the court yesterday.

The court, however, allowed Khaled division in the jail provided there was no order of his detention under the Special Powers Act.

Meherpur college opens Aug 29

MEHERPUR, Aug 25: The authorities of the Government College here today decided to reopen the college from August 29 (Saturday). College sources said the authorities took the decision following a fruitful discussion with representatives of the major student organisations of the college this morning, reports UNB.

Malaysia

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national issues," the official said.

The two Foreign Ministers also exchanged views on the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit due in Jakarta next month. They also discussed the worsening situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

When asked to comment on newly set up Joint Commission, the Malaysian Foreign Minister told newsmen that the commission would provide a framework to expand cooperation between the two countries. "It will bring the two countries closer," he added.

Datuk Abdullah said that both Malaysia and Bangladesh wanted "an immediate political solution" to the problems in Bosnia and Herzegovina. "We welcome the United Nations decision to ensure delivery of relief supplies to the victims in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but this is not enough," he said.

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The Bangladesh Permanent Representative said, we must demonstrate our determination to protect sovereignty, security and territorial integrity of member states and added that the security of small and militarily vulnerable states deserved special consideration by the world body.

JCD to resist bid to foil DU exams

Leaders of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday called upon its activists and general students to remain alert against any attempt to foil the Honours and Master degree examination scheduled to begin August 29, reports UNB.

JCD, student wing of ruling BNP, organised an anti-terrorism rally in front of the Madhu's Canteen which was addressed by central committee leaders Fazlul Huq Milon, Abul Khayer Bhuiyan, Nasiruddin Pintu, Syed Sohrab and Rafiqul Islam Jaglu.

Addressing the rally, they urged all student groups to unite against any untoward incident and violence on the campus.

They alleged that Awami League and its student wing were always trying to create anarchy and violence in the country as well as on campuses to destroy peace and democratic practice.

JCD leaders called upon Awami League leadership to resolve the internal conflict of Chhatra League for the greater interest of student community.

They urged the government to arrest all armed hoodlums and outsiders staying in different DU dormitories since long in order to maintain peaceful academic atmosphere in the university.

Earlier, leaders and workers of JCD brought out a procession on the campus chanting anti-terrorism slogans.

The Midnight File

UNGA okays use of force in Bosnia

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 25: The UN General Assembly approved a resolution today recommending new measures, including the use of force, to end the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The resolution was proposed by Muslim countries comprising the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), but virtually all of the 50 speakers who addressed the assembly Monday and Tuesday condemned Serbian aggression against Muslims and Croats and the Serbian policy of ethnic cleansing in former Yugoslavia, reports AFP.

China to attend NAM summit as observer

BEIJING, Aug 25: Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will attend the upcoming Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit in Jakarta as an observer, the Foreign Ministry said. Qian will head a delegation to the conference of NAM Heads of State and government beginning September 1, reports AFP.

PM: CHT insurgents

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She, however, underlined the need for afforestation for the sake of the country and global environment.

BSS adds: The Prime Minister said government had taken up necessary measures to conduct land ownership survey from the next dry season in the hill tracts. The problem of land ownership one of the major problems, would be solved after the survey conducted, she hoped.

Begum Zia also announced enhanced monthly remunerations for the tribal rajas, headmen, and karbari.

The rajas will get Taka 5000 each in place of Taka 2500, headman will get Taka 300 each in place Taka 200 and Karbari Taka 200 each in place of Taka 100.

The Prime Minister said her government wanted to strengthen the local government institute for smooth progress of the present democratic process of the country. She said the local government councils of the hill districts had been given the res-

possibilities in 12 different national issues. "We want to make the councils stronger and more dynamic so that those can discharge their responsibilities more effectively and successfully," she said.

Dwelling on local problems, the Prime Minister announced the decision to alleviate the Banderban Intermediate College to a degree college and nationalisation of Mathamori School of Thanchi. She said the communication network in the hill districts would be developed extensively.

Li Gen Noor Uddin Khan, area commander, GOC and high ranking officers of armed forces were present.

The Prime Minister also planted saplings in Rangamati and Banderban districts.

On her arrival here, the Prime Minister was briefed on the Banderban region by GOC at the Banderban region headquarters, 69 Infantry Division.

Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Noor Uddin Khan and high ranking officers were present on the occasion.

Editorial on page 4

641 more arrested, arms recovered

Police in their countrywide drive arrested more 641 persons on various crimes and recovered 30 illegal arms and 98 rounds of ammunition during the last 24 hours ending Tuesday evening, an official handout said in Dhaka last night, reports BSS.

AD policy

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badpatra Parishad, General Secretary of Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad, President of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, Secretary General of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, President of Dhaka Union of Journalists, General Secretary of Dhaka Union of Journalists, President of Bangladesh Editors' Council, General Secretary of Bangladesh Editors' Council, Acting President of Jatiya Press Club and General Secretary of Jatiya Press Club.

Deputy Secretary (Press) of Information Ministry will work as Member-Secretary of the committee.

The committee will recommend an advertisement policy helpful for the proper flourishing, qualitative improvement and increased circulation of newspapers and also help advance objective social responsive, awareness and high standard of journalism.

It will also recommend guiding consistent with the present policies and in the light of overall economic situation of the country and available resources.

Fighting in Kabul

From Page 1 Col 4

with diplomatic missions of other countries including Pakistan," he added.

New Delhi in the past supported the regime of president Najibullah, who lost power to the Mujahideen in April.

Xinhua from Islamabad says: The Afghan government has promised that it would provide full security to all diplomatic missions in Kabul.

PWD employees postpone programmes

Public Works Department (PWD) Employees Sangram Parishad has postponed its programmes for next two months following a fruitful discussion with the government, according to official sources in Dhaka yesterday, reports BSS.

The decision was taken at a meeting held at the conference room of the Ministry of Works yesterday with Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia in the chair. The meeting was attended by Dr Abdur Rashid, Secretary, Ministry of Works, Chief Engineer of PWD and a 14-member delegation headed by Abdul Mannan, Convener of PWD 'Sangram Parishad'.

The meeting took a decision to prepare a summary on the activities of PWD for submission to the Cabinet Division within a month.

Blangladesh enjoyed a very clouded and chilled relation with its second most important neighbour, Myanmar, after its Rejupara border camp came under sudden attack from Myanmar troops on December 21. The attack left two persons killed, including a Bangladesh border guard and sparked off tension along the border between the two countries.

However, the tension was defused later and relations improved gradually after a series of border talks and high-level official meetings.

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Students of Lalmatia Girls College holding demonstration in the city yesterday protesting enhancement of tuition fees. —Star photo