

# Eight killed, 50 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

At least eight persons were killed and 50 others injured in road accidents in the capital city and Chittagong yesterday.

Four persons were killed in road accidents in different parts of the city.

Moftizul, 30, and Shahjahan, 35, who received grievous injuries when a speeding truck hit their rickshaw at Tejgaon, died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) early yesterday.

One Miraj, 22, son of Siraj Mia, died when a truck ran over him near the Shahjahanpur rail crossing at about 2 am.

A teenager boy, Salahuddin, son of Shaiful Haq, who received fatal injuries in a road accident at the Mirpur-1 crossing Wednesday, died at the DMCH early yesterday.

Our Staff Correspondent from Chittagong adds: At least four persons were killed and 50 others injured in three road accidents here yesterday.

Two persons died on the spot and 30 were injured when a Chittagong bound bus from Dhaka collided head-on with a truck coming from the opposite direction at Chotakamalpath under Mirersharai thana. Both the vehicles fell into a road side ditch.

One of the dead was identified as Kaosar (20), helper of the bus and the other, a passenger, could not be identified.

In another accident, one Haji Nur Solaiman (80) was run over by a Chatkai bound bus at Sitakundu. Trying to save the man, the bus skidded off the road leaving 20 persons injured.

Police said, a woman Mehrunnesa was killed in the third accident which occurred at Hathazari road.

The woman while crossing the road was hit by a truck.

Of the injured, 10 were admitted to the Chittagong medical college hospital and others to clinics.

# Govt jute mills staff donate Tk 51.66 lakh to Bosnia fund

Officers and employees of different state-run jute mills yesterday donated Tk 51.66 lakh to the Prime Minister's Bosnian Muslim Solidarity Fund in aid of the distressed Muslims in Bosnia, reports UNB.

Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah handed over the cheque on behalf of the officers and employees to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office here in the afternoon.

The CBA leaders, who were present on the occasion, said the formation of the solidarity fund had reflected the Prime Minister's concern for the Bosnian Muslims.



Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah, on behalf of the officers and employees of the BJMC, handed over a cheque for Tk 51.66 lakh to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, at her office yesterday. They donated their one-day's salary to the PM's Bosnian Muslim Solidarity Fund. — PID photo

# Rally round BNP: Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed her firm determination to carry on the present trend of development activity facing all odds and urged the people to rally round BNP, reports UNB.

She said her government had been working relentlessly for the welfare of people and ensuring development of the country since its assumption of power.

Begum Zia was addressing the newcomers to her party at 30, Hare Road last night. Leaders and workers from different political parties, including Jatiya Party and Awami League, of Brahmanbaria district formally joined the ruling party expressing their allegiance to the leadership of BNP Chairperson Begum Zia.

Six commissioners of Brahmanbaria Pourashava and four union Parishad chairmen also joined BNP at the same function. The newly elected office-bearers of Brahmanbaria Government College were present on the occasion.

She advised the freshers to work with the old party-men unitedly and devote themselves to nation building activities.

Earlier in the afternoon, ten commissioners of Rangpur Municipality led by leading businessman Dr. Mokhtarur Rahman formally joined BNP at Prime Minister's office.

# The Midnight File

## Students continue anti-govt demonstration in Khartoum

CAIRO, Sept 14: Sudanese students staged anti-government demonstrations in Khartoum for a fourth consecutive day on Thursday, and the death toll rose to at least three. Egypt's Middle East News Agency said problems were sparked Thursday when government security officials entered a lecture room at Khartoum University's engineering faculty and arrested a student, reports AP.

## Industrial workers shorten strike

Jute and textile workers shortened their scheduled 96-hour strike to 72 hours and synchronised it with opposition-led three-day hartal beginning Saturday, reports UNB.

## 72-hr hartal

tionwide general strike as part of their almost identical agitation programmes announced simultaneously earlier on September 6.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (Robi) also gave a hartal call on September 16, 17 and 18.

The political parties' programme coincide with a hartal and road-rail blockade programme called by the jute, yarn and textile mills workers.

The jute, yarn and textile mills workers yesterday slightly altered their earlier agitation programme to link it up with the oppositions' hartal programme.

The workers leaders at a press conference in the city yesterday said that they have readjusted their programmes and instead of their planned 96-hour blockade and strike programme now they would enforce countrywide hartal, strike at mills and rail and road blockades for three days from tomorrow.

They urged the workers community to fortify the on-going movement for toppling the government and realise their demands for implementation of wage commission award and salary increase.

Meanwhile, Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami brought out processions from different wards in the city to drum up support for hartal. A number of torch processions were also brought out in the city yesterday.

## BNP leaders

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When his opinion was sought at his Parliament office, Joint Secretary General of the BNP and Food and Agriculture Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan told this correspondent, "We'll try to bring the Opposition to the negotiating table. In case of failure, we'll have to go our own way as regards formation of an interim government within the constitutional framework following the Prime Minister's proposed resignation 30 days ahead of the next general elections."

He said the BNP still enjoys the support of the people and it is increasing because of the Oppositions harmful programmes like hartals. It will be a mistake on the part of the Opposition if it compares the BNP government with the Ershad regime, he said, adding, the elected government cannot be removed through agitations.

Replying to some questions from his correspondent at the parliament building last night, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Nopkan said "How can we resolve the political crisis on the question of an interim government unless the Opposition agrees to sit for dialogue? They must sit with us to bargain on the issue. We are flexible and not rigid on the matter. The opposition's hard stand on the interim government issue will not result in any solution".

## DU admission

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DU in the last session. There is the possibility of taking admission tests of a limited number of students on the basis of their marks, he added.

To avoid question leakage, there will be several sets of question papers," the VC said.

## Citizens' rally

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Before the start of the rally, Manzur ul Karim will speak on the aims and objectives of the campaign. Then, the participants will take a pledge in this regard. Dr Nizam Uddin Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, rover region, Dhaka will conduct the function.

The rally will be divided into four groups at the Zero Point from where Sadek Hossain will lead one group to Brothers Union Club parading the south gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque, Bagabandhu Avenue and Ittefaq intersection.

Another part will end at the Central Shaheed Minar under the leadership of Mohammad Hanif, while Prof M Shahjahan will lead a rally to Shishu Park. Manzur ul Karim and Abdul Bari was lead a rally to the Scouts Bhaban at Kakrail.

## Showcause

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death of human life and severe injury to different persons and destroyed national and private properties,' the petition said.

The petition argued that the hartal and its related activities are violative to the fundamental rights of the petitioner and the citizens of Bangladesh as guaranteed in Articles 31, 32, 35, 36, 40 and 42 (1) of the Constitution.

Advocate Abu Bakar Siddique in person moved the petition and Advocate M B Taz Mohammad and M Toufik Hossain assisted him.

## Manzur murder

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The division bench of the HC comprising Justice Mohammad Mozammel Hoque and Justice Mohammad Nurul Islam that the rule should be disposed of without hearing it and the new petition should be heard along with the rule.

Later the government counsel mentioned the petition before another vacation bench, as the bench headed by Justice Mohammad Mozammel Hoque went on vacation from today.

The vacation bench comprising Justice Mohammad Badruzzaman and Justice K M Hasnan after a preliminary hearing, fixed the matter to be listed on September 19 for fixing up a date of hearing.

# Beijing confce ends today

## Several issues still remain unresolved

BEIJING, Sept 14: Even as delegates at the UN women's conference bargained furiously today over final provisions of their closing document, a chorus of critics weighed in: Too liberal. Too conservative. Not enough money. Too much sex.

The two-week conference, the world's biggest women's gathering, was to end tomorrow with calls for delegates from 189 countries to work to make its goals, large and small, a reality in their homelands, reports AP.

Let little girls go to village schools as often as boys, delegates urged. Punish those who rape women as a means of waging war. Loan poor women seed money to start small businesses that can enrich whole communities.

Heading into the final hours of work on the platform, several issues still remained unresolved, conference organisers said.

Reuter adds: A special high-level committee of 30 delegates met behind closed doors today to try to end a stalemate threatening agreement on a 10-year blueprint for women's rights.

UN officials said they were confident the conference would end as the first recent gathering to finish its work on time.

National delegates had wrangled into the early hours of today before abandoning an attempt to settle differences and handing over a clash on sexual preferences and on a

# 'Save Dhanmondi Lake from pollution'

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhanmondi Residents Association for Welfare (DRAW) at a meeting recently discussed different problems they are facing and urged the authorities to solve the problems.

The meeting, chaired by Mahubuzzaman, a former cabinet secretary and president of the DRAW, also expressed its concern over the continuous pollution of the Dhanmondi lake 'due to negligence of the authorities'.

Defence Secretary Abdul Hakim, DIG of Police Moin Chisty, Gen (ret'd) Munim, Advocate Najmul Hasan, Col (ret'd) Harun Khan, Fazlur Rahman and local ward commissioner Bablu spoke at the meeting.

Abdul Hakim called for division of the area into several zones to ensure security of the locality. Moin Chisty said, vigilance teams should be formed in cooperation with police to curb crimes in the area.

They called for saving the Dhanmondi lake from pollution.

The ward commissioner gave the assurance of all cooperation of the Dhaka City Corporation in this regard.

# BAU closed

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Seven persons were injured in the clashes. Anwar Hossain and Arif Hasan, both of them JCD activists were admitted to the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

An emergency meeting attended by all Deans and Provosts with Vice Chancellor Shah M Faruq in the chair decided to close the university to avert further clashes.

The students who vacated the halls suffered seriously as the bus communication between Mymensingh and capital Dhaka remains suspended from Tuesday following a clash between the students of Bhaluka College and transport workers.

Hundreds of students were seen on the Mymensingh Rail Station platform this morning waiting for trains.

According to sources, the conflict between the two factions of JCD activists turned into a violent clash on August 20 over the possession of hall seats.

Later, police and BDR were deployed on the campus and in separate raids they arrested 15 JCD activists including BAUCSU VP Chanchal. BAUCSU GS Tofa belonged to the rival faction of JCD.

# 3 doctors

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remove cataract and fix contact lens by Dr. Mannan Talukder on August 14. She was released on August 17 and was readmitted in the same hospital on August 20 as she developed fungal infection.

Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, the director of the hospital while talking to this correspondent said, "most of the fungal cases were reported at least 7 to 10 days of their release." The factual position of the patients as can be seen from this incident, however, contradicts his statement.

According to Belal Ahmed, Rasheda was forced to give a written undertaking to the hospital authorities saying, "I am willing to remove my damaged right eye. The hospital authorities will not be made responsible for any mishap."

# Valuables worth Tk 1 lakh stolen from a city house

By Staff Correspondent

Witnesses said, the clash erupted at 11 am when supporters of the two groups brought out processions on Barguna Government College campus supporting and opposing the 72-day hartal call of the major opposition parties from September 16.

During the clash, the rival groups exploded at least 50 hand-made bombs and ransacked 20 shops.

Of the injured, Monir Hossain was admitted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital while Noor Hossain, Ripon, Kashem, Saber, Hashem and Shah Alam were admitted to Barguna Sadar Hospital.

# JCD-BCL clash at Barguna: 40 injured

From Staff Correspondent

The members of the family after returning to the house at D-36, Zakir Hossain Road, Mohammadpur, at around 4 pm found the lock of the main entrance intact.

But inside, the bed room of the flat on the ground floor was found ransacked and some electronic goods, ornaments and money were missing.

# Humayun Kabir reappointed

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Humayun Kabir has been re-appointed on contract service to the same position from September 25 to January 31, 1997 by cancelling his leave preparatory to retirement, an official handout said Wednesday.

Earlier Humayun Kabir served as the Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the United Nations and as ambassador to Zimbabwe and held several important overseas assignments. A career diplomat, he has been serving as the country's ambassador in Washington since January, '94.

Fazal M Kamal, a reputed journalist and former editor of the "Holiday" and "The Bangladesh Times", has been appointed as Minister (Press) at the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi on contract for three years.

The services of Wing Commander A M M Nazrul Islam have been transferred to the Air Force from the Civil Aviation Authority. Wing Commander Manzurul Haq has been transferred to Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry for being appointed Director of Civil Aviation Authority on deputation.

# Flood situation in C'nawabganj worsens

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Sept 14: The overall flood situation in Chapainawabganj district has deteriorated following further rise of the water level of the river Padma. More areas of four unions under Shibganj and sadar thanas of Chapainawabganj went under water in the last 24 hours. Several char areas of Chapainawabganj and Rajshahi have also been submerged.

Flood waters entered the Dargah slum area here yesterday. Two hundred more houses have been washed away by erosion of the Padma in Panka and Narayanpur unions. The Padma was flowing 39 cm above the danger mark at Panka in Chapainawabganj today.

# TIP fate uncertain

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is recommended that an Economic Coordination Wing/Division within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should be created with a senior officer of the level of Secretary as the head, and required number of officers as suggested in the organogram."

Earlier, in a letter to the Cabinet Secretary, the Commerce Secretary said that the Foreign Secretary was doing his business 'beyond his jurisdiction' through the creation of the TIP wing.

"Their illegitimate acts are seriously damaging the image of the Commerce Ministry and creating confusion among the business circle ... If this is not immediately resolved, there will be severe confusion in terms of trade and commerce," the letter said.

Suggesting ways to increase export and attract foreign direct investment, it said "The only way to do this is through reducing the diplomatic posts in the missions and increasing the posts of the BCS (trade)."

Stating that it is the prerogative of the Cabinet Division to allocate business among the different ministries and divisions, the Commerce Secretary, concluded that "The Foreign Ministry in contravention of the government rules has set up the wing (TIP) before any consultation with any ministries and without waiting for the adoption of the recommended special committee (Morshed Committee) by the government."

The Morshed Committee said, "A diplomatic or consular mission of Bangladesh should be a single unit under the overall command of the Head of Mission."

The present practice of different ministries setting up their own wings and a tendency to administer them independent of the heads of missions has become a major obstacle to the integrated approach of diplomacy, the committee report said.

# OIC to send arms to Bosnia

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the Muslim-led Bosnian government.

They also agreed to cooperate with Bosnia in defending its territories under Article 51 of the UN Charter if the Serbs continued to ignore peace initiatives.

The OIC, critical of what it sees as Western inaction over Bosnia, said in July the UN arms embargo on Bosnia was invalid and agreed to provide 'all kinds of support' to Bosnian Muslims.

The OIC agreement came as US envoy Richard Holbrooke and Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic agreed that Bosnian Serbs will pull away from Sarajevo and that NATO in return will stop its airstrikes against the separatist army. Western diplomats said in Geneva today.

The NATO campaign was launched Aug. 30 to try and force the Serbs to comply with international demands they withdraw their heavy weapons 20 kilometers from Sarajevo.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the agreement calls for a withdrawal of heavy weapons, a cease-fire in the Sarajevo area, and guarantees that the Serbs would be protected

# Immigrants

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supply would start, saying that it was all up to 'requests from the Bosnian army.'

Sacriby, who confirmed that Bosnia had asked the OIC for arms, stressed his government's earnest wish was to negotiate for peace "and not bring in the OIC to prolong the war."

Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Jordan are contributing troops in Bosnia. Malaysia, in particular, has been demanding UN approval to double its peacekeeping strength to 3,000.

# Tk 90 cr project to save Chandpur irrigation project

Government has taken up a Taka 90 crore project for construction of a cross dam and groynes to save the Chandpur irrigation project from the erosion of the River Meghna, reports BSS.

Irrigation Minister Major General (ret'd) Majid-ul-Haque last night told this in the Jatiya Sangsad while replying to a private member's resolution moved by Treasury Bench member Prof. Mohammad Abdullah.

They were also tightened on when the arms



Kashmiri Hindu refugees in New Delhi have their heads shaved yesterday in protest against the government's policy on their home state. — AFP/UNB photo