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4 killed, 34 hurt in road accidents

At least four persons were killed and 34 injured in road accidents in Chittagong, Meherpur and Pabna yesterday, reports UNB.

Two passengers were killed and 14 others injured in a road accident in Mirsaraia thana under Chittagong district early yesterday.

Police said Mafizul Islam, 30, of Nilpara and Anisuzzaman, 28, of Patikabari in Sadar thana of Kushtia district died on the spot and 14 others injured when a Chittagong-bound night coach overturned at about 4:45 am.

The injured were rushed to the Mastannagar Hospital, while the bodies sent to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Police seized the bus, but the driver fled the scene. A case was filed.

Meanwhile, a man was killed and 20 others were injured when a minibus overturned on Meherpur-Kushtia road at Wapda crossing in Meherpur yesterday.

Deceased Ali Hossain, the

helper of the coach, joined his duty for the first time yesterday. Earlier, Ali was a rickshaw-puller in the town. The vehicle turned turtle when the driver lost its control.

Of the injured, Siraj, 40, and Ismail Hossain, 26, were sent to the Kushtia Sadar Hospital in a critical condition.

As many as 12 injured were admitted to the Meherpur Sadar Hospital while others were released after first aid.

Meanwhile, district Rickshaw-puller Association suspended plying of their vehicles for two hours from noon to mourn the death of Ali Hossain.

Reported a Pabna adds: A truck knocked a rickshaw-van on the Pabna-Nagarbari highway at Madhpur yesterday killing a girl.

Police said Ameena Khatun, 10, died on the spot when a truck hit the van from behind at about 11 am while she was going to her sister's house at Gousaipur in Sathia thana by riding the van.

The body was handed over to the relatives. A case was filed with Sathia thana.

Young man shot dead in city

By DMC Correspondent

A young man was shot dead and four others were injured reportedly in a clash between two rival groups at Jurine under Demra thana in the city yesterday.

Faruq Hossain, 24, son of one Md Alauddin, who sustained fatal injuries in his belly, died on the way to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) at about 6:30 pm, hospital sources said.

The injured — Jashim, 17, Sohel, 22, Hanif, 27, and Sumon, 20 — were admitted to the DMCH.

DMCH sources, quoting local people said, some terrorists attacked Faruq and others near Balur Math in Jurine due to previous enmity.

However, Faruq's uncle, Shah Alam, alleged that his nephew was killed as he refused to pay money to a gang of extortionists. They allegedly demanded toll from a shop at Jurine where Faruq worked as a manager.

Christmas celebrated

Christmas, the biggest religious festival of the Christian community marking the birth-day of Jesus Christ, was celebrated in the country as elsewhere in the world yesterday with due solemnity and enthusiasm, reports BSS.

Thousands of devotees thronged the churches in the early hours and prayed for peace and prosperity of the country.

The programmes started in the small hours yesterday with the ringing of bell 12 times in churches. The day's programmes also included visit to the houses of the friends.

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singing of Christmas carol and distribution of gifts and Christmas cakes. Special candles were also lit, at homes and churches.

Saint Mary's Church at Laxmi Bazar, Kafrul Church, Holy Cross Church at Farmgate, New Catholic Church at Kakrabi and YMCA Church at New Eskaton were decorated with multi-coloured stars.

Christmas programmes began with recitation from the holy Bible, delivering sermons, repenting and remorse, rendering chorus, praising the lord and offering prayers seeking the lasting peace for Bangladesh.

The day was a public holiday.

Bangladesh Betar and Television broadcast special programmes highlighting the significance of the day. National dailies published special supplements and articles on the occasion.

Arsenic

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place during quaternary period (25,000 to 80,000 years back) and commonly known as Younger Deltaic Deposition (YDD).

This sediment also continues eastwards into Bangladesh and covers almost the entire alluvial region. If it's true, about 50 per cent land of Bangladesh covering 50 million population is at risk.

Companies with large market capitalisation like Shireen Pukur and Chittagong Cement could not come down from their peak prices because of the circuit breaker, market analysts said pointing out the need for urgent resolution of such locked issues.

We are keeping circuit breaker under constant watch. The new rules for relaxing circuit breaker will be reviewed taking stock of the results. The current five per cent breaker is also being reviewed," he said.

The decision has been welcomed generally by the brokers and securities analysts.

Former Honorary Secretary of Dhaka Stock Exchange M A Huq Hawlader, welcoming the decision, said it would help solve the post-book closure situation.

But he said it has not addressed the problems of the issues which went to a dizzying height but remained locked there for varieties of reasons. They are not being traded for abnormal price hike.

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