

2 die in road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two persons were killed in separate road accidents at Ramna and Demra yesterday.

Mohammad Dulal, 23, an employee of a shop at Dhanmondi, was killed when a private car rammmed a CNG autorickshaw at Minto Road at 11:30 in the morning.

Critically injured Dulal died on way to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Habibur Rahman, 65, was run over by a minibus when he was crossing the road at Shanir Akhra in Demra at 7:45 am.

Habib was rushed to the DMCH at 8:30am where the attending doctor declared him dead.

Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Hosne Ara Begum Niru, a language movement veteran and a former headmistress of Barisal Jagadish Sarswati Girls' School, died at her home yesterday at the age of 75.

She was also the founding women's affairs secretary of the Barisal AL.

She is survived by her only son Abul Hasan Mahbubuddin Ahmed, an industrialist. She was buried at Barisal Muslim Graveyard.

Death anniversary

Today is the fifth death anniversary of Alhaj Dr Abul K a s h e m , a n organiser of the liberation war and former lawmaker, says a press release.

He was a close associate of Bangabandhu Shiekh Mujibur Rahman.

A milad mahfil will be held at a mosque adjacent to Katalganj graveyard under Panchlalaish thana in Chittagong after Asr prayers today.

Dr Ashiqul Alam

Today is the seventh death anniversary of Dr Ashiqul Alam, a leader of the N a t i o n a l Democratic Front and founding managing director of Anirban Nursing Home, says a press release.

A milad mahfil will be held at his home after Maghrib prayers today. A discussion will be held in front of the TSC, Dhaka University, at 5.00pm tomorrow.

Salahuddin Ahmad

The eighth death anniversary of S a l a h u d d i n Ahmad, founding managing director of Sonargaon Hotel, will be observed today, says a press release.

A doa mahfil will be held at his home.

Indian river-link plan to affect economy, ecology badly

Int'l confce on its impact in Dec

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

India's arbitrary withdrawal of water from the Ganges-Brahmaputra basin would seriously affect the economy and ecology of Bangladesh, said noted environmentalists and economists at a press briefing yesterday.

They said a three-day international conference on 'Trans-boundary rivers: Impact of the Indian river-linking project' will be held in Dhaka on December 17 to 19 to bring together experts from South Asian region and other parts of the world to examine the adverse impact of the project.

The press briefing was organised by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa), Bangladesh Environment Network (Ben), Bangladesh Economic Association (Bea), Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) and University of Dhaka (DU) at Dhaka Reporters Unity auditorium.

"India's water diversion plan is a threat to Bangladesh's national security," said Dhaka Wasa Managing Director ANH Akhtar Hossain. "It will leave dreadful impact not only on the north-eastern region but also on the country's middle region."

"We must mobilise international support in favour of our national concerns as India has been lobbying the international community saying that it will withdraw only the excess rainwater through its river-linking project," said Prof. Feroze Ahmed of Buet.

Vice-Chancellor of BRAC University and Bapa President Prof. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury said the conference would make efforts to find out the best possible way to ensure its due share of water in trans-boundary rivers.

Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad of Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad, engineer Kamrul Islam Siddiqui, Dr. Abdul Matin, member-secretary of the organising committee of the conference, and IEB Vice-President Nurul Huda also spoke.

Strike at educational instts today

DU CORESPONDENT

Different student organisations at separate rallies on the Dhaka University campus yesterday urged the students' community to observe strike at all educational institutions today.

The organisations called the strike protesting Thursday's attack on students on Chittagong University campus.

They condemned the attack on students of MM College in Jessore by Islami Chhatra Shibir on Friday.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD)-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at its rally separately called the strike the same day at all educational institutions.

On Friday, the Progalishil Chhatra Jote, a combine of six left-leaning student organisations, called the strike at a press conference.

Fire at garment factory

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fire at a garment factory at Shyampur in the city yesterday burnt machinery and garments reportedly worth about Tk 50 lakh.

Originating from an electric short circuit at Emon Dying Garments housed on the 3rd floor of a four-storey building at about 3:30am, the fire soon engulfed the entire floor, police and fire service officials said.

Six fire fighting units from Postagola, Sadarghat and the headquarters rushed to the spot and doused the flame at around 6:50am.

There was no casualty.



Drama festival

The inaugural ceremony of a weeklong drama festival, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, will be held with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Begum Selima Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Theatre hall of the academy, Segun Bagicha. Time: 6.00pm. The inaugural session will be followed by the staging of a drama titled 'Ango Lal Mian' by Chetona Theatre, Narail.

Film show

Rainbow Film Society, in association with Goethe Institut, will screen three films titled 'Breaking the Silence' by Sun Zhou (2000), 'The King' by Nikos Grammatikos (2002) and 'Gone' by Zoltan Paul (2002-03). Venue: German Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 3.00pm.

Movie show

Academy Film Society will screen a Brazilian film titled 'City of God' (2003). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Anannya award

The distribution ceremony of 'Anannya Top Ten Award 2003' will be held with Prof. Anisuzzaman as chief guest. The award will be given to ten women for their outstanding contribution to different fields. Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium, National Museum. Time: 4.30pm. The ceremony will be followed by a musical soiree and film show.

Memorial discussion

Bangladesh Lekhok Samity will hold a discussion in memory of Principal Ibrahim Khan, a noted educationist and litterateur. Venue: Seminar room of the Central Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 4.30pm.

Seminar

A seminar on 'Parliamentary oversight and government accountability in Bangladesh: The role of the standing committee on ministries' will be held with Speaker Mohammad Jamiruddin Sircar as chief guest. Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 10.00am.

Workshop

The opening ceremony of a two-day workshop on 'Violence-dependent commerce, democracy and the rights of the poor', organised by Nijera Koni, will be held. Venue: WVA auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 9.30am.

BSEHR workshop

The Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) organises a workshop on 'Women trafficking and repatriation'. Venue: Seminar room of the society, Monipuripara. Time: 10.30am.

Roundtable

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will hold a roundtable on direct election to reserve seats for women in parliament. Venue: CIRDAAP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 10.00am.

Get-together

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad organises a get-together to mark its 34th founding anniversary. Venue: CIRDAAP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 4.00pm.

Discussion

Dhaner Shish organises a discussion with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4.00pm.

