

# 5 killed in road accidents

## STAR REPORT

At least five people were killed and six others injured in separate road accidents in Magura and Pirojpur in last two days.

Our Magura Correspondent reports, four people were killed and four others injured in separate road accidents in Magura yesterday and Sunday night.

One person was killed at Malikgram area yesterday when a microbus hit a motorbike from behind on Magura-Nahata road at around 1:30pm. The deceased was identified as Akram, 46.

In another accident, three people were killed and four others injured when a passenger loaded tempo

collided with a truck at Krishnapur area in Magura Sadar upazila on Magura-Dhaka highway at around 8:30pm on Sunday.

Two of the dead were identified as Swarajit, 45, of Gavindapur and Liton, 26, of Krishnapur in Magura Sadar upazila while identity of the other could not be known immediately.

UNB from Pirojpur adds, one person was killed and two others were injured when a Khulna-bound passenger bus from Barisal hit a van cart near Maheshpur Baily Bridge in the district yesterday.

Van driver Abdul Hakim, 35, died on the spot while two unidentified persons were sent to Khulna Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.



Mohanagar Sarak Paribahan Sramik League stages a demonstration at Muktangin in the city yesterday protesting the transport strike by the pro-government transport workers ahead of today's grand rally.

## New Lankan president appoints hardliner PM

REUTERS, Colombo

Sri Lanka's new leader swore in a hawkish new prime minister yesterday in a move analysts said reinforced his hardline stance on any future peace negotiations with the Tamil Tiger rebels.

Former deputy defence minister and one-time prime minister Ratnasiri Wickremanayake, a fervent Sinhalese nationalist, was reappointed to the premiership by newly elected President Mahinda Rajapakse.

"The appointment of Wickremanayake sends a message that President Rajapakse intends to take a hardline stance on the peace process," said Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, director of the Colombo-based think-tank Centre for Policy Alternatives.

"The appointment of Wickremanayake could have implications for the peace process, but we have to wait and see," he added.

## Entrust engrs with leadership at highest level

### Speakers tell seminar in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a seminar yesterday emphasised entrusting the engineers with the leadership in the technical departments in the highest levels of the state organs.

Cisco Local Academy (CLA) of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (Cuet) organised the seminar titled "Information Super Highway in Bangladesh: Prospect and Challenges" at the university auditorium in the port city.

Cuet Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Mir Shahidul Islam presided over the seminar while Energy and Mineral Resources Advisor Engineer Mahmudur Rahman was the chief guest.

The speakers said in a densely populated country like Bangladesh if we want economic development, we have no alternative to industrialisation that largely depends on technological development. The engineers have a major role to play to achieve this goal.

Mahmudur Rahman said techno-

logical development is a must in order to survive in the hard competition of information and technology.

The present government believed in the fact and so it upgraded four engineering institutes of the country to university of engineering and technology during its present tenure, he mentioned.

Engr Rahman assured his all out cooperation for overall development of Cuet and introducing petroleum engineering and mining engineering departments there.

He urged the students who achieved certificates under CLA for making proper application and reflection of their knowledge in the practical field of works.

Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) Divisional Engineer Md Shah Alam presented the keynote paper at the seminar while CLA Chairman Professor Dr Shyamal Kanti Biswas made the welcome speech.

## Snatched pistol, ammunition recovered in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police have recovered a Chinese pistol with 15 rounds of ammunition snatched from the Subedar of a police escort team of an oil tanker in the river Meghna three weeks ago.

They also arrested a staff of the tanker and his father from Uzirpur upazila of the district.

Police said Russel, 26, a staff of the oil tanker OT Panama plying on Chittagong-Narayanganj route, snatched the pistol from Subedar Alimuzzaman of range reserve forces near Chandpur on November 1 and fled away from the tanker.

Acting on a tip-off, Abul Khair, assistant sub-inspector of Uzirpur Police Station, raided the house of one Sumon Mia at Shibpur and arrested Russel on Sunday night.

According to his confession police recovered the pistol with ammunition and arrested Ali Munshi, father of Russel, from Bisharkandi village.

Abul Khair lodged a case against Russel under arms act.

## 50 grams of heroin seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-2) seized huge quantity of heroin worth about Tk 50 lakh and arrested three people in this connection from Hotel Noorjahan at Paduar Bazar area on Dhaka-Chittagong high way on Sunday night.

Acting on a tip-off, Rab members seized 50 grams of heroin worth about Tk 50 lakh from the hotel at around 1:00am. They also arrested Md Zahid, 26, son of Abdur Rezzak, Babu, 26, son of Md. Alam Chowdhury, of Chandpur and Md Jashim Uddin, 32, son of Abdul Mannan of village Deura under Barura upazila in Comilla district.

# BM College students ransack 5 deptts

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The unruly students of BM College in Barisal yesterday ransacked five departments of the college and confined the principal for two hours at his office demanding immediate endorsement of the admission of 3250 students.

The students, who were agitating for the last three days demanding upgrade of the college to a full-fledged public university, postponed all their protest programmes after Barisal City Mayor, district minister and lawmaker had assured them that they would discuss the matter with the prime minister.

However, the general students

continued agitation yesterday over their demand of admission endorsement of 3250 students, who got admission this year for honours first year in various departments, as the National University authorities did not endorse their admissions for the BM College authorities enrolled 124 additional students over the college's allocated quota.

They demanded admission endorsement of all the students, including 124 additional students.

They ransacked Botany, Zoology, Statistics, Mathematics and Islamic Studies departments and confined the college principal.

Later, student leaders controlled the situation and freed the principal.