

8 killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least eight people were killed and 25 others injured in separate road accidents in Patuakhali, Comilla, Bagerhat, Kushtia and Sylhet on Sunday and yesterday.

Our Correspondent from Patuakhali reports: One woman was killed and seven others were injured in a road accident in Patuakhali on Patuakhali-Taltali road yesterday.

The incident occurred at about 11:00am when a Patuakhali-bound passengers' bus from Taltali hit a motor van from behind. The motor van fell into a roadside ditch, leaving eight passengers injured.

Of the injured, Rehana, 40, wife of Shamsur Rahman of Churikata village under Amtali upazila, was rushed to Amtali upazila health complex where on-duty doctor declared her dead.

Other injured were released after first aid from a health complex.

UNB from Comilla adds: Three people were killed and 15 injured in

separate road accidents in Daudkandi upazila on Dhaka-Chittagong highway yesterday morning.

Police said a Comilla-bound bus from Nilphamari plunged into a roadside ditch at Taltali at about 7:00am, leaving two dead and 15 others injured.

The deceased were identified as bus helper Saiful, 30, and passenger Abdullah, 34.

Of the injured, five were admitted to Gouripur Hospital from where they were shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in critical condition.

Meanwhile, an unidentified old man was crushed under the wheels of a bus near the Daudkandi toll plaza on the highway at about 6:00am.

Police seized the bus but the driver managed to flee.

Another report from Bagerhat says: Two people were killed and three others injured in separate road accidents in the district on Sunday-Monday.

A young man was crushed

under the wheels of a microbus while he was crossing the road in Fakirhat upazila bus stand area yesterday.

The dead was identified as Sohrab Hossain, 26, a garment worker of Dhaka and son of Nur Mohammad of Shyamnagar village in the upazila.

In another accident, a betel-leaf trader was killed and three others were injured when a bus rammed a rickshaw-van near Doratana Bridge of the district on Sunday evening.

Samir Kumar Dey, 45, hailed from Kholisakhal village in Kochua upazila, died on the spot.

Traffic on Kushtia-Meherpur road halts for two hours following death in accident.

A report from Kushtia adds: Traffic on Kushtia-Meherpur road halted for two hours yesterday following the death of a fertilizer trader in a road accident.

The dead was identified as Yasin Malitha, 45.

Sources said a sand-laden truck hit the bicycle of Yasin at

Noapara Bazar at about 9:00am, leaving him dead on the spot.

Agitated local people seized and damaged the truck. But the truck driver and helper managed to escape the public wrath.

"Local traders shut down their shops and put barricades on the road in an instant protest," says a spot account of the incident.

Police and BDR personnel rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control at 11:00am.

A report from Sylhet adds: A schoolboy was killed in a road accident in Baher area of Goinghat upazila on Sylhet-Tamabil road on Sunday.

Witnesses said Jahangir Hossain, 8, son of Sharaf Uddin of Bagher area and also a class three student, died on the spot when a Tamabil-bound speeding truck ran over him at about 1:30pm. He met the tragic end while crossing the road on the way home from school.

Outraged by the incident local people barricaded the road for over two hours. Later, police brought the situation under control.

Build political consensus to hold credible polls: JSD

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) yesterday urged the caretaker government (CG) to take specific steps to build political consensus in order to hold a free, fair and credible election.

At a meeting in its central office in the city, JSD also urged the CG to ease the state of emergency to uphold basic human rights.

The leaders hailed the role of government officials, UN and international community to save the country from existing political crisis.

The leaders suggested making the voter list up-to-date, publication of correct voter list, and reformation of the Election Commission.

Presided over by JSD President Hasanul Haq Inu, the meeting was also attended by Syed Zafar Sazzad, Moinuddin Khan Badal and Nazmul Haq Prodhan.



PHOTO: STAR
Pakistan High Commissioner to Bangladesh Alamgir Babar calls on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at her Hawa Bhaban office in the city yesterday.

JMB cadre held in Rajshahi

BSS, Rajshahi

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-5 in separate drives detained a cadre of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and two drug paddlers from Dinajpur and Rajshahi yesterday, Rab sources said.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of the elite force arrested JMB member Enamul Haque, 50, from Komolpur Bazar under Birul upazila in Dinajpur district.

In another drive, Rab personnel caught Rashidur Rahman, 30, and Mafuzur Rahman, 25, with 111 bottles of phenyl syrup from a bus counter at Kazla under Matiabazar police station in Rajshahi city.

Caretaker dies as brick falls on his head in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A caretaker died on the spot when he was hit by a brick in his head severely in the capital yesterday.

Lal Mia, 45, was working as a caretaker in an under construction building at sector 14 of Uttara.

The accident occurred when a heavy brick fell on his head from the roof of the building at 10:30am.

The body of Lal Mia was sent to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy.

Obituary



Alhaj M Wajed Ali, former senior officer of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation, passed away in the city's Mirpur Heart Foundation on Friday at the age of 70, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, three sons, a daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

His quirkwani and a doa mahfil will be held at his house (House 33/21, Block E, Mirpur 12) in the city on January 19.

Dr Mohammed Jahangir

CU CORRESPONDENT

Renowned doctor and social worker Dr Mohammed Jahangir passed away due to a cardiac arrest at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) yesterday morning at the age of 61.

He left behind his wife, a son, two daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

After a namaz-e-janaza on Haji Mohammed Mohsin College premises after Esha prayers, he was buried at city's Miskin Shah (R) Majar graveyard.

Md Arif Khan



Md Arif Khan of Rasulpur in Sathkira passed away due to lung cancer yesterday at the age of 81, says a press release.

On the same day, he was buried in his family graveyard.

He left behind his one son and three daughters.

Quirkwani

BSS, Dhaka

Quirkwani of Haji Mohammad Nizamuddin, chairman of Interjet Group and former director of DCCI, will be held at his residence at 7/1 Goura Sundar Roy Lane, Lalbagh in the city after Asr prayers today.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the Quirkwani and pray for peace of the departed soul.

20 Comilla Shibir activists sent to jail

UNB, Comilla

A magistrate's court here yesterday rejected bail petitions of 20 Shibir activists accused of attacking Jatiya Party supporters.

The court also sent them to jail.

The Shibir activists were accused in a case of attacking the procession that was going to attend a public meeting of JP leader Kazi Zafar Ahmed at Chowdhogram on December 16.

A number of transport vehicles were also damaged during the attack.

2 muggers held after severe mob beating in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two muggers were beaten up severely by the mobs for snatching valuables from a rickshaw passenger in the city yesterday.

Shyamol, 26, and Al Amin, 22, while trying to flee away after snatching a gold chain from one Papia Rahman near Phoolbaria bus stand in Gulistan, were caught by the locals as the victim raised an alarm, said the locals and eye witnesses.

The muggers were beaten up mercilessly by the mob and left on the roadside in an unconscious state for one hour, added the witnesses.

Later Suratpur Police rescued the snatchers and admitted them to Sir Salimullah Medical College and Hospital.

Medical sources said the condition of the muggers is critical.

9-yr-old girl raped, one arrested

CU CORRESPONDENT

A nine-year-old girl was raped at Agrabad Choumuhoni area in Chittagong on Sunday night.

Police arrested one Md Liton, 20, in this connection.

Sources said Liton violated the girl in a bush near her residence at around 10:00pm.

Local people rushed to the scene when the girl started screaming for help.

The girl is now undergoing treatment at One-Stop Crisis Centre (OCC) of Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

Her father filed a rape case with Doublemooring Police Station.

RMC forensic medicine deptt in shambles

RU CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The activities of forensic medicine department of Rajshahi Medical College is being hampered for want of adequate manpower, modern facilities, lack of equipments and own building.

More than 300 students of the department have been deprived of proper teaching facilities for long, sources said.

As there is no classroom in the department, teachers take their classes at their private chambers and many students are to attend classes standing on their feet.

WEATHER TODAY

Fall in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Dry weather will prevail over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may also occur over the river basins of the country during late night until early morning, said Met Office.

Moderate to severe cold wave is sweeping over Rajshahi division and the region of Srimongal and mild to moderate cold wave is sweeping over Dhaka division and the regions of Rangamati, Comilla, Sylhet and Jessore which may spread over Barisal and Khulna divisions during the next 24 hrs.

Night temperature may fall slightly over Khulna and Barisal divisions and remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country.

Highest temperature 26.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 04.6 degree Celsius at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:33pm today and rises at 6:44am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature	Humidity in celsius		
percentage	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	24.0	09.6	52	42
Chittagong	26.3	14.1	78	78
Rajshahi	22.5	06.2	72	64
Khulna	23.5	11.8	64	73
Barisal	23.8	10.4	86	74
Sylhet	24.0	08.2	70	38
Cox's Bazar	26.5	15.5	84	67

"We will not allow to stop dining system at the dormitories and to street if necessary," said student leaders of different left-leaning bodies to the journalists.

When contacted, Treasurer of the university Prof Sayed Abdul Hai was not available for comments.

separate morgue for male and female bodies.

The students and teachers are reluctant to enter the room as bad odour of dead bodies always spreads in the air, they alleged.

Obinash, only sweeper, called dom locally, who helps physicians cut dead body, has been serving there without any regularisation of his job for last 20 years.

"After the death of my father Nishipada, I joined here," he said.

If Obinash expresses his reluctance to cut body, the activities at the operation section remain suspended, said the teachers and students.

Obinash is not paid a penny from the college. He leads his life depending on the tips from the relatives of the victims.

Teachers of the department alleged that they are also deprived as the college authorities do not pay them for additional duties.

Talking to newsmen, Forensic Department Head Dr Ashraf Alam said due to shortage of manpower and other supports, the activities of the department cannot be carried out smoothly.

The only deep refrigerator in the morgue for preserving the dead bodies has been out of order for several years.

"We put forward a proposal to the health ministry for modernisation of the department, but the authorities are yet to respond to our proposal," said Dr Alam.

Doctors at the department said for its modernisation including facilities for DNA test, a project proposal of Tk 2.96 crore was submitted to the ministry concerned.

The students demanded immediate supply of modern equipments, sterilisers, autoc