

Road crashes kill 7, injure 75

STAR REPORT

At least seven people were killed and 75 others, including eight women, injured in separate road accidents in different districts yesterday.

Our Correspondent from Chittagong adds: A shop owner was killed and another injured in a road accident in the port city yesterday.

The victim was identified as Nantu Dev Nath, 40, son of Axmoy of Halishahar.

The accident occurred a speeding bus rammed into a roadside grocery shop at South Kattali Shahid Nagpara area under Halishahar Police Station at around 7:30 am, leaving Nantu and an unidentified boy injured.

The bus got into the shop when the driver lost control over the steering while returning carrying some workers in a nearby garment factory, the on-duty officer in Halishahar Police Station said.

The injured were rushed to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where Nantu succumbed to his injuries at around 8:30am.

Police arrested the bus driver Rasel and helper Sabuj and seized the bus.

UNB reports: An unidentified pedestrian was killed on the spot when a Chittagong-bound truck knocked him down in West Patia area at about 11:30am.

Yet in another accident, a cab driver, Shahabuddin, died on the spot and three passengers were injured when a Dhaka-bound bus hit

the cab while overtaking another bus in Foudharhat area at noon.

The injured were admitted to a local hospital.

Our Correspondent from Kishoreganj adds: One person was killed and two others were critically injured in a road accident at Karimganj road yesterday.

The dead was identified as rickshawpuller Khurshid Mia, 55 of Jangabari village of Karimganj upazila and critically injured rickshaw passengers Zahurul Islam, 35, and his brother Kamrul Islam, 33, of Tarapara area of Kishoreganj town.

Police and locals said the accident occurred when a Bhairab-bound speeding bus hit a rickshaw coming from opposite direction at Zeetur Mill area, leaving Khurshid dead on the spot and Zahurul and Kamrul injured.

Kamrul was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), Karimganj police said.

Police seized the bus but the driver managed to escape.

Our Correspondent from Gaibandha reports: At least 48 people were injured when a passenger bus plunged into a roadside ditch at Dhiperhat under Sadullapur Upazila on Rangpur-Bogra highway early hours of yesterday.

A Khulna-bound passenger coach with 65 devotees from Kurigram suddenly turned upside down and fell into a roadside ditch at Dhiperhat on Rangpur-Bogra highway when the driver lost his control over the steering. The devotees were going to attend an urs in

Khulna.

The fire service men from Gaibandha rushed to the spot and rescued the passengers trapped inside the coach. The driver and helper, however, managed to escape soon after the accident.

Due to impact of accident 48 persons were received injuries, four of them critical. The seriously injured are Asad, 47, Moizul, 52, Razzaq, 38, and Shahidul, 36 were sent to Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

A case was filed with Sadullapur police station.

Our Correspondent from Patuakhali adds: At least 20 people, including eight women, were injured when a passenger bus fell into a roadside ditch at Durnam.

The accident occurred at about 3:30pm when the driver of a Patuakhali-bound bus lost his control over the steering.

Of the injured, Goutam, 30, Parvin, 22, Kahan, 30, Nasim, 32, Shahadat, 28, Jahangir, 35, Yunus Ali, 40 and Nurul Islam were rushed to Dumki Lutharan Healthcare Clinic in critical condition.

Our correspondent from Brahmanbaria says: A youth was killed under the wheels of a speeding truck on Brahmanbaria- Comilla highway at Kasba Upazila of the district yesterday.

He was identified as Bappi, 6, son of Monir Hossain of Mohamaya village under Hajiganj upazila.

Police and witnesses said Bappi came to attend a Waj Mahfil at Devpur when a Chandpur-bound bus from Comilla ran over him killing him on the spot.

The angry mob put barricade on the busy Chandpur-Comilla highway for over an hour.

Tinlake Peer bus stand.

Ripon succumbed to his injuries on the way to hospital.

The driver and helper along with their truck managed to escape.

Our correspondent from Moulvibazar adds: A man was killed and one other injured seriously in a road accident on Dhaka-Moulvibazar-Sylhet highway yesterday.

Srimongal police said Masaddar Ali, 55, a health inspector of the local upazila health complex, died on the spot when a speedy covered van hit from behind their Mishuk (country-made three-wheeler) at Noagaon.

Karim, another passenger of the Mishuk, was injured and he was admitted to Srimongal health complex.

Police seized the covered van.

A case was filed with Srimongal Police Station in this connection.

Our correspondent from Chandpur adds: A minor boy was killed in a road accident on Chandpur-Comilla highway on Wednesday night.

He was identified as Bappi, 6, son of Monir Hossain of Mohamaya village under Hajiganj upazila.

Police and witnesses said Bappi came to attend a Waj Mahfil at Devpur when a Chandpur-bound bus from Comilla ran over him killing him on the spot.

The angry mob put barricade on the busy Chandpur-Comilla highway for over an hour.



Death anniversary of Gen Osmani today

Today is the 23rd death anniversary of General MAG Osmani, the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces during the War of Liberation, says a press release.

Different organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to mark the day.

Bangabir Osmani Smriti Parishad will place wreaths at his graveyard in Sylhet in the morning and hold a discussion at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital at 4:00pm.

Foreign Affairs Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain, Maj Gen (retd) Mainul Hossain Chowdhury and Maj Gen (retd) Saeedul Islam will take part in the discussion.

Meanwhile, Sylhet Division Development Council in a statement yesterday urged the caretaker government to observe the day at the state level.

It will also hold a discussion and doa mahfil at its Naya Paltan office.

Kazi Aref



Today is the 8th death anniversary of Kazi Aref, a leader of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) who was killed along with his four comrades while addressing a rally against terrorism in Kushtia in 1999, says a press release.

He was an organiser of the liberation war.

When the historic six-point was placed before the nation in 1966, Kazi Aref was the president of Chhatra League, Dhaka City unit.

He was the founding member of JSD and had been the president of the party until his death.

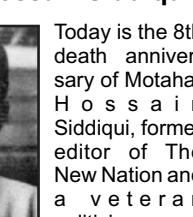
To mark the day different socio-political organisations have taken up elaborate programmes.

Kazi Aref Parishad will place wreath and offer prayers at his graveyard in Buddhabibi graveyard in the city at 8:30am.

The JSD will also place wreath at his graveyard in the morning and organise a discussion at Col Taher auditorium in the city at 4:00pm.

Awami League President Member Abdur Razzak, Workers' Party leader Haidar Akbar Khan Rono, President of Secular Bangladesh Shahriar Kabir and General Secretary of Dhaka University Teachers' Association Dr Anwar Hossain will take part in the discussion.

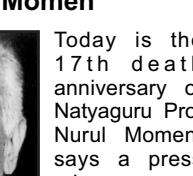
Motahar Hossain Siddiqui



Today is the 8th death anniversary of Motahar Hossain Siddiqui, former editor of The New Nation and a veteran politician, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at his Gopibagh residence after Asr prayers.

Prof Nurul Momen

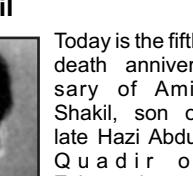


Today is the 17th death anniversary of Prof Nurul Momen, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held.

Different socio-cultural organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes marking the day.

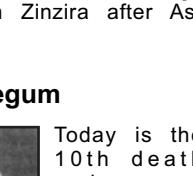
Amir Shakil



Today is the fifth death anniversary of Amir Shakil, son of late Hazi Abdul Quadir of Zinzira, Keraniganj, Dhaka, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad doa mahfil will be held at his Gulzarbagh residence in Zinzira after Asr prayers today.

Anwara Begum



Today is the 10th death anniversary of Anwara Begum, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad doa mahfil will be held after Asr prayers at her son's residence at Block-B, Road-5, Plot-15 at Nawab Faizunnesa Waqf Estate, Duarpara, Pallabi in the city.

UN ANTI-GRAFT CONVENTION TI welcomes CG's decision

Transparency International (TI) has welcomed and commended the decision by the caretaker government (CG) to accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

The decision is most appropriate and prudent for Bangladesh's national interest, said a press release yesterday.

TI has been following with keen interest and expectation the importance attached at the highest level of the caretaker government to combating corruption with a comprehensive approach as reflected in the statement to the nation by Chief Adviser Dr Iftekhar Ahmed on January 22.

"The main thrust being on making the forthcoming national elections free from the influence of corruption and illicit money, we are inspired by some of the initiatives taken by Dr Ahmed's government, which includes measures for an independent judiciary and reconstitution of the Election and Anti-Corruption Commissions, aiming at making these vital institutions truly independent and effective," said Huguette Labelle, chair of TI.

TI's secretariat and TIB are ready, within their capacity, to provide any assistance that may be needed to expedite the process of Bangladesh's accession to the UN Convention, as well as implementation of other reform initiatives taken by the government, said the press release of TIB.

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

City/Town	Temperature in celsius percentage	Humidity in percentage	
Dhaka	24.5	16.2	75 55
Chittagong	27.0	17.0	92 59
Rajshahi	23.8	13.4	87 50
Khulna	24.5	17.0	77 56
Barisal	25.5	16.5	68 66
Sylhet	23.8	16.0	83 60
Cox's Bazar	27.0	17.0	90 --

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

City/Town Temperature in celsius percentage

Max Min Morning Evening

Dhaka 24.5 16.2 75 55

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Khulna 24.5 17.0 77 56

Barisal 25.5 16.5 68 66

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Cox's Bazar 27.0 17.0 90 --

Obituary

Bss, Rajshahi

Prof Syed Mostaque Ali, former registrar of Rajshahi University (RU) and Islami University (IU) in Kushtia, died of old age complications on Tuesday night at Birdem Hospital in Dhaka at the age of 81.

He left behind his two sons and one daughter to mourn his death.

Prof Mostaque was buried at Rajshahi central graveyard.

RU Vice-chancellor Prof M Altaf Hossain and Pro-VC Prof Mamunul Keramat expressed deep shock at his death.

"The initiatives reflect the demands and aspirations of every citizen of Bangladesh. If properly implemented with supportive legal and institutional reforms, the basis will be created for effective and sustainable control of corruption and establishment of transparent and accountable governance in the country," said Dr Iftekhar Zaman, executive director of TI-Bangladesh (TIB).

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