

7 killed in road crashes

STAR REPORT

At least seven people, including two women and two police constables, were killed and 25 others injured in separate road accidents in Dinajpur and Faridpur yesterday.

Our correspondent from Dinajpur reports: At least four unidentified people, including two women, were killed and 25 others injured in a road accident at Garoandangi highway under Chiribandar upazila here early yesterday morning, according to police official sources.

Police quoting Goroadangi villagers said a Panchagarh-bound night couch fell into a roadside ditch as the driver lost his control over the steering near the Goroadangi Bridge under Chiribandar upazila of Dinajpur, leaving three passengers, including two women, dead on the spot and 26 injured.

Local people and police rushed the injured to Syedpur Sadar Hospital

and Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH). Of them, a five-year-old unidentified child succumbed to his injuries at RMCH.

Three were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) as their condition deteriorated.

The bodies were sent to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

UNB adds: A Dhaka University staff was crushed under the wheels of a bus in the city's Kafrul area yesterday morning.

The dead was identified as Motaleb Howlader, 57, office assistant of Rokeya Hall. He hailed from Hogla village in Barisal.

Police said the Kachukhet-bound bus ran over Motaleb near Jahangir Gate at about 8:30am while he was passing the road riding a bicycle.

Police seized the bus while the driver managed to escape.

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

Meanwhile, two police constables were crushed under the wheels of a truck at Shibrampur village in Sadar upazila on Faridpur-Daulatdia section of Dhaka-Kulna highway in Faridpur early yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Mizanur Rahman, 41, of Pathanpara village in Bagharapara upazila of Jessore, and Rabul Islam, 42, of Baka village in Kalia upazila of Narail. Both of them were the constables of the district highway police outpost.

Police said the accident occurred when the Dhaka-bound truck, loaded with tobacco, hit the cops and plunged into a roadside ditch at about 1:45am., leaving them dead on the spot. They were on patrol duty in the area.

Later, police sent the bodies to Faridpur Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

CAG submits audit reports to President

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed stressed the need for further expediting and modernising government financial management so that financial discipline is ensured.

His suggestion came when Comptroller and Auditor General Asif Ali submitted audit reports to the President at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Iajuddin also called upon all concerned to "work with more responsibility for ensuring transparency and accountability in every sphere of government financial sectors".

He said, "Audit Department has to ensure all facilities regarding the pension case and gratuity at the end of service without hassles."

The reports include seven annual reports, three performance audit reports, three special audit reports and three issue-based audit reports for the financial years 2003-04 and 2004-05, which shows a backlog in auditing work.

The CAG apprised the President of "Entity Wide Audit" that takes each ministry as entity and vertically goes down for detailed auditing.

"This audit approach would lead to performance audit, certification audit, social audit and environment audit," he said.

The CAG also apprised the President of the need for training of the officials concerned of the Audit Department, both at home and abroad.

President thanked the CAG for submitting the audit reports in time.

The President also underlined the need for training of the concerned officials and staff of the Audit Department for skill development.

Military Secretary to the President Major General M Aminul Karim, President's Secretary M Sirajul Islam and Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General (Accounts and Reports) M Moslemuddin were present.

Lack of cooperation is hampering Saarc activities, former principal secretary economist Dr SA Samad said, adding that whereas regional trade and investment is over 80 percent under North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta), it is less than five percent under Saarc.

There is no common project among the regional countries, he said, calling for fostering the spirit of cooperation and true regionalism in order to make the Saarc more effective.

Imagine New South Asia (INSA) and South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE) organised the discussion on 'People's Saarc' at Women's Voluntary Association auditorium in the city ahead of the 14th Saarc Summit.

Speaking as the chief guest, eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said the Saarc countries are facing new problems due to the impact of globalisation.

Sorenson, who led the five-member delegation, made the remarks while talking to newsmen after the hour-long meeting with the EC in the afternoon.

The delegation exchanged information regarding what they had done with the past EC and discussed the possibilities and activities about what they could do in the future with the new EC, Sorenson said.

He said the EC is still looking into variety of options they have in front of them and analysing those. They expected that the EC would share matters with everybody, including the donor parties.

Earlier at a press briefing at his office, acting secretary to the EC secretariat M Humayun Kabir said they have formed an informal inquiry committee to scrutinise the matter of taking away documents and files by former joint secretary Mohammad Jorokir who was made OSD last week.

"Any officer can take his personal things before joining the new office... We are scrutinising the matter since he did it on Friday... I talked to him... he told me that he took his personal books... But he could do it on any working day... It was not right," said the EC secretary.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Highest temperature 36.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and lowest 15.4 degree Celsius at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:07pm today and rises at 6:09am tomorrow.

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

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Meherun N Islam, managing director of CEMS, speaks at a press conference in the city yesterday. On her right is Ali Reza Iftekhar and on her left is Mokhlesur Rahman. (Story on Page 8)

Nazimuddin Alam among 13 BNP men sued in Bhola

UNB, Bhola

An attempt to murder case has been filed against 13 BNP men, including ex-lawmaker Nazimuddin Alam, in Bhola.

Akhtarul Alam Samu, a former pourasava commissioner, filed the case with a cognizance court on Sunday.

In his complaint, Samu said the cadres of BNP, at Nazimuddin Alam's behest, stabbed him indiscriminately and left him on Char Fashion Sadar road on February 16, 2004 thinking him dead.

Later, local people rushed him to local hospital.

Enamul Haque Masud, brother of Samu, had filed a case with Char Fashion upazila police station in this connection in the same month. But the case was disposed of because of political influence during the tenure of four-party alliance, Samu said.

Other accused include upazila BNP general secretary Ruhul Quddus, former JCD leader Mir Sayeed and BNP upazila office secretary Mizanur Rahman.

Two Indians arrested with heroin

UNB, Sherpur

An Indian national was arrested along with 2kgs of heroin from a house at Polashikura village in Nalitabari upazila on Sunday night.

BDR sources said acting on secret information they arrested Raju Miah, 24, from the house of Shamsul Islam along with the drug at about 10:00am.

On interrogation, Raju, who hailed from Namra gaon of Mankachar district of Indian State of Assam, said he often comes here to sell heroin.

BDR could not arrest Shamsul Islam as he went into hiding sensing his presence.

BBS from Chapainawabganj adds: The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) arrested an Indian with 10 grams of heroin and 800 grams of ganja from Bakchar of Halimpur frontier under sadar upazila of the district yesterday.

He was arrested on charge of intrusion into Bangladesh territory and identified as Md Jasim Uddin, 30, of Atrashia under Lalgaon thana of Mursidabad district in India.

BDR sources said the arrested was handed over to Chapainawabganj sadar police.

'Monajatuddin pioneer in investigative journalism'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Impact of his report," Kajol added. Eminent Educationist Dr Abdul Ahsan Chowdhury, who supervised the research, said Monajatuddin roamed all over the country to expose the real picture of the society.

BFUJ President Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul said both Barinath and Monajatuddin were dedicated to bring out the truth.

Noted Journalist Syed Abdul Maksud said Barinath struggled for bringing out the truth during the British regime while Monajatuddin had to work against various adversities living in an independent country.

Dramatist Mamunur Rashid, Journalist Nasimun Ara Huq and Nasima Monajat, wife of Monajatuddin, also spoke at the function presided over by Prof Atiur Rahman, president of Smriti Sangshad.

As the first ever research fellow of Samonnoy-Monajatuddin Gobeshona Fellowship-1413, Kajol Rashid Shahin of the daily Sangbadik Monajatuddin Smriti Sangshad on the occasion of presenting a research paper titled 'Rural Journalism: Kangal Barinath to Monajatuddin' at the Unnayan Monajatuddin conference room in the city.

The Smriti Sangshad introduced the fellowship jointly with Samonnoy last year and decided to continue research on Monajatuddin by granting fellowship to one journalist every year.

While summarising the paper Kajol said Monajatuddin expressed his views with courage and tried to invoke public conscience.

"He always did follow-up reporting to know whether there is any

She was buried at the Azimpur graveyard. Her qulkhani will be held at 53, Baddanagar Lane in the city after Asr prayers today.

Rasheda Khan, wife of Dr Abdul Quader Khan, passed away in the early hours of Sunday at the age of 70, says a press release.

She was buried at the Azimpur graveyard.

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