

# Four of a family among 10 killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least ten people, including four of a family, were killed in separate road accidents across the country.

Our correspondent from Manikganj reports: Four members of a family, on way to a wedding party, were killed and one was seriously injured in a road accident on Dhaka-Aricha high way at Muljan area in Manikganj Sadar Upazila yesterday.

The victims were identified as Ayesha Begum, 45, wife of Fazar Ali, Rezia, 38, wife of Sher Ali, Moyuri, 30, wife of Farid Ali of Dhakajajora village in Shibabala and Rawshan Ara, 33, wife of Khalilur Rahman of Sholdhara village in Ghorin in Manikganj district.

Moyuri's husband Farid Ali said Ayesha and Rezia are his brothers' wives and Rawshan is his cousin's wife. A total of seven members of his family were going to the wedding party of his sister's son at Bhatbar village, he said.

Sources said the accident occurred at around 1:45pm when a Dhaka bound speeding bus ran over the people while they were

walking beside the road. Ayesha was killed on the spot and Rawshan and Rezia died on way to Manikganj Sadar Hospital and Moyuri died on way to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Critically injured Moyuri's six-year old daughter Rizvi was shifted to DMCH from Manikganj Sadar Hospital.

The bodies were taken to Manikganj Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

Meanwhile, police seized the bus but could not arrest its driver.

A case was lodged with Manikganj Police Station in this regard.

Our correspondent in Chittagong adds: Three people were killed and four others injured in separate road accidents at Satkania.

Two of them were killed in a collision between a truck and an autorickshaw on Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway near Keranihat at around 10:00pm on Tuesday.

Sources said the Chittagong-bound truck collided head-on with the autorickshaw, leaving its six passengers injured. Two of them --

Ajit Das, 55, and Abdul Haq, 32, of village Padua -- died on their way to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

Four others -- Sirajul Islam, Md Idris, Harunur Rashid and Md Ali -- were admitted to nearby Keranihat Seba Hospital.

In another accident, an unidentified truck driver was killed in Nayakhali area near Jafar Ahmad College in Satkania early yesterday.

Sources said a Chittagong-bound bus collided head-on with a truck at around 5:00am, leaving the truck driver dead on the spot.

Our correspondent from Satkhira adds: Two people were killed in two separate road accidents yesterday in the district.

The deceased were identified as Mostakim, 16, son of Abdul Alim of Kukhrali village in the town and Kawsar Ali Moral, 70, son of late Belayet Ali of Durgapur village in Assassuni upazila.

Quoting local people police said a pick-up van knocked Mostakim on Satkhira-Kaligonj road in front of Bakal high school leaving him seriously injured when he was returning to his village from Bakal in the town by riding a motorcycle.

He died on way to Satkhira Sadar hospital. The victim was a student of class eight in Karima high school.

In the other incident, Kawsar Ali while crossing the road, a motorcycle knocked him down in front of Brac office at Durgapur in Assassuni upazila leaving him seriously injured and he died on way to Assassuni hospital.

On contact, Assistant Police Super (ASP) Fazlur Rahman confirmed the incident.

A correspondent from Meherpur adds: A collage student was killed in a road accident at Gangni bus stand yesterday noon.

He was identified as Mohon, 18, of Char Goalgram village. He was a student of second year of Gangni Degree College.

Police and witnesses said a speeding bus knocked him from the rear side and ran over him while Mohan was returning from Gangni Bazar.

Driver of the killer bus managed to escape with the bus.



PHOTO: STAR

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) bulldozes the extended part on the ground floor of Genetic Plaza at Dhanmondi in the city for the second time yesterday during a drive against illegal structures. Earlier, Rajuk demolished the same portion, but the authorities again reconstructed it.

## DRIVE AGAINST ILLEGAL STRUCTURES Some owners reconstructing demolished parts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ongoing drive against illegal structures by Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) may end in failure as some owners are reconstructing the structures few days following the demolition, Rajuk officials told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

They said Rajuk magistrates cannot fine or try the owners of the building except demolishing the illegal part, even if they do the same crime repeatedly, due to lack of Metropolitan Magistracy Power. Rajuk can only demolish the illegal parts, they added.

Such was the situation in case of PQS, a super shop at Genetic Plaza in Dhanmondi residential area. Three weeks back Rajuk bulldozed the shop illegally established at the ground floor of the building, designated for car parking, sources said.

The owner has re-established the same business at the same place and Rajuk bulldozed it for the second time yesterday, the source added.

Rajuk officials said they have got a number of such complaints.

"If situation goes like this, we have to run demolition drive all year round and they will keep reconstructing illegal structures again and again making our endeavour a complete failure," said a high official of Rajuk and demanded necessary steps in this regard.

However, the official said the process of empowering the magistrate with Metropolitan Magistracy Power is on cards and hopefully it

will be implemented soon.

Meanwhile, Rajuk yesterday demolished at least 30 structures partially in Dhanmondi road no. 8 and 27.

Two top floors of the Genetic Plaza were also demolished. The building has permission for six floors while it had constructed eight floors.

The authorities also demolished the structures under construction at the ground floor of Imperial Plaza at road no 8 for the owner was constructing shops in the ground floor instead of leaving the space for car parking.

Meantime, Bangladesh Railway authorities yesterday recovered one acre of its land from the illegal encroachers in Bhairab rail junction and its adjacent areas. It demolished at least 52 illegal structures of the area.

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## CDA orders to evict Premier University bldg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) yesterday issued an eviction notice against Premier University Unit No. 1 at Probartak Intersection and Hotel Zaman at GEC Intersection, both owned by Chittagong City Corporation (CCC).

In the notice sent to CCC chief executive officer and chief engineer, CDA ordered to evict the buildings within a week.

Otherwise, CDA would launch an eviction drive, the notice added.

Both the buildings were constructed in violation of Building Construction (BC) rules and without obtaining required approval from the concerned authorities of CDA, said the sources.

None of the buildings have any parking lot, forcing the vehicles park on the busy street hindering smooth vehicular movement.

CCC constructed the building that houses Premier University Unit No. 1 covering a huge drain that forms a vital part of the city's sewerage system.

The building on government Khas land adjoining to Chittagong Medical College & Hospital (CMCH) causes serious water logging in Probartak intersection area.

The other building that houses Hotel Zaman encroaches a huge portion of the narrow footpath at GEC Intersection and creates traffic jam.

Earlier CDA issued another notice on Tuesday for evicting the building that houses Premier University Unit No. 2, constructed on the same drain adjoining to CMCH.

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Health Adviser Dr ASM Matiur Rahman speaks at the inaugural ceremony of a four-day international symposium and workshop on 'Clinical Engineering' in the city recently. Dr Duangvadee Sungkhobol, country representative of WHO, and Dr Abu Raihan, country director of ORBIS Bangladesh, were also present.

## Three ACC DGs appointed

UNB, Dhaka

Joint Secretary of the health and family welfare ministry Syed Mustafizur Rahman, Joint Secretary of education ministry AZM Shafiqul Alam and Joint Secretary of CHT affairs ministry Rowshan Ara have been appointed director generals of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) on deputation, said an official handout yesterday.

## One gets 17 yrs in arms case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

A Chittagong court yesterday sentenced a person to 17 years' imprisonment in an arms case.

District Sessions Judge ANM Bashirullah handed down the verdict to Md Hossain of Madanhat in Hathazari upazila.

According to the prosecution, Hathazari police recovered an LG and a cartridge from the house of Md Hossain during a raid on August 26 in 2001.



## Aleem-Al-Razee's death anniversary today

UNB, Dhaka

Today is the 22nd death anniversary of Dr Aleem-Al-Razee, noted parliamentarian, jurist and educationist.

Dr Aleem-Al-Razee Memorial Council, Sandhani National Eye Donation Society, City Law College in Dhaka, Nagarpur Government College in Tangail and Dr Aleem-Al-Razee High School in Lawhati (Tangail) chalked out elaborate programmes, marking the day.

In a statement, Sandhani President Prof C.H. Kabir and General Secretary Dr M Saidur Rahman appealed to the people to come forward to donate their eyes posthumously to restore the eyesight of thousands of blinds in the country by emulating the noble example set by Dr Razee who was an enlightened religious person and a reputed Islamic scholar.

## INT'L SYMPOSIUM ON CLINICAL ENGINEERING '30pc medical equipment non-functioning'

Thirty percent of medical equipment in Bangladesh are non-functioning due to behavioural and cultural practice, according to a survey conducted by ORBIS Bangladesh.

Dr Abu Raihan, country director of ORBIS International, said this at the inaugural ceremony of a four-day international symposium and workshop on 'Clinical Engineering' that began in the city on March 12, says a press release.

"ORBIS Bangladesh is committed to the improvement of this discipline and very much would like to work with the government and other partners in identifying and addressing the problems," he added.

Health Adviser Dr ASM Matiur Rahman inaugurated the workshop organised by the ORBIS in association with American College of Clinical Engineering (ACCE), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, World Health Organisation (WHO) and Commission for the Advancement of Healthcare Technology Management in Asia (CAHTMA).

This is the first ever workshop organised in Bangladesh on clinical engineering for medical equipment technician, engineers and paramedics.

Dr Matiur Rahman said, "Modern healthcare is heavily dependent on technology and there is gradually increased use of technologically advanced medical equipments. But we don't have a large number of technicians/engineers to support. This is the time to look into the problem."

Prof Rabiul Husain, chair, International Agency for the

Prevention of blindness (IAPB), South East Asian Region, said, "Sophisticated instrument in healthcare are being used without proper maintenance and for that we need skilled manpower."

Prof Syed Maruf Ali, director of National Institute of Ophthalmology, and Dr Duangvadee Sungkhobol, country representative of WHO, also spoke at the inaugural ceremony while Nicholas Noyes, representative of ACCE, delivered the vote of thanks.

## Obituary

David Johnson, a former adviser to USAID's ATDP Project in Bangladesh, passed away due to liver cancer on March 10 at his residence in Lakeland, Florida, USA, at the age of 65, says a press release.

During his tenure at ATDP during 1998-99, he helped in the growing, processing and export of potato products and supported export enhancement of shrimp and improvement of fruit, vegetable, dairy and poultry production.

A graduate from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in economics and journalism, David Johnson was also a poet, writer, guitarist and singer.

He left behind his wife, one son and two daughters and two granddaughters and a host of friends and admirers.

## WATER RESERVOIR FIRE

## Domestic help succumbs to injuries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A domestic help, who received burn injury in a fire originated in water reservoir, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday.

Mohammadpur police said Saddam Hossain, 15, domestic help of Shamsuddin, a resident of Azam Road in Mohammadpur, went into the water reservoir on March 10 to look whether there was any problem.

There was no light inside and as soon as Saddam tried to light a candle with a match, a fire broke out in the reservoir and Saddam received burn injuries.

Investigation officer Sub Inspector Abdur Rauf told The Daily Star that existence of some gas in the reservoir might have caused the explosion in it.

Saddam's mother filed an unnatural death case with Mohammadpur Police Station yesterday as he died at 12:00pm.

On February 21, a similar accident took place in East-West University building where all the six cleaners, employed to clean the water tank, died.

## Justice Karim to hold office in absence of Chief Justice

Bss, Dhaka

The president yesterday gave charge of the office of the chief justice to the senior most judge of the Appellate Division, Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim, in absence of Chief Justice Mohammad Ruhul Amin from March 22 to March 27 or until he takes his office.

The president bestowed the charge as per his jurisdiction under article 97 of the constitution, an official handout said yesterday.

### DHAKA TODAY

#### Workshop

Roads and Highways Department of Ministry of Communications organises a workshop on 'Draft road master plan proposals'. Venue: Dhaka Sheraton. Time: 9:30am.

#### Exhibition

The closing ceremony of the 3rd National Arts and Crafts Exhibition participated by children and youths with disabilities will be held. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre premises. Time: 4:30pm.

#### Conference

The 2nd National Conference of Bangladesh Nari Sangbadik Kendra will be held. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 9:30am.

#### Discussion

Consumers' Association of Bangladesh

#### Science Fair

Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) organises 'Science Fair 2007'. Venue: BCSIR premises. Time: 4:30pm.

#### Motor show

EBL 2nd Dhaka Motor Show 2007 will begin. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. Time: 12:00noon.

#### Launching ceremony

Bangladesh Bank and Department of International Development will launch 'Remittance and payments partnership project'. Venue: Dhaka Sheraton Hotel. Time: 9:30am.

will hold a discussion on the occasion of the World Consumers Rights Day. Venue: Cirdap auditorium. Time: 3:00pm.

## HIV prevention programme in Jessore, Gazipur jails soon

A pilot programme will be launched soon in Jessore Central Jail and Gazipur District Jail to address HIV prevention among incarcerated substance users as per a plan of action prepared in a training workshop, says a press release.

It was disclosed at the certificate awarding ceremony of a five-day national training programme held at Biam auditorium in the city yesterday.

Dr Suruchi Panth, who attended the training programme as a resource person, said UNODC is assisting India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bhutan and Bangladesh in taking up various programmes for HIV prevention in the jails.

The ceremony was presided over by Sahana Sharmin, senior assistant secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. Among others Dr Joydev Sarangee, UNODC representative and prison expert, Shafiqul Islam, director, Programmes of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Abu Taleb, deputy director of Department of Narcotics Control and Iqbal Masud, senior programme officer of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, spoke on the occasion.

The training workshop was attended by a total of 25 participants, including three Senior Assistant Secretaries of Ministry of Home Affairs, three Assistant Directors of Department of Narcotics Control, eight officers of Dhaka, Jessore and Gazipur Jails, two officers from Bangladesh Police and representatives of Care-Bangladesh, CRIA, Apon, Baraka and ICDDR,B.