



Dhakabashi and National Federation of Youth Organisations in Bangladesh organise a Saarc Youth Rally in the city yesterday on the occasion of the 14th Saarc Summit.

Two die in rooftop fall in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people died after falling from rooftop in separate incidents in the city yesterday.

Monir Hussain, son of Mohammad Kobbat Ali of Lalbagh area, fell from the rooftop of four-storied Fazle Rabbi Hall of Dhaka Medical College at around 12:30pm and died on the spot.

Afia Begum, the victim's mother, informed that Monir was a drug addict who might have committed suicide following feuds with his parents.

In another incident Gulshan Ara Begum, 52, wife of Hiron Gani, died after falling from the rooftop of eight-storied Rangs Tower in Gulshan at around 2:45am.

Family sources said Gulshan Ara, a teacher by profession, was suffering from mental illness.

Process of changing IOs in ACC cases begins

UNB, Dhaka

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has decided to change the investigation officers of the cases of information concealment against 13 of the 50 corrupt suspects as a precautionary step to prevent them from getting biased.

"Yes, the Commission in its meeting decided to change the IOs of the cases against 13 of the listed 50 corrupt suspects in accordance with the ACC Rules, 2007 to prevent anyone from getting biased. The process of changing the IOs have already begun," a competent source told UNB yesterday.

"From now on, no-one will remain as investigation officer on completion of the inquiry into any case of the ACC as the rules state there should be different IOs in different stages," he said.

The IOs who submitted FIRs against Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir,

Mir Nasir and Aman Ullah Aman have already been changed, the source said.

Replying to a question, he said the charge sheets against the above three corrupt suspects would be filed by April 15, as it is mandatory to submit charge sheets within 45 days of filing FIRs.

The source said the objective of the reconstituted ACC is to give an impression of filing charge sheets quickly and efficiently against the high-profile accused. "To ensure quality in the task, it is taking time a bit longer to submit charge sheets against the three individuals. Charge sheets will be filed within a month against the other accused."

About the filing of cases against those who failed to submit their wealth statements within the stipulated time set by the Commission, he said cases against the defiant suspects would be filed with the

special courts designated to hear graft cases.

According to another source, a gazette notification has already been issued about setting up of six special courts that would sit in the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. There will also be such special courts either in the divisional or district headquarters.

In reply to a query, the source also said half of the 40 ACC officials working with 40 task forces in the capital are working on the first list of corrupt suspects while another 20 on others.

About the organogram, he said the new ACC organogram raising the number of personnel from 650 to 1,200 or 1,250 staff would be finalised by April 15. "The issue was discussed in today's Commission meeting."

Security guard gunned down in city hotel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Assailants gunned down a security guard and injured two other staffs of a residential hotel at Elephant Road in the capital yesterday.

Bullet-hit Rafiqul Islam Azad, 26, security guard of Hotel Gausia International, was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared him dead.

The injured --Sakhawat Hossain and Zahidul Islam Mantu - were admitted to the DMCH and Pangu Hospital. Both are hotel boys.

Police suspect that dispute over ownership of the hotel might have led to the incident.

Witnesses said six persons on two motor bikes turned up in front of the five-storey hotel building at

about 8:00 am and three of them stormed into it. They first shot the security guard and then the two hotel boys. The gang fled the spot immediately.

Sakhawat said the attackers shouted for hotel owners Nahid and Razu, who were not present there.

Hotel sources said one of the 10 owners of the hotel-- Kamal --

was stripped of ownership about a year ago and general manager of the hotel, who was loyal to him, was sacked about three months back. The two might be involved in yesterday's incident, they suspect.

Police said one of the hotel owners --Habibur Rahman-- was killed at a city hotel in July last year due to ownership dispute.

SC VANDALISM HC stays case proceedings

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday stayed for five weeks the proceedings of the CMM's court in the case of vandalism on the Supreme Court premises over the caretaker government issue.

On November 30, violence erupted on the SC premises as the then chief justice stayed the proceedings of three writ petitions minutes before a High Court bench was to issue rule on one writ challenging legality of the president's takeover as the chief adviser to the caretaker government.

Barrister Omar Sadat, son-in-law of BNP leader and former minister Shahjahan Siraj, had filed the criminal case with the CMM's court. In the case, eminent jurists, including Dr Kamal Hossain, M Amir-ul Islam, Rakanuddin Mahmud and three scores of other unidentified lawyers, have been accused of vandalising the offices of chief justice and attorney general and thereby disturbing court proceedings.

Though the complainant blamed them for sedition, no such charge was brought in the charge sheet, as the investigation officer found "no evidence of sedition".

Passing the order of stay, a division bench comprising Justice MA Wahhab Mian and Justice M Emdadul Huq, after a brief hearing of a quashing petition, issued a rule on the government to explain why the case "should not be quashed".

The division bench set May 8 for order, as it has powers "only to hear motion cases, not final hearing of the rule".

British HC closed Apr 8

UNB, Dhaka

British High Commission in Dhaka and its office in Sylhet will remain closed on April 8 on the occasion of Easter Sunday, said a press release.