

Road crashes kill 11, injure 44

STAR REPORT

At least 11 people were killed and 44 others injured in separate road accidents in Sathkira, Rangpur, Rajshahi and Gaibandha yesterday.

Our correspondent from Sathkira reports: Five people, including the son of the deceased Pir of Gunakarkati Khanka Sharif in Assasuni upazila, were killed and four others injured in a road accident on Sathkira-Khulna road early morning yesterday.

The accident occurred when a microbus carrying the body of Gunakarkati Khanka Sharif's Pir plunged into a roadside ditch at Noapara in Tala upazila.

The body of Pir-e-Kamel Shah Mohammad Sadeqr Rahman who died at a Khulna clinic on July 8 night was being taken to Gunakarkati from Jessore military hospital cold storage.

The dead are Khaja Ehsanullah, 45, son of the deceased Pir and his father-in-law Mohammad Sayeed, 60, of Sonadanga in Khulna City, Manzurul Alam, 52 of village

Pangaon in Kearniganj upazila in Dhaka, Abdul Aziz, 45, a police constable of village Ganapatipur and Manirul Islam, 32 of village Kalijuga in Kalignanj upazila.

The injured are Saifullah Selu son of Zahiruddin, Rumi, 16, daughter of Abdul Aziz and Afroza Begum, 20, daughter of Masum Billah of village Gunakarkati in Assasuni upazila and Saidur Rahman, 35 of village Ghona in Kotwali in Jessore.

The injured were rushed to Sathkira Sadar Hospital from where Saidur was shifted to Khulna Hospital as his condition deteriorated, hospital sources said.

Quoting local people police said, the accident took place when one of the microbuses of the convoy carrying the Pir's body plunged into a roadside ditch as the driver lost control over the steering.

Police and local people rescued the injured from the microbus.

The Pir and his son were buried at their family graveyard.

Our correspondent from Rangpur: Four people, including a minor girl, were killed and 35 others

injured at Boiriganj under Mithapukur upazila early hours of yesterday.

Police and witnesses said the accident occurred when a Panchagarh-bound bus from Dhaka turned upside down and fell into a roadside ditch at Boiriganj as its driver lost control over the steering, leaving three passengers dead on the spot.

The dead were identified as Saiful Islam, 32, Sheikh Rani, 5, and Islam Ali, 32. An unidentified passenger succumbed to his injuries on the way to Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Of the injured, 28 were rushed to RMCH. Condition of eight was stated to be critical.

RU correspondent adds: A housewife was killed in a road accident in Rajshahi yesterday.

The dead was identified as Rehana Khatun, 45, wife of Suhrab Ali of Noapara area of Rajshahi.

Witnesses said the accident occurred when Mishuk, autorickshaw, knocked down Rehana while she was standing beside the Noapara road crossing at about

1:00pm, leaving her dead on the spot.

Local people sent her body to home in Noapara.

On the other hand, Rehana's son Kamal Uddin filed a murder case with Shah Mukduma police station against the Mishuk driver on Tuesday evening.

Our correspondent from Gaibandha says: One person was killed and five others were injured when a speeding coach rammed a rickshaw van at Dherpat on Rangpur-Bogra highway yesterday.

Police said the accident occurred when a Rangpur-passenger coach from Dhaka rammed a rickshaw van coming from opposite direction near the BTC centre at Dherpat on Rangpur-Bogra highway, one Babul Mia, 55, a cattle trader, on the spot.

Of the injured, three were rushed to Sadullapur Health Complex in critical condition. The seriously injured are Ainul Islam, 40, Khaja Mia, 66 and rickshaw van puller Quddus, 36.

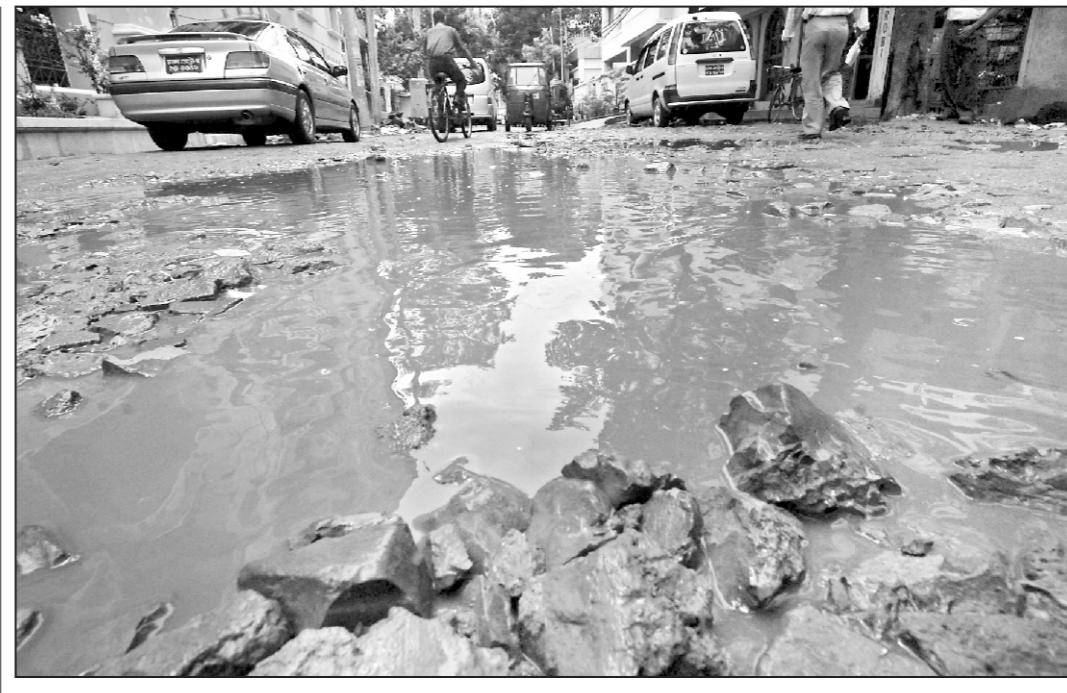


PHOTO: STAR
With potholes filled with rainwater, Gulshan Road No 108 in the city lies in a dilapidated condition, causing immense suffering to commuters and pedestrians, but the authorities have turned a blind eye to the problem. The picture was taken yesterday.

DCC to launch 'outsourcing' to carry out waste management

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) would launch 'outsourcing' to carry out waste management in Dhanmondi-5 area before Ramadan and the entire city would be brought under this programme gradually.

A meeting headed by LGRD and Cooperatives Adviser Mohammad Anwarul Iqbal yesterday took the decision. DCC Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka and Secretary of the concerned ministry Safer Raj Hossain were also present during the meeting.

The DCC would monitor the waste management activities across the city and the DCC cleaners would be engaged there.

Besides, DCC would install required number of containers and would complete the Aminbazar landfill site as soon as possible. Some other landfill site would also be added to the current sites.

DMC Computer Club executives

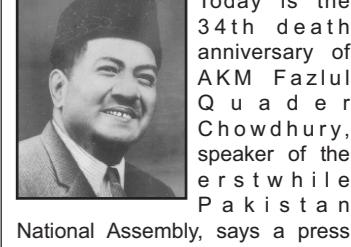
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Computer Club of Dhaka Medical College, a voluntary IT organisation of medical students, has formed its 17-member executive committee for the session 2007-08 was formed.

Rakibul Alam Chayan and ANM Tuhidur Rashid Shuvro have been elected president and general secretary of the committee.

The committee was formed at a meeting held at the club office on Sunday.

Death anniversary



Today is the 34th death anniversary of AKM Fazl Quader Chowdhury, speaker of the erstwhile Pakistan National Assembly, says a press release.

On this occasion, wreaths would be placed and Fateha would be offered at his graveyard at Raazan.

A milad mahfil will also be held at his Goodwill residence in Chittagong.

Besides, different educational institutions, including Salamatullah Ideal High School in Raazan, Selima Quader Chowdhury Memorial College, Fazl Quader Chowdhury Ideal High School Alumni Association, Fazl Quader Chowdhury Primary School and Fazl Quader Chowdhury Smriti Parishad will hold discussions and milad mahfil today.

Syed Najmuddin Hashim Bss, Dhaka

The 8th death anniversary of Syed Najmuddin Hashim, former information minister, diplomat and eminent writer, will be observed today.

His family members have requested the relatives, friends and well-wishers to pray for salvation of the departed soul.



PHOTO: STAR
A policeman inspects the site where three bombs exploded on the Dhaka University campus as some unknown persons hurled the bombs near the vice-chancellor's office yesterday.

Make recommendations to strengthen local govts

CA asks experts

UNB, Dhaka

An expert committee formed by the caretaker government to recommend measures for recasting country's local government system made a presentation on their activities in a meeting with Chief Adviser Fakhrudin Ahmed yesterday.

The committee will exchange views with all sections of people in preparing the recommendations for recasting local government to make the institutions more effective.

They have already met some groups to get their opinions.

LGRD Adviser Anwarul Iqbal, Cabinet Secretary Ali Imam Majumdar, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Syed Fahim Munaim and LGRD Secretary Safer Raj Hossain were present.

Previously, teams from Buet took part in 'Robocon 2006, Kuala Lumpur' and 'Robocon 2005, Beijing' and won Panasonic Award.

A group of students of Mechanical Engineering Department will leave for Hanoi on July 23 to attend the competition.

The students have made four modern Robots for the competition that will be kept in the laboratory of Mechanical Engineering Department until July 20.

Previously, teams from Buet took part in 'Robocon 2006, Kuala Lumpur' and 'Robocon 2005, Beijing' and won Panasonic Award.

Moderately heavy to heavy rainfalls are also likely at places over the country, Met office said.

It also said that day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Highest temperature 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 25.4 degree Celsius at Sayedpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:48pm today and rises at 5:21am tomorrow.

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

City/Town	Temperature in celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.8	26.6	82	82
Chittagong	27.9	26.0	92	96
Rajshahi	33.5	27.6	80	96
Khulna	32.4	27.5	84	94
Barisal	30.8	26.5	89	92
Sylhet	32.8	27.0	81	81
Cox's Bazar	30.7	26.3	92	98



Dr Abdul Hannan Chowdhury speaks at a 'Meet the Press' programme on National Career Fair 2007 at National Press Club in the city yesterday. On his left is Dilara Afrose Khan and on his left are Dr Jasim Uddin and ME Chowdhury Shamin.

"Local government would defi-

Buet team leaves for Hanoi July 23

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) will participate in the 'Robocon 2007, Hanoi' organised by the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (AUB), says a press release.

The president of Singapore cordially welcomed President Iajuddin Ahmed and exchanged pleasantries with him.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to mutual interest of the two countries. The discussion was held in a very cordial atmosphere, said a press release.

Military Secretary to the President Major General M Aminul Karim, Secretary of the President's Office M Sirajul Islam and Bangladesh High Commissioner to Singapore Munshi Faiz Ahmad were, among others, present.

"A serious challenge to government efforts is to improve the health of women, newborns and children," he added.

The adviser said the government has adopted the health, nutrition and population sector programme (HNPS) to provide quality and affordable reproductive health ser-

vices, including family planning to attain Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

"The males can play a key role in all development activities related to maternal health services in a society where they hold higher social status and decision making power," he added.

As a special guest, Director General of DGHS Shahjahan Biswas said the main reason of fistula is obstetric labour, which can be prevented through skilled birth attendants and access to emergency obstetric care facilities.

"Obstetric fistulas can also be treated with reconstructive surgery. If done properly, the surgery has a 95 percent success rate at a very nominal cost," he added.

The National Fistula Centre (NFC) will be set up at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital

while the Skilled Birth Attendants (SBAs) Training Institute in Comilla.

Islamic Development Bank (IDB) will provide US\$ 3000000, while UNFPA will provide US \$ 300000 and the government will give another US \$ 300000 for the establishment of NFC and SBAs Training Institute.

With Additional Secretary to health ministry Jamil Osman in the chair, the inaugural session was also attended by UNFPA representative Arthur Erken and Healthcare Support Specialist of IDB Hisham A Fakha.

Representatives from different ministries, and directors and professors of different medical colleges and hospitals including UN agencies and development partners took part in the workshop.

Obituary

Md Shafiqul Alam, eldest son of late Dr Habibur Rahman, passed away due to a cardiac arrest at the Holy Family Hospital on July 15 at the age of 65, says a press release.

He is survived by his wife and a daughter.

A doa mahfil will be held at his brother's residence at 15/1 Eastern Housing Apartment at Siddheshwari after Asr prayers today.

Friends, relatives and admirers are requested to attend the doa mahfil.

The government yesterday decided to rehabilitate the hawkers in the city who faced wide spread eviction a few months back.

The decision came at a meeting with LGED and Cooperatives Adviser Mohammad Anwarul Iqbal in the chair.

In Dhaka city alone, unofficial estimate puts the number of street vendors affected by the eviction drive at nearly 100000.

The demolition drive has also affected hundreds of small retail outlets along the main roads and in unauthorised city markets.

The authorities have also given the hawkers permission to do business on the pavements of some designated roads, including Panthapath and Manik Mia Avenue once in a week by rotation.

EVICTED HAWKERS

10 spots selected for rehabilitation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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The meeting, attended by Police Commissioner Naseem Ahmed, and officials of the ministry and Dhaka City Corporation, fixed ten spots where the hawkers or street vendors

It all started with extension of judges' retirement age

FROM PAGE 1

chief justice KM Hasan as the chief of the caretaker government. Nonetheless with the new retirement age for judges in effect, KM Hasan was set to become the chief of the interim government to be formed.

Instead of responding to any of the objections of AL, the BNP-led alliance government's unilateral actions in connection with a controversial voter list, and appointments of the chief election commissioner (CEC) and the other election commissioners, deepened the animosity between the rival political camps. By the time the alliance government was ready to hand over power to the caretaker government on October 29 last year, almost all government organisations with links to holding of the upcoming election appeared to be dominated by the ruling alliance's loyalists.

In that crucial month, AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil and BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhui