

Road crashes kill 6

STAR REPORT

At least six people were killed and 41 others injured in separate road accidents in Chandpur, Brahmanbaria, Sirajganj and Satkhira yesterday.

Our correspondent from Chandpur reports: Three people were killed and 30 others injured in a road accident at Mokimabad in Hajiganj Poura area yesterday.

The dead were identified as Abdul Malek, 60, of Sonaimuri in Hajiganj Upazila, bus helper Ibrahim Khalil, 30, of Jagotpur in Kochua upazila and Abdus Sattar, 70, of Kashempur village under Hajiganj, said police inspector Farid.

Of the injured, seven were rushed to a local health complex in critical condition, Farid said. They are Aktar Hossain, 28, Md Hanna, 40, Md Ismail, 40, Ratan, 28, Aji Tahir, 50, and Abdus Sattar, 70, and an unidentified person.

Sattar succumbed to his injuries at the local health complex, police and witnesses said.

The accident occurred at around 10.30am when a Hajiganj-bound bus from Ramganj turned upside down as it was making a turn to Hajiganj town and fell into a roadside ditch.

Our correspondent from Brahmanbaria says: One person was killed and six others injured in a road accident on Dhaka-Sylhet highway at Bahadurpur village under Ashuganj upazila on Wednesday night.

The dead was identified as Md Layes Mia, 22, son of Md Yakub Ali of Bahadurpur village under Ashuganj upazila.

The accident occurred when a Brahmanbaria-bound tempo from

Ashuganj loaded with six passengers and a Dhaka-bound microbus from Sylhet collided head-on at village Bahadurpur, leaving tempo driver Layes Mia dead on the spot.

Of the injured, two were sent to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital in critical condition while the rest were given first aid.

OUR CORRESPONDENT from Sirajganj adds: One person was killed and five others were injured in a road accident on the Dhaka-North Bengal highway in Koddarmorh area in Sirajganj yesterday.

Police and witnesses said the accident took place at about 6.00am when a Rangpur-bound truck from Dhaka hit another truck from behind, leaving the truck helper Akhtar Hossain, 32, dead on the spot and five passengers injured. The injured were taken to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital.

Police sent the body to Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Our correspondent from Satkhira adds: A speeding bus crushed a nine-year-old boy on Satkhira-Kaliganj road at Nalta Bazar in Kaliganj upazila yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Rahman, 9, son of Abdul Quddus of village Purbia Nalta in Kaliganj upazila.

Quoting local people, police said a Satkhira-bound bus crushed Abdul Rahman while he was crossing the road in front of Nalta Hospital at Nalta Bazar, leaving him seriously injured.

He was rushed to Nalta Hospital in a critical condition. Rahman succumbed to his injuries on the way while he was being shifted to Sadar hospital as his condition deteriorated.



People throng makeshift shops on the footpath in the city as Eid shopping gets momentum. The picture was taken from Purana Paltan area yesterday.

One gets death for killing wife in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A Satkhira court yesterday sentenced a person to death for killing his wife over dowry.

The Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal handed down the verdict to Ashraf Ali Mistri, son of Adam Ali Mistri of village Kalyanpur in Assamuni upazila, at a packed courtroom, court sources said.

According to the prosecution, Ashraf beat up his wife Jasmine Ara for dowry, leaving her dead at their home at village Biralaxmi in Shayamnagar on June 6 in 2002.

Mutual cooperation with Bangladesh to expand Hopes new Japanese FM

UNB, Dhaka

New Japanese Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura has hoped that mutual cooperation between Bangladesh and Japan will be expanding in both bilateral issues and international arena.

Komura expressed the hope in a letter to Foreign Adviser Itekhaz Ahmed Chowdhury.

The Japanese foreign minister said he is very delighted to see strong and stable bilateral relations based on mutual interest, confidence and spirit of cooperation between the two countries. "I am also strongly encouraged by our expanding mutual cooperation in

the international arena as well as in bilateral issues," he said.

Japanese Ambassador Masahiko Inoue called on the Foreign Adviser yesterday to convey the message and to congratulate Itekhaz on his recent election as chairman of the LDC Bureau in New York.

The envoy also conveyed to him an invitation on behalf of Foreign Minister Komura to visit Japan. It was agreed that such a visit might take place in February 2008.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Ingebjorg Stofring of Norway, Ambassador Dasho Jigme Tshultrim of Bhutan and Ambassador Mun Song Mo of DPRK also met separately with the foreign adviser yesterday.

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- Venue BU-IED, House 113, Road 2, Block A, Niketon, Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212

Rotary Greater Dhaka stands by slum children

Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka distributed new clothes, books and Iftar to 100 slum children on Wednesday.

The distribution took place at International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) at Uttara in the city. The programme was inaugurated by the visiting rotarians from Rotary Club of Tilburg-Leijdal, the Netherlands, Rtn Dr Jan Molkenboer, and Rtn Peer Bedaux.

Their wives Mayke and Tony also joined in the distribution. Three Canadian faculty of IUBAT also participated in the distribution.

Club President Rtn Dr M Alimullah Miyan presided over the programme, which was also attended by Rtn Dr Ferdousi Begum, Rtn Nafisa Akbar Hossain, Rtn Faruqul Islam, Rtn Mitul Begum Khan, Rtn Edward Probr Mondol, Rtn Shirin Akhter Rita and Rtn Abdus Salam.

A children's essay competition was held which was won by Labonna. She was awarded cash for pursuing her studies in the 3rd grade.

Liberation War Museum closed Oct 12-15

The Liberation War Museum would remain closed from today to October 15 on the occasion of the Eid-ul-Fitr, says a press release.

The museum would resume its activities on October 16 and would remain open from 10:00am to 5:00pm according to its Winter-schedule.



THE SOUTH ASIAN NETWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

Summer 2008 Research Competition Deadline: October 31, 2007

South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) invites pre-proposals on the inter-linkages among economic development, poverty and environmental change. Pre-proposals, if accepted, will lead to an invitation to submit a full research proposal. Two thematic areas have been identified for the current round of research grants. Researchers can explore a wide range of issues within each sub-area:

1. Incentives, Regulations and the Implementation of Environmental Policies

South Asian countries have a variety of rules in place to manage natural resource use and maintain a clean environment. However, these rules are often ignored, changed or by-passed in daily transactions. Non-compliance can result from lack of information about regulations or the value of environmental goods and services, high costs of compliance and benefits associated with noncompliance and limited incentives for regulatory agencies. Three areas are of interest: a) What are the costs and benefits of specific environmental policies or regulations (e.g. related to ground water or forests) and how do we assess the effectiveness of environmental interventions (e.g. health outcomes from water and sanitation investments)? b) What incentives do regulatory agencies and officials face in implementing environmental policies? c) Is there a role for new policy instruments such as 'payments for environmental services' or 'carbon and eco-tourism markets' and what might contribute to the success of these instruments?

2. Economics of Climate Change

Human activity is altering the earth's climate with serious implications for food security, health, biodiversity and natural disasters. In South Asia, coastal zones, high altitude regions, already warm areas, currently water stressed areas and flood plains will likely witness the worst impact of climatic changes. Countries in South Asia will need to respond with strategies to mitigate green house gases and also adapt to climate change. a) Changes in rain fall patterns and warming of temperatures are likely to result in changes in agricultural productivity. Farmers are likely to adapt by changing cropping calendars, crop varieties and irrigation technologies. What are the implications for food security and vulnerability? What economic forces are likely to influence the speed and direction of these adaptation strategies? b) Coastal areas and small islands are vulnerable to sea level rise and floods and hurricanes. Can economic tools be used to better manage coastal economic development (e.g. what are the costs and benefits of different development options)? What is the function of insurance markets, institutional changes and natural barriers (e.g. mangroves) in adapting to impacts? c) Climate change mitigation strategies can contribute to current improvements in environmental quality and reduce energy costs. How can mitigation strategies be mainstreamed into on-going development efforts? What is the scope for instruments such clean development mechanisms and what policies can enhance other market driven approaches? What economic challenges do firms face in using mitigating technologies?

SANDEE supports economics research related to environmental problems. Thus, pre-proposals that do not have a strong economics component will not be considered. Pre-proposals are sought from multi-disciplinary /country projects and use of secondary data are encouraged. Institutional affiliation is required for receiving support. Pre-proposals will be evaluated on their academic merit and policy significance. Selected researchers will be invited to submit a full research proposal. Grant will range from \$10,000 to \$40,000 for 12-24 months. While the average grant size in the past has been \$15,000, a small number of larger grants will be considered if there are teams of researchers involved in the proposed activity.

The guidelines and format for pre-proposals are presented on SANDEE's website (<http://www.sandeeonline.org>). Pre-proposals need to be directly loaded on to the website by October 31, 2007. Pre-proposals received after this date may not be accepted.

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