

BB DGM MURDER 3 more arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-4) have arrested three more accused in connection with the murder of Hedayet Ullah, deputy general manager of Bangladesh Bank.

The arrestees are Anisur Rahman, 35, of Joya village under sadar upazila and Tota Mia, 32, of Manikganj village under Singair upazila in Manikganj district and Harun-or-Rashid, 38, of Kollanadi village in Chandpur district.

Acting on a secret information, the Rab team arrested Anisur and Tota from Keraniganj and Harun from Gabtali bus terminal in Dhaka on the night of October 12.

Earlier on August 5, the Rab team arrested Jahangir Alam and Mosharaf Hossain who gave confessional statement before a court saying the involvement of Anisur, Tota and Harun in the killing.

Hedayet was killed by robbers at his village home at Dhamrai near Dhaka on the night of July 21 last.

Aminur Rashid, brother of the victim and Principal of Dhamrai Government College, filed a case in this regard.

38TH WORLD STANDARDS DAY OBSERVED 'Law soon to protect consumers' rights'

BSS, Dhaka

The 38th World Standards Day was observed in the country on Sunday with a call to maintain quality of goods and services at all levels to sustain open market economy.

Every year the day is observed across the world out of necessity to maintain quality and keeping uniformity with the international standards in producing any goods to improve the living quality of people.

This year the theme was 'Standards and the citizens: Contributing to society'.

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed in separate messages highlighted the importance of the day to protect the citizens' rights to get quality goods and services to meet their basic needs.

The president in his message said government efforts as well as massive social campaign are necessary to ensure supply of quality goods in the market. He said there is no alternative to producing quality goods to sustain in the open market economy

and competitive world.

The chief adviser said the issue of protecting the rights of consumers is very important in the present era of globalisation. Out of that realisation, the government has taken the initiative to frame a law to protect the interests of the consumers, he said.

The regional offices of Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI), the national organisation to look after the quality of agricultural and industrial goods and services in the country, organised different programmes to mark the day.

Housewife beaten to death at Hatia

A CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

A housewife was beaten to death by her husband at Hatia in the district on Sunday night.

The victim was identified as Farida Yasmin, 25, mother of two children.

Police arrested her husband Sabir Bhutto, 30, and his father Akib Ullah, 65,

Uninterrupted supply of water, electricity to puja mandaps demanded

BSS, Dhaka

Leaders of Mahanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee (MSPC) yesterday urged the government for an uninterrupted supply of electricity and water to puja mandaps during the five-day-long Durga Puja, the greatest religious festival of the Hindus beginning today.

MSPC General Secretary Joyanta Kumar Dev made the demand at a press briefing at Dhakeshwari National Temple here.

He also called upon the government to illuminate important government buildings during the puja.

Presided over by MSPC President Joyanta Sen Depu, the press briefing was also attended by Chief Adviser to Bangladesh Puja Uddipan Parishad (BPUUP) Maj Gen (Retd) CR Dutta, Bir Uttam, BPUUP President CR Sarker, Vice-presidents Swapan Kumar Saha and Advocate Subrata Chowdhury, General Secretary Birendra Chandra Saha, Joint Secretaries Advocate Tapash Paul and Nirmal Chatterjee and committee leaders Manisha Dutta, journalist Basudev Dhar, Advocate Satyendra Nath Bhakta and Monjur Dhar.

The main Puja mandap in the capital is at Dhakeshwari National Temple. Large mandaps have been built at Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University, the Ramkrishna Mission, Ramna Kali Mondir, Siddheshwari Kali Mondir, Tanti Bazar, Shankhari Bazar, Bangla Bazar, and at Mohakhali and Farmgate areas.

Leaders of Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad, Bangladesh Puja Uddipan Parishad, Mahanagar Sarbojoneen Puja Committee, Bangladesh Jatiya Hindu Parishad and Bangladesh Christian Association yesterday alleged that idols of the Goddess Durga had been desecrated at various places in the country including Faridpur, Khulna and Sakthira.

DU Mourning Day observed

BSS, Dhaka

Dhaka University Mourning Day, the day that saw 39 students die in a roof collapse at the auditorium of the then assembly building (now October Smriti Bhavan) on October 16 in 1985, was observed on Monday.

During the incident, the students were watching 'Shuktara', a popular drama, on television.

The university authorities organised various programmes and hoisted black flags atop all student dormitories and kept the university flag at half-mast, to observe the day.

The day was a holiday for the university. Students, teachers, officials and employees of the university brought out a mourning procession from Aparajeo Bangla in the morning that marched up to the October Memorial at Jagannath Hall.

Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz and Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof AFM Yusuf Haider led the mourning procession.

They placed wreaths at the October Memorial and observed a minute's silence.

Students of the hall organised a photo exhibition marking the day.

Women-only political party launched in India

AFP, New Delhi

India's new all-female political party said yesterday that it aims to rid the country of corruption and poverty, and focus on women's issues.

The United Women Front has nearly 100 members, and plans to induct thousands more to provide a "clean" alternative to India's traditionally male-dominated parties, which are perceived as being dishonest, its leaders said.

"I believe women are more honest, more capable and more hardworking," president Suman Krishan Kant, a women's rights activist and wife of a late vice-president, told a news conference.

Kant said the party would raise funds through individual, not corporate, donations.



MA Samad's anniversary of death today

Today is the 2nd death anniversary of MA Samad, former managing director of Jiban Bima Corporation and founder of Bangladesh General Insurance Company Limited (BGIC), says a press release.

On this occasion, his family members and BGIC family have requested all friends, admirers and relatives to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

He was also the founder director of Bangladesh Insurance Academy, an institution established by the government for professional training and dissemination of insurance education.



(Left) Relatives of detained Awami League President Sheikh Hasina arrive at the sub-jail in Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban area in the city on Eid day to meet her. (Right) Sharmila Rahman, wife of Arafat Rahman Koko, along with their two daughters arrives at the sub-jail in Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban area on Eid day to meet detained BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

Durga Puja

FROM PAGE 1
Bijaya Dashami on Sunday.

Durga, the slayer of Mahishashur, is lion-borne, wielding an array of arms including kripa, chakra, gada, and bow and arrow in her ten hands.

Government sources said 14,170 Puja mandaps have been set up across the country. However, according to Bangladesh Puja Uddipan Parishad, 20,000 mandaps have been set up in the country including 162 in Dhaka.

The main Puja mandap in the capital is at Dhakeshwari National Temple. Large mandaps have been built at Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University, the Ramkrishna Mission, Ramna Kali Mondir, Siddheshwari Kali Mondir, Tanti Bazar, Shankhari Bazar, Bangla Bazar, and at Mohakhali and Farmgate areas.

Leaders of Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad, Bangladesh Puja Uddipan Parishad, Mahanagar Sarbojoneen Puja Committee, Bangladesh Jatiya Hindu Parishad and Bangladesh Christian Association yesterday alleged that idols of the Goddess Durga had been desecrated at various places in the country including Faridpur, Khulna and Sakthira.

They urged all to keep vigilance to maintain communal harmony during the five-day-long festivities. They also urged the government to step up security measures and ensure peaceful observation of the occasion.

Different political, social and cultural organisations felicitated Hindus on the eve of the biggest festival. The organisations also condemned the attacks on mandaps and desecration of Durga idols across the country.

The organisations include Awami League, BNP, Bangladesh Minority Lawyers Association, Bangladesh Hindu Parishad, Bangladesh Hindu Youth Welfare Foundation, Sri Krishna Mission, Bangladesh Tafsil Federation and Ramna Kali Mondir Committee.

Two killed as villagers clash in Magura

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Two people were killed and at least 16 others injured in separate clashes in Nishchintapur, Barishat and Jagla villages in last two days.

Nine year-old Hossain was critically injured when he was hacked during a clash between two rival groups over a family feud at Nishchintapur village in Sadar upazila. He succumbed to his injuries yesterday at Magura Sadar Hospital. He was the son of Siddique Mondol, police said.

In Barishat village in Sreepur upazila, a man identified as Mokaddes Hossain was killed and six others were seriously injured when two rival groups clashed

with lethal weapons on Monday. The groups were backed by Molla Nabuot Ali and Zahur Chowdhury.

Five of the seriously injured persons were admitted to Magura Sadar Hospital. They are Humayan, Mintu, Baharul, Shefali and Jamirul.

at Jagla village in Sadar upazila, rival villagers led by Nabir Hossain and Moktar Hossain clashed on the Eid day (Sunday) injuring at least 11 people, seven of them critically.

The critically injured persons were admitted to the Sadar hospital. They are Nabir Hossain, Rahmat Ali, Akhiron, Erina, Tunu Bibi, Rabeya and Meri.

A different Eid for Hasina, Khaleda

FROM PAGE 1
Rahman -- Khaleda's two sons -- spent the Eid day in separate jails.

A number of Awami League (AL) and BNP leaders and activists gathered at the entrance of the special prisons to convey their Eid greetings to their leaders with flowers and different presents including Eid cards and food items. The authorities, however, did not allow them to go inside.

Advocate Ahmed Azam, Khaleda's lawyer, told The Daily Star yesterday that six of her relatives -- younger son Arafat Rahman Koko's wife Sharmila Rahman, their two daughters Zafira and Zahia, his mother-in-law Mukrema Khatun, Sayeed Iskandar's wife Nasrin Sayeed and wife of her late husband Ziaur Rahman's elder brother Tahera Begum were permitted to visit her at around 11:00am. They spent about an hour with her and came out at around 12:00 noon.

Sheikh Hasina's 10 close relations including aunt Masuda Kabir, cousin Sheikh Parash, his wife, and her niece Papri went inside the prison to visit her at around 1:30pm, said prison sources.

The relatives of both the leaders

brought and handed over flowers, presents and traditional Eid delicacies including pilau, payes, semai and meat dishes, said sources.

Khaleda Zia offered her Eid prayers at around 9:00am inside her room, her lawyer told The Daily Star.

Hasina also offered Eid prayers in her room, said the sources.

Khaleda's lawyer told The Daily Star that she was very upset for being in jail on the day of Eid, being detached from her family members.

"Madam was mentally distressed on the Eid day," he said adding, "Madam was very upset as three living members of late president Ziaur Rahman's family are now in jail."

"She was especially upset because she had wished to see her detained sons on the Eid day, but was not allowed to meet them due to jail code," her lawyer said.

Sheikh Hasina's niece Papri told reporters that Sheikh Hasina looked pensive as she could not celebrate the Eid with her son and daughter.

Both Khaleda and Hasina conveyed their Eid greetings to the nation and sought their blessings, lawyers and relatives of the leaders told reporters.

Eid-ul-Fitr celebrated

FROM PAGE 1
Fakhruddin Ahmed, Speaker Zahiruddin Sircar, Deputy Speaker Akhtar Hamid Siddiqui and City Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, among others, offered prayer at the Eidgah.

Senior Pesh Imam of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque Mufti Maulana Mohammad Nuruddin led the prayer at National Eidgah, seeking divine blessings for peace and progress of the country as well as peace and unity of the Muslim Ummah.

The biggest Eid congregation of the country was held at Sholokia Eidgah in Kishoreganj district at 10:00am. Several lakh Muslims from different parts of the country assembled at the Sholokia Eidgah and offered Eid prayer. Maulana Abul Khair Mohammad Saifullah led the prayer.

In Dhaka Central Jail, a special congregation was held for the VIP prisoners. Some 45 VIP prisoners, including former ministers Moudud Ahmed, Nazmul Huda and BNP Senior Secretary General Tarique Rahman, joined the Eid congregation along with the IG (Prisons) and the DIG (Prisons).

However, leaders and workers of Awami League and BNP observed the Eid with dampened mood as their party chiefs former prime ministers Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia along with other senior leaders are in jails.

Many leaders and workers with bouquets in hand were seen thronging outside the makeshift jail in parliament building complex where Hasina and Khaleda are detained.

Awami League and BNP leaders pledged to free their leaders through legal means before the holy Eid-ul-Azha.

BNP leaders and workers offered special prayer at the grave of President Ziaur Rahman. BNP leaders RA Gani, Shamsul Islam, Khandaker Delwar Hossain, Brig Gen (retd) ASM Hannan Shah and Nazrul Islam Khan were, among others, present.

President Iajuddin Ahmed hosted a reception at the Bangabhaban

while Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed hosted another reception at the Chief Adviser's Bhaban at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city. Diplomats, senior government and military officials and elite attended the receptions.

Improved diets were served at prisons, hospitals, orphanages and other destitute centres.

The main thoroughfares were decorated with miniature national flags and bunting while the government buildings were illuminated on the occasion. Newspaper offices were closed until October 15, but Bangladesh Television and private TV channels aired special Eid programmes.

Meanwhile, Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed on Saturday night distributed essential commodities among the floating people at Kamalapur Railway Station.

The CA went to the station at around 10:00pm and distributed rice, pulses, edible oil, salt, detergent powder, soap, condensed milk and sugar among them.

ACC to launch probe next week

FROM PAGE 1
"Issuance of notices upon the new graft suspects, asking them to submit their wealth statements, will begin when the primary enquiries complete. I expect the enquiries to begin next week."

The names of Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, and Awami League leaders Tofiq Ahmed and Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury appeared on the fourth list of corruption suspects.

With the publication of the fourth list of graft suspects, the number of alleged high-profile corruptionists now stands at 177. Earlier, the names of 142 graft suspects were published by the ACC in three phases.

Sources said the commission would initiate full-fledged investigations about the suspects if the primary enquiry found evidence of their wrongdoing.

The ACC secretary said as part of

the corruption prevention movement, the ACC Chairman Lt Gen (retd) Hasan Mashud Chowdhury would visit Shariatpur, Madaripur and different districts of Barisal and Khulna divisions in November.

The visit would aim to raise awareness among the people and the chairman has already visited 31 districts across the country. GATCO

The ACC yesterday seized bank documents including cheques regarding withdrawal of over Tk 2.19 crore from the Banani branch of the Prime Bank between 2005 and 2006 in connection with the Gato scam.

The ACC would also seize documents in the Motijheel branch of the Sonali Bank today.

Investigation officer (IO) of the case ACC Deputy Director Johirul Huda said, "We seized documents and papers from Prime Bank regarding the illegal deal."

ACC Deputy Director Golam

Shahriar Chowdhury, in the first information report of the case, said during interrogation Gato director Galib said after getting the work, he on different dates paid over Tk 2.19 crore to Ismail Hossain Simon, son of BNP leader Col (retd) Akbar Hossain.

He had filed the case against 13 people including former premier Khaleda Zia in connection with violating tender conditions in appointing Gato, an indenting house, for container handling at the Dhaka Inland Container Depot (ICD) and the Chittagong Port ICD yard.

The ACC would also question administrative officials of Gato and some mid-rank officials of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) in connection with the case.

The IO of the case hoped to submit investigation report within the stipulated period. The investigation report is due on November 1.



President Iajuddin Ahmed and Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed offer munajat at the main Eid congregation at the National Eidgah in the city on Eid day.

RU VIOLENCE ON AUG 22 Deposition of 2 more PWs recorded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The speedy trial tribunal here yesterday recorded the deposition of two more prosecution witnesses in the case against 14 persons including two Rajshahi University teachers for torching a DGFV vehicle violating the Emergency Power Rules 2007 during late August campus violence.

The prosecution witnesses, Abu Bakkar and Rois Uddin, are guards of RU vice chancellor's official residence.

After the court recorded their depositions, the defence lawyers -- Golam Arif Tipu, Hamidul Haque, and Mansur Ahmed -- cross-examined them for hours.

So far the court recorded seven PWs since the court began trial in the case on September 24 recording the first PW and plaintiff of the case Shawkat Ali, an assistant director of DGFV.

Magistrate SM Fazlul Karim Chowdhury has fixed October 22 for further hearing of the PWs. Sub-inspector Shamsul Islam on behalf of the state informed the court that they will produce 21 prosecution witnesses in the case.

The plaintiff alleged that a group of unruly students and people assaulted him when he was on duty on the campus on August 22.

He also stated that the two accused teachers ordered unruly students over mobile phones and abetted in setting fire on his government vehicle.

The accused teachers are Dr Chowdhury Sarwar Jahar Sajal and Dr Golam Sabir Sattar Tapu of geology and mining department.

Sadikul Islam, deputy chief information officer of RU Public Relations Office, and Arafat Rahman, a driver of former RU vice chancellor Faisal Islam Faruki, are among the accused.

Other accused are students -- Bangladesh Chhatra League RU unit secretary Ayenuddin, Dipayan Sarkar, Mizanur Rahman Mithu, Sardar Ayaz, SM Fakrul Islam Raihan, Abu Sayem, Shamim Ahmed, Kazi A Latif, Shakhawat Hossain, Aziz Bin Kamal.

Shawkat Ali lodged the case with Mithar Police Station on August 23 accusing the two teachers and four students. Later on September 1, the investigation officer, sub-inspector Mukhtar Hossain pressed charges against the 14 persons.

Meanwhile, proceedings of trial against six other RU teachers that began at the same court on September 23 will be held today.

COLLECTION OF ZAKAT MONEY

Teenage girl killed in stampede

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A teenage girl was killed in a stampede when she went to collect Zakat money from the house of an industrialist at Chandmari area of Farullah upazila in the district.

Moni, 12, daughter of a garment worker Mohammad Mukti, went to the industrialist's house along with around 1500 others to collect the money on October 13.

She died when the crowds were

hurrying to collect the Zakat money.

Technical fault at Zia fertiliser factory

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Production at Ashuganj Zia Fertiliser Company was suspended yesterday following a technical fault in the plant, sources said.

It may take six days to fix the problem and resume production.

DHAKA TODAY

Workshop

German Technical Cooperation and DFID will jointly organise a workshop titled 'Alternative strategies for women and children in safe custody'. Venue: Radisson Water Garden Hotel. Time: 10:00am.

Concert

Campaign for Popular Education organises an open-air concert against poverty. Venue: Rabindra Sarobar. Time: 1:00pm.

WEATHER TODAY

Light to moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to very heavy falls are also likely at places over the country during the period, said a Met Office bulletin.

Day temperature may fall by 1/2 degree Celsius over the country. Highest temperature 30.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rangpur and lowest 22.1 degree Celsius at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:31pm today and rises at 5:57am 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	25.6	22.4	97	92
Chittagong	25.4	24.2	96	94
Rajshahi	30.2	23.6	83	90
Khulna	30.0	23.5	91	92
Barisal	29.2	23.5	91	92
Sylhet	25.5	22.1	96	93
Cox's Bazar	26.4	24.0	91	98



Prof Hadi passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Dr MA Hadi, president of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) and former vice chancellor of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), passed away due to a cardiac arrest at Ibn Sina Hospital in the city in the early hours of yesterday at the age of 68.

Prof Hadi, also a former president of Doctors' Association of Bangladesh (DAB), was undergoing treatment at Ibn Sina Hospital since October 2.

He was admitted to the hospital with severe back pain following collapse of vertebral body, his son Dr Imam al Hadi, associate professor at BSMMU, told The Daily Star.

His first namaj-e-janaza was held at BSMMU Central Jame Mosque yesterday.

Health Adviser Maj Gen (ret'd) ASM Matiar Rahman, Health Secretary AKM Zafar Ullah, Dhaka City Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, BNP Secretary General Khondoker Delwar Hossain and the employees of BSMMU attended his namaj-e-janaza.

His body was kept at Birdem Mortuary.

He will be laid to rest at his family graveyard at Gafargaon in Mymensingh after Zohr prayers today.

He left behind his wife, two sons, two daughters, a host of relatives and students to mourn his death.

He was also the principal of Dhaka Medical College, president of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS) and Bangladesh Medical Research Council (BMRC), and dean of Dhaka University Medical Academy.

Khondoker Delwar expressed deep shock at his death. DAB, National Doctors' Forum (NDF) and Ibn Sina Pharmaceutical Industry Limited also condoled the death.

Sufia Chowdhury

Sufia Chowdhury, a noted philanthropist and wife of late Abdul Hai Chowdhury, passed away at Labaid Hospital in the city on Monday at the age of 68, says a press release.

She left behind her two sons, four daughters, many grandchildren and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn her death.

She was an active member of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad.

Her eldest son Dr Mahbubur Rahman Chowdhury is a renowned eyespecialist.