

Four killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Four people were killed and 22 others were injured in separate road accidents in Sylhet, Magura and Sirajganj districts.

Our Staff Correspondent in Sylhet reports: Two people were killed in a road accident on Sylhet-Tamabil road at Haripur at about 11:00pm on Saturday.

The victims are Quamruzzaman Sohel, 21, a student of Government MC College, and a helper of a minibus, which was involved in the accident.

Sources said the speeding minibus hit a truck standing on the roadside, killing the helper on the spot. His identity could not be known immediately.

The injured college student was

being taken to Dhaka for treatment, but he died on the way at around 1:00am.

Soheb hailed from village Ronifoud in Jaintapur.

Our correspondent in Magura reports: One person was killed and two others were critically injured when a speeding truck hit a rickshaw van on Magura-Faridpur highway yesterday.

The accident took place in Kohitala area at around 11:00am as the driver lost control of the vehicle, leaving Tarikul, 28, dead on the spot, police and witnesses said.

Injured Abdul Gafur, 40, and Uzir Ali, 48, were admitted to Magura Sadar Hospital and local clinics. The condition of two injured people are stated to be critical.

Our correspondent in Sirajganj adds: A pedestrian was killed and

20 others were injured in separate road accidents in Sirajganj yesterday.

Police and witnesses said Abul Kashem, 70, was killed when a Dhabka-bound bus from Chapainawabganj ran over him at Dabirganj on Dhaka-Bonpara highway yesterday.

Hatkumrul highway police recovered the body and sent it to Sadar hospital for autopsy.

In the other accident, at least 20 people were injured when a Dhaka-bound bus from Sirajganj town turned over after the driver lost control of the vehicle.

Of them, 15 were admitted to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital and local clinics. The condition of two injured people are stated to be critical.

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Int'l disability confce begins on Wednesday

BSS, Dhaka

The three-day third international conference of the Asia Pacific Disability Forum will begin in the city on Wednesday.

This is for the first time such a prestigious conference is being held outside South-East Asia.

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed is expected to inaugurate the conference at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre at 10:00am.

This was made public at a press conference jointly organised by National Disability Forum and Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU) in the city yesterday.

More than 450 delegates from 27 countries, including host Bangladesh, will take part in the conference. The number of foreign delegates will be 189. Besides, 40 senior government officials of Bangladesh will participate in the conference.

Community policing launched at RCC

RU CORRESPONDENT

Community policing was launched at ward no 20 of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) yesterday with a call to make the ward free from different encrimes.

Ward Commissioner and community policing Adviser Mustak Hossain Ratan was present as chief guest at the launching ceremony held on Krishna Kanta government primary school premises.

Imam Mehedi, a retired professor, presided over the function.

At the inaugural ceremony, a 21-member committee was formed with Abdul Kuddus Khan and Abdul Khalek Sana as its president and general secretary.

A retired assistant police super Asraf Ali was made its law and order affairs secretary.

The committee members vowed to resist jointly all criminal activities, drug trading and other anti-social activities in the ward.

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The speaker discussed the background of Language Movement leading to the observance of Martyrs' Day on February 21 and also the contribution of Bangladesh to the declaration of



PHOTO: PID

President Iajuddin Ahmed presides over the 9th joint governing body meeting of National Defence College (NDC) and Defence Service Command and Staff College (DSCSC) at Bangabhaban yesterday.

NDC, DSCSC building Bangladesh's image outside world: President

BSS, Dhaka

The 9th joint governing body meeting of National Defence College (NDC) and Defence Service Command and Staff College (DSCSC) was held at Bangabhaban yesterday with President Iajuddin Ahmed in the chair.

Acting Chief of Army Staff Lt General Mohammad Jahangir Alam Chowdhury, Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral Sarwar Jahan Nizam, Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal Shah Mohammad Ziaur Rahman and Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division Lt General Masud Uddin Chowdhury attended the meeting.

Secretaries of Ministry of Establishment, Education, Defence, Finance and Foreign Affairs, Vice Chancellors of Dhaka University, Jahangirnagar University and National University, and Commandants of the NDC and the DSCSC were also present in the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, the president said the extent and dimension of the definition of national security has been increased by multi-times as the personal security, financial security, national prosperity and environmental security have been included in the concept of national security.

President Iajuddin expressed his satisfaction at the overall activities of the NDC and the DSCSC in providing time-befitting higher training on national security and development.

He said the two institutions have also been playing important role in building Bangladesh's image to the outside world as the institutions have been imparting professional training to defence officials from 30 friendly countries side by side of imparting training to officers from Bangladesh Armed Forces.

Iajuddin expressed hope that efficient management and high quality training would take the two institutions forward in the days to come.



Poet Al Mahmud holds a copy of a book titled 'Ami Tomar Keu Noi' by Ferdousi Mahmud, left, at the publication ceremony of the book at National Press Club in the city yesterday. On his left senior journalist Ataus Samad.

'Leaf colour chart to help produce 30 lakh tons more rice a year'

BSS, Rajshahi

Additional 30 lakh tons of rice could be produced in the country per year through successful promotion of 'leaf colour chart' (LCC) at the growers' level.

In addition to maintaining environmental balance, the use of the LCC can help save three lakh tons of urea fertiliser.

Chief Scientific Officer and Regional Station Chief of the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) Dr Abu Taher Mian said this while presenting his keynote paper on 'LCC: Easy process of urea saving' at a regional workshop yesterday.

The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) organised the workshop styled 'LCC popularisation and saving urea through using it' at the NCDP Training Centre.

Some 120 persons, including DAE officials, researchers and farmers, participated in the workshop.

Dr Taher, however, said due importance should be given to motivate farmers to use the LCC.

President, CA greet Kuwaiti counterparts

UNB, Dhaka

Field-level DAE officials and employees have a vital role in making this effort a total success, he said.

"We can reduce dependence on rice import enhancing domestic production through proper and best uses of the modern technologies in the farming," he said adding that the LCC is one of the potential and proven technologies.

Commissioner of Rajshahi Division Shafail Alam addressed the workshop as the chief guest with DAE Additional Director Abdul Matin in the chair.

DAE Deputy Director Brozohari Das also elaborated various aspects of using the LCC in the workshop.

Speakers said there is no alternative to increase local production. They said the government has undertaken various need-based programmes to boost the production.

They also asked the participants to disseminate the knowledge acquired from the workshop among the farmers.

2 Huji men remanded

FROM PAGE 1

Court, Dhaka, seeking five days' remand for Bulbul and six days for Tamim from Zandal.

After hearing the remand petitions yesterday, the 'CMM' Court granted three days' remand for each of them.

Earlier, Bulbul in a confessional statement before a magistrate said that he had taken part in the August 21 attack while Tamim gave crucial information about Zandal during his previous remand.

Sources said Zandal had admitted to the interrogators of leading a 12-member team to conduct the grenade attack on an Awami League rally on Bangabandhu Avenue on August 21 in 2004.

He had also admitted that he was the first to detonate a grenade on the rally. He, however, claimed that he did not know who masterminded and financed the attack.

Investigators said Zandal, a close aide of detained Huji operations commander Mufti Abdul Hannan, is concealing information about the attack that left 24 AL leaders and activists dead and scores injured.

Zandal, arrested on February 14 in Gazipur, is now on a seven-day remand and being interrogated by the CID at the Taskforce for Interrogation (TFI) cell in Dhaka.

On February 15, Rapid Action

Battalion (Rab) seized 41 grenades from Sathkira following leads gathered from Zandal.

The grenades were seized from Huji activist Nazrul Islam Ghamari's house at Shimulia village in Debhata upazila. The crime busters also arrested Nazrul following the seizure of the grenades.

Meanwhile, a Sathkira Court yesterday placed Nazrul on a 10-day remand for interrogation.

NAZRUL REMANDED

Our Sathkira correspondent adds: Nazrul Islam Ghamari, who was arrested on February 15 in connection with the seizure of 41 grenades from his village home at Shimulia in Debhata upazila, was placed on a 10-day remand yesterday.

Following the recovery of the grenades, the Rab filed a case with Debhata Police Station accusing Zandal and Nazrul.

Court sources said, Lokman Hakim, officer in charge of Debhata Police Station and investigation officer of the case, yesterday submitted the ten-day remand prayer before the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, Sathkira.

After a long hearing, Judge Ranu Bilkis Banu granted ten days' remand for the accused.

Nazrul was taken to TFI cell in Dhaka yesterday afternoon for interrogation, said sources.

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PHOTO: STAR

Members of families living in the Ainuddin Haider and Faizunnesa Waqf Estate form a human chain in front of Waqf Bhaban at Eskaton in the city yesterday demanding steps to protect the Waqf Estate.

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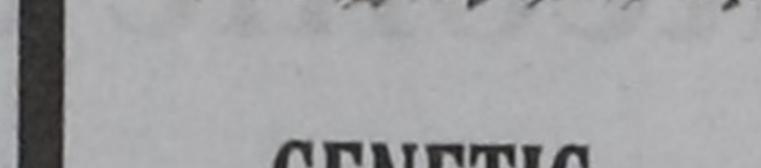
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