

Bangladeshi killed in US road crash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladeshi teenager was killed in a road accident in Los Angeles, USA on Saturday, reports US-based news agency ANA.

Another Hispanic was also killed and four others were injured in the accident.

The accident occurred when the car Abu Fahim Khan Jony, son of California Awami League Secretary Touhid Zaman Khan, collided with a motorcycle driven by a Hispanic.

His elder brother Abu Sayem Khan, 18, and three others were also injured.

Police told ANA that the car riders did not fasten their seatbelts and that's why they were thrown out of the car as soon as it collided with the motorcycle.

Bank Asia MD gets Mahatma Gandhi Award

METRO DESK

Syed Anisul Huq, president and managing director (MD) of Bank Asia Ltd, has received Mahatma Gandhi Peace Award-2008 for his outstanding contribution to the banking sector and promoting peace and harmony in the society, says a press release.

Truth and Accountability Commission (TAC) Chairman Justice Habibur Rahman Khan handed over the peace award to the recipient at a ceremony organised by Mahatma Gandhi Gobeshona Parishad at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city on September 11.

Anisul Huq joined Bank Asia in 2000 as its managing director. He helped ensure transparency and accountability of the bank and introduced corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities, including treatment of born-blind children in the country and higher education scholarship for brilliant students.

He started his banking career with Habib Bank Ltd in 1966 and subsequently held important posts in Agrani Bank, AB Bank and Southeast Bank.

EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

100-day programme begins today

UNB, Dhaka

The 100-day employment-generation programme for the hardcore poor, seasonal unemployed people and marginalised farmers gets off across the country today to help them out of lean-time penury.

Names of around a million seasonal unemployed have already been registered in 64 districts and some 1.59 lakh projects have been selected for providing them with work.

The caretaker government has undertaken the budgetary measure for employment generation for extreme poor, including marginalised farmers, of rural areas, river erosion and monsoon-affected and seasonal unemployed people of the country's haor and char areas.

Each of the beneficiaries under the scheme will get Tk 100 a day for work under the scheme.

"Registered unemployed people are being issued cards after enlisting," said an official announcement yesterday.

"If the registered unemployed people could not be given appropriate

job within 15 days after issuance of cards, they will get unemployment allowance. In such a case, they will get Tk 40 daily for first 30 days and Tk 50 daily for the rest of the period," said the announcement.

The programme will last 100 days and complete in two phases -- from September to November and from March to April. Projects have been selected by giving importance to work related to agricultural production.

UNB correspondent in Pirojpur, quoting Relief and Disaster Management Ministry joint secretary M Abdul Wazed, also the Programme Director of the employment-generation venture, said the ministry has allocated Tk 2,000 crore during the current fiscal to finance the programme.

The official, however, said 20 lakh cards have been distributed in 64 districts under the programme. Around Tk 1,200 crore has already been sent to the Deputy Commissioners of 64 districts.

Of the total 20 lakh cards, Dhaka division gets 542,820 while Rajshahi division 656,520, Chittagong division

321,680, Khulna division 219,400, Sylhet division 117,400 and Barisal division 142,180 cards.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

JU students declare teacher unwanted

A CORRESPONDENT

The agitating students of Jahangirnagar University (JU) yesterday declared Associate Professor Sanowar Hossain Sunny persona non grata on the campus following syndicate decision clearing the teacher of sexual harassment charge.

Complaining that the probe body ignored their statement about Sunny's harassing of female students sexually, the students vowed to continue their movement until their two-point demand is met.

The students have also decided to go to president to form a taskforce to look into the matter and justify the probe-body report that no evidence was found to probe Sunny's guilt beyond doubt.

Meanwhile, a JU press release says the campus situation is normal and there is no agitation on the campus regarding the issue.

It said all classes and examinations will be held on scheduled date and time.

But no class and examination were held at drama and dramatics department at old arts faculty building yesterday where students were found crying.

"We are ready to have our studentship cancelled, rather than going to class with Sunny," said a student.

The students also demanded dismissal of Sunny and decided to observe fast with intellectuals.

Meanwhile, Samajik Protirodh Committee (SPC), a platform of 49 women and human rights organisations, and number of political, cultural, and socio-cultural organisations in separate press releases have demanded withdrawal of the JU syndicate decision acquitting Sunny of sexual harassment charges and dismissal of the accused teacher immediately.

The organisations, expressing solidarity with the agitating students, include Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Ain O Shalish Kendra, Karmojibi Nari, Action Aid Bangladesh, Manusher Jonno Foundation, Bangladesh Jatiya Mahila Ainjibi Samity, The Hunger Project Bangladesh, Bangladesh Nari Progoti Sangha, Nijera Kori, Barristers Tania Amir and Sarah Hossain, cultural activist Sara Zaker, Bangladesh Nari Sangbadik Kendra and Naripakkha.

The signatories include Ayesha Khanam, Hena Das, Dr Hamida Hossain, Advocate Sultana Kamal, Shireen Akhter, Farah Kabir, Shaheen Anam, Advocate Salma Ali, Dr Badiul Alam Majumder, Rokeya Kabir, Maleka Banu, Khushi Kabir, Nasimun Ara Haque and Shamsunnahar.

Other organisations who expressed concern and condemned the university authorities for risking women's study at the university, include Biplobi Nari Sanghati, Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Gonosanghati Andolon.



Chittagong Metropolitan Police (Traffic) seize over 100 vehicles on the first day of its drive against CNG-run autorickshaws without metre in port city yesterday.

Govt programmes to celebrate Eid

UNB, Dhaka

An inter-ministerial meeting yesterday chalked out elaborate programmes for celebration of Eid-ul-Fitr, one of the biggest religious festivals of the Muslims, in a befitting manner.

The meeting was held at the Ministry of Religious Affairs with Adviser Hassan Arif in the chair, as Eid preparations, including shopping, are already on stream.

The meeting was told that the main Jamaat (congregation) of the holy Eid-ul-Fitr will be held at the Jatiya Eidgah at 8:30am. In case of inclement weather, the main prayer session will be held at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque at the same time.

The adviser asked the authorities concerned to think about informing the musallis about entry into and exit from the Eidgah through mass media and setting up location map of different departments at the entrance.

Public Works Department and owners of private buildings will hoist national flag atop public and private buildings respectively.

Besides, the main thoroughfares starting from Dhaka Gate at Banani to Bangabhaban and road islands will be decorated with the national flag and banners inscribed with 'Eid Mubarak' in Bengali and Arabic.

Public buildings will be illum-

nated on a limited scale. Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar will air special programmes and newspapers publish special supplements on the Eid-ul-Fitr, improved diets will be served at different hospitals, jails, government children homes, vagrant welfare centres and distressed homes.

Moreover, film will be screened, cultural programmes arranged in different parts of the city and a children's reunion will also be held at the Shishu Academy after Eid-ul-Fitr.

Divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, UNOs or local government institutions, to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr, will hold programmes in consistency with the national programmes.

Foreign missions abroad will also celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr in the light of government programme.

The religious affairs adviser called upon all to make the Eid festival into a "platform of communal harmony" and requested the media authorities to broadcast programmes keeping in mind the recreation of rural people alongside urban people.

Joint Secretary of Religious Affairs Ministri AHM Afzal Hossain, Director General of the Islamic Foundation Md Fazul Rahman and senior officials of the ministries concerned attended the meeting.

DU vacation from Sept 25

BSS, Dhaka

Dhaka University (DU) will remain closed from September 25 on the occasions of Eid-ul-Fitr and Durga Puja.

All the departments and administrative offices of the university will also remain closed between September 27 and October 5.

The university will open on October 18.

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- Facilitate/conduct training courses in Bangladesh as well as abroad.

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Only short listed candidates will be communicated.

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