

Boy dies after vendor hits him with brick

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A schoolboy succumbed to his injuries yesterday at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) after a fruit vendor attacked him with a brick on Sunday night, accusing him of stealing fruits.

The boy was identified as Md Rubel, 10, a class two student of an NGO school at Khilgaon in the city.

Ambia Begum, victim's mother, told The Daily Star that her son went to Khilgaon railway fruit market at around 9:00pm with five

to six boys but fruit vendor Siddique hit him in his head with a brick, accusing him of stealing fruits.

The fruit vendors tried to give her Tk 1,000 on Monday night for his treatment, but she refused it and demanded full treatment cost of her son.

Rubel was admitted to the DMCH in the early hours of yesterday and he died at 5:00am.

Sources said he could not be admitted earlier as his family could not afford his treatment cost.

Khilgaon police said they do not know about the incident.



WFP Representative in Bangladesh John Aylieff speaks at the launching ceremony of World Hunger Relief Campaign at the Gulshan outlet of KFC in the city yesterday.

KFC, Pizza Hut launch hunger relief campaign

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

KFC and Pizza Hut have launched the World Hunger Relief Campaign in association with the World Food Programme (WFP) to raise wider awareness about hunger and support the WFP to provide meals to children in schools in order to help ensure that they complete basic education.

WFP Representative in Bangladesh John Aylieff and Executive Director of Transcom Food Ltd Akku Chowdhury inaugurated the month-long programme at the Gulshan outlet of KFC yesterday.

Under the campaign in Bangladesh, the Pizza Hut and KFC will introduce various awareness-raising activities, including quiz competition on hunger. Quiz questions are available at all Pizza Hut and KFC outlets and WFP Bangladesh website www.wfp.org/bangladesh.

The main aim of this campaign is to give a voice to the silent crisis of world hunger.

John Aylieff said, "High food prices are fuelling hunger and malnutrition at an alarming rate in Bangladesh. As a result 7.5 million

more people have recently joined the ranks of the hungry."

"The innovative programme brings together public and private sector to address one of the most pressing issues of our time: the world's hunger crisis," said the WFP representative.

In collaboration with the government, the WFP through its School Feeding Programme provides a 75-gram packet of biscuits fortified with vitamins and minerals to 600,000 poor children in 4000 schools across the country.

The Hunger Relief Programme will be observed internationally from October 14 to November 13 this year by all the restaurants under the Yam brand, a network of over 35,000 restaurants in 112 countries.

"Bangladesh addresses the hunger problem in their own way, inspired by their wonderful spirit of solidarity and sympathy for those in need. It is hoped that this spirit will continue to ensure that hunger remains top of everyone's agenda," said Akku Chowdhury.

A number of media personalities, including singer Mehreen, actress Afsana Mimi, TV anchor Shamin Lucky and Sajal attended the launching ceremony.

Kader urges govt to allow him to operate bank accounts

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League Joint general secretary Obaidul Kader, now in New Delhi for treatment, has requested the government to allow him to operate his bank accounts, which were frozen after his arrest on corruption charges.

Kader's lawyer Advocate AKM Aminuddin said his client has found it very difficult to meet his medical expenses as he is not allowed to draw money from his accounts in Standard Chartered Bank, Dhanmondi Branch, and Sonali Bank, Ramna Branch.

His family and friends have been bearing all his treatment expenses since he fell ill after the arrest. Now it has become almost impossible for him to meet the huge expenses, Advocate Aminuddin said.

Kader, a former state minister, left for Delhi on September 29. He is now undergoing treatment at Apollo Hospitals there.

His lawyer said eight splinters were removed from Kader's body on October 2. He also underwent piles operation on October 9.

Cargo capsizes: Another body found

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of another victim of Monday's cargo capsizing was recovered yesterday.

The body of Babu, 25, was found floating in the river Buriganga in South Keraniganj area at about 4:30pm.

The sand-laden cargo capsized with at least 40 day-labourers and

their children early Monday.

Four bodies were recovered that day, but two others were still missing as of yesterday.

Meanwhile, the divers of the Fire Service and Civil Defense (FSCD) searched for the missing bodies all day long yesterday.

The relatives of the missing had also been searching for the bodies in the river.

The capsized cargo MV

Muktadir-2 still remained under the water.

Mohammad Shahid, station officer of the FSCD headquarters, said the trawler broke into two pieces after it was run over by another one.

A case was filed with Mohammadpur police accusing five employees of MV Gazaria. Two of them were arrested by South Keraniganj police.

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