

6 killed, 41 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Six people were killed and 41 injured in separate road accidents across the country yesterday.

Our staff correspondent reports: Three people were killed and 20 others injured in a road accident at Bijoy Sarani intersection in the city's Tejgaon area early yesterday.

One of the dead was identified as Chayan Ahmed, 27, of Mahisherchar village in Madaripur district while identities of the other victims could not be known immediately.

Police rushed the injured to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital and other local hospital.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Tejgaon Police Station Lutfur Rahman said the accident occurred at around 3:45am when a bus collided head-on with a stone-laden truck.

Family members of Chayan at the DMC morgue said Chayan, a grocer in the city's Bhutergali area, went to Tongi to attend the Biswa Ijtema on Thursday night.

UNB adds: A man was killed and 20 others were injured when a Konabari-bound bus fell into a roadside ditch at Koddia in Sadar upazila on yesterday evening.

The dead was identified as Belal, 18, hailed

from Sirajganj district.

The accident took place when Belal was returning home after taking part at the Akheri Munajat of Biswa Ijtema.

The injured were admitted to different local hospitals, but the condition of four of them was stated to be critical.

BSS adds: A woman was killed and her minor daughter injured in a road accident at Nauhati crossing in Sherpur yesterday.

The victim was identified as Gulesa Begum, 30, while her minor daughter Golapi, 2, was seriously injured.

The accident took place when a bus hit a rickshaw they were riding on.

Our correspondent in Chapainawabganj adds: An eighteen-month-old girl was killed at Thakurpasha village in Chapainawabganj yesterday.

The victim was identified as Hajera Khatun, daughter of Ismail Hossain.

The accident took place when a human hauler, locally known as Bhutbhuti, hit her at about 8:30am while she was playing in front of her residence just beside the road.

She succumbed to her injuries on his way to Chapainawabganj Sadar Hospital.

22 get Gandhi Peace Award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at an award distribution ceremony yesterday emphasised the importance of a non-violent policy of Gandhi in the present unstable world order.

TIB Chairman Prof Muzaffer Ahmad said Gandhi searched the path of truth and practised a peaceful demonstration for freedom and humanity. He was well aware that violence cannot bring peace.

He was speaking at the distribution ceremony of Mahatma Gandhi Peace Award 2009 organised by Mahatma Gandhi Research Council in the city.

A total of 22 eminent persons were handed over the awards.

The council organised a discussion on 'Religious and social harmony and peace in Bangladesh' and the award giving ceremony to distribute them among the awardees.

TIB Chairman Prof Muzaffer Ahmad, barrister Rafiqul Haque, barrister Tania Amir, women leader Arma Datta, ATN

Bangla Chairman Mahfuzur Rahman, Rang Group Chairman A Rouf Chowdhury, lawmaker Ilias Uddin Mollah, poet Sabbir Ahmed, Secretary

General of Institute of Textile Engineers and Technologists Bangladesh Shafiqur Rahman, Destiny 2000 Ltd Chairman

Mohammad Hossain, Executive Director of SOS Children's Village International GS Ishak, Managing Director of Jamuna

Bank Ltd Motiur Rahman, founder of CRP hospital Valerie A Taylor, Maj (ret'd) Khandaker

Nurul Absar, Dr Ajoy Kumar Chowdhury, Lion Badol Boron Barua, preacher of Gurudura

Bangladesh Mongal Shing Shikh, Lion AKM Rezaul Haque, poet Sufia Hafiz Mukta, Nazma Akhter, Shawkat Jahan and Meherunnisa Khan Hena.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Kader handed over the awards to the winners.

The minister called on all to establish peace and check violence in the country. Under such circumstance, common people often do violence but

Gandhi taught the people how to protect peace without resorting to violence.

Speaking as the special guest, former chairman of Truth Commission Justice Habibur Rahman Khan said, "We all are searching the way of peace and Mahatma Gandhi showed us the way."

Seminar on heart disease held

METRO DESK

Parkway Health, which owns and operates Mount Elizabeth, Gleneagles and East Shore Hospital in Singapore, organised a seminar on 'Heart disease and neck and back pain' at Hotel Lake Shore in the city on Saturday.

Singapore High Commissioner at Dhaka Varghese Mathews chaired the seminar as the chief guest while Consul Tan Kok Nam was present as special guest.

Two eminent doctors from Mount Elizabeth and Gleneagles Hospital spoke at the seminar.

Senior Consultant and cardiothoracic surgeon Dr Saw Huat Seong chiefly discussed on the angioplasty and coronary bypass surgery while Senior Consultant and neuro-spinal surgeon Dr Timothy Lee presented the causes and solutions of neck and back pain.

Chiranjit Kumar Shori, group vice president of Parkway Health, delivered the inaugural speech while Zahid Hassan Khan, director, Parkway Health Dhaka office, was also present.

The seminar was held with a view to keeping the audience updated with better treatment modality.



Dhaka University (DU) Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique admires a photograph put on display at a photography exhibition of artist Suman Shams at Zainul Gallery of Fine Arts Faculty of DU yesterday.

Suman's photo exhibition begins

BSS, Dhaka

A week-long solo photography exhibition of artist Suman Shams began at Zainul Gallery of Fine Arts Faculty of Dhaka University (DU) yesterday.

DU Vice-chancellor Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique formally inaugurated the exhibition, a DU press release said.

Dean of Fine Arts Faculty Prof Rafiqun Nabi, teachers and students of the faculty, among others, were present.

A total of 35 photographs are being displaying at the exhibition.

Need for rural dev strategies stressed

METRO DESK

Internationally acclaimed economist Prof Chamhuri Siwar of National University of Malaysia at a seminar yesterday stressed the need for rural development strategies.

He also suggested encouraging farmers to increase crop yield in this age of globalisation, says a press release.

The Bureau of Socio Economic Research and Training organised the seminar titled 'Impact of climate change on agriculture' at Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU).

Vice Chancellor Prof MA Sattar Mandal was present as the chief guest with Prof Sankar Kumar Raha in the chair.

Prof MA Halim Khan, Prof MA Bahadur Meah, Prof M Alimul Islam, Prof M Harun-Ar Rashid and Md Raisuddin Mian also spoke at the seminar.

'Tourist police for CHT visitors soon'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Additional Inspector General of Police (IGP) Nobo Bikram Kishore Tripura yesterday said tourist police unit will be set up soon to ensure the security of visitors in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).

Addressing a public meeting in Bandarban he said the proposed unit will be run like the beach police in Cox's Bazar.

The meeting was organised by Bandarban District Community Policing Committee at the local Eidgah Maidan.

The additional IGP said as per police reform programme (PRP) the tourist police will ensure the security of tourists coming from home and abroad.

He said with the financial assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a 'National Action Plan' for police reforms has been prepared and already submitted to the government.

To make the police force a

people-oriented service organisation, the government should approve the action plan immediately, he added.

The additional IGP said India and Pakistan have already reformed their police acts which were initiated in the sub-continent in 1861, but we are still waiting.

Sharing session of CRP's ex-staffs held

METRO DESK

Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP) celebrated its founding anniversary on Saturday through a searing session of its former staffs as part of its monthly celebration on reaching 30 years, says a press release.

Founder and Coordinator of the CRP Valerie A Taylor welcomed the guests at the beginning of the programme.

The Wheelchair-a documentary based on self-reliance of two wheelchair users was shown in the programme.

Termining community policing as people's police, he assured that it will be incorporated into Police Reforms Act.

AKM Shahidul Hoque, DIG of Chittagong range police, Moudud A K Qaium Chowdhury, deputy commissioner (DC) of Bandarban, Mohammad Shamsuddin, superintendent of police (SP), Kulok Koirala, police reforms specialist, Shaw Hla Prue Jimi, a senior citizen of the district, and President of District Community Policing Committee Prof Osman Goni also addressed the meeting.

Earlier, a colorful procession was brought out in the town.



Participants of a seminar on 'Canon New Technology' pose for photograph with Roland Poon, senior manager, Canon Singapore Pte Limited, at the conference room of The Daily Star office in the city yesterday. Abdullah H Kafi, managing director, JAN Associates, was also present.

2 murdered in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Snatchers killed one of their fellows over sharing of the booty after a snatching in Narayanjanj yesterday.

People caught them when they took the body to his home, claiming that he was killed in an accident.

Police said they snatched a CNG autorickshaws killing its driver. Later, they killed one of their fellows over sharing.

The arrested snatchers are Parvez, 28, Razaque, 22, and Jashim, 20.

Poverty-hit mother cries for bringing back expat son's body

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

The poverty-stricken mother could not bring back home the body of her expatriate son, who was killed in Saudi Arabia, due to lack of money.

Family sources said he was stabbed to death by a group of terrorists on December 17 last year while he was driving at Al-Khamij city.

Identified as Aktar Hossain, son of late Khorshed Ali Sheikh, of Magurapara of Jhenidah Sadar upazila, the victim was working there as a driver.

Since the incident, his body was kept at Al-Madani Hospital under Al-Sulail Police Station in Riyadh. But the victim's mother was unable to bring her son's body for want of money.

Farema Begum said her son went to Saudi Arabia with a driving visa and was working as a driver there under the ownership of Sayed Mokash Shaharali.

The family is not in a position to bring back the body as they are extremely poor, she said, adding that though they applied to the director of manpower and Karmasangsthan Bureau, they did not get any reply.

NU ADMISSION TEST Exclude 13 Islamic religion-based questions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different student organisations yesterday demanded the National University (NU) authorities evaluate the answer scripts of the admission test for the first year honours excluding 13 Islamic religion-based questions in general knowledge section.

The admission test was held on January 30 where 13 multiple choice questions (MCQs) out of 100 were set in the question paper from Islamic religion-based questions that would be difficult to answer for non-Muslim students.

Meanwhile, the NU examination controlling committee prepared a proposal to over-

come the crisis.

Sources said the committee at an emergency meeting with NU Vice Chancellor Prof M Mofakharul Islam in the chair on January 31 prepared the proposal in a bid to ensure that students of any religion are not deprived anyway in the examination.

However, the recommendations of the proposal are yet to be published.

The proposal would be placed before the university academic council on February 5 and the syndicate on February 7.

The committee also formed a five-member investigation committee to dig out the reason behind the incident and identified the persons involved.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front yesterday staged a demonstration at Muktangan in the city demanding steps to evaluate the exam within 87 questions.

Centre for Inter-religious and Intercultural Dialogue in a statement demanded punishment to the persons involved in choosing the questions for the admission test.

Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG-Media) in press release yesterday said police are sparing none who have involvement in crimes.

He also said police had shown sincerity, professionalism and efficiency by unearthing the mysteries behind different criminal acts and arresting the criminals.

He mentioned that police revealed the mystery behind the Rail Bhaban break-in within nine days and arrested the criminals involved.

Soon after the brutal killing of businessman Asgar in Lalbagh, police arrested the main killer.

Motorcyclist killed in train accident

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A motorcyclist was killed in a train accident at Shyamlagachhi rail crossing at Sharsha of the district.

The dead was identified as Hafizur Rahman, 36.

The accident occurred when his motorcycle collided with a Jessore-bound speeding train from Benapole.

Police sent the body to Jessore Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.



Parkway Health, which owns and operates Mount Elizabeth, Gleneagles and East Shore Hospital in Singapore, organised a consumer seminar on 'Heart disease and neck and back pain' at Hotel Lake Shore in the city on Saturday. Cardiothoracic surgeon Dr Saw Huat Seong and neuro-spinal surgeon Dr Timothy Lee spoke at the seminar attended by Singapore High Commissioner in Dhaka Varghese and Consul Tan Kok Nam.

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