

RMG worker loses eyes in acid attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A garment worker suffered severe damage to both her eyes after her divorced husband threw acid leaving the whole face burnt at Pahartali in the port city yesterday.

The victim, Nasima Begum, 30, is an operator at Arrowjeans Garments.

The accused, Ruhul Amin, threw acid on her when Nasima along with her co-worker Monowara Begum went to hand him over the divorce letter yesterday morning. Monowara also received burn injuries.

Sources said Ruhul had been waiting with the acid in a condensed milk pot.

Locals beat up Ruhul Amin before handing him over to police while Nasima was undergoing treatment at ward no 20 of Chittagong Medical College Hospital, sources said.

Assistant Professor Dr SM Masud Parvez of the ward said, "Primary examination shows that tissues of both her eyes are seriously damaged."

"Nasima has a little hope of regaining her eye-sight. However, we are trying our best," he added.

Nasima's younger sister Lovely Begum said Ruhul Amin, who used to work as a rickshaw-puller or truck-helper, had been unemployed recently.

He often snatched from Nasima whatever she got as monthly salary and beat her up, alleged Lovely.

Nasima divorced Ruhul on August 12 and since then Ruhul had been threatening Nasima to render her blind by acid attack, she said.

Quamrul Hasan, officer-in-charge of Pahartali Police Station, said Nasima's brother Rabiu Hossain filed a case in this connection.



The Bay turns turbulent due to the impact of depression. The Met Office hoists cautionary signal No 3. The picture was taken from Patenga beach.

Poor block road for VGF rice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Several thousand people from two unions of Jaldhaka upazila of the district blocked Nilphamari-Jaldhaka road at Tengonmari for three hours yesterday demanding distribution of rice among them from government's vulnerable group feeding (VGF) programme.

Road communication of the district town with three upazilas was suspended during the agitation. Police made several attempts to restore the road communication by pushing back the agitators but failed.

The protesters withdrew the road blockade as upazila chairman of Jaldhaka Sayed Ali on behalf of the district administration gave an assurance of taking step to meet their demand within next 24 hours.

Sources said Jatiya Party lawmaker from Nilphamari-3 constituency in an order to the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Jaldhaka suspended the VGF rice distribution in Khutamara and Balagram unions a week back.

Sources said recently the UNO had recommended the lists of VGF recipients made by local body representatives of the two unions. The chairmen and majority members of the two unions belong to the ruling Awami League party.

The chairmen of the two unions Abdul Sayeed Sharmin and Tuhidul Islam alleged that this move by the UNO annoyed the JP lawmaker as he ignored the list of VGF recipients prepared by his party leaders earlier. The lawmaker termed the list incorrect and ordered the UNO to stop distribution of the rice in the unions.

Myanmar faces ethnic challenge for elections

AFP, Bangkok

Myanmar's military junta may have taken Aung San Suu Kyi out of the picture ahead of elections next year, but it could face an even greater challenge from rising ethnic unrest, analysts said.

The regime has recently stepped up its decades-long campaign against minority groups, with offensives against ethnic Chinese rebels in the northeast in August and Christian Karen insurgents near the Thai border in June.

Civil war has wracked the country since independence in 1948, and while most rebel groups have reached ceasefire deals with the junta, analysts say the army is determined to crush the rest before the 2010 polls.

The offensives have mirrored the ruling generals' efforts to take Suu Kyi off the political stage by sentencing her to another 18 months' house arrest after a bizarre

incident in which an American man swam to her lakeside home.

The Nobel Laureate's lawyers launched an appeal against her conviction last week, but with the country's pliant courts likely to do the junta's bidding, the ethnic problem is the next real hurdle for the regime, analysts said.

"This is a very complicated issue. After Aung San Suu Kyi's case, the next big issue is the issue of ethnic minorities," Aung Naing Oo, an independent Myanmar analyst based in Thailand, told AFP.

Military ruler Than Shwe has long made the struggle for the "stability of the state" the main justification for the army's continued dominance over the Southeast Asian nation.

In recent years the regime has been able to reach peace pacts with key ethnic groups, co-opting some to become junta-backed border forces that have taken on their former rebel brothers-in-arms.

DURGA PUJA Organisers seek security for 'risky' mandaps

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Mohanagar Puja Ujjapan Committee yesterday sought law enforcers' constant vigilance at a few mandaps (worship pavilions) in the capital during the upcoming Durga Puja which will co-ordinate and monitor the entire security system at different mandaps while several police patrol teams will discharge their duty round the clock in the city.

He said this year DMP commissioner decided to form security teams at each mandap comprised of the police personnel, Ansar and the committee members.

Advocate Tapash Pal, general secretary of Mahanagar Sarbajanik Puja Committee, quoting the list of vulnerable mandaps prepared by intelligence department said 66 mandaps -- two mandaps in Ramna zone, nine in Lalbag, 28 in Wari, seven in Motijheel, four in Tejgaon, six in Mirpur,

nine in Gulshan and one in Uttara -- are most vulnerable.

Assistant Commissioner Shyamal Mukherjee of DMP (PR) said there will be a central control room at Dhakeshwari Mandir equipped with wireless sets, land and mobile phones which will co-ordinate and monitor the entire security system at different mandaps while several police patrol teams will discharge their duty round the clock in the city.

He said this year DMP commissioner decided to form security teams at each mandap comprised of the police personnel, Ansar and the committee members.

Advocate Tapash Pal said they feel insecure as local goons and land grabbers made several attacks on the mandap committee leaders recently while protima (images of the goddess) crafting was going on.

Other leaders of Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Parishad, Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad and high officials from police attended the meeting.

Swine flu outbreak

FROM PAGE 1
of the hospital for treatment or admission may easily be infected with the deadly virus.

Dhirendranath Sardar, director of SBMCH, told The Daily Star no patient was admitted at the ward till last Friday.

Meanwhile, an eight-bed swine flu ward and an outdoor corner were opened at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogra about a month back, said the director of the college Brigadier General Md Shafiqul Islam.

A 16-member management committee has been formed to ensure treatment of the infected people alongside creating mass awareness of the disease. Resident Medical Officer of Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital Dr Abdul Khaleque said a two-bed ward and outdoors have been opened at the hospital on August 28.

Civil Surgeon of Bogra Dr Abdul Haque said a coordination committee has already been formed for treatment and prevention of the disease. He said cautionary measures have also been taken at upazila level.

But no patient with swine flu symptom was admitted to the hospitals since Friday last.

The Khulna Shishu Hospital has opened a separate isolation ward without having any separate outdoor corner for the patients with flu-like illness when the government is repeatedly saying that all the hospitals are directed to open isolation wards and separate outdoor corners for the safety of other patients.

Khulna Medical College Hospital has set up a five-bed swine flu ward on the ground floor. More beds would be arranged if required, said Superintendent Dr Ali Asghar. But no patient was admitted there.

In Chittagong, three public hospitals including Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), Chittagong General Hospital and Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) Hospital have set up separate isolation wards two to three months back, claimed the civil surgeon of Chittagong.

"We have already directed all upazila level health officials to arrange separate two beds in each health complex of 14 upazilas under the district," said the civil surgeon, adding that they would also seek help from the health assistants working in the villages to alert people about the disease.

A group of students of Rajshahi University under the banner of 'Abadan' launched a mass awareness campaign on swine flu yesterday with the slogan 'Come forward to protect ourselves from swine flu'.

Our correspondents from Rajshahi, Barisal, Bogra, Khulna, Chittagong, Rangpur and Sylhet contributed to the news story.

The hospitals and upazila

JS sits today for 3rd session

FROM PAGE 16
Would be discussed in the next session (third session).

The speaker has recently told journalists that a discussion on the probe report might be held in the third session if the lawmakers want.

Former speaker Sircar had filed a writ petition with the High Court challenging the legality of the formation of the all-party parliamentary probe body to investigate graft allegations against him.

The BNP-led opposition lawmakers, who boycotted the last session, will abstain from today's House proceeding.

Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abdin Faroque told The Daily

Star yesterday over the phone that BNP is holding a three-day mourning programmes at the death of party's senior leader M Saifur Rahman.

"We are not thinking of joining the House today. We shall think about it after September 8," Zainul said.

BNP was scheduled to sit on Saturday night to decide whether it would join the third session or not. But the meeting was cancelled following the death of former finance minister M Saifur Rahman in a road crash.

The opposition chief whip on Saturday however told the media that his party would join parliament if their demands are met.

The party's demands include

increasing the number of seats for its lawmakers in the front row of the House and beefing up security for Opposition Leader and party Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

This session is likely to continue till September 17 with high-intensity working days before Eid.

The Business Advisory Committee headed by the speaker is scheduled to sit at the Jatiya Sangsads Bhaban at 10:00am tomorrow to decide the session's tenure.

The president summoned the third session to comply with the constitutional obligation of not stretching the gap between sessions beyond 60 days. The last session of the House was prorogued on July 9.

ক্র. নং	পদের নাম, প্রতি ৬ বেতন	পদের স্থায়ী	বেতন	শিক্ষাত্মক দোষাগতি ও অভিজ্ঞতা
০১	সহকারী পরিচালক (মন্ত্রিসচিব এবং প্রয়োজন)	অনুরূপ ৩০ বছর	০১ টি	-সেবার বিভাগে রাজকীয়ের সরকার দ্বারা দেওয়া এক বছর মেয়াদে কমিউনিটির কোর্স স্টার্টিউটের সাথে এত ইন্টেলিজেন্সি। -ই-কমান্ড, প্রেস চিকাইন, এবং সেক্রেটারি ওয়ার্কিংস্টেশন ইচার্লাইনে স্ট্রাইকিং হতে হবে। -জেলা বিভিন্ন মহিলা প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রশিক্ষণ এবং পর্যবেক্ষণ করা। ১৫ নিউ বেইলী রোড, ঢাকা।
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