

# Faulty planning responsible for city tailback: Ashraful

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashraful Islam said in parliament yesterday that improper or no planning of the city itself is mainly responsible for tailbacks in the capital.

The minister also noted disorganised parking of vehicles at petrol pumps and CNG stations are also major factors for traffic jam.

Besides, he informed that the government has a plan to construct flyovers, underground rails, elevated roads and monorails to ease the traffic situation in the city.

Replying to a call attention notice of Jatiya Party lawmaker Salma Islam, he said, "We all

are suffering from congestion on roads, and at times even the prime minister's motorcade slows to a crawl."

Ashraful, also general secretary of Awami League, said, "Unplanned growth of the city, having a population of around 1.20 crore at present, is worsening the situation."

"In the residential areas like Dhanmondi, Banani and Gulshan, high-rise buildings are being built where the

owner of each apartment has at least a car increasing the total number of vehicles beyond the capacity of the roads," he added.

He mentioned, "Unlike other metropolitan cities of the world where 25 percent of the land is reserved for road construction, it is only seven to eight percent in Dhaka city."

The city's residents are very reluctant to leave any space for roads, he criticised.



Activists of the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Port intercept a truck at Purana Paltan intersection in the city during its six-hour hartal yesterday.

## Two die as glass sheet falls on them in city

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Two people including an Imam of a mosque died in two separate incidents in the city yesterday.

They were identified as Hafez Maulana Mujibur Rahman, 60, an Imam of Baitul Falah Jame Mosque in Malibagh Supermarket, and Mohammad Farhad, 25, an employee of Bijoynagar Cosmic Thai Glass in Paltan area.

Witnesses said the Imam was sitting at Mukta Glass House at Malibagh Supermarket at around 4:00pm when several glass sheets suddenly fell on him.

The victim had 42 percent burn injuries on her body. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where the on-duty doctors declared him dead.

Farhad was also injured critically as several glass sheets fell on him when he was working at his shop at around 11:30am.

He was rushed to DMCH but succumbed to his injuries after a few hours of his admission to the hospital.

## Kazi Jafar hospitalised in critical condition

**UNB, Dhaka**

Former prime minister and Jatiya Party (Ershad) Presidium Member Kazi Jafar Ahmed was hospitalised in a critical condition yesterday.

He was first taken to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) at about 11:00am. Later, he was shifted to Coronary Care Unit (CCU) of LabAid Cardiac Centre.

He has been suffering from various complications, including hypertension and respiratory problem for the last few days.

## Declare Ashulia, Jinjira, Nawabganj as municipalities

**Demands Jubo League**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Jubo League leaders of Dhaka district unit yesterday demanded the government to declare Ashulia, Jinjira and Nawabganj as municipalities.

They made the demand at a discussion before an Iftar mahfil in the city. Dhaka district unit of Bangladesh Awami Jubo League organised the iftar mahfil.

State Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Jahangir Kabir Nanak at the programme said the government would always be with the people and would do everything for their welfare.

Awami League Organising Secretary Abu Sayeed Al Mahmud Swapna said the people of Dhaka have voted Awami League for their development. The people need three more municipalities: Ashulia, Jinjira and Nawabganj, he said.

State Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Advocate Kamrul Islam, Jubo League General Secretary and Whip Mirza Azam, and Dhaka district Awami League President Benazir Ahmed also spoke at the programme.



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the opposition in Parliament Khaleeda Zia offers ziarat at the holy Rouza Mubarak of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM) at Madina on Sunday.

## Acid attack victim dies

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A woman who fell victim to acid attack at a village in Sunamganj on September 11 succumbed to her burn injuries at a hospital in Dhaka yesterday.

Local miscreants threw acid on Solema Khatun, aged around 35, of Kurikahania village in Dharmapasha in her sleep around 1:30am on September 11. She was admitted to City Hospital at Mohammadpur in Dhaka several hours later, according to Acid Survivors' Foundation (ASF) sources.

The victim had 42 percent burn injuries on her body. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Mujahid Hossain Antar, 6, a nephew of Solema, was sustaining burns as he was sleeping besides her. Two children of the woman were also sleeping with her.

Antar is now undergoing treatment at a local hospital in Dharmapasha.

Shariful Islam, brother-in-law of Solema, told reporters that her neighbours - Adil, Deen Islam, Fazle Haq and Karim - threw acid on her following a previous enmity.

Officer-in-charge of Dharmapasha Police Station Qamrul Islam told The Daily Star that a case has been filed against the four people but they are now absconding.

## SAJIB MURDER

## Parents demand arrest of killers

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Family members of a college student, who was gunned down on broad day light on August 6 at Barua tempo stand in the city's Khilkhet area, yesterday alleged that police are not arresting the killers, rather they are making frequent visits to the killers' houses.

Demanding the arrest of the killers, the victim's family also sought their security as the killers being at large are threatening them to withdraw the murder case.

The allegations were made by victim Sajib Kazi's father Kazim Uddin Kazi, mother Laila Akhter, uncles Amzad and Azimuddin Kazi at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city.

They alleged that Investigation Officer (IO) Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman of Khilkhet Police Station paid several visits to Mitu Akhter's house at Salon Para in Barua despite they (victim's family members) made repeated requests to arrest her as she knew every thing behind the killing.

Azimuddin said Mahbubur asked them on Friday to wait at Barua tempo stand where the mur-

der took place, and accordingly they stayed there for over three hours from 10:00am, but the IO did not turn up and was having talks with Mitu at her residence.

He said as Mitu's boy friend Hasan Tareque along with his five accomplices gunned down Sajib, she should be interrogated but police did not arrest her for interrogation.

Hasan, being a son of a well-off family, is influencing the police, they said, adding, even the police did not interrogate Hasan's parents to know his whereabouts.

When contacted Mahbubur said they are investigating the case and they did not arrest Mitu as her involvement was not found although they interrogated her several times.

A gang of six criminals riding on two motorbikes intercepted Sajib on the spot while he was heading to his house from Gulshan College after dropping Mitu at her residence at around 3:00pm.

The criminals shot Sajib in his throat and left the spot snatching away his motorbike.

He was rushed to Apollo Hospitals where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

## Work hard respecting Saudi laws

**Khaleeda asks Bangladeshi workers**

**UNB, Madina**

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleeda Zia urged the Bangladeshi workers in Saudi Arabia to keep working hard respecting Saudi laws and upholding their tradition and glory.

Khaleeda made the remarks when leaders of BNP's West Unit in Saudi Arabia met her at Dar-Al-Amin Intercontinental Hotel on Sunday night. Leaders from Jeddah, Makkah and Riyadh were also present.

Responding to various problems, including deportation being faced by Bangladeshi workers, Khaleeda assured that she would help resolve the problems.

She also asked BNP leaders and activists to work together following the party's instructions from Dhaka.

Saudi Arabia West Unit President Ahmed Ali, General Secretary Shahidul Islam Nannu, Jeddah BNP leader Shamim Ahsan, Shahabuddin Turki, Shahidullah Bhuiyan, Ahmad Ullah and Prof Rafiqul Islam were present.

Khaleeda is now in Saudi Arabia for performing Umrah at the invitation of the Saudi King.

## Appeal for help

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Md Sourav Hossain, a student of class five, has been suffering from blood cancer for the last two years, says a press release.

The 14-year-boy, who hails from Champaknagar in Parshuram, Feni, is now undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital.

His poor family has already sold out all properties to continue the treatment of the boy. According to doctors, Sourav needs better treatment, which involves about Tk 4 lakh. But it is no longer possible for his family to manage such a big amount.

So, his mother Firoza Begum has appealed to the generous people to extend a helping hand to save the life of her only son.

Contributions can be sent to Firoza Begum, Savings Account No. -16373, Sonali Bank, Parshuram Branch, Feni.

Interested people can also contact Ashik Foundation, 114 Central Road, Hatirpool, Dhanmondi, Dhaka for details. Phone Nos. -- 9673982 and 01717938021.

## Navy chief visits modernisation programme at Khulna shipyard

**UNB, Dhaka**

Navy Chief Rear Admiral ZU Ahmed visited technological development and modernisation activities at different workshops of Khulna Shipyard Limited (KSY) yesterday.

He also visited new housing arrangement and development programme of under-construction KSY school at Khulna Shipyard, says an ISPR press release.

The navy chief visited different activities of Khulna Shipyard run by Bangladesh Navy and expressed his satisfaction that the industry is becoming profitable in southern zone of the country.

As the chairman of KSY Board of Directors the navy chief expressed hope that KSY will take active initiative to build large ships soon.

Khulna Shipyard was about to be shut down as a sick industry. In this situation, the responsibility for operating the industry was vested upon Bangladesh Navy by the then government in 1999.

Later, KSY became a commercially profitable organisation by the skilled management of Bangladesh Navy.

Meanwhile, BN Tug RUPSHA and SHIBSHA and harbor patrol boat of Coast Guard were built in this shipyard.

Presently, KSY is continuing building, renovation, repairing different ships, pontoons, foot over bridge and spare parts for different government and private organisations.

Earlier, navy chief visited the progress of different development programme of Bangladesh Navy in Khulna Naval Area.

## Ensure security during Puja in Ctg

**Hindu community leaders urge**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

Hindu community leaders in Chittagong yesterday urged the law enforcement agencies to ensure security in and around 211 'puja mandaps' during the incoming Durga Puja, the largest religious festival of the community.

They made the urge during a view exchange meeting with the senior officials of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) held at the CMP Headquarters.

CMP Commissioner Md Moniruzzaman was the chief guest at the meeting, which was attended by leaders of Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Parishad and Chittagong Mohanagar Puja Ujjapan Parishad.

Parishad leaders urged police to stop movement of heavy vehicles at different roads and alleys adjoining to the puja mandaps to ease traffic jam. They also underscored the need for deployment of police surrounding areas of puja mandaps.

CMP Commissioner Moniruzzaman assured them extending all out support during the festival starting from September 24. He also declared to launch drives from today to check use of contraband liquor during the puja.

Deputy Commissioner (North) Banaj Kumar Mazumder, DC (Traffic) Mainul Islam, and other senior officials and officers-in-charge of twelve police stations in the city were present at the meeting.

## 'Scrap production sharing contract'

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

Chittagong unit of National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Port laid a siege to the office of deputy commissioner in Chittagong yesterday as part of its national programme.

Earlier, the committee organised a rally at Central Shaheed Minar premises.

Speakers at the rally strongly condemned the Production Sharing Contract with provision of exporting gas, when many gas-fired industries in the county are not getting sufficient gas.

They called for scrapping the contract.

Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) Chittagong district unit Convener Manash Nandi chaired the meeting while Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Chittagong district unit General Secretary Shah Alam, Biplobi Workers Party President Raja Mia and Workers Party leader Amrita Barua addressed the rally among others.

## Missing housewife found dead

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A housewife who had been missing for the last eight days was found dead in the city yesterday.

The police recovered the body of Shirin Begum, 30, wife of expatriate Jamal Hossain, from a manhole at Paterbagh in the city's Kadamtali area. She resided in Muktabhara residential area at Japanbazar in the area.

The body was wrapped in a sack and her hands and legs were tied. Local people informed the police after they noticed the sack around 12:00 noon.

The body was sent to Sir Salimullah Medical College

Hospital for autopsy.

Sharmin Akhter, daughter of Shirin, told reporters that her mother remained missing since she went to Paterbagh on September 7 to collect Tk 16,000 from a woman who borrowed the money few months ago.

Her family also filed a general diary with the Kadamtali Police Station.

Hearing the news of the recovery of a body, the victim's relatives rushed to the spot and identified the victim as Shirin.

Kadamtali police said the criminals dumped her body into the manhole after killing her somewhere else.

## Five killed in road crashes

**METRO DESK**

Five people were killed and eight others injured in separate road accidents in Bogra and Noakhali yesterday.

Staff correspondent in Bogra reports: Three people were killed and one was injured in a road accident on Bogra-Joypurhat road under Shibganj upazila in Bogra yesterday.

The dead were identified as autorickshaw driver Ashish Kumar, 35, Harun, 22, and Musa, 28.

Police said the accident occurred as a bus hit a CNG-run autorickshaw at Aladipur.

The injured was admitted Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in critical condition.

UNB form Noakhali adds:

Two people were killed and seven others injured as a truck rammmed into a tempo near Choumuhoni Bazar under Begumganj upazila in Noakhali yesterday.

The deceased were identified as tempo passengers Saiful Islam and Moin Uddin, 45, of Falkan village of Laxmipur district.

Police said the accident took place on Choumuhoni-Feni highway when the Choumuhoni-bound truck rammmed into the tempo at about 8:30am, leaving Saiful dead on the spot and injuring eight other tempo passengers.

The injured were admitted to Sadar General Hospital where Moinsuccumbed to his injuries.

Police seized the truck but its driver and helper managed to flee from the scene.



## Rain likely

**UNB, Dhaka**

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy falls at places in next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 7:02pm today and rises at 6:45am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 35.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Syedpur and lowest 24.0 degrees Celsius at Khepupara.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.5	27.5	74	92
Chittagong	29.7	24.4	98	85
Rajshahi	34.8	27.6	75	72
Khulna	34.5	28.3	80	92
Barisal	32.0	27.4	92	95
Sylhet	34.4	25.8	69	83
Cox's Bazar	32.0	24.6	87	74