

Seven found dead during Eid holiday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least seven people, including three women, were found dead across the country in the last five days.

Our Feni correspondent reports: The police recovered the body of an unidentified young man, aged around 30, from bushes adjacent to a gypsy Palli at Lalpul near Feni bypass road on Eid day (Monday).

The police suspect that miscreants might have killed him over previous enmity. The body was sent to Feni Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

A Gazipur correspondent reports: The body of a woman was found in a trunk at her neighbour's room at Arichpur in Tongi on Tuesday.

The victim was identified as Jubeda Khatun, 50, who resided in a rented room at a house. The police recovered her body at the room of Irani Rani, who resided at the same house.

Victim's daughter Jayeda alleged that house owner Sirajul Islam and Irani Rani killed her

mother over previous enmity. Both of them were arrested, the police said.

Our Munshiganj correspondent reports: The police recovered the body of young man from a farm at Imamchar in Mirkadam under Sadar upazila on Tuesday.

The victim was identified as Alauddin, 32, a van driver and son of Hashem Shiekh, a resident of Abdullahpur in Tangbari.

Our Narayanganj correspondent adds: Three bodies were recovered in the last four days in different areas of the district.

The police recovered the body of an unidentified woman, aged around 40, from Shitalakkhya river at Noapara in Ruggan on Monday.

Police suspect that miscreants might have killed her and dumped the body in the river.

In another incident, the body of a young man was recovered behind the Saint Paul's Church in Narayanganj on Tuesday.

The victim was identified as

Shahin, 36, son of Reazul Islam, a resident of Shimulchara in Tribardi.

The police said Shahin was a drug addict and committed a number of crimes.

On Monday, a housewife was found dead at Kachpur in Sonargoan upazila. The victim was identified as Afrin Akhtar, 19, wife of Abul Kashem.

The police found the body hanging from the ceiling fan at their house. However, her husband went into hiding.

A Savar Correspondent adds: The police recovered a body from Samata Residential Project area on Saturday.

The victim was identified as Babul Hossain, 40, a resident of Gouripur Village in Ashulia. He worked at a rickshaw garage. His body was found wrapped in a sack.

According to the victim's family members, Babul went out of his house on Friday night but did not return home. On Saturday noon, local people noticed sack and informed the police who recovered the body.

Hillary greets Muslims on Eid

UNB, Dhaka

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton conveyed Eid greetings to the Muslims all over the world on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr and lauded the noble values of Islam like charity, community, cooperation, and compassion.

Hillary said she is delighted to celebrate the end of Ramadan by wishing all Muslims a happy Eid.

She said, "In 1996, my husband and I were privileged to host the first-ever White House Eid celebration, which has now become a tradition. And this year, I hosted an Iftar at the State Department, with Muslims and non-Muslims attending. We hope that reinforces every year that all faiths have a home here in the United States."

Hillary said for Muslims all over the world, Eid ul-Fitr marks the end of a holy month of fasting and prayer. "This time of self-reflection reminds us that the values of Islam - charity, community, cooperation, compassion - are values which we hold dear as Americans and which have contributed so much to American culture."

She said as President Obama had said in Cairo, the United States seeks a new beginning with Muslims around the world, one based on mutual interest and mutual respect.

"We know there is more that unites peoples of faith than divides us."

So, as Ramadan draws to a close, let us hold on to that spirit of community throughout the year to achieve our common goals of peace, prosperity, and stability. And I wish all of you a very happy year as well. Thank you."

CPB RALLY BLASTS BNP leader Arif on fresh remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday took BNP leader Arifur Rahman on one-day fresh remand in connection with the 2001 blasts at a rally of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB).

Metropolitan Magistrate Munshi Abdul Mazid passed the remand order after the CID personnel produced him before a Dhaka court on completion of his one-day remand and sought further 10-day remand for interrogation.

Arifur Rahman, also a ward councillor of Dhaka City Corporation, was earlier taken on a five-day remand in two phases.

In the forwarding report placed before the court yesterday, CID Inspector Mrinal Kanti Saha, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, said he gathered important information from the arrestee about the blast, which is being verified. He needs to be remanded again for more information about the blast and whereabouts of his accomplices, the IO said.

On the other hand, Arifur's lawyers submitted a petition for bail and cancellation of the remand prayer, saying that their client was implicated in the case as part of a conspiracy to harass him.

After hearing both the sides, the magistrate rejected the bail petition and placed the accused on one-day remand. The CID members arrested Arifur from his Malibagh residence on September 15.

On January 21 in 2001, five people were killed and 50 others injured in the bomb blasts at a rally of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB).

Following the bomb attack, CPB President Monjurul Ahsan Khan filed a bomb blast case with Motijheel Police Station, saying a group of anti-state conspirators made the attack.

The police arrested 12 people at that time, but the CID submitted the final report on December 17, 2003, as correct, impartial and reliable evidence were not found to prove the charges against the arrestees.

The investigation officer (IO) said he would press charges if sufficient evidence are found against the arrestees.

The IO submitted a petition with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court for reinvestigation into the case on January 27, 2005 and the court directed him for fresh probe into the case after two days.

Earlier, CID arrested Harkatul-Jihad-al-Islami (Huji) leader and several other Huji members for their involvement in the bomb blasts.



A goods train from Santahar derailed at Ishwardi station yesterday morning, disrupting movement of trains on the metre gauge line linking Dhaka for about nine hours. (Story on Page 15)

China keeps room to manoeuvre on climate change: Observers

AFP, Beijing

Chinese President Hu Jintao offered few details in his UN speech on climate change, but the lack of specifics could just mean he wants to keep some room for manoeuvre, observers said yesterday.

On Tuesday, Hu told the UN General Assembly in New York that China would curb the growth of its carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP by a "notable margin" by 2020 from their 2005 level, but did not give a figure for the cuts.

Hu could have stepped up pressure on developed nations ahead of global talks

in Copenhagen in December by offering specific numbers, but may have deliberately opted not to do so, experts said.

"If Hu had done that, it would be a big push to the US position as well as the international climate negotiations that are going very slowly at the moment," said Greenpeace China climate change campaign manager Yang Ailun, referring to US hopes for firm commitments on the issue.

But the fact that Hu didn't announce the target might mean that China wants to leave a bit more space for negotiation later, she told AFP.

Hu's description of the curbs in terms of gross domestic product reflects Beijing's paramount concern about the need to maintain rapid economic growth.

China and other developing countries have long resisted mandatory emission curbs becoming part of the next treaty on fighting global warming, saying rich countries bear historical responsibility for cleaning up the environment.

Developed nations, while pledging to fight global warming, have insisted that emerging powers also commit to action under an accord to be

hammered out in Copenhagen as a successor to the Kyoto Protocol, which expires in 2012.

IHS Global Insight analyst Ren Xianfang described Hu's speech as a "symbolic gesture" to show China was serious about reducing emissions.

But the statement also showed Beijing was not prepared to commit to a target before the Denmark talks, she added.

"They are obliged to say something. The world needs China's commitment to this," Rensaid.

"There's still a lot of uncertainty ahead of the big meeting in Copenhagen. China may be waiting for others to move first."

China, which is level pegging with the United States as the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter, has committed in its current five-year plan to cutting energy consumption per unit of GDP by 20 percent between 2006 and 2010.

The Asian giant, which relies on coal for 70 percent of its energy needs, also aims to get 10 percent of its power from renewable sources by 2010 and 15 percent by 2020.

Oxfam Hong Kong campaign coordinator Stanley So offered praise for Hu, saying he had shown "leadership to the developed countries" and "willingness" to take on responsibility for reducing emissions.

Greenpeace's Yang said Hu's speech was a positive sign that China was serious about tackling climate change.

"This was the first time that the Chinese government has publicly confirmed that China would have a carbon emissions reduction target. Before, it was just speculation," Yang said.

"So in this sense Hu's speech was still quite significant."

Qulkhwani

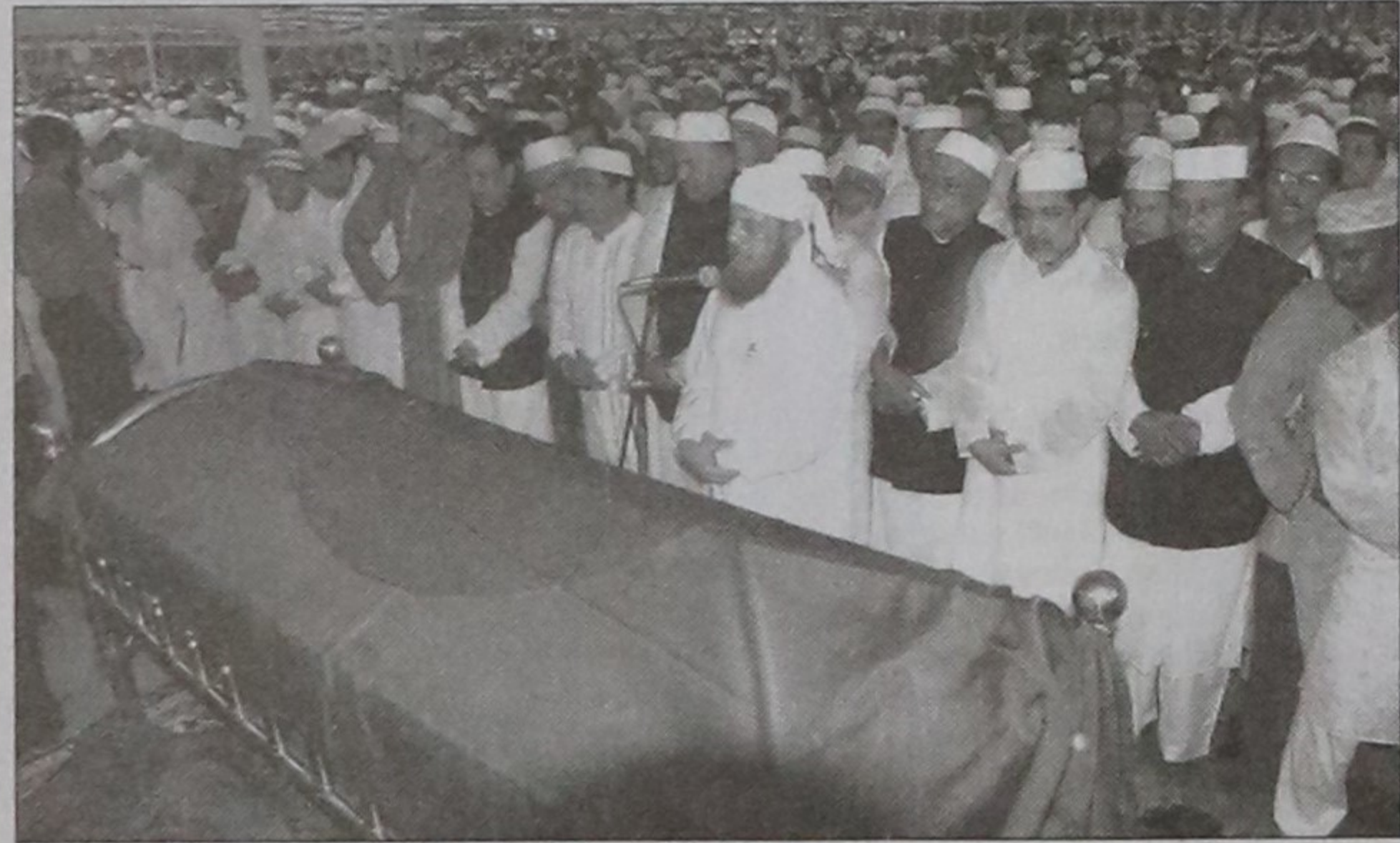
UNB, Sylhet

Qulkhwani of Dr Shaukur Reza Choudhury of Deorail in Sylhet will be held at Baridhara Park Road Masjid in Dhaka after Asr prayers today.

Dr Choudhury passed away in London on September 16 at the age of 81.

His body arrived here on Sunday and was buried at Hazrat Shahjalal Mazar after namaz-e-janaza the same day.

Relatives and admirers are requested to take part in the qulkhwani.



Namaz-e-janaza of former minister and member of Awami League advisory council MA Mannan was held on the Jamiatul Falah National Mosque premises in the port city of Chittagong yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

Obituary



A M M Aminur Rahman, a retired additional inspector general of police,

passed away due to old age complications at a city hospital on Monday at the age of 88, says a press release.

Aminur, who was also the commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), left behind his wife, two sons, four grandchildren and a host of relatives, friends and admirers to mourn his death.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held at the Rajarbagh Police Line Mosque in the city after Juma prayers tomorrow.

His qulkhwani will be held at his residence Savustu Kunjan, House # 23, Road # 6, Dhanmondi Residential Area (next to Dhanmondi Thana) after Asr prayers on Saturday. All relatives, friends and admirers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over all the six divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely to occur at places over the country, Met Office said.

It said day temperature may rise slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital at 6:53pm today and rises at 6:48am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 33.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 22.9 degrees Celsius at Feni.

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	28.0	25.0	92	87
Chittagong	30.7	24.3	81	79
Rajshahi	33.0	24.8	95	80
Khulna	30.4	24.8	89	83
Barisal	32.0	25.4	76	98
Sylhet	31.9	25.0	87	73
Cox's Bazar	32.0	24.2	73	81