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## Two die for 'medical negligence' Doctor sent to jail

STAR REPORT

Two patients, including a pregnant woman, died due to alleged negligence of doctors in two separate incidents in Panchagarh and Dinajpur districts on Thursday and yesterday.

A doctor was also sent to jail following a court order over the death of the pregnant woman, while three persons were injured in a scuffle between relatives of a patient and interns at Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital.

Tahera Begum, 20, who was expecting, died at Panchagarh Mother and Child Welfare Centre Thursday evening. She was admitted there with labour pain in the morning, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent.

After admission, she remained unattended by any

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# Nimtoli blaze left some things intact

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Mohammad Didar had given his eight-year-old daughter Ardita a piggy bank to save coins. The plastic bank was intact inside a wardrobe when all three members of his nuclear family died inside the flat in the Nimtoli inferno on June 3.

Didar also lost 11 members of his extended family in the blaze.

"I gave the bank to my daughter as she wanted it. She would put coins into it and kept the bank inside the wardrobe," said Didar.

Ardita, who was a class-II student of the city's Udayan Girls' School, died in the inferno that engulfed eight residential buildings and over 20 shops at Nimtoli of Old Dhaka. The blaze left 121 dead.

Surprisingly, much of the furniture, clothes, documents, stored money and the other belongings of the residents of that building remained unscathed. Only the

furniture of one flat of the eight-flat five-storey building was burnt but all the 41 people who were inside the building on that night of horror had died.

Sofas, beds, cots, almirah, wardrobes and other furniture inside the seven flats of the building, owned by Didar and his two brothers, seemed not to have received a scratch.

They now call up memories of the people who once used them.

"I found intact Tk 500 and Tk 100 notes inside the wardrobe," said Didar who used to stay in a third-floor flat with his wife and two children. He said clothes and other stuff inside the wardrobe were in perfect condition too.

He collected them Thursday. Documents and other papers in another flat owned by Didar's brother Mohammad Gulzar on the fourth floor were also found intact. Gulzar collected the documents last week.

In another flat of the building, where the

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Money kept inside the five-story building, in which none survived the Nimtoli blaze, is amazingly in good shape.

PHOTO: STAR

JURAIN SUICIDE

## Driver held with microbus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Detective Branch of police arrested the microbus driver of housewife Farzana Akhter Rita and recovered the missing vehicle from a village in Gopalganj Thursday night.

Farzana and her two children, 12-year-old Pabon and 10-year-old Payel, were found dead in their Jurain house on June 11. According to the writing on the walls of the house, the three had committed suicide.

Driver Al Amin hails from Patuakhali district. He had been staying in the house of one Pagal Biswas of Guadana in Gopalganj since the day of the incident.

DB (south) Additional Deputy Commissioner Mahbub Alam said during preliminary interrogation Al Amin confessed to the

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## Nine killed in road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Nine persons including four of a family were killed in road accidents in Narayanganj, Sylhet and Habiganj districts yesterday and Thursday.

In Rupganj of Narayanganj, Nurul Islam Kalu, 30, and Moktar Hossain, 29, died when a speeding truck rammed their motorcycle at Kanchan Kalni Palkhan around 12:30pm yesterday.

Kalu, who was riding the bike, died on the spot while Moktar on way to hospital, said Forkan Shikdar, officer-in-charge of Rupganj Police Station.

Incensed, locals vandalised about 10 to 12 vehicles including a police van and barricaded Madanpur-Gazipur highway for an hour, causing traffic congestion in the surrounding areas.

Later, police brought the situation under control and restored the vehicular movement.

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## 60 workers arrested in Abu Dhabi

UNB, Dhaka

Abu Dhabi police arrested 60 Bangladeshi nationals last Monday on charges of residing over there illegally.

The police raided a six-storey building in the Tourist Club area and arrested them. The dilapidated building with 18 apartments, had hundreds of residents living in deplorable conditions, Gulf News reported quoting Abu Dhabi officials.

All those arrested were reported absconding by their sponsors. The Bangladesh

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## Ahmadiyyas in Tangail attacked

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

An angry mob vandalised a makeshift tin-shed mosque of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat and the house of an Ahmadiyya believer at Ghatail upazila in Tangail Thursday.

They also damaged the construction materials for a mosque of the community in Chandara village around 4:00pm putting about 40 Ahmadiyya families into grave panic.

Before the attack on Mokaddes Ali Akanda's house, several thousand local Muslims led by Imam Mufti Nasiruddin of Ghatail Upazila Parishad Mosque brought out a procession under the banner of Imam Parishad after Zohr prayer. They marched four kilometres to Chandara village and held a rally at a local school.

Terming the community "anti-Islam", speakers at the rally demanded that the government immediately declares

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PHOTO ON PAGE 15

## Mahmudur's lawyers worried over his health

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lawyers of Mahmudur Rahman, detained acting editor of daily Amar Desh, yesterday expressed concern over his health.

Nasiruddin Asim, Mahmudur's counsel, at a press conference said, "When I met him yesterday, he said he has lost weight due to torture in custody."

Mahmudur's weight was 70 kg when he was taken to jail on

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Ektattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee brings out a procession from the Engineers Institution in the capital yesterday on the occasion of its sixth national conference.

PHOTO: STAR

# Provide more manpower to speed up war crimes trial

## Speakers at Nirmul Committee confce ask govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should appoint more investigators and prosecutors soon to expedite the process of war crimes trial, said speakers in a conference yesterday.

"It is right that the government has formed a tribunal for trying war criminals. But lack of logistics is delaying the investigation and trial process," Prof Muntasir Mamun said in the national conference of Ektattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee at the auditorium of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh.

He said the government must provide all necessary logistics, and appoint more investigators and prosecutors for holding the trial immediately.

The speakers demanded that the identified war criminals must be arrested before the start of the trial to prevent them from misleading people through propaganda.

"There is a provision in the existing law that allows detaining those harmful to the society. The government should consider it with regard to war criminals," said Prof Kabir Chowdhury, president of the advisory committee of Ektattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee.

"War crime is not a general offence. It is a crime against humanity and the provisions of existing laws can be applied against those accused of war crimes," said Mujahidul Islam Selim, general secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh.

Giving an example, he said Germany arrested the lieutenants loyal to Adolf Hitler before the Nuremberg trial began.

Lawmaker Hasanul Haque Inu said the present global stage is appropriate for trying war criminals with Rwanda, Bosnia and Cambodia holding war crimes trials.

Lawmaker Rashed Khan Menon said formation of a tribunal is not enough to

ensure war crimes trial. The masses must be involved in the process.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashraful Islam said, "Those who muddle up the issue of commodity prices with the trial do not want that the war criminals are tried."

"The June 27 hartal has nothing to do with the prices of essentials. It is a rehearsal for protecting the war criminals."

The hartal was called to scuttle the holding of war crimes trial, he said.

Ashraf said there is no objection from the international community to holding the trial; rather it assured the government of cooperation.

Shirin Akhter, president of Karmojibi Nari, Md Nurunnabi, president of the USA chapter of Ektattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee and Prof AKM Saïdul Haque, president of Peshajibi Samonnay Parishad, among others, spoke.

The two-day conference ends today.

## INTERNAL FEUD Khulna AL activities suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League has suspended the activities of its Khulna district unit until June 26 fearing outbursts of internal feud ahead of its extended meeting next Saturday.

Central AL Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif directed Khulna district AL President Sheikh Harun-or-Rashid to keep the party activities suspend following the insult of a senior district leader by Rupsha unit AL leaders.

"Some untoward incidents are happening among the rank and file of Khulna Awami League and for this I have asked the Khulna district president to keep party

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**OnlinePoll**

What should the government do to prevent deaths from landslides?

- Proper forestation (76.2%)
- Relocation of residences from hilly areas (15.8%)
- Hill cutting (8.0%)

**Total votes: 1036**

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you think the government plan to run electric train between Dhaka and Chittagong is realistic when the country is facing severe power crisis?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

Prayer Timing		
June 19		
Fajr	Azan	Jamaat
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-50	6-55
Esha	8-15	8-45
Source: Islamic Foundation		

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