



Waterlogged and scattered hidden potholes...this is how the road is in front of Alam Market in Jurain in the capital. PHOTO: STAR

# One person should not hold key posts in govt, party

Says Obaidul Quader

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A person should not hold important positions in the government and the party at the same time as it hampers activities of both the organisations, Awami League Presidium Member Obaidul Quader has said.

"Many leaders hold key positions in the government and the party's central and district committees affecting both. They should keep only one position," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

Referring to the resignation of veteran Congress leader Pranab Mukherjee as the president of party's West Bengal unit, he said if important leaders except party President Sheikh Hasina hold only one post, both party and the government would be benefited. It will allow the person to concentrate more on the duties for a position.

AL Presidium Members Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Matia Chowdhury, Rajuddin Ahmed Raju, Abdul Latif Siddique and Shahara Khatun, General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam, joint general secretaries Dipu Moni, and Jahangir Kabir Nanak and departmental secretaries AHM Mustafa Kamal, Syed Abul Hossain, Abdur Razzaque, Abdul Mannan Khan, Hasan Mahmud, Yeafers Osman, and Col (ret) Faruk Khan, among others, hold key posts in both the government and the party.

"The way politics is practised now, it will bode ill for democracy," Quader said earlier at a discussion organised by Bangabandhu Academy at Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

He said public confidence in political leaders has gone down. People don't believe politicians now.

"We [politicians] have damaged our credibility over the years," said Quader.

The AL leader said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had set a good political example by welcoming the opposition-backed mayoral candidate's triumph in the Chittagong City Corporation polls.

But the main opposition BNP ruined the nice gesture by calling hartal, he said.

He also stressed the need for strengthening the local government. The administration must be made more dynamic to this end, he said.

On BNP's backing for Jamaat-e-Islami's programmes against the arrest of three top Jamaat leaders, Quader said, "It's not new that BNP will support Jamaat. It's a reality for BNP to give all-out support to Jamaat as they are the same."

# 8 killed in road accidents

**METRO DESK**

At least eight people were killed and ten others injured in separate road accidents in Sirajganj, Madaripur and Thakurgaon yesterday and on Thursday night.

Our Sirajganj Correspondent reports: At least two people were killed and five others injured yesterday in separate road accidents in Sirajganj.

Police said the accident took place when a Dhaka bound passenger bus collided head-on with a truck coming from the opposite direction at Bhuigati area under Salanga police station, leaving a child killed and five injured on the spot.

The deceased was identified as Milon, 5, son of Labu Hossain from Naruli village of Bogra.

The injured were admitted to the hospital.

In another incident, an unnamed man was killed yesterday morning when a speeding train knocked him down at Bongkir bridge area under Ullahpara upazila of the district.

The name of the deceased could not be known immediately.

GRP police said Dhaka-bound "Nilsagar Express train" from Nilphamari hit a man when he was crossing the rail track near Bongkir bridge under Ullahpara upazila, leaving him dead on the spot.

A case was lodged with GRP police station in this connection.

Our Madaripur Correspondent adds: At least three people were killed and five others injured yesterday in separate road accidents in Kalkini and Shibchar upazilas of the district.

Locals said the accident occurred when the driver of a Dhaka-bound woods laden truck lost his control over the steering of the vehicle and over turn on Dhaka-Barisal highway at Karnapara area under kalkini upazila of the district, leaving its driver and helper dead on the spot.

The victims were identified as Kalam Haoladar, 35, son of Abdus Sattar and Sohel, 25, son of Abu Bakkar, hail from Barishal and Patuakhali district respectively.

Another accident took place yesterday when a Dhaka bound passenger bus collided head-on with a truck on Dhaka-Khulna highway at Dattapara area under Shibchar upazila of the district.

The deceased was identified as Mannan Haoladar, 35, a bank manager of Agrani bank, hail from Bhanga upazila of Faridpur.

Five people were also injured in the incident.

Our Thakurgaon correspondent says: At least three people including a woman and her six month old child were killed in a road accident on Thakurgaon-Baliadangi highway at Mothurapur village under Sadar upazila of the district Thursday evening.

The victims were identified as Masuda Begum, 22, wife of Bhutto, her six-month old son Masud and Dabirul Islam, 52, son of Rafiz Uddin of different upazilas of the district.

Officer-in-Charge Feroz Khan of Sadar Police Station said the accident took place at around 7:10pm Thursday when a rickshaw was caught in the crossing line between two tractors coming from opposite direction and smashed leaving Masuda and her son dead on the spot and her husband rickshaw puller Bhutto injured.

Locals admitted Bhutto to the Thakurgaon Sadar hospital.

However, locals caught helper Dabirul while he was fleeing the spot and gave him a good beating, leaving him seriously injured.

Later, he was undergoing treatment at Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital.

## Alauddin Azad's anniversary of death today

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Today is the first death anniversary of Prof Dr Alauddin Al Azad, prominent poet, litterateur and academician, says a press release.

On the occasion, Bangla Darpan will hold a discussion and a function to unveil the cover of a commemorative book at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhavan at Dhaka University at 4:00pm today.

## Wife, son meet Nizami at jail gate

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Family members of Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami, now detained in Dhaka Central Jail, met him at the jail gate yesterday afternoon.

Wife Shamsunnahar Nizami and son barrister Nazib Momen spent around half an hour with the Jamaat chief at the jail gate from 3:45pm.

They also gave some foods, clothes and books to Nizami, jail sources said.

Towhidul Islam, senior superintendent of Dhaka Central Jail, said Nizami's family met him in presence of jail officials and personnel from different intelligence agencies.

Meanwhile, Jamaat Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed and Naye-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee, who had been placed on 16 days' remand on Wednesday, were kept at Detective Branch office of police amid strict security.

DB officials said only the senior DB officials have access to their rooms.

DB Deputy Commissioner (North) Mahbubur Rahman said the Jamaat leaders are being provided with food like other detainees.

## Nat'l Mathematical Olympiad team leaves tomorrow

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A five-member Bangladesh National Mathematical Team will leave the country tomorrow to compete in the 51st International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) to be held at Astana in Kazakhstan.

The team members are Tarik Adnan Moon of Kustia Govt College, Pranon Rahman Khan of Sylhet MC College, Kazi Hasan Zubayer of Khulna Public College, Nafiza Anzuman of Sylhet Govt Women College and Haque Mumammad Isfaq of Bangladesh Agriculture University College.

Coach Prof Mahbub Majumder will lead the team, said noted academician Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, also the president of the Bangladesh Mathematical Olympiad Committee (BMO), at a press conference held at a city hotel yesterday.

Prothom Alo Editor Matiuur Rahman, its Deputy Editor Anisul Haque, noted academician Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and Dutch-Banagla Bank Managing Director Yasin Ali, among others, were present at the press conference.

Prof Jamilur said the international competition kicked off yesterday but the formal inauguration would be held on Tuesday. The competition would conclude on July 14.

A total of 536 competitors from 105 countries are expected to participate in this year's competition.

In the competition, the participants will have to solve six new and basic mathematical problems for which they will be awarded with Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal on the basis of their merit and performance.

The first IMO was held in Romania in 1959 and Bangladesh became its member in 2004, and has been participating in the competition since 2005.

Two Bangladeshi participants were awarded with Bronze Medal in the last year's competition hosted by Germany in Berlin.

BMO in cooperation with the Dutch-Banagla Bank launched countrywide mathematical festival (Gonit Utsab) in December last year to select the national team members. A total of 15,000 pre-university level students participated in the competition, and finally five were selected.

## BNP warns govt of dire consequences

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The main opposition BNP yesterday warned of dire consequences if the government moved to thwart its countrywide human chain scheduled for Wednesday.

"The consequences will not be good for the government if it tries to create obstacles or foil the programme as was done to hartal," BNP Secretary general Khandaker Delwar Hossain said at a press briefing.

The press briefing was held after Delwar chaired a joint meeting attended by leaders of BNP and its front and associate bodies at the party's central office in Naya Paltan.

BNP announced the programme at a protest rally on June 28, a day after its nationwide hartal. The party will form the human chain demanding release of its leaders held during the hartal and withdrawal of cases against the arrestees.

"I would like to tell the government to stay away from any illegal acts to hinder the programme," Delwar said, adding that they will observe it peacefully with the participation of people from every walk of life.

## Driver kicks sergeant off moving truck to death

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna**

A traffic sergeant died Thursday night due to fatal injuries sustained during a routine check at Nirala area in Khulna sadar that afternoon.

The deceased Kazi Moniruzzaman, 30, of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) succumbed to his chest and head injuries around 8:45pm at Khulna Medical College Hospital.

According to eyewitnesses, the sergeant intercepted a truck for a routine check around 12:30pm. As he got on the truck, the driver kicked him off the moving vehicle and sped away.

Police, later, recovered the truck from Galamari under Batiaghata Police Station of the district but the driver still remains at large.

Traffic Sergeant Abdul Bashar lodged a murder case in this connection with Khulna sadar Police Station Thursday.

Sergeant Moniruzzaman was the only son of retired police inspector Kazi Abdul Malek of Rajapur village under Katia upazila of Narail district. He had been serving KMP's traffic department since July 2007.

Khulna City Corporation Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque, BNP lawmaker Nazrul Islam Monju, KMP Commissioner Helaluddin Badri and all KMP officials visited the hospital on hearing the news of his death.



Acting Mayor of Faridpur Municipality Sheikh Mahtab Ali hands over a 5.5-inch key made of 3.5 tolas of gold to Labour, Employment and Expatriates Welfare Minister Engineer Khondoker Mosharruf Hossain at a citizen reception on the municipality premises yesterday. (Story on Page 16) PHOTO: STAR

## Obituary

**METRO DESK**

Mohammad Fazlul Karim Majumder, former principal of Comilla Victoria Government College, passed away due to a cardiac arrest at the Apollo Hospitals in the city on Thursday night at the age of 68, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, two sons and a number of well-wishers to mourn his death.

He was laid to rest at his village Noapara under Hajiganj in Chandpur after Juma prayers after namaz-e-janaza in Comilla.

The Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association, Bangladesh Sports Writers' Association, Comilla Educational Board Chairman Prof Kundu Gopidas conduced his death and conveyed sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

Majumder, father of Prothom Alo's senior sports reporter Tareq Mahmud, was adjudged the best college teacher.

### WEATHER

## Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Barisal, Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

**The sun sets in the capital at 6:50pm today and rises at 5:16am tomorrow.**

Country's highest temperature 34.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 25.3 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

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	33.0	27.5	79	77
Chittagong	33.4	27.4	74	78
Rajshahi	33.2	26.5	81	75
Khulna	34.2	27.3	95	76
Barisal	32.4	26.4	84	78
Sylhet	33.0	26.4	86	70
Cox's Bazar	33.0	26.5	76	79

## Rajshahi-Dhaka air service starts this month

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

Air service on Rajshahi-Dhaka route will start again on a limited scale this month.

Galaxy Flying Academy, a private flying training school, signed a contract with the aviation authorities for the service.

Rajshahi Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton informed the media about this at a news briefing yesterday.

Alongside its regular training schedules, the academy will provide air services to passengers on the route.

The academy constructed a hangar at Shah Makhdum Airport of Rajshahi and bought five Cessna airplanes for the training-come-passenger services. Each plane will travel carrying at least two passengers during the day within an hour of reservations.

The academy authorities also rented an office at the airport in exchange for Tk 7 lakh for three years, said sources concerned.

One will have to spend around Tk 30 to 35 lakh for training while the rate for passenger service will be fixed taking into account the ability of middleclass travellers.

The mayor told The Daily Star that the academy would bring a bigger aircraft to start regular passenger service on the route.

An aviation college and an airplane repairing workshop will be set up in Rajshahi within the next year creating job opportunities for 250 to 300 people, the mayor added.

Earlier, the mayor held a meeting yesterday at his Rajshahi Nagar Bhaban office with academy Managing Director M Masudur Rahman, Director Aagar Hossain and airport Manager M Serajul Islam.

## CJ for quick disposal of cases

**UNB, Narsingdi**

Chief Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim yesterday called for quick disposal of cases without resorting to vengeance.

He called upon the judges and lawyers to be careful so that none face harassment while giving their deposition in cases.

He made the remarks at a reception organised in his honour by local Bar Association at Bar office at noon.

Advocate Zillur Rahman, Advocate Shajahan Miah and Public Prosecutor (PP) Advocate NM Ruhul Amin spoke on the occasion with Bar President Advocate Mamunur Rashid in the chair.

Deputy Commissioner Amrita Baroi and Police Supper Dr Akkas Uddin Bhuiyan were present.

Later, the chief justice attended a view exchange meeting with judges of the district judge court.

## Traffic police's role stressed to check noise pollution

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Nirapad Development Foundation (NDF) and Green Mind Society yesterday demanded involvement of traffic police in enforcing the Noise Pollution Control Rules in the capital.

The two organizations staged a sit-in in front of the Jatiya Press Club where they said the traffic police could punish car drivers for unnecessary honking.

The speakers said noise pollution is very harmful to both physical and mental health. It reduces hearing capacity and triggers headache and insomnia.

Chairman of the NDF Ibnul Sayed Rana said due to lack of awareness, drivers of vehicles honk excessively.

Unabated use of brick-crushing machines in different residential areas are going on, he added.

President of Puraan Nagarbashi Sangathan Haji Ansar Ali said cars use horns even stuck in traffic lights. He demanded replacing hydraulic horn of every car.

To cut the increasing levels of noise pollution created by motor vehicles, industries and amplifiers, the government in 2006 formulated the Noise Pollution Control Rules under the Environment Conservation Act, 1995.

Executive Director of Green Mind Society Md Amir Hasan, Vice-President Misanur Rahman, Faruk Hossain, Adviser of NDF Sarkar Based Siddique and members Khalilur Rahman and Ashraf Siddique addressed the sit-in programme.