

# 5 killed, 65 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

At least five people were killed and 65 others injured in separate road accidents in Jhenidah and Gaibandha yesterday.

Our correspondent, Gaibandha reports: At least three people were killed and 15 others injured when a speeding passenger bus collided with a tractor trolley at Heluban Bridge on the Gobindaganj-Joypurhat road yesterday noon.

The deceased were identified as helper of the bus Sohel, 17, Shakawat Hossain, 45

and Milon, 20. The injured were admitted to Bogra Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital and Gobindaganj Health Complex.

A correspondent from Munshiganj says: One person was killed and 50 others were injured when two passenger buses collided head-on at Srinagar upazila on the Dhaka-Mawa highway.

The deceased was identified as Alauddin, 48. The injured were taken to different local hospitals and clinics in Dhaka.

Police said the accident occurred

when a Mawa-bound bus of Ananda Express collided with a Dhaka-bound bus of DM Express and fell into roadside ditches.

Our correspondent Jhenidah adds: A youth was killed when a Jhenidah-bound truck ran him over at the main bus stop of Kaliganj upazila town in Jhenidah.

The deceased was identified as Rasel, 22, son of Shariful Islam of Balidapara village of Kaliganj upazila.

On information, police recovered the body and sent it to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital for autopsy.



Jatra Shilpi Unnayan Parishad forms a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday demanding speedy trial of war criminals. PHOTO: STAR

# 'Motivate mothers to breastfeed babies to reduce malnutrition'

UNB, Dhaka

Expert physicians at a seminar yesterday emphasised the need for motivating mothers through proper communication strategy to only breastfeed babies until six months to reduce malnutrition among children.

They also stressed the need for creating awareness among the mothers and guardians to give the babies semi-solid complementary feedings, particularly homemade foods, in addition to continued breastfeeding for last 24 months.

"There's no scope to separately see breastfeeding and complementary feeding as both are related to the infant and young child feeding," said Prof Dr Fatima Parveen Chowdhury, director of the Institute of Public Health and

Nutrition (IPHN).

She was presiding over the seminar styled 'Dissemination Meeting of National Communication Plan for Infant and Young Child Feeding' at the IPHN in the city, attended by Director General of Health Services Prof Dr Shah Monir Hossain.

Health officials, NGO officials and representatives from the development partners took part in the seminar.

The IPHN director said the government prepared communication framework and plan aiming at delivering a same message about infant and young child feeding by the government and non-government organisations.

Prof Dr MQK Talukder, adviser to the Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation said physicians or health workers should properly motivate those mothers, who

say that they have not enough breast milk, to initiate breastfeeding just after birth of the child.

Dr Talukder, a pioneer in promoting breast feeding in Bangladesh, also said if the children found suffering from anaemia should have to give iron rich food - milk, liver and green vegetables without prescribing iron substitute medicine.

Prof Dr Shah Monir Hossain said, "Apart from compulsory breastfeeding for six months, countrymen should be given right message to select complementary foods available around their homes to give their babies after six months."

Dr. Aina G. Sanghvi, country director of Tiva & Thrive and Mira Mitra, communication specialist of UNICEF presented separate keynote papers at the function.

# 'Help children grow as human resources'

UNB, Dhaka

Social Welfare Minister Enamul Huq Mostafa Shaheed yesterday stressed the need for comprehensive measures to help the children grow into human resources.

"One-fourth of the country's population is children. They need to become responsible citizens. The state has to take all responsibilities to make them grow into human resources," the minister said while addressing a workshop at Sonargaon Hotel in the city.

Ministry of Social Welfare with support of Unicef and Legal Education and

Training Institute organised the workshop on the proposed draft law on children.

Chaired by Social Welfare Secretary Quomaran Nessa Khanam, the workshop was also addressed by Begum Meher Afroz MP, Mozammel Hossain MP, Chief of Child Protection Section of Unicef Rose-Anne Papavero and Social Welfare Joint Secretary Nasima Begum.

Enamul said to make law is easy but to implement and abide by the law difficult. In many cases, the laws are abused and misused, he added.

He underscored the need for reconsid-

ering age limit of children putting the question, "If an 18-year-old boy or girl is really a child."

Recalling the contribution of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to preserving children's rights, the minister said, "When the United Nations and other human rights forums failed to raise voice against violation of children's rights, Bangabandhu had announced Children Act, 1974."

The children are not only future of a nation but also future of the mankind, said Enamul adding that the government has to consider the proposed law in the context of social condition.

# Alleged 'mafia boss' among suspects arrested in Italy

BBC ONLINE

The man believed to be the "top boss" of an alleged Italian crime family is among those arrested in a police sweep.

At least 300 people were arrested yesterday on suspicion of crimes including murder, money laundering and belonging to a criminal organisation.

The Calabrian mafia, known as 'Ndrangheta, is one of Italy's major criminal organisations.

Domenico Oppedisano, 80, said by police to be the family head, was arrested a small coastal town in Calabria.

Police also arrested the organisation's manager in Milan, northern Italy, among 160 others in the Lombardy region.

Those held include businessmen and a public health official.

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# Bangladesh replaces contingents in Ivory Coast

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh army is replacing a total of 430 members of its own army personnel at UN operations in Ivory Coast, a press release said.

Under the United Nations Operations for Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI), 215 army personnel including officers led by Colonel Abu Mohammad Munir Alim left for Ivory Coast by a UN chartered plane on Monday night.

An eight-member military delegation led by the director of Personnel Service Directorate of Army Headquarters Brigadier General Md Moazzem Hossain joined them to visit Bangladesh Contingents deployed in the Ivory Coast.

The remaining members are expected to leave on July 25. Bangladesh Army has been deployed in the UN peace-keeping mission in Ivory Coast since 2004.

# New York man claims ownership of Facebook

IANS, New York

A judge here has issued a temporary restraining order on the transfer of Facebook Inc.'s assets, after a suit by a New York man who claims to own an 84 percent stake in the social-networking company, a media report said yesterday.

Paul D Ceglia filed a suit in the Supreme Court of New York's Allegany County June 30, claiming that a 2003 contract he signed with Facebook founder and Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg entitles him to ownership of the company and monetary damages, Wall Street Journal reported on its website.

Judge Thomas Brown, who issued the temporary restraining order earlier this month, is hearing the suit. Facebook has requested that the case be moved to federal court.

In his suit, Ceglia claims he signed a contract with Zuckerberg on April 28, 2003, to develop and design a website, paying a \$1,000 fee but getting a 50 percent stake in the prod-

uct. The contract stipulated that Ceglia would get an additional one percent interest in the business for every day after Jan 1, 2004, until it was completed.

In a statement, a spokesman for closely held Facebook said, "We believe this suit is completely frivolous and we will fight it vigorously."

Ceglia did not return calls seeking comment. His lawyer, Paul A. Sergentieri, also did not return a call for comment.

It is unclear how Ceglia might have become involved with Zuckerberg.

A copy of the contract seen by The Wall Street Journal said "it is for the purchase and design of a suitable website for the project. Seller (Zuckerberg) has already initiated that is designed to offer the students of Harvard university access to a website similar to a live functioning yearbook with the working title of 'The Face Book'."



A total of 215 army personnel leave for Ivory Coast on Monday to join UNOCI by a UN chartered plane from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the city. PHOTO: ISPR

# Karzai, Petraeus in talks on Afghan militias

AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan's president and the commander of foreign forces in the country are trying to reach agreement on the creation of controversial grass-roots militias to fight the Taliban, an official said yesterday.

US media have reported that US General David Petraeus, who took over command of 140,000 US and Nato troops on July 4, has been pushing for the establishment of Iraq-style tribal militia to fight militants in remote Afghan villages.

The reports have said that President Hamid Karzai had opposed the plan because of its potential to weaken his government.

Karzai's spokesman yesterday confirmed that talks have been going on

between the two men but he played down any difference of opinion on the militias.

"Everybody agrees that we have to make sure that if these forces are developed that they are developed with all the necessary checks and balances required by the constitution," Waheed Omar told reporters.

"The good point is that on most of it we all agree," he said.

"But we have to agree on some other issues," he said without giving further detail.

He said the discussions between Karzai and Petraeus were continuing, and they met again on Tuesday, along with the US ambassador to Kabul, Karl Eikenberry.

Afghan and NATO officials have said the Tuesday meeting would be the ninth time Karzai and Petraeus had met since the US

general took command.

Omar said a final decision on setting up village militias was likely as early as Wednesday, and said it could go either way.

Afghan officials fear that militias could further destabilise the war-torn country as it tries to quell a Taliban insurgency, now in its ninth year.

Omar conceded there were widespread concerns about repeating the mistakes of the 1980s, where local militias were set up during the Soviet occupation to fight mujahideen, but then morphed into private armies. "There are concerns," he said.

"We all know that it has good points as well as some threats. We're discussing jointly how to remove those threats before taking a decision," he said.

# SIRIUS AWARDED GALLUP WORLD POLL PARTNER OF THE YEAR IN ASIA

SIRIUS has been a partner of Gallup in Bangladesh since 2006 in conducting a tracking study on broad socio-economic, political, religious and environmental issues. Gallup conducts the study globally which includes 22 countries in Asia. SIRIUS has been presented 'The Gallup World Partnership Award 2009 for Asia', for their Outstanding Services and Quality Data Collection.

SIRIUS's contribution in the enhancement of the standard of consumer and social research and pioneering efforts in syndicated media and panel research in Bangladesh have earned the agency a strong equity in the market as well as this coveted International Award.

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**Meet the University Representatives -**  
Date: 15 July 2010 (Thursday)  
Time: 11am to 5pm  
Venue: British Council, 5 Fuller Road, Dhaka 1000  
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