

Police can control only 30pc crimes: DIG

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Deputy Inspector General (DIG-Dhaka Range) of police Moklesur Rahman said police can control only 30 percent of the crimes while the rest is by the society in different ways.

He said different types of criminal activities have flooded the society.

Moklesur Rahman was speaking at a view-exchange meeting with journalists at his Segunbagicha office in the city yesterday.

The DIG said, "It is not possible for police to tackle all crimes. Police can tackle only 30 percent of the crimes while the rest could be controlled socially."

He stressed the need for creating mass awareness against crimes in the society

and for recognising community police officially. He sought help from journalists to curb criminal activities.

He said spread of drugs has broken out epidemically. "Even, some doctors are taking phensidyl before performing their surgery," said the DIG.

Moklesur Rahman pointed out that fundamentalists are always active in Bangladesh.

"Some of the garment factory owners in Dhaka, Narayanganj and Gazipur went into hiding shutting down their factories on the eve of the Ramadhan fearing possible workers unrest demanding arrear and festival bonuses," he said.

The DIG claimed that the workers were paid arrear and the Eid bonuses as police detained those garment owners and

forced them to do so by taking them to the police stations.

"Obviously a conspiracy exists in the readymade garment sector. The war criminals have been trying to damage garment sector, having no other options to create instability," said Rahman.

The DIG said that extortion, threats and cyber crimes through mobile phones have increased. He also described the severity of human trafficking and stalking.

Additional DIG of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Mili Biswas, Dhaka district SP Iqbal Bahar, Narayanganj district SP Afzal Hossain, Range Reserve Force (RRF) commandant Nazrul Islam, among others, were present.



Law Minister Shafique Ahmed and State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam make a courtesy call on President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

Bangladesh to launch satellite

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh will launch a satellite in the space with broadcasting facilities to make information and communication technology more available and upgrade to international standard.

An inter-ministerial meeting was held in this regard at the conference room of the post and telecommunications ministry with its Minister Raziuddin Ahmed Raju in the chair.

The meeting discussed technical aspects of the satellite, possible expenditure and various issues related to implementation of the project, said an official release.

Speaking at the meeting, the post and telecommunications minister said launching of the country's own satellite is now the demand of the day to expedite implementation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina government's 'digital

programmes'.

He stressed the need for quick implementation of the project and said that it would be implemented under public-private-partnership (PPP).

The concerned experts said the satellite project implementation will cost about 200 to 300 million US dollars and take about three years.

The meeting stressed the need for formation of a national expert committee and taking steps for feasibility study for quick implementation of the project.

Post and Telecommunications Secretary Sunil Kanti Bose, BTRC Chairman Zia Ahmed, Additional Secretary of Home Ministry M Iqbal Khan Chowdhury, SPARSO Chairman Mujibur Rahman, Additional Secretary of Science and Information Technology Ministry Dilip Kumar and other officials concerned attended the meeting.

Bill on medical council to be placed in next session

BSS, Dhaka

The 11th Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with its chairman Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim in the chair.

The meeting discussed about the Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council (BMDC) Bill-2010.

It decided that the bill would be placed before the next parliament session after final consultation.

It was also decided at the meeting that a BMDC Act would be formulated replacing the existing BMDC Act-1980 to ensure quality healthcare facilities for all in the country.

Acid burnt interneer Rehena fighting for life

Shifted to DMCH for better treatment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

The condition of acid burnt interneer doctor Rehena Akhter is now critical. She has been shifted from Rangpur Medical College Hospital to the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital for better treatment yesterday.

Her family said after completing MBBS from Northern International Medical College Dhaka, Rehena was to join a private hospital at Rangpur after Eid vacation.

Accused Shamsul Alam, an army soldier of Engineering Construction Battalion unit of Chittagong cantonment, of village Protap under Sadullapur Upazila, came home on Eid vacation.

He often proposed Rehena to marry him. But Rehena's parents strongly refused it.

On Monday night he threw acid on Rehena through the window of her house while she

was asleep. The acid attack also burned younger sister Ruma Akhter and mother Rezia Siddique.

On hearing their cries, local people rushed to the spot and caught the accused Shamsul on the spot and handed him over to Sadullapur police.

Two other accomplices of Shamsul however managed to flee the scene.

All the critically burnt victims were rushed to Rangpur Medical College Hospital that night.

Rehena was however shifted to DMCH as her condition deteriorated.

Meanwhile the accused was handed over to Rangpur cantonment after the victim's brother filed a case against the three people.

Police are yet to arrest the remaining two accomplices despite frequent drives, said Hasan Inam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Sadullapur Police Station.

UNHRC MEETING Monira Rahman represents Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Monira Rahman, executive director of Acid Survivors Foundation, and Fazilatunnesa, a victim of acid violence, yesterday took part in the 15th meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) at Geneva of Switzerland.

The main focus of the meeting was acid attack, acid violence, victims and assistance, says a press release.

This was the first international meeting where acid violence was discussed elaborately.

Dr John Morison, executive director of Acid Survivors Trust International, also participated in the meeting.

The discussion was held with association of the Women's United Nations Report Network, World Wide Organisation for Women and NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva.



Planning Minister AK Khandaker speaks at the launching ceremony of "Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report 2009" at Hotel Sonargaon in the city yesterday.

BIWTA chairman's removal demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Ghat Sramik League (JGSL), a workers' organisation, yesterday demanded removal of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority chairman, accusing that he leased out three points of Sadarghat launch terminal in exchange of bribe.

The JGSL also demanded to try BIWTA Chairman Abdul Malek Miah at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the city.

JGSL President Abdul Jalil Hawlader in a written statement alleged that Malek Miah took Tk 25 lakhs as bribe from the current leaseholder Alamgir Hossain, president of Dhaka Noun-Bandar Ghat Sramik Bahumukhi Somobai Samity.

He said BIWTA Chairman Malek, in collaboration with BIWTA Deputy Director Sharif Afzal, also his niece's husband, grabbed several lakh Taka from different river ports across the country.

In a reply, he said, "We met with the shipping minister several times. He (minister) assured us to resolve the problem, but took no effective measure to investigate the corruption."

The JGSL leaders also sought cancellation of the lease, trial of corrupted BIWTA officials, and appointment of at least 100 workers of the Ghat Sramik League in Sadarghat terminal.

They demand further include making mandatory for the workers to wear red coloured uniforms instead of sky-coloured ones, and introducing identification number of all the workers of the terminal.

To press home their demands, the JGSL announced a number of programmes including submission of memorandum to the shipping minister on September 22, formation of National Press Club on September 29, rallying on October 6, and mass hunger strike at Muktangan on October 13.

BIWTA Chairman Abdul Malek Miah said JGSL leaders failed to take out a lease of the terminal this year despite numerous efforts, because BIWTA owes them a huge amount of money. "That is why they are spreading such rumour."

JGSL General Secretary Delwar Hossain, Organising Secretary Ramjan Sheikh, and Member Secretary Kanchan Miah were present at the press conference among others.

Maternal deaths drop worldwide

Says WHO report

BSS, Dhaka

United Nations estimated that although pregnancy related deaths are few among women, around 1,000 die a day due to it, according to a report here yesterday.

The number of women dying due to complications during pregnancy and childbirth has decreased by 34 percent from an estimated 546,000 in 1990 to 358,000 in 2008, it said.

The report titled "Trends in maternal mortality" was jointly released by the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Bank (WB), said a message received from Geneva.

The report said progress is notable but the annual rate of decline is less than half of what is needed to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of reducing the maternal mortality ratio by 75 percent between 1990 and 2015.

"The global reduction in maternal death rates is encouraging news," says Dr Margaret

Chan, the director general of WHO.

"Countries where women are facing a high risk of death during pregnancy or childbirth are taking measures like training midwives, strengthening hospitals and health centres to assist pregnant women," said Chan.

Pregnant women still die from four major causes--severe bleeding after childbirth, infections, hypertension and unsafe abortion, the report said, adding that every day about 1,000 women died due to these complications in 2008.

Out of the 1000, 570 lived in sub-Saharan Africa, 300 in South Asia and five in high-income countries.

The risk of a woman in a developing country dying from a pregnancy related cause during her lifetime is about 36 times higher compared to a woman living in a developed country.

"To achieve our global goal of improving maternal health and to save women's lives, we need to do more to reach those who are most at risk," says Anthony Lake, executive director of UNICEF.

Asadul confesses to killing father

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three days into the killing, Asadul Karim, 35, yesterday confessed before a Dhaka court that he stabbed his father to death after being refused the money he wanted to go abroad for job.

Metropolitan Magistrate MM Zulfiqar Hayat recorded the confessional statement when Asadul was produced before the court.

Police said he murdered his father MA Karim, 76, with a pair of scissors at their

Mohammadpur residence on Sunday.

Day after the killing, Asadul was produced before the same court, but he gave contradictory statements and was sent to jail.

According to family sources, Asadul became mentally unsound following his return from Saudi Arabia four months ago after working there for eight years.

As he has been growing violent over demand for money in the last two weeks, family members decided to admit him to a mental hospital.



US Ambassador to Bangladesh James F Moriarty calls on Chief Information Commissioner Mohammad Jamir at the information commission office at Agargaon in the city on Tuesday.

ZIA TRUST Hearing on charge framing adjourned till Nov 14

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned the hearing on charge framing against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, her elder son Tarique Rahman and four others in connection with Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case till November 14.

Judge Muzammel Hossain of the Special Judge's Court-3 passed the order following a time petition on behalf of the accused.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case on July 3, 2008 with Ramna Police Station in connection with embezzlement of over Tk 2.10 crore through formation of the Zia Orphanage Trust.

In the petition their counsels said Khaleda and her elder son Tarique, who is receiving treatment abroad, could not appear before the court because of illness. Advocate Sanaullah Miah represented Tarique in the court.

Two other accused Sharfuddin Ahmed and former BNP lawmaker Kazi Saleemul Haq alias Econo Kamal were also absent from the court as they went abroad.

And the other two, Dr Kamal Uddin Siddiqui and Mominur Rahman, remain absconding since the filing of the case.

The Commission pressed corruption charges against Khaleda, Tarique and four others on August 5, last year.

Youth burns himself to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A young man burnt himself to death after setting fire to his body at Agargaon in the city yesterday.

Kawsar Ahmed, 28, an honours graduate in Economics from Government Titumir College, is son of furniture dealer Shawkat Ahmed living in West Agargaon.

According to family sources, Kawsar asked his younger sister for her mobile phone, but she refused.

He complained against her sister to their mother Runia Begum who told him not to use his sister's cell phone as he has one.

Following the incident, Kawsar asked his wife Alpana to go to the next room.

As Alpana left him in the bedroom, he poured petrol on his body and set himself on fire.

Kawsar was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital Burn Unit where he died after eight hours.

Married nine months ago, Kawsar was preparing to go to London.

Officer-in-charge Reaz Hossain of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station said no case was filed till yesterday.



No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

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

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:01pm today and rises at 5:45am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 33.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and lowest 24.0 degrees Celsius at Comilla.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius percentage		Humidity in	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.1	24.8	84	78
Chittagong	31.3	25.0	84	81
Rajshahi	28.2	25.6	95	90
Khulna	33.0	25.5	92	95
Barisal	30.5	24.5	100	85
Sylhet	31.0	24.3	96	79
Cox's Bazar	31.0	24.9	78	81

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Dr A M Shadullah, dean of engineering faculty of Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (Aust), passed away at ICDDR,B in the city around 8:30pm on Tuesday at the age of 62, says press release.

He left behind his son and daughter.

Dr Shadullah obtained M.S. and D.Sc. from Technical University in Germany. He joined Aust in 1998 and served till death.

The authorities of Aust condoled his death.

All are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Abdul Mannan

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Abdul Mannan, a freedom fighter, passed away at his residence in Tala upazila around 2:00pm yesterday due to old age complications at the age of 75.

He left behind his wife, four sons and two daughters.

Mannan took part in several battles against the Pakistani occupation forces under Sector Eight during the War of Liberation.

He was buried with state of honour at his family graveyard at Magura village.

Local Awami League lawmaker Engr Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Tala upazila chairman Ghosh Sanat Kumar and Satkhira Mukti Joddha Sangsad commander Enamul Haque Biswas condoled his death.

All are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Asma Khatun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Asma Khatun, a women leader, passed away at the Holy Family Hospital at 12:45pm on Tuesday due to brain stroke, says a press release.

She was a treasurer of Jatiya Nari Sramik Trade Union Kendra (JNSTUK).

JNSTUK condoled her death. All are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.