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The son of Omar Faruk, one of the passengers of the bus that plunged into the River Turag on Sunday, breaks down seeing his father's body yesterday after two days of agonising wait.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN AND RASHED SHUMON



## Turag tragedy unfolds

Bus salvaged 54 hours after it plunged into river; 9 more bodies recovered; toll now 11

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rescuers yesterday recovered nine more bodies from the Turag river at Amin Bazar where a bus plunged on

Sunday.

They also salvaged the vehicle 54 hours after the accident.

Over 100 personnel from the army, navy, coastguard, fire brigade and

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority hauled the bus out of the river at around 5:15pm and found a body inside.

Earlier in the day, eight bodies were

fished out, taking the death toll to 11.

One body was found on Monday, while one of the seven passengers rescued alive minutes after the

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5,000 sued, 20 held, 1 more body identified

BNP's mourning procession today

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN and ABDUL KUDDUS

Six cases were filed and 20 persons were arrested yesterday in connection with the attack on an intercity train and setting it ablaze on Monday nearby a rally venue of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at Soidabad in Sirajganj.

Five persons were killed when the train could not help passing through a crowd that spilled over the railway track from the rally venue.

Meanwhile, identity of another deceased was found as Nurunnabi, of Belkuli village under Kamarkhand upazila in the district, taking the death toll to six.

The cases were filed with Bangabandhu Jamuna Bridge (west) Police Station and Government Railway Police (GRP) Station accusing at least five thousand people mentioning the name of 39 persons, including district BNP

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## No rally alert sent to driver

Train operator tells The Daily Star that he saw a crowd only after reaching level crossing



Raj Gobinda Das



Asir Uddin

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN and ABDUL KUDDUS from Sirajganj

Raj Gobinda Das, the driver of the Drutajan Express that ran through a BNP rally spilling onto the rail line on Monday killing six, said he was not informed beforehand of such a gathering near or on the track.

"Usually station authorities alert the train driver before the start if there is any crowd, programme or temporary market on or nearby the rail track. But I received no information about the BNP programme," Gobinda told The Daily Star in an interview yesterday.

Gobinda was seriously beaten by angry opposition supporters after his train crushed the ill-fated six. He was under treatment in a private hospital at Enayetpur under the district's

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RELATED STORY ON PAGE 16

## NATORE MURDER Killers still at large

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and BULBUL AHMED, from Natore

After five days of the killing of Baraigram upazila chairman Sanauallah Noor Babu, police failed to arrest any prime accused in the case till yesterday evening.

Police said they were making frantic efforts to trace the killers, while wife of slain BNP leader Mohuya Noor Kochi blamed them for sheer negligence.

"Police are not doing enough to arrest the killers of my husband. They can do everything if they have the will," a disappointed Kochi

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## Constitution to be reprinted soon

Experts term fifth amendment verdict self-executing; JS body agrees with them

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The government is going to reprint the constitution restoring the articles that were either amended or repealed during the first martial law regime.

The Ministry of Law will conduct the printing as soon as possible in line with the Supreme Court's landmark verdict scrapping the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution.

The decision came yesterday at a meeting of the parliamentary special committee for constitutional amendment.

Similarly, changes that were incorporated

into the Constitution through martial law proclamations and ratified by the Fifth Amendment will also be dropped from the country's supreme charter, a committee member told The Daily Star.

The parliamentary body at a marathon meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday took the decisions based on the opinions of constitution experts, who unequivocally asserted that the apex court verdict is self-executing, the member added.

"The law ministry will print the Constitution in line with the apex court verdict. Once the

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## Citycell congratulates Bangladesh for being elected as an esteemed ITU Council member

ITU is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technology issues, and the global focal point for governments and the private sector in developing networks and services.

ITU is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and its membership includes 192 Member States and more than 700 Sector Members and Associates.

The ITU Council was established in 1947 under the name Administrative Council, following a decision taken by the 1947 Plenipotentiary Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey, United States.

The role of Council is to consider, in the interval between Plenipotentiary Conferences, broad telecommunication policy issues to ensure that the Union's activities, policies and strategies fully respond to today's dynamic, rapidly changing telecommunications environment. It also prepares a report on the policy and strategic planning of the ITU.

Council also takes all steps to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the ITU Constitution, the ITU Convention, the Administrative Regulations (International Telecommunications Regulations and Radio Regulations), the decisions of Plenipotentiary Conferences and, where appropriate, the decisions of other conferences and meetings of the Union.

This time there were only **48 seats** for the council and 13 seats for **REGION "E"- ASIA & AUSTRALASIA**, where Bangladesh was competing. By getting the **123 votes** and recognition of 123 countries Bangladesh got elected as a **ITU Council member**.



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