

CHARGE OF EXTRA FARE Drives against CNG-run cars demanded

STAFF REPORTER

Leaders of Passengers Rights Forum, an organisation working for rights of the passengers, yesterday demanded the government to run mobile courts against the drivers and owners of CNG-run passenger vehicles for charging extra fares.

They also demanded proper coordination between Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) and the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) to bring the culprits under the law.

They said government monitoring of all the CNG-run public transports will ease passenger's sufferings, says a press release.

Addressing a rally at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city, speakers alleged that the passengers are held hostage to the demands of the CNG-driven vehicle drivers.

The drivers charge fares at their whim, blaming the price hike of gas and excess rent collected by vehicle owners, they said.

Passengers are forced to pay more than double the actual fare, though the government has increased the fare of vehicles several times in line with the price hike of gas, they added.

Among others, President of the forum Mahbub Uddin Chowdhury and its Secretary Mosleh Uddin Masud spoke to the rally.



A fishing cat (known as mechho bagh) and a civet (khatash) were beaten to death at Kholapara in Singair upazila of Manikganj on Saturday night. Local people did the 'cruel act' after searching a jungle violating laws.

CRUELTY TO ANIMAL Fishing cat, civet beaten to death

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Manikganj**

Local people beat a fishing cat (known as mechho bagh) and a civet (khatash) to death at Kholapara village in Singair upazila on Saturday night.

They searched the Guzuri jungle beside Guzuri Gazi yard at night alleging that such animals earlier took away some poultry birds from their houses. At one stage, they found the two mammals and killed them.

Confirming the incident, Singair Upazila Nirbahi Officer Nazrul Islam said he informed the local forester of the matter.

When contacted, Forester of Singair Upazila Nursery Centre Yousuf Ali said he has visited the spot on the day.

The forester has lodged a general diary with Singair Police Station, said Shafiqur Rahman, Officer-in-charge of the police station.

Tk 2,000cr projects for election management

BSS, Dhaka

Election Commission (EC) is implementing eight projects at a cost of Tk 2,000 crore for the development of election management system.

The commission has started preliminary work of the projects from the beginning of last year, the EC sources said.

The projects included construction of e-resources centre at a cost of Tk 100 crore, preparing national identity cards at a cost of Tk 4.5 crore and introduction of e-voting method at an estimated cost of Tk 900 crore.

Election Commissioner Brig Gen (retd) M Sakhawat told the news agency that the World Bank would give 200 million dollar loan assistance for data preservation of the voters and national identity card mod-

ernisation project.

He said national identity cards would be modernised further under the five-year term project.

A national database also would be built under the project, he said adding upazila information cells would be connected to the database.

He said other organisations of the government alongside the EC could use the database.

The EC sources said the works of the projects would begin in phases. Implementation work of all the projects would be completed within 2017, they added.

A committee has been formed for designing national identity card and security code and preserving data.



Sheikh Russel's 46th birth anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 46th birth anniversary of Sheikh Russel, youngest son of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, says a press release.

On this occasion, Sheikh Russel Jatio Shishu Kishore Parishad has chalked out an elaborate programme, including hoisting of organisational flag at its central office, placing wreaths at the memorial of Bangabandhu at Dhanmondi in the city and offering special prayers at his graveyard.

A discussion and prize distribution programme among meritorious students of Secondary School Certificate and winner of a drawing competition will also be held at 10:00am at Osmani Smriti Auditorium in the city.

Sheikh Russel's elder sister and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will attend the programme as the chief guest. State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Dr Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury and noted economist Prof Dr Abul Barkat will also be present as special guests.

Russel was killed along with his father and other family members on August 15 in 1975 at the age of 10.

Education to cut poverty Says Rezaul

BSS, Jamalpur

Land Minister Md Rezaul Karim Hira yesterday said the government has taken steps to educate the marginalised people for reducing poverty.

"We want to turn the youth community into human resources by imparting them improved training," he told a discussion at Jamalpur Shilpakala Academy here on the occasion of the World Poverty Reduction Day, says an official release.

Deputy Commissioner Md Sirajuddin Ahmed, Civil Surgeon Dr A Hakim, concerned officials of local administration, journalists and NGO representatives, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Rezaul said after assuming power, the government has distributed khas land among 56,000 landless people of the country.

Later, the minister attended a meeting of 40-day employment generation programme in sadar upazila.

Road crashes kill 5, injure 31

METRO DESK

At least five people were killed and 31 others injured in separate road accidents in Dinajpur, Munshiganj and Chandpur Saturday night and yesterday.

Our correspondent from Dinajpur reports: Two of a family were killed in a tragic road accident on Dhaka-Dinajpur highway at Chiribandar upazila in Dinajpur on Saturday night marred the Durga Puja festival.

The deceased were identified as Dhananjoy Chandra Roy, 40, and his daughter Urmila Rani Roy, 8.

Kalpna wife of Dhananjoy wounded critically. Locals rushed her to Chiribandar Upazila Health Complex and later Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

According to the family members, the accident occurred when a Rangpur-bound speedy ambulance hit a motorcycle at Ranirbandar village of Chiribandar upazila leaving dead Dhananjoy and his daughter Urmila on

the spot.

Dhananjoy Chandra Roy, his wife Kalpana Rani Roy and their 8-year-old daughter returning home riding the motorcycle after paying obeisance to Durga Temple.

The driver of the ambulance fled the spot immediately after the accident.

A Correspondent from Munshiganj adds: At least one person was killed and thirty others were injured when a bus fell into a roadside ditch at Lalmiachar of Fatullah upazila in the district yesterday evening.

The deceased was identified as Renuja Begum, 50, wife of Abdur Rahman Sikder.

Abdullah, officer-in-charge of Tongibari Police Station, said the accident occurred when the driver of the bus carrying fifty person of a bridal party lost his control over the steering and skidded off into a roadside ditch, leaving Renuja dead on the spot.

The injured were admitted to different hospitals of Munshiganj.

Of the injured, Yousuf Sikder, 55, Rabeya Begum, 35, Maruf, 16, Jasim Sikder, 41, Rashid Sikder, 90, and Rajia Begum, 39, were admitted to the Betka General Hospital in a critical condition.

UNB from Chandpur reports: A woman and her minor boy were killed in an accident at Faridganj upazila in the district on Saturday afternoon.

The deceased were identified as Shahin Akhter, 40 and her son Abdur Rahman, 4.

The accident took place as a CNG-run auto-rickshaw they were riding skidded off the road and fell into a ditch due to brake failure on Chandpur-Faridganj road at Bhatialpur Square in Faridganj at about 4:00pm.

Both were rushed to Chandpur General Hospital where Abdur Rahman died after admission at about 5:00pm. Couple of hours later, Shahin Akhter succumbed to her injuries on way to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.



President Zillur Rahman exchanges pleasantries with members of the Hindu community at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday on the occasion of Durga Puja. (Story on Page 3)

UTTARA
DHANMONDI
BASHUNDHARA
LALMATIA
NIKETON
MIRPUR
KALABAGAN
RAJA BAZAR
ELEPHANT ROAD
NORTH ROAD
WEST DHANMONDI
FREE SCHOOL STREET
KHILGAON CHOW. PARA
SHANTINAGAR
SHANTIBAGH
MOMENBAGH
MOGHBAZAR
SIDDESHWARI
SHAHIDBAG
MALIBAG
PALTON
GULSHAN
BANANI
NAKHALPARA
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IQBAL ROAD
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PHOTO: JMT/PEPSI/OCTOBER 2010