

NEWS IN *brief*

Bullet-hit 'criminal' held after 'gunfight' in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An alleged criminal was wounded in a gunfight with police yesterday at the city's Mohakhali area.

Injured Liton, 32, son of Jalaluddin of Mohakhali Sattola slum area, suffered bullet injuries to his left leg, ear and on his back, police said.

Gulshan police said, acting on a tip-off, they cordoned a house in the slum around 5:00pm where seven to eight suspected criminals were present. Sensing the presence of law enforcers, criminals opened fire on them, causing police to retaliate and triggering a gunfight, police added.

At one stage police found injured Liton while his cohorts managed to flee the scene, police said. Police also recovered a revolver and six rounds of bullets from the spot after the gunfight. Liton was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment.

Woman shot in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some unidentified criminals shot a woman at the city's Malibagh Chowdhurypara last night.

Wounded Happy Akhter, 22, wife of Piplu Miah of Rupnagar Tinshed Colony of Pallabi, identifying herself as an informant of Pallabi and Mirpur Police, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

She said illegal drugs peddlers called her out over phone and shot her twice on the right leg and left hand when she reached near Abur Hotel at Malibagh around 8:00pm. Mirpur and Pallabi police did not confirm whether she was their informant.

MoU signed to study the Bay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Centre Advanced Studies (BCAS) on Saturday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Centre (NERSC) of Norway to launch joint research project on oceanography and marine ecosystem of the Bay of Bengal.

NERSC Founding Director and Executive Chairman of the board Prof Ola M Johannassen and BCAS Executive Director Dr A Atiq Rahman signed the MoU from their respective organisations at a city hotel, said a press release.

As per the MoU, the principal areas of collaboration will include joint research on coast and coastal people of Bangladesh; exchange of scientists and students between the organisations; assisting government agencies, research institutes, and NGOs on appropriate policy analysis; joint scientific publications; and strengthening Bangladesh's capability on oceanographic research.

AL's Ekushey discussion today

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Awami League will arrange a discussion marking the Immortal Ekushey and International Mother Language Day at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) at 3:00pm today.

Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina will attend the function as the chief guest.

Amar Ekushey observed in Japan


STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expatriate Bangladeshis living in Nagoya city in Japan observed International Mother Language Day with a daylong programme yesterday.

Held in three sessions, the programme included competitions in drawing and Bangla handwriting for children of expatriates, a discussion on Amar Ekushey and a cultural show.

In the last session, expatriate Bangladeshis and their children presented patriotic songs, dances, magic and recitation to the amusement of the audience. Performances by Tanimul Alam, Samiya Khan, Sanam Marjan Apsoy, Rodisha Shafiq and Sarina Tansi were praiseworthy.

Several Japanese attended the programme, conducted by Dr Aminul Huq Shaheen.



WEATHER TODAY

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khuna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country during late night till morning.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:58pm and rises tomorrow at 6:26am.

Country's highest temperature 31.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazaar and lowest 15.7 degrees at Rangamati.

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 | 24.3 | 21.5 | 40 | 50 |
| Chittagong | 25.7 | 19.6 | 62 | 50 |
| Rajshahi | 24.3 | 18.4 | 87 | 73 |
| Rangpur | 25.2 | 17.0 | 75 | 62 |
| Khulna | 25.0 | 19.5 | 65 | 74 |
| Barisal | 25.7 | 18.6 | 68 | 58 |

10 killed, 53 hurt in road accidents

METRO DESK

Ten people were killed and 53 others injured in road accidents in Bagerhat, Manikganj, Noakhali, Mymensingh, Thakurgaon, Natore and Sylhet on Sunday and yesterday.

Our correspondent from Bagerhat reports: Two people were killed and 25 others, five of them critically, injured when a passenger bus fell into a roadside ditch at Noapara intersection on Dhaka-Khulna Highway yesterday noon.

One of the deceased was identified as Abul Hossain, 50, son of late Nowsher Ali. Police said the accident occurred when the driver of a Khulna-bound bus lost its control over the steering.

Manikganj correspondent adds: Two people, out of four who were injured as a tempo skidded off the road at Uthuli in Shivalaya Upazila on Sunday afternoon, died at Savar Enam Clinic yesterday morning.

The dead are Abdul Mojid and Sorhab Hossain.

In Noakhali, Abdul Hamid, 27, of Nazirpur village, was killed and a rickshaw peddler injured as a truck rammed their rickshaw at Begumganj upazila intersection early yesterday.

In Mymensingh, three people died instantly and 20 others were injured as a wheel of a bus was punctured and the bus fell beside the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway at Aamtali in Bhaluka upazila yesterday evening.

One of the victims was identified as Julhas, 26, of Phulbaria upazila.

In Thakurgaon, a man was killed and two others were injured when a motorcycle hit a bicycle on Panchagarh-Tentulia Highway near Kalandiganj Bazar in Tentulia upazila on Sunday afternoon.

Ansar Ali, 35, son of Aman Ali of Dangipara village of the upazila, died on the spot.

In Natore, a female schoolteacher was killed as a three-wheeler hit her while she returning home after observing Amar Ekushey at her institution on Lalpur-Bagha road at Ramkrishnapur in Lalpur upazila yesterday afternoon.

Fatema Begum, 30, wife of Masud Rana of village Mominpur of the upazila and also an English teacher of Lalpur Pilot Girl's High School and College, was shifted to Rajahahi Medical College and Hospital where she died.

A correspondent from Sylhet adds: Three students of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology were injured as a truck rammed a CNG-run auto-rickshaw at Surma residential area beside Dhaka-Sunamganj Highway in Sylhet yesterday.

The injured are Md Salauddin, a fourth year second semester student of civil and environmental engineering department; Suma, a fourth year second semester student of mathematics department; and Esha Khnam, a third year first semester student of sociology department.



Enthusiastic children play along with characters of Sisimpur, a television programme for children, at "Borno Mela" organised by the Prothom Alo at Sultana Kamal Mahila Krira Complex in Dhanmondi in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Power ministry facing fund crisis

UNB, Dhaka

Power ministry has been facing a fund crisis following the increase of its overall expenses in the current fiscal, according to official sources.

A top official said the power division, to deal with the situation, already sought additional allocation of Tk 2,000 crore for the current fiscal.

"But, even this additional fund will not be enough to meet the overall expenses in the remaining period of the current fiscal," he added.

Under the current fiscal (2010-11), the power division was among the highest fund recipients as a single department having received about Tk 6,000 crore, almost double its previous year's budget.

Sources said setting up of a huge number of rental and peaking power plants has pushed up the need for such additional fund.

So far, the government signed contracts for 33 power plants having a total capacity of about 2,600 megawatts (MW). Of these, 8 peaking power plants and some other base-load plants will be installed in the public sector while the rest will be set up in private sector.

The issue of additional fund requirement came up at a recent meeting of the power division where different organisations under it placed their additional demands.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Farida Akter, spouse of former lawmaker Dr Wali Ahmed, passed away at Labaid Hospital in the city due to old age complications at the age of 80 yesterday.

Her second namaz-e-janaza will be held at Japan Garden City premises in Mohammadpur in the city after Zohr prayers today, says a press release.

Farida left behind eight sons and two daughters to mourn her death.

Ataur Rahman



Former religious affairs secretary Muhammad Ataur Rahman passed away at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University at the age of 60 yesterday.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held at Kuwaiti Jame Mosque in Paikpara of Mohammadpur after Esha prayers yesterday.

Constitution to be amended by upholding '52 spirit: Suranjit

BSS, Dhaka

Member of the Advisory Council of Awami League (AL) Suranjit Sen Gupta yesterday said the constitution will be amended by upholding the spirit of Language Movement and Liberation War for establishing a non-communal Bangladesh.

"We have to build up a progressive and liberal democratic country in line with the spirit of Language Movement of 1952," he told a discussion titled 'The significance of the International Mother Language Day and contribution of language martyrs in our national life' in the auditorium of Jatiya Press Club here. Jatiya Juba Sangskritik Sangstha organised the event.


State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku, State Minister for Housing and Public Works Abdul Mannan Khan and Lawmaker Rahmat Ali, among others, addressed the discussion with first vice president of the organisation Azahar Ali Sarker in the chair.

"The spirit of Amar Ekushey teaches us to remain together," Suranjit said, adding, language-based nationalism and non-communal spirit were created from the Language Movement.

Tuku said the Ekushey February bears the spirit of Bengali nationalism, secularism and non-communalism. Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, he said, had dreamt of building 'Sonar Bangla' in the spirit of Amar Ekushey.

He urged the countrymen to be united with the spirit of great Ekushey February to implement the dream of Bangabandhu.

Paying rich tribute to all martyrs, who laid down their lives for mother tongue in 1952, Mannan said, "The Great Ekushey February is our pride as Bangladesh had been emerged an independent state in 1971 on the basis of spirit of Amar Ekushey."



KNOWLEDGE CORNER

HISTORY OF PAINTING

"Art is a lie that makes us realize the truth"-Pablo Picasso

The story of painting goes a long way back into the history of the entire world. The oldest example of paintings was found at Grotte Chauvet in France. In Altamira (Spain), Ajanta and Bhimbetka (India) Lascaux (France), Cave of the Hands (Argentina), fine examples of cave paintings are found.

Leonardo da Vinci was a versatile genius. Apart from the fact that he is considered one of the greatest painters of all times, he designed a flying machine and made important discoveries in anatomy, civil engineering, optics, and hydrodynamics. Mona Lisa and The Last Supper are among his legendary works.

Michelangelo created two of the most influential works in fresco in the history of Western art: the scenes from Genesis on the ceiling and The Last Judgment on the altar wall of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

Impressionism was a 19th-century art movement that began as a loose association of Paris-based artists like Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Alfred Sisley, and Frédéric Bazille, Camille Pissarro and Paul Cézanne whose independent exhibitions brought them to prominence in the 1870s and 1880s. The name of the movement is derived from the title of a Claude Monet work, Impression, Sunrise. In 1863 the jury of the prestigious art show, the Salon de Paris, rejected The Luncheon on the Grass by Édouard Manet primarily because it depicted a nude woman in a contemporary setting. The rejection gradually led to a separate exhibition of the impressionist artists. Monet, Sisley, Morisot and Pissarro may be considered the "purest" Impressionists. Edgar Degas, famous for his works depicting dancers, is regarded as one of the founders of Impressionism although he rejected the term, and preferred to be called a realist.

Vincent van Gogh, Paul Gauguin and Georges Seurat, along with Paul Cézanne, led art to the edge of modernism. The leaders of Fauvism, characterized by "wild", multi-colored landscapes and figure paintings were Henri Matisse and André Derain. Soon it was replaced by Cubism. Pablo Picasso, the legendary Spanish artist, was the co-founder of cubism. It was based on Cézanne's idea that all depiction of nature can be reduced to three solids: cube, sphere and cone.

MUSIC IN BANGLADESH

Bangla music in ancient times was mostly linked to prayer. Due to the immense influence of Hindu mythology, most folk songs are related to some sort of praise of the gods and their creation. Songs were associated with particular groups of people, such as fishermen, cart-drivers, hermits and so on. Most songs were based on classical themes. Bangladesh is not wealthy in money, but is a culturally rich country. The music of Bangladesh can be broadly categorized among the following genres:

Some of the most talented classical musicians of the sub-continent come from Bangladesh, including Ustad Allauddin Khan, Sangeetacharya Tarapada Chakraborty.

Rabindra sangeet is one of the best-known genres of Bangla music outside Bengal. The origin of Rabindra sangeet is the works of the Nobel laureate poet, novelist and play writer, Rabindranath Tagore.

Nazrul geeti incorporates Kazi Nazrul revolutionary notions as well as more spiritual and philosophical themes. Islam used his music as a major way of disseminating his revolutionary notions, mainly by the use of strong words and powerful but catchy tunes. Bangladeshi singer and composer Firoza Begum played a very big role in popularizing Nazrul geeti in both Bangladesh and West Bengal. Soharab Hossain, Shabnam Mushtari, Sadya Aftreen Mallick, Nilufar Yasmeen, Shaheen Samad, Sudhin Das and Sheikh Lutfur Rahman played a crucial role in making Nazrul geeti mainstream.

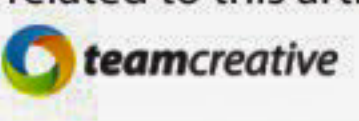
Folk music can clearly be distinguished and classified into several sub-genres as Baul, Bhandari, Bhatiali, Bhawaiya, Gajir geet, Gombhira, Hason Raja, Jaari, Jatra Pala, Kirtan, Pala, Kobi gaan, Lalon, Mursiya, Shaari, Upojatiyo, Letto's song, Wedding songs etc.

Baul is almost exclusively performed by Bauls (hermits) who are followers of Sufism in Bangladesh. Baul songs always incorporate simple words expressing songs with deeper meanings involving Creation, society, life-style and human emotions. The songs are performed with very little musical support to the main carrier, the vocal. Bauls, bohemian by nature and belief, leave on grand expeditions, writing and performing music on their entire trip to earn a living and disseminate notions of love and spirituality.

Lalon geeti is the work of the composer and philosopher Lalon Shah. Most of his songs are extensions of Baul geeti. However, his songs are always more philosophical in nature, involving greater thought about abstract themes.

Starting in the late 80's, music involving political themes began to gain popularity once again, in a fashion similar to the growth of Nazrul geeti during the revolution against the British and the War of Liberation of Bangladesh.

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Initiative of The Daily Star & 



People from all walks of life throng the Shaheed Minar in Chittagong city yesterday to pay homage to the language martyrs on Amar Ekushey February.

PHOTO: STAR



Fellowship Giving

Organiser: The Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Time: 5:00pm, Venue: The society's auditorium.

11:00am, Venue: Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

Roundtable

Organiser: Bangladesh Labour Party, Time: 10:30am, Venue: Jatiya Press Club.

Memorial Speech

Organiser: Department of History, Dhaka University, Time: 12:00pm, Venue: RC Majumader Auditorium.

Discussion

Organiser: Despremik Jonogoner Mancha, Time: 3:00pm, Venue: Gono Sangkriti Kendra, Shahbagh.

Project Launch

Organiser: Bangladesh Bank, Time:

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jalal Uddin Akhanda, a veteran schoolteacher, died after a cardiac arrest yesterday at Dhaka Combined Military Hospital (CMH) at the age of 72, says a press release.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The twelfth death anniversary of freedom fighter Kali Ranzan Shil will be observed today.