

Sub-Inspector Delwar Hossain is speechless in front of the body of his son Moniruzzaman Rubel who died in police custody. The photo was taken at Tangail General Hospital yesterday.

PHOTO:

# Cop's son dies in custody

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belonged to SI Mosharraf.

He claimed that law enforcers mercilessly beat up Rubel at the police station at night and sent him to Tangail General Hospital in the morning as his condition became serious.

Doctor Mujahidul Islam of emergency department of the hospital told The Daily Star that police brought Rubel at the hospital in a critical condition around 9:30am and the youth died at 9:45am.

"When I came to know about the arrest, I called SI Mosharraf over his cell phone and asked him to take legal steps if my son was found guilty. He, however, told me that Rubel would be released if he got back his bike," said Rubel's father SI Delwar Hossain.

told reporters at a press

The dialogue recom-

mended addressing the

specific needs and concerns

of the vulnerable groups of

migrants, especially the

women and low-skilled

impacts of the recent politi-

cal unrest in the Arab World,

the meeting suggested pre-

paring a guideline and

increasing institutional

capacity to evacuate

stranded migrants faster and

ways to address the problem

ing these means all the 11

countries would follow them,

would meet biennially to

strengthen the dialogue

process and implement the

Cooperation Council (GCC)

and Southeast Asian nations,

Kamal, also known as

Lotus Kamal, for not

appearing in the meetings

with the watchdog and

decided to formally ask

him to be present in the

next meeting on May 5 to

submit the financial

the parliamentary com-

mittee, said Bangladesh,

one of the three co-hosts of

the World Cup, spent

around Tk 4.8 billion on

the mega event. "But we do

not know how the money

was spent and how much

The watchdog observed

that there was no monitor-

ing on Bangladeshi crick-

eters before the World Cup

match against South Africa

and as a result many of the

players went to dine at a

"We were informed that

we earned," he added.

Zahid Ahsan, chief of

Delegates from Gulf

BCB asked

mentioned Mosharraf.

suggestions," he added.

FROM PAGE 1

accounts.

caused by climate change.

compensate them.

Taking note of the adverse

briefing.

workers.

He alleged that it was a the police officers responsible for the death.

Victim's uncle Abdul Haque said Rubel called his mother over the phone from the police station earlier yesterday morning and said the police officers were calling him the thief and that he [Rubel] would be tortured more if SI Mosharraf did not get a bike. Jasim Uddin Sarkar, offi-

cer-in-charge of Tangail Model Police Station, told The Daily Star that Rubel was accused in two criminal cases -- one for homicide and the other for stealing a motorbike -- filed with the police station.

Contacted, Jamil Hasan, acting superintendent of

11 nations unite

police (SP) in Tangail, said he cold-blooded murder and has already closed S. demanded punishment to Mosharraf Hossain and a three-member committee led by Tangail Additional SF Masud Ahmed was formed to probe the incident.

Rubel's body was sent to Tangail General Hospital morgue for an autopsy **Executive Magistrate Rabiul** Islam was present during the autopsy.

When Rubel's body was returned to his parents, his family members and locals brought out a procession with the body demanding exemplary punishment to SI Mosharraf.

Till filing of the report as of 10:30pm, the victim's family was preparing to lodge a case with Tangail sadar police station in connection with Rubel's death.

who recruit workers, also attended the consultation as observers. International Organisation for Migration (IOM) provided secretarial

IOM Director General William Lacy Swing said migration has become a crucial issue for all because of growing disparities between the developed and developing nations and demographic changes.

support to the event.

He urged all to work for responsible, orderly and humane migration.

Appreciating the recommendations, the United Arab It also favoured exploring Emirate's (UAE) Undersecretary for Labour of displacement of people Affairs Mubarak Saeed Aldhaheri said they were also The recommendations drafting a regional legal are not binding, but acceptdocument to stop malpractices in the sector. Mubarak represented the GCC at the meeting. "These Asian nations

Ministers and high officials of Afghanistan, China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand attended the meeting, hosted and chaired by Bangladesh.

The House panel also

observed that BCB had

given Bangladesh team

three days' leave before the

match against West Indies

which left the players busy

with "other activities'

rather than to rest in their

lawmaker, said the com-

mittee has decided to com-

plain to the prime minister

about BCB's mismanage-

ment during the World Cup

and about its boss

absence in the meetings

with the parliamentary

BCB president sent a letter

stating that he is busy with

union parishad election

and will not attend the

committee's meeting,"

said Zahid Ahsan, adding

that union parishad elec-

tion cannot be more

important than a parlia-

mentary standing com-

attempts over the phone

Mostafa Kamal could not

be reached for his com-

Meanwhile, after several

mittee meeting.

ment.

"Today [Thursday] the

Zahid Ahsan, also an AL

hotels.

committee.

The declaration is significant for these Asian countries, as around 3 million people in Asia leave for jobs abroad each year. An estimated 7 million Bangladeshis are working abroad and each year about half a million add to this number.

However, visa trading by manpower brokers, high migration cost, fraudulences in travel documents, deviation of job contracts in the destination countries and low and non-payments have been the sector's overarching issues, which remain unresolved for years.

The Colombo Process started in 2003. After meeting in the following two years there had been a five-yearlong gap before the dialogue resumed in Dhaka.

IOM Director from Geneva Shahidul Haque, Expatriates' Welfare Secretary Zafar Ahmed Khan and Director General of Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training Khurshed Alam Chowdhury were present.

## BNP discusses

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Standing committee member Moudud Ahmed said they have reviewed the invitation, and the decision about the party's stance on the issue might be taken on Sunday.

Meeting sources said party chief Khaleda Zia will take the final decision on Sunday in consultation with Moudud Ahmed Jamiruddin Sricar, Rafiqui Islam Mian and Supreme Court Bar Association President Khandaker Mahbub Hossain.

Chaired by Khaleda Zia the meeting started around 9:45pm and ended at about 11:15pm.

Besides the standing committee members, a number of pro-BNP lawyer and constitution experts including Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, TH Khan, ZA Mohammad Ali and Aminul Haque were present.

The parliamentary special committee on Wednesday sent invitations to the chiefs of Awami League, BNP and Jatiya Party (JP) to join the talks that start

from April 24. The chiefs of BNP and JP were invited to sit with the special committee on April 25.

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repatriation," ABM Nuruzzaman, Bangladesh ambassador in Tripoli, told The Daily Star over the phone last night.

Other nationals include 586 Nigerians, 239 Libyans, 24 Filipinos and 16 Pakistanis.

Meanwhile, Libyan security forces helped four Bangladeshi nurses on Tuesday to go to Tripoli from Misrata.

The Bangladeshis at Salloum are being repatriated by Bangladesh Biman Airlines and IOM-chartered planes, said an IOM spokesperson in Dhaka. "Presently, there is intense

fighting in Misrata. Tension is also high in Ajdabiya, Brega and Sirte," Nuruzzaman said, adding that the people having troubles in those places were leaving either with the help of the IOM or on their own. The number of

Bangladeshis living in those areas could not be estimated, he said. Those feeling unsafe are leaving Libya, and the Bangladesh mission in Tripoli is helping them to leave Libya for Tunisia.

However, the Bangladeshis still in Libya are more or less safe though there is food shortage, as supply chain has been hampered, the diplomat

Until now, over 35,000 Bangladeshis were sent home from Egypt and Tunisia after they fled the Libyan uprising.

According to a statement of the IOM issued yesterday, more and more civilians are desperately trying to leave Misrata as fighting in the city intensifies.

### Fake drug

During primary interrogation, the factory owner told Rab that he earlier served as an employee of a medicine company. He left the job two years ago and started importing raw materials from China to produce medicines.

He, however, could not show any valid documents in support of manufacturing medicines, Rab said. Munirul also confessed

that he maintained a syndicate with doctors of different hospitals to get the substandard medicines prescribed to the patients.

#### Bus torched FROM PAGE 1

Dhaka Medical College Hospital after his conditions

deteriorated. Abdullah was walking along the road with his two friends around 1:15pm when a recklessly driven bus hit him, Russell Hussain, a witness and a friend of the victim, told The Daily Star.

"The Gabtoli-bound bus swerved and rammed into him when four buses were competing to overtake each other", he added.

The outraged locals and students of Tejgaon College broke out into a violent protest and vandalised the bus. Later, they poured petrol on it and set it on fire. But the driver and helper of the bus managed to escape.

They also barricaded the bustling road for over 15 minutes causing severe traffic congestion on the adjacent roads, said Mahbubur Rahman, officerin-charge of Tejgaon Police Station.

However, police brought the situation under control after two units of fire fighters doused the fire, he added.

### facebook

**FROM PAGE 20** 

action against Md Lokman, a fourth year student of Electrical and Electronic Engineering department, was taken following a report of a three-member probe committee headed by Prof ATM Kaosar Jamil yesterday. Lokman, also a Shibir

activist, went into hiding soon after his remark was detected in the website on March 26. Following the finding,

angry Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists attacked the Shibir cadres on the campus leaving three of them wounded. On information, police

rushed to the spot and arrested five Shibir activists including its DUET unit president.

A case was filed by DUET BCL unit president Joydev Das against six Shibir cadres.

According to a decision of the probe committee, Lokman's expulsion will be mentioned in his certificate on completion of his study in the university.

# 26 Bangladeshis Grameen Bank employees

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ensure its smooth running.

"If Prof Yunus cannot be allowed to work as managing director for crossing retirement age, he should be appointed chairman," said Md Shamsul Alam, president of Grameen Bank Employees Association. "This will help him

leave the bank in a congenial environment after handing leadership over to the next generation. It will also help restore confidence of the borrowers, depositors and employees in the bank," he said at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club. "We need him (Yunus) in

well as in our interest. We are shocked by the central bank's decision [Yunus' removal as MD]" said Shamsul Alam. The association leaders

the interest of the bank as

presented at the press conference papers containing signatures of 20,103 employ-

journalists after a high level

hopes power situation will

improve in May and June

allowing supply of more

electricity in the capital. By

this time Boro season will be

over freeing a large amount

of power used for irrigation

cants for less than 500 kilo-

watts of power will get prior-

ity when the authorities start

resuming the connections

from May 15. Those who

have asked for more than

500-KW connections will

have to wait longer. A deci-

sion about them will be

taken in the next 10 days, he

Even after the new con-

The secretary said appli-

to be consumed in the city.

He said the government

FROM PAGE 1

meeting.

ees of the bank, appealing to the prime minister to consider their demand.

The employees said the Nobel-winning bank, which employs about 26,000 people serving over 83 lakh borrowers, could face troubles if the Nobel laureate is forced to leave in an undignified manner.

"Deep discontent is prevailing among employees of the bank due to the central bank's illegal decision," said Md Sagir Hossain Chowdhury, former president of the association. BM Barkatullah, founding president of the associa-

tion, said the central bank's

sudden decision to remove

Dr Yunus has taken the bor-

rowers and depositors by surprise. "In this circumstance, the bank could stumble and jeopardise the livelihood of over five crore people associated with the bank directly

or indirectly," he said.

Removal of Prof Yunus in

authorities will have to keep

more than 2,02,000 appli-

cants waiting, according to

city has sharply raised the

demand for electricity and

other utility services with

the government struggling

to cope with it. So came the

ban on new electricity con-

from power shortage even

though electricity genera-

tion has increased in recent

day stood at 4,437 mega-

watts, with demand soaring

to 5,300 leaving a deficit of

863MW. In the capital, the

Residents of Mohakhali,

shortage was about 300 MW.

DOHS and Banani areas had

Power generation yester-

The country still reels

A building boom in the

official figures.

nections.

months.

this manner could deal a serious blow to Grameen Bank, Barkatullah said. "The borrowers could stop repay-

city

ing loans, depositors could withdraw their money and employees could leave the bank en masse out of anxieties." The association urged the

government not to appoint any controversial former employee of Grameen Bank as its managing director.

Earlier last month, 37 lakh Grameen borrowers signed to defend the Nobel laureate.

On March 2, the central bank relieved Dr Yunus as managing director of Grameen stating his reappointment to the post over a decade ago flouted rules.

The Nobel laureate, who remains at Grameen's helm for now, has appealed to the Supreme Court against this, the hearing of which has been adjourned till the first week of next month.

Wait for electricity to end

"It was like a hell yesterpredicted the prices to go up further once the growers' stock dries out. He also or early July.

Dhaka Electric Supply

However, partial electricity supply was done through alternative load management. It will take some time to repair the glitches, said the DESCO release on its

### frequent power cuts in the past two days.

day [Wednesday] as there was load shedding every half-an-hour. The situation is better today [vesterday] as it was happening after every one hour," said Morshed Kamal, a resident of Mohakhali area.

Company in a press release said power supply from Bashundhara sub-power station had been suspended totally since the early hours Wednesday for technical glitches.

# 28 killed in Meghna

nections are given, the been the hardest-hit due to

added.

Hasina has expressed profound shock at the deaths and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members, UNB reports.

The government has formed a three-member probe committee headed by Hasan Mahmud Tareque, chief engineer of the marine department of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, it added.

Meanwhile, Nurul Islam, a passenger who has survived the accident, claimed that the rescuers looked on as some bodies floated past

denied the allegation and said they could not enter the launch as its windows were blocked by sacks.

They said they had recov-

down. The cops have survived the accident, Sarail police said. The 23 identified dead are

Shyama Begum, 32, wife of Jainal Abedin of daughter of Sukumar of daughter of Asgar Ali of Kishoreganj; Sufia Begum, 40, wife of Sujat Ali of Kishoreganj; Angura Begum, 35, wife of Selim Mia of Kishoreganj; Tanjina, one, daughter of Selim Mia of Kishoreganj; Babu, 35, son of Belayet Ali of Netrokona; Sonia, 20, daughter of Selim Mia of Narshingdi; Taslima, 25, wife of Amir Hossain of Sunamganj; Faijunness, 60, wife of Khurshed Alam of Sunamganj; Naganda Babu, 50, son of Nagarbasi of Kishoreganj; Kawsar, 15, son

Kishoreganj; Seema Bibi, 75, wife of Shajahan of Narsingdi; Sazib, 20, son of Amir Hossain o Kishoreganj; Parshuram, 25, son of Shyama Das of Kishoreganj; Elachi Begum, 50, wife of Md Ali of Kishoreganj; Chandana, six, Kishoreganj; Seema, 18,

Bhairab; Zahera Khatun, 50 wife of Ataur Mia o Narsingdi; Naeem, four, son of Nandu Mia of Narsingdi; Joya Khatun, 50, wife of Shamsul Haque of Kishoreganj; Hazera Begum, 45, wife of Md Ali of Bhairab; Kawsar, eight, son of Din Islam of Sunamganj; Sonia, 35, wife of Rijvi o Netrokona; and Abul Kalam, 30, son of Razzaque Mia of Habiganj. Kalam was an engine operator of the

#### FROM PAGE 1 ered three rifles of the of Nurul Islam of policemen who were on duty when the launch went

Prime Minister Sheikh

The rescuers, however,

# Dismiss fire service chief

"Instead of filing any

complaints with us, a sec-

tion of unsuccessful bid-

ders went to the parlia-

mentary body. It proves

that those bidders had

"I was under huge pres-

sure to award the contract to

the second lowest bidder

instead of the lowest bidder

Noble Enterprise," Abu

pending with the High Court

in this regard. I think nobody

should talk on the issue until

it is settled in the court," he

The parliamentary

watchdog on April 25 last

"Besides, a case was

Naim continued.

added.

added.

The parliamentary standing committee on home ministry at its meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban asked the Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate further on the alleged corruption of DG Brig Gen Abu Naim Md Shahidullah.

It also asked the Office of the Chief Auditor General to conduct special audit at the Fire Service Department regarding buying the firefighting equipment.

Emerging from the meeting, parliamentary body chief MA Salam told reporters findings of a subcommittee formed to investigate the alleged corruption is "very clear and informa-

tion in awarding the tender

year formed a six-member "We have found proof of sub-committee headed by corruption committed by Whip of Parliament Mirza the fire service DG. The Azam to investigate the committee therefore recommended that fire DG be allegations. removed from his post," Salam, an MP of the ruling Awami League, said. Asked about the allega-

to the responsive bidders, he April 8 last year for purchas-

tions, Brig Gen Abu Naim told The Daily Star a competent team of the fire service national exchequer". scrutinised the tender process in a very transparent manner. There was no question of committing corrup-

The sub-committee in its report said the DG of Fire Service and members of the tender evaluation team "unlawfully awarded tenders to two companies causing a huge loss to the

The fire service authorities floated international tenders on November 10, 2009 and January 28 and

ing nine fire engines and rescue vehicles and 1,578 sets of firefighter suit worth around Tk 25 crore.

The sub-committee found that the authorities bought low quality suits manufactured in Singapore, some shortcomings," he while it was clearly mentioned in the tender requirements that those should be brought from Japan, the US, the UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand or any other EU countries.

> The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the probe report.

### Unused aids

FROM PAGE 20 rise in inflation next year.

Muhith said on assump-

tion of power two and a half years back, the government made 477 commitments for development and reforms in different sectors. But the government has not made much progress in the case of 27 commitments. He may give the reasons for this in his next budget speech.

ERF President Monwar Hossain, Vice President Shahnewaz Karim and General secretary Abu Kawser, among others, spoke at the meeting.

### OMS rice seized

FROM PAGE 20 persons from there --

Muntaz Ali, 35, Chan Mia, 40, and Majedul Karim, 30. Meanwhile, Rab members seized 800 sacks of OMS rice from Bhawal Rice Mill at Bakhterpur in the upazila

and arrested its owner Azhar

Ali, 50, and his son Shamim

Mamun, 27. Rab members handed over the rice to food officials of Gazipur district.

### Potato prices

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lakh tonnes of potato, which was 26 lakh tonnes a year ago, according to Bangladesh Cold Storage Association (BCSA).

Export of potato has already exceeded the last year's mark and shot up to 10,000 tonnes since the beginning of February, according to Plant Protection Wing of Department of Agricultural Extension. The export volume is

expected to rise further as the government has recently promised to double an existing cash incentive to 20 percent for the next five years. An official order regarding the increase in cash incentive is yet to be issued. Farmer Abul Hossain

expected that potato preserved in cold storage would hit the market by end of June Md Jasim Uddin, chairman of BCSA, said prices might go up to Tk 20-30 per

kg within months. He suggested the farmers to preserve part of their produce at homestead in a traditional method to get that price benefit.

### Save forests

FROM PAGE 20 department after the coun-

try's independence. Yesterday was the last day of the conference. Some 300 people, who are somehow related to forests, participated in the discussion held

Deforestation accounts for an at least 18 percent increase in carbon in the global atmosphere, men-

at forest department's audi-

tioned the speakers. They said conservation and development of forests in Bangladesh is even more necessary as the country bears the brunt of climate change. The participants recommended more community involvement in forest management and

conservation. They also asked for a new forest policy. The existing one was introduced in 1994 and that too was not implemented properly, said the

participants. They emphasised the need for trans-boundary effort with the neighbouring countries to reduce the human-wildlife conflict for better management of

biodiversity. The department organised this programme in light of the United Nations General Assembly declaring 2011 as the International Year of Forests to raise awareness of sustainable management, conservation and development of all

kinds of forest. Mesbah ul Alam, secretary of the environment and forest ministry, was the chief guest at the concluding session chaired by Ishtiaq Uddin Ahmed, chief conservator of forest.

Alam said it is time to determine the economic value of all kinds of direct and indirect ecological services provided by forest.

"If we can find out the proper economic value of forest, only then can we ensure its proper conservation," he noted.

The conference offered a great opportunity to exchange views among forest officials, researchers, academicians, students, forest dwellers, nongovernment organisations (NGO), development partners, scholars and social welfare workers working on forest issues.

They discussed several issues focusing on forest and climate change, biodiversity and research, management, development and better utilisation of forest resources.

#### some of the players suffered from stomach-ache due to the eating at the restaurant. BCB should probe the incident," said the chief of the parliamentary committee.

restaurant in Uttara.