Panicked, old man dies of heart attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An old man died allegedly of a heart attack in panic after seeing a scuffle between his grandchild and some customers centring purchase of a gold chain in the city's Noyatola area last evening.

The deceased Babar Ali, 60, is owner of a jewellery shop and aresident of that area.

Shiblee Noman, officer-incharge of Ramna Police Station, said a man came to the shop in the morning and sold a gold chain to Babar's grandchild Tuhin for Tk 1,200. In the evening, the man returned the money and took

the chain back. Half an hour later, the man along with some others came and claimed that the returned chain was not his. A scuffle began and Babar, who was sitting there and watching the incident, panicked and died of a heart attack, said Noman.

DELAY IN DISPOSAL OF CASES

METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Law minister blames policemen, PPs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday said the government would formulate rules of action against those found responsible for unnecessary delay in disposing of cases at lower courts.

Most delays are due to public prosecutors (PPs) not timely producing witnesses before the court and police not submitting investigation reports of the cases on time, he said.

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at an inaugural ceremony of a training course for public prosecutors at Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI) in the city.

JATI, in collaboration with Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), organised the course, participated by country's 28 public prosecutors, with JATI Director General Justice Hamidul Huqin the chair.

Shafique said cases must be disposed of quickly to establish justice and reduce harassment of litigants.

He mentioned that emphasis on quick

disposal of cases by the prime minister or any other minister is not an interference to the judiciary.

Prolonging disposal of cases is a severe problem in our country, he said, adding that public prosecutors must find the reasons behind this and address those.

competency, Shafique said public prosecutors could dispose of cases through compromise between the parties involved outside the court, which would restore peace and harmony in society.

would address their problems regarding logistic support.

day said the government is going to bring some changes in the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC) in order to accelerate trial proceedings of cases.

The meeting on amendment to CPC 1908 was organised by Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division under Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs at



Street vendors beginning to set up makeshift shops at Laldighi Square in Chittagong yesterday ahead of the traditional 'Jabbarer Bali Khela' (Jabbar's wrestling game) and Baishakhi Mela. PHOTO: STAR

'Formulate national policy for street children'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday urged the government to formulate a national policy for street children to ensure their basic rights.

They said there are about 11 lakh street children in the country and development is not possible ignoring the children.

Social and Economic Enhancement Programme (SEEP) organised the seminar at Dhaka Reporters' Unity in the city, says a press release.

Jatiya Sangsad Whip Sheikh Abdul Wahab MP said the state fails to ensure basic rights of street children.

Bureau of Statistics 56 percent street children have to pay Tk 150-200 per month to hoodlums for dwelling on streets.

Among others, General Secretary of SEEP Fazlul Hoque Chowdhury spoke at the

Ministry Day

Announces Dipu Moni

BSS, Dhaka

The government is to observe the April 18 as the Foreign Ministry Day from next year commemorating the historic flag hoisting at Bangladesh Mission in Kolkata.

On this day in 1971, the then deputy high commissioner in Kolkata M Hossain Ali along with 65 officials and staff of the mission declared their allegiance to the Mujibnagar government by hoisting its red-green national flag atop the mission.

yesterday to honour the former diplomats who made outstanding contribution to achieve independence in 1971.

for Liberation War Affairs Capt (Retd) AB Tajul Islam, Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes also spoke at the function wit Dipu Moni in the chair.

ex-ambassadors KM Shihabuddin, Waliur Rahman, Kazi Nazrul Islam, former diplomats Mostafizur Rahman, Kazi Sekndar Ali, Akbar Lutful Matin and Anwar Hossain Chowdhury reminisced their role in the War of Liberation.

Ministry Day to inspire the present and future generations with patriotism side by side with remembering the brave diplomats for their role in the War of Liberation," said Dipu Moni. Later, Dipu Moni handed over crests to the freedom fight-

ers diplomats -- Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, KM Shehabuddin, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Anwar Hossain Chowdhury, Syed Moazzem Ali, Mohiuddin Ahmed, Mostafizur Rahman, Anwar Hossain Chowdhury, Waliur Rahman, QMA Rahim and Anwarul Karim.

Habibullah Habib, a nephew of late Hossain Ali, took the crest from the foreign minister on behalf of Hossain Ali.



Foreign Minister Dipu Moni hands over a crest to Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith at foreign ministry in the city yesterday while State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Capt (Retd) AB Tajul Islam, left, and Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes, right, look on. PHOTO: STAR

Enhance skilled manpower for treatment of cardiac patients'

National conference suggests opening cardiology deptt at all dist hospitals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a national conference of cardiology yesterday stressed the need for enhancing skilled manpower, equipment and infrastructure to address the increased number of cardiac patients. Terming cardiac problem one of the most

prevailing non-communicable diseases, they said there should have cardiology departments at all the district hospitals.

Bangladesh Cardiac Society organised the national conference at a city hotel.

The speakers said there is no professor of cardiac surgery in the country.

"Despite having meritorious and skilled cardiologists, the country has only two regular associate professors out of 12 and 12 regular assistant professors out of 24 as promotion is halted for a long time," said Badiuzzaman Bhuiyan Dablu, Health Secretary of Bangladesh Awami League.

Even the post of professor of cardiology is only eight at 18 medical colleges, which is really frustrating, he said.

The largest institute of the country to treat the cardiac patient is in need of 350 more man-

power to provide more specialised services, said Director of the National Institute of Cardio Vascular Diseases (NICVD) Abdullah Al Shafi Majumder, adding that the existing post for cardiac surgery, cardiology and vascular surgery isnowbelow200.

The number of experts in government sector is not enough to run the NICVD even, he added. The situation of pediatric cardiology is even worse, admitted the experts.

"We must have reasonably good facilities of cardiology at all the medical colleges. District hospitals also should be made self-sufficient so that patients get the basic cardiology support from there," said Health Minister Prof AFM Ruhal Haque while delivering his speech as the chief guest.

State Minister for Health Captain (Retd) Mozibur Rahman Fakir, president of the society Prof M Amanullah MP, Secretary General Prof Khawaja Nasiruddin Mahmood, Secretary General of Swadhinata Chikitshak Parishad Prof Iqbal Arslan and Secretary General of Bangladesh Medical Association Prof Sharfuddin Ahmed also spoke at the inaugural session.

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Golam Azam demanded

Cultural activists at a rally

the arrest of Amini and Golam Azam to uphold the spirit of War of Liberation, they told the rally organised by Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the city.

including acting general secretary Arun Sarker Rana, spoke at the rally with central leader Nasima Aktar Labu in the chair.

including Amini and Golam Azam, who trade on religion for their own selfish interests, are trying to create instability in the country by raising differentissues.

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LAUNCH ACCIDENTS Trial of people responsible

demanded

Authority and Department of Shipping (DoS) STAFF CORRESPONDENT Some non-government organisations (NGO) activists yesterday demanded trial of people responsible for Thursday's launch accident

Brahmanbaria. The accident, claiming at least 33 lives, occurred due to negligence and corruption of some government officials and profitmongering vessel owners. It is an offence simi-

that occurred in the river Meghna in

lar to committing murder, they said. They were speaking at a rally organised by Safe Waterway Implementation Movement in

The movement Member Secretary Aminul Rasul alleged that mismanagement and corruption of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Ordinance, 1976.

front of Jatiya Press Club in the city.

turned the country's riverine transportation sector risky. Citizen Rights' Movement Secretary

General Tusher Rehman, Nirapod Development Foundation Chairman Ibnul Sayeed Rana, Green Belt Trust Director General Jashim Katabi and Campaign for Development Foundation Chairman Mashiur Rahman Rubel also spoke.

Their other recommendations include increasing budgetary allocation for development of water transportation sector; increasing ship surveyors; regular checking of vessel fitness; formation of marine safety committee; and modernisation of Inland Shipping



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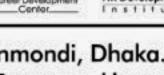
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Shafique at a view exchange meeting yester-

Bidyut Bhaban in the city.

April 18 Foreign

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni announced this at a function Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, State Minister

Former Secretary and Ambassador Mohiuddin Ahmed

"We have decided to observe the April 18 as the Foreign



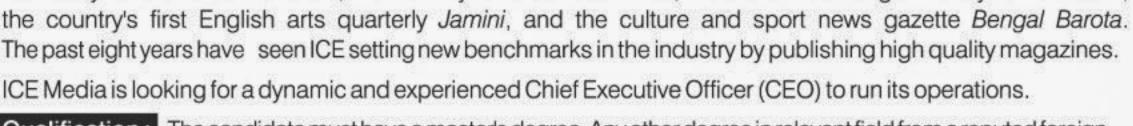
Arrest of Amini,

BSS, Dhaka

yesterday demanded arrest of Golam Azam and Maulana Fazlul Haque Amini on charge of anti-state activities and crime against humanity during the War of Liberation. There is no alternative to

Sangskritik Jote leaders,

They said some people



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