

'Lift off-limits to rickshaws in New Market, Nilkhet areas'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Save the Environment Movement yesterday demanded lifting the off-limits to rickshaws in New Market and Nilkhet areas, says a press release.

Terming rickshaws an environment-friendly non-motorised vehicle, the organisation leaders at a month long online campaign against the move also demanded separate lanes for rickshaws instead, says a press release.

Most of Dhaka residents do not own cars, the number of public buses is inadequate and the atmosphere is not suitable for walking, making rickshaws essential, said the campaigners.

They said a huge number of people, who are sick, carry goods or go to office and schools, use rickshaws but the government took the decision facilitating private car owners.



Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) Chairman Commodore Anwarul Islam, right, and Malaysian Maritime and Dredging Corporation Corporate Director Abdur Rahman Mohammad Noor, left, exchange documents after signing agreements on behalf of their respective sides at CPA training institute in the port city yesterday while Shipping Minister Shahjahan Khan and Chittagong City Mayor Alhaj Monzur Alam look on. The agreement was on massive dredging works of the river Karnaphuli and construction of a jetty at Chittagong port. (Story on Page 20)

NADIA MURDER
Shafiqur on fresh remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted three days' fresh remand for Shafiqur Rahman who confessed beating to death his wife Qamrun Nahar Nadia.

The police produced Shafiqur before the court yesterday after his two days remand expired on Wednesday. Police sought ten days' fresh remand but the court granted him three days' remand.

Earlier, Shafiqur confessed that he killed Nadia with a piece of wood last Sunday morning as she allegedly had an extramarital affair, said police.

Shahbagh police recovered Nadia's body from Shafiqur's car parked in front of Roads and Highways Bhaban and arrested him on Sunday evening.

Rafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge of Hazaribagh police station, said Shafiqur was taken on fresh remand to verify information he provided during his earlier remand.

Leather college to be institute under DU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a move to resolve the longstanding impasse in Bangladesh College of Leather Technology (BCLT), the education ministry yesterday decided to make BCLT an institute under Dhaka University (DU).

Academic and administrative activities of BCLT, the country's only educational institution of its kind at Hazaribagh in the city, came to a near standstill due to acute shortage of teachers and session jam.

The decision came at a meeting between BCLT authority and Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid at the ministry where DU Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique and University Grants Commission chairman were present.

Although the college requires a minimum of 84 teachers against 800 students of three departments, it was running with only five, making it hard to ensure quality education.

Students admitted at BCLT in 2004-2005 sessions could not finish their honours courses in the last seven years and those who gave their final examination on July last year are yet to get their results, said students.

The problem reached such a point that the college did not admit students for the first year honours courses in last two years, said college authorities.

"Once BCLT is made an institute, the university authority can appoint teachers anytime through syndicate. We will soon send a proposal to the prime minister and everything will be finalised after her approval," the education minister said.

DU Engineering and Technology faculty controlled academic activities of BCLT while administrative activities by Directorate of Technical Education.

DHAKA TODAY

Rally
Bangladesh Adivasi Forum will hold a rally; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises; Time: 10:00am.

Seminar
Centre for Coastal Development and Research in Bangladesh will organise a seminar; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Human chain
National Front of Teachers and Employees will organise a human chain; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises; Time: 11:00am.

Awarding ceremony
Bangladesh Shikkhak Samity will hold a scholarship awarding ceremony; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Discussion
Jatiya Sramik Andolan will organise a discussion; Venue: Bangladesh Photojournalist Association auditorium; Time: 10:30am.

Discussion
Bangladesh Sangskritik Academy will hold a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:30pm.

Rally
Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon will hold a rally; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Discussion
Bangladesh Chhatra Federation will organise a discussion; Venue: Central Public Library; Time: 3:30pm.

Rally
Garment Sramik Sangram Parishad will organise a rally; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

Procession
National Citizen Society will hold a procession; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Obituary
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lutfar Rahman, a former director of Bangladesh Shilpa Bank, passed away at his Golf Height residence at the city's Banani yesterday due to old age complications at the age of 89, says a press release.

He left behind his two sons and three daughters.

Lutfar will be buried at Azimpur old graveyard after namaz-e-janaza tomorrow.

His quikhwani will be held at his residence after Asr prayers on May 1. Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend.

Missing female garment worker dies at hospital
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A garment worker yesterday succumbed to her head injuries allegedly inflicted by a gang of unidentified miscreants in the city's Jurain Kadamtoli on April 22.

Shamsun Nahar, 28, employee of Wonder Apparels Factory at Kadamtoli Alam market, went missing on her way home from work near Alambagh on April 22.

Her husband Al Amin, 23, found her unconscious in front of the market on April 23 and took her home. As her condition deteriorated, he took her to DMCH yesterday where doctors declared her dead.

Amin at DMCH, quoting Shamsun, said some unidentified men attacked and forced her to drink a kind of juice, which caused her to fall asleep.

Sub-Inspector (SI) Abdul Ahad of Kadamtoli Police Station said Shamsun was earlier married to a man named Manik and has a six-year-old son in that family. Police are not ruling out either Manik's or Amin's involvement, he added.

DMCH morgue sources confirmed death due to head injuries and were ascertaining whether she was raped.

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