

Gas pipe catches fire in city

Boishaki Tv's transmission suspended for one hour fearing damages

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Broadcast of regular programmes of private television channel, Boishakhi Tv, was suspended for over an hour last night as a fire broke out from a leak in a gas pipeline adjacent to its building at Mohakhali in the city.

Fire Brigade officials said the fire broke out from the pipeline of Titas gas in between the buildings of the channel and another adjacent building around 10:00pm.

The flames went up to around 25 feet causing a panic.

Fire fighters with the help of locals and Titas gas officials brought the blaze under control around 11:45pm.

The channel resumed its operation shortly after the flames were brought under control.

Fire brigade sources said Titas gas officials stopped supply of gas through the pipeline while extinguishing the flame.

Youth hurls acid on woman in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth hurled acid on a divorced woman as she refused his marriage proposal at Geneva Camp of Mohammadpur in the city yesterday.

The victim is identified as Guddu Akhtar, 24, a mother of two children.

She was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital's burn and plastic surgery unit.

Guddu said Jamil, a sweetmeat owner, along with two youths, Bhola and Shahensha, threw acid from a bottle on her when she stood near her house around 3:00pm.

She said Jamil had been forcing her to marry him for last three months after she divorced her husband.

She received injuries on her right hand, neck and back.



A woman busy picking food grains that spilled from sacks while unloading those from water vessels onto trucks in Majhir Ghat area of the port city. When workers unload the vessels, such people rush to the spot to place a polythene sheets for collecting the grains no matter whether it gets muddy or soiled. Washing the dirt off to make the grains edible is the only way they can deal with rising price of essentials.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Three crushed under wheels of trains

METRO DESK

At least three people were crushed under the wheels of trains in Kushtia and Rangpur on Saturday.

Our correspondent from Kushtia reports: Two people were crushed under the wheels of trains in Kushtia in separate incidents on Saturday.

Khabir Uddin Seikh, 80, was crushed under the wheels of a Khulna-bound mail train from Goalondo at Shimultala in the town about 5:30pm.

Police said the incident took place as the hearing impaired Khabir could not realise the train.

Khabir hailed from Baradi village in Sadar upazila of the district.

Meanwhile, one Nazrul Islam, 35, son of Mohammad Ali of Kuripol under Mirpur upazila in the district, was hit by a Rajshahi-bound train at Jugia in the town about 8:30am.

The accident occurred when Nazrul was trying to cross the railway track with his bicycle.

Severely injured Nazrul was taken to Rajshahi Medical Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries in the evening.

UNB from Rangpur reports: An elderly beggar was crushed under the wheels of a train in Shantibag area in Lalbagh in the city on Saturday night.

The deceased was identified as Nurul Haque Mandal, 90, and resident of a slum near Shantibag railway track.

Police said a Parbotipur-bound passenger train from Rangpur ran over him as he attempted to save his grand daughter who was playing on the rail track near their residence at night.

His granddaughter, however, escaped unhurt.

The old man sustained severe injuries in head and one of his legs was cut off from waist.

UK team in city to asses climate impacts

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A 14-member team of UK Royal College of Defence Studies (RCDS) arrived here yesterday for a week-long visit.

The aim of the tour is to examine at first hand and assess the country's vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change in terms of water, food and energy security, assuming a rise in sea-level over this coming century, said a British High Commission press release.

During the visit, the team will call on Service Chiefs and Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division. They will visit National Defense College and hold discussions on contemporary international issues. The team will also visit UK-funded climate change related projects in Dhaka and Khulna.

Desmond Bowen CB CMG, an adviser to the UK's Cabinet Office and the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, leads the tour group.

Section 144 imposed after clash

12 injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Noakhali

At least twelve people, including Hatiya municipality mayor, were injured in a clash at Oskhali Bazar in Hatiya upazila last night.

Office of the mayor was also ransacked.

The district administration imposed section 144 in the area from 9:00am to 6:00pm today to avert any untoward situation.

Witnesses said around 11:00am, a group of supporters of Prof Wali Ullah, chairman of Hatiya upazila, led by Raju and Hassan beat up Abdul Halim, defeated chairman candidate of Char Iswar union, while he was passing through the residence of the upazila chairman.

Later, the clash erupted around 8:00pm when the attackers again swooped on the supporters of Abdul Halim when they gathered at the bazar.

Twelve people, including Yousuf Ali, mayor of Hatiya municipality, two councilors Nehel Khan and Md Shahin and two municipality staff, were injured during the clash.

Increase tax on tobacco

Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers here yesterday urged the government to increase tax on tobacco and tobacco products in the upcoming national budget to safeguard a large number of people from the ill-effects of tobacco.

They were addressing a sit-in programme jointly organised by several non government organisations including Barnali, Nirmol Foundation and WBB Trust in front of Chittagong Press Club.

Every year the country loses Tk 11 crore treating 12 lakh people contracting eight different diseases and sees 57,000 deaths of people aged over thirty, all due to the direct and indirect effects of tobacco consumption.

tion.

The speakers said according to a World Health Organisation study, the death rate caused by smoking significantly decreased after tax was increased up to 10 percent in high and low income countries.

They said around 43 percent (41.3 million) people in Bangladesh use tobacco while 74,000 hectares of land is being used for tobacco cultivation.

Prof Dr AQM Sirajul Islam Chowdhury; Chittagong City Corporation Councilor Gias Uddin; Tamroj Hossain; Hasan Mohammad Ripon; and Salauddin Kabir Suman also spoke. Dr Syed Didarul Munir Rubel presided over the programme.

Boy allegedly kills playmate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 10-year-old boy allegedly killed his playmate by pushing off from the roof of a market at Telghat of Dakkhin Keraniganj in the outskirt of the city yesterday afternoon. Victim Biplob, 10, was the son of Halim of Kaliganj.

Police held the alleged killer Emon from the spot.

SI Mozammel of Dakkhin Keraniganj police said around 2:30pm, Emon beat up and pushed off Biplob from the roof 5-storey Rafique Tower.

SI Mozammel said Emon told police that Biplob was his friend. He said they went up to the roof of the building out of fun. There Emon got a Tk 50 note. While trying to capture the note, Biplob had a squabble with him and at one stage he fell off the roof.



A memorandum of understanding (MoU) related to judicial strengthening is signed at the Supreme Court Judges Lounge in the city yesterday. Outgoing Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque, among others, was present at the event.

PHOTO: PID

One killed in rivals attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man was killed and another seriously injured in an attack by rivals in Hainako Bazar area under Bhujpur Police Station in Chittagong on Saturday evening.

The deceased is Ahmad Gani, 40, secretary of Hainako Bazar Samity, and the injured is his nephew Sirajul Islam, 20.

Sources said Ahmad-led group had a long-standing feud with Anisul Islam-led over establishing supremacy in the area.

Anisul's group attacked the victims on their way to Hainako Bazar, police said.



Human chain

Bangladesh Graduate Primary Teachers' Association will organise a human chain; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

Seminar

Bangladesh Buddha Krishti Prachar Sangha will hold a seminar; Venue: Dharmarajik Buddha Mohabihar; Time: 6:00pm.

Seminar

Daffodil University will organise a seminar; Venue: the university auditorium; Time: 2:30pm.

Exhibition

Bengal Gallery will organise an exhibition; Venue: the gallery

premises; Time: 12:00noon.

Human chain

Common Interest Group Against Cigarette will hold a human chain; Venue: Manik Mia Avenue; Time: 10:00am.

Discussion

Amity for Peace will organise a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:00pm.

Seminar

Bangla Academy will hold a seminar; Venue: the academy seminar room; Time: 9:00am.

Seminar

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