

NEWS IN *brief*

Worker crushed in CEPZ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A worker of a private container depot was crushed to death as a heavy sack of clothes fell on him in Chittagong Export Processing Zone yesterday. The 23-year-old deceased, Mohammad Masud, hailed from Barisal and was a labourer of K&T Logistic Ltd, a private container depot in CEPZ. Alamgir, sub-inspector of Bandar Police Station, said a sack of clothes weighing 350kg fell on the head of Masud from a truck as it was being unloaded around 10:00am. Injured seriously Masud was taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where he died half an hour later, the SI added.

Road crash kills elderly man

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One elderly person was killed as a bus hit him while he was crossing road at Arzotpara in the city's Mohakhali last night. The deceased was identified as Joynal Abedin Dhali, 60, a technician of a private company. His relatives said the bus hit him around 9:00pm, leaving him dead on the spot when he was returning home after visiting a doctor at Mohakhali.

100 litres of liquor seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police seized 100 litres of locally made contraband liquor and a private car in Ghattek under Rangunia upazila early yesterday. Abdul Latif, officer-in-charge of Rangunia Police Station, said a police team raided Ghattek area and found the seized liquor in a private car parked on the road. No arrest was made as the driver and passengers of the car fled, he said, adding that a case was filed with the police station.

**VILLAGE ARBITRATION IN BAGERHAT
Sue persons involved
in torturing woman
HC asks police**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the police to file a criminal case against the persons involved in torturing a housewife during a village arbitration at Sharankhola in Bagerhat. Firoza Begum, a housewife, was mercilessly beaten up in the arbitration at Southkhali in Sharankhola in June in presence of a large number of locals, including the union parishad chairman, on charge of having an "extramarital relationship". During hearing a suo moto rule, an HC bench directed the officer-in-charge of Sharankhola Police Station to implicate Bashir Uddin, a medical officer of Sharankhola, on charge of giving a 'vague' medical certificate to the victim. Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore of the bench heard statements from victim Firoza Begum at their chamber office. After hearing her statements, the judges told the court that the victim was injured as she was mercilessly tortured at the arbitration, but medical officer Bashir did not mention it in the medical report submitted to the court. The bench also issued a contempt of court rule against Bashir, who was present before the bench as per its earlier order. Deputy Attorney General ABM Altaf Hossain told The Daily Star that Bashir Uddin recently submitted the letter to the HC bench, only stating that he attended Firoza and left her after giving treatment. Bashir, however, offered unconditional apology before the bench and prayed for exemption of the contempt of court charge. The bench rejected his prayer and directed him to appear before it on August 4 to face the contempt of court rule. Following the newspaper reports on the incident of torture against Firoza, the bench on July 14 issued a suo moto rule asking the OC of Sharankhola police station Abdul Aziz and Southkhali union chairman Mozammel Hossain to explain their roles over the incident. Aziz and Mozammel appeared before the court on July 21 as per its order. Mozammel was arrested from the Supreme Court premises the same day as per its order. Aziz yesterday produced Firoza before the HC bench as per its July 21 order.



Dr Durga P Paudyal speaks at a discussion organised by Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (Cirdap) at its auditorium in the city yesterday. On his right are Dr Mustafa K Mujeri and Dr SK Singh and on his left is Dr Anwara Begum. PHOTO: STAR

Make Cirdap vibrant for poverty cut

Speakers urge member states

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The member nations must actively involve and support the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (Cirdap) to make the organisation more dynamic and help alleviate poverty and promote rural development in this region, speakers at a discussion said yesterday. They also said Cirdap, a regional, inter-governmental, and autonomous organisation, should develop a policy itself to serve the member states more effectively. The discussion titled "Revisiting Cirdap perspective: Challenges and opportunities" was organised at Cirdap auditorium in the city, marking the 32nd anniversary of the organisation. Set up on July 6, 1979, at the initiative of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) with support from several other UN bodies and donors, Cirdap now has 15 members including Bangladesh (host state), India, Indonesia,

Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. "It is understood that Cirdap is required. But its presence should be visible in the member countries", said Dr Durga P Paudyal, director general of Cirdap. Presenting the keynote paper, Dr Mustafa K Mujeri, director general of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), said Cirdap should adopt effective measures to evaluate its outcomes and activities in the member countries. In the open discussion, the speakers stressed involving the civil societies, non-government organisations, and the ministries concerned in the member states to adopt effective programmes and implement those to achieve the success. They also said the success stories of rural development and poverty alleviation should be shared among the member countries and examine the factors behind to use those effectively in this region. Cirdap officials, academics, and development experts spoke at the programme.

'Give priority to save rivers'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 10-point Jahangirnagar Declaration has been adopted at National River Fair on the university campus yesterday with a call to give a special priority while developing and implementing projects to save the country's rivers. In the declaration, they also urged to protect the rights of the communities depending on the rivers and preserve habitation of aquatic flora and fauna. The declaration was adopted at the three-day National River Fair 2011 held on Jahangirnagar University campus from July 23-25. Disaster Forum and Geography and Environment department of the university jointly organised the programme. Stressing researches on rivers in the declaration, the organisers urged everybody to work for saving the country's river. The 10-point declaration also urged people from all walks of life to arrange river fairs so that people can play a role to save rivers. 'Importance of small rivers' was the theme of this year's river fair where dire situation of some small rivers, including Chitra, Halda, Isamati and old Jamuna was presented. Bangladesh is a country of rivers and none should forget the importance of rivers, said a joint press release of the organizers quoting the declaration.

DCC evicts street vendors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) mobile court demolished yesterday around 30 makeshift shops of street vendors from Karwan Bazar kitchen market. The court also fined seven vendors each Tk 2,000. Some other vendors managed to flee the spot. The vendors had been selling fruits, eggs, and chickens in front of the market occupying significant portions of the main road of the market. DCC Executive Magistrate Khalil Ahmed said the vendors were asked to clear off the places two days ago but they did not. "That's why we evict them". The DCC will carry out similar drive throughout the Ramadan, he said.



Aamra Facebook Bandhura forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday demanding proper investigation and trial into the murder of elderly journalist Farhad Khan and his wife Rahima. PHOTO: STAR

Mosharrarf for frequent visit of Indo-Bangla leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior BNP leader Dr Khandaker Mosharrarf Hossain yesterday said frequent visit and communication among the leaders of Bangladesh and India will contribute to resolve the longstanding dispute between the two countries. "People of this region will be beneficiary if bilateral relations between the two countries are bolstered. Even, the misunderstanding between the two countries can be removed through frequent visit of top leaders of both the countries," he said while addressing a discussion meeting at Jatiya Press Club in the city. Sangskritik Academy organised the discussion titled 'Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's Visit to Bangladesh: Anxieties and Possibilities' with Maj (retd) Mahbubur Rahman in the chair. Welcoming Indian Congress party President Sonia Gandhi's visit, Mosharrarf, a

senior member of BNP standing committee, said people of the country want to see India as a friend like it was during the Liberation War. "We welcome her [Sonia] to Dhaka. Her visit to Bangladesh is very much important. I hope this visit will play a vital role in enhancing the ties between two neighboring countries," he said. The BNP leader however said all the deals between the two countries should be signed on the basis of impartiality and honour so that the country's interest is protected but expressed his doubt whether the present government will be able to protect the country's interest by making India convinced to stop killing at borders, stop building dam at Tipaimukh and ensure just share of water. Though the party Chairperson Khaleda Zia already has declared that her party won't accept transit deals which is expected to be signed during the Indian prime minister's visit to Dhaka in next month.



JICA senior vice president due today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior Vice President of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Kenzo Oshima will arrive in Bangladesh today "to examine and exchange the views of further future formulation of JICA's cooperation in Bangladesh," says a press release yesterday. He is scheduled to meet Finance Minister AMA Muhith and the prime minister's adviser Dr Alauddin Ahmed and inspect the construction site of Padma Multipurpose Bridge and some other projects funded by Japan's government. Oshima will also visit Brac to discuss issues of common interests including contributions to socio-economic development of Bangladesh and other countries. He is scheduled to depart on July 29. Oshima has been holding his current JICA post since October 2007. Previously, he was an Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Emergency Relief Coordination of United Nations in 2001. He also served as the Japanese ambassador to Australia.

College girl commits suicide in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A college girl allegedly committed suicide by taking poison in her residence at Sabujbagh in the city yesterday morning. Farida Akhter Mousumi, 18, an HSC second year student of Mugda Mohanagar Ideal College used to live at Lal Miah Road, Manda. Mousumi was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) about 12.30pm as she fell seriously ill after taking poison. A few moments later she died at the hospital. Mousumi's father bus driver Farid Khan told journalists at the hospital that his daughter took poison around 10.30am. Farid said the inmates of the house could not say anything about when his daughter took poison. Shamima Begum could learn about taking poison by her daughter as Mousumi started vomiting. Sabujbagh police station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Md Asaduzzaman said they have heard about the incident and police were investigating into the matter.

WEATHER TODAY

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Khulna, Dhaka, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet divisions in next 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:45pm today and rises at 5:26am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 24.5 degrees Celsius at Chittagong.

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 | 33.9 | 26.4 | 73 | 60 |
| Chittagong | 32.0 | 24.5 | 71 | 82 |
| Rajshahi | 36.0 | 25.7 | 75 | 64 |
| Rangpur | 35.2 | 26.6 | 70 | 65 |
| Khulna | 34.5 | 27.0 | 70 | 92 |
| Barisal | 33.3 | 26.5 | 86 | 69 |
| Sylhet | 35.0 | 27.0 | 70 | 64 |
| Cox's Bazar | 32.0 | 25.2 | 76 | 87 |

SAJIDA Foundation
Striving to Ensure Health, Happiness & Dignity for All

Shib Narayan Kairy appointed as New Chairperson of SAJIDA Foundation

Mr. Shib Narayan Kairy has been elected as new Chairperson of SAJIDA Foundation. Before being engaged in his current position, Mr. Kairy served as Treasurer of SAJIDA Foundation. Mr. Kairy has 29 years of experience in development finance sector. Mr. Kairy also holds the position of Group Chief Finance Officer (CFO) of BRAC and BRAC International. Mr. Kairy will be replacing Mrs. Sajida Humayun Kabir, who has served as the Chairperson of SAJIDA Foundation since its inception. Mrs. Kabir in her tenure has successfully expanded SAJIDA Foundation from a small garage school to a leading NGO in Bangladesh working with diverse activities to alleviate poverty and advance social development. Mrs. Kabir is also a Director of Renata Limited and President of the Ramna Branch of Society for the Welfare of the Intellectually Disabled (SWID). SAJIDA Foundation would like to thank Mrs. Kabir for all her efforts and welcome Mr. Kairy to the organization.