Housewife 'commits suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A housewife allegedly com-

mitted suicide by taking poison here on Friday night. The deceased is Panna Begum, 35, wife of Muhammad Dulal, a resident of Kamal Member Colony of Chandgaon

Residential Area.

Quoting Panna's daughter Aklima, Sub Inspector (SI) Md Khair of Chandgaon Police Station said Panna was suffering from severe abdominal pain and took poison around 11:00pm when she could not tolerate it anymore.

Her family rushed her to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead, the SI added.

AUW VC resigns

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Asian University for Women (AUW) Vice Chancellor Mary Sansolone resigned from her post, said Omar Sarif, director operation of the university, yesterday.

Former acting VC Kamal Ahmed has been made vicechancellor of the University, Omar said.

Mehreen Murad, director of student affairs and lecturer of English, also resigned from her post on September 1.

Sharif said Mary submitted her resignation letter to the university executive committee last week of August.



Rally

Gonotantric Bam Morcha will organise a rally; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:30pm.

Discussion

BSS, Gazipur

the on-going repair work.

Rastrabiggan Samity will hold a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club;

Highways' condition

Communication Minister Syed Abul Hossain yesterday

said condition of all the dilapidated highways and roads are

being improved everyday for vehicular movement due to

The minister told newsmen at Bhogda in Gazipur Sadar

"I visit to see the repair work of the dilapidated highway

repeatedly as the people and media are performing the role

of watchdog," said Abul, adding that the government

Replying to a query on Dhaka-Mymensingh four-lane

Gazipur part would take time as some fault was found in

contractor's document and proposal submitted during

Local MP Advocate A K M Mozammel Huq,

Communication Secretary Md Mozammel Huq Khan and

RHD Chief Engineer Abdul Quddus accompanied the

project, he said construction work of Mymensingh part has

upazila after visiting the site of repair work on Dhaka-

being improved

everyday: Abul

Mymensingh highway in the morning.

believes on accountability and transparency.



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Children jump off Amla Housing Bridge in Kamar Para in the city yesterday to take a dip in the river Turag as fresh water arrives due to the recent rains.

Changing lives in disaster-prone villages Four injured in

BSS, Rangpur

Once a distressed housewife, Kulsum has now overcome poverty by adapting with climate change impacts in the remote Dhushmara Char village surrounded by the river Teesta under Kawnia upazila in Rangpur.

Earlier, she was living miserably in abject poverty with her two sons as her husband Yunus was the sole earner of the family in the village which is prone to erosion, floods and natural disasters. Like some other beneficiary land-

less women, Kulsum achieved the success with the assistance of RDRS Bangladesh under its "Improving Community Coping Mechanism to Adapt with Climate Change" project.

Ten landless families without assets including Kulsum got necessary assistance from the non-government

organisation (NGO) in the hardly reachable and very low-lying village a coupe of years ago.

Kulsum owns only 3.5 decimal of

homestead and could not send her youngest son to primary school while her elder son stopped schooling due to poverty. RDRS Bangladesh extended assis-

tance, showing Kulsum an opportunity of starting a new life by raising the base of her house for better shelter during

In ten days she raised the base by 3.3 feet from ground level and 1.2 feet from what the height of the water was during the last flood, costing her Tk 5,000.

To enhance food security, she started gardening vegetables and planting fruit trees. For organic fertilisers, Kulsum established compost heaps in her homestead.

She shifted her tube well to the raised homestead to obtain pure drinking water, sowed seeds of different vegetables and established a hygienic sanitary latrine to reduce water borne diseases. The NGO also provided her with two

sheep on condition to donate the first offspring to another participant under the managements of the local "Farmers' Field School and Village Disaster Management Committee".

Now Kulsum rears her own cattle and poultry safely in her raised home-

All these interventions were integrated in such a way so that eventually she made the best use of the scarce and tiny homestead for maximum production and income.

Talking to the news agency, Kulsum said she believes she is now self sufficient.

Savar blast

UNB, Savar

Four people were injured in a bomb explosion on the Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI) premises here yesterday morning.

Fatema, 40, her daughter Ferdousi, 10, Manju Rani, 35, and Jarina, 20, injured in the explosion were admitted to Gonoswastha Hospital in a critical condition.

Police said the poor residents of the area went to BLRI premises in the morning to collect firewood. Fatema found a bag wrapped with tape in a bush. The bomb exploded with a big bang as Fatema opened the bag out of curiosity.

The body of Fatema was burnt in the explosion. Three other onlookers were also badly injured.

Army officials from Savar cantonment, members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and police officials visited the spot. They suspect that certain criminals hid the bomb and three sharp weapons in the bush.



Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 42nd death anniversary of Abdul Hamid Chowdhury,former speaker of the erstwhile provincial assembly and a close associate of Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq and Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy, says a press release.

On the occasion, Qurankhwani and milad mahfil will be held at Nagbari Jame Mosque in Tangail. A memorial meeting will be held at Nagbari Hasina Chowdhury High School.

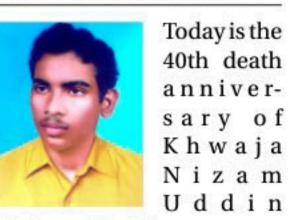
Hamid was deputy president of Bengal Legislative Council and deputy high commissioner of the then Pakistan in Kolkata. He was a member of All India Labour Consultative Committee.

He renounced the title 'Khan Bahadur' conferred upon him by the then British government in support of independence movement of the sub-continent.

Former president Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury was his only son.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Today is the

Nizam Uddin Bhuiyan



anniversary of Khwaja Nizam Uddin

Bhuiyan Bir Uttam, says a press release.

On the occasion, Bir Uttam Shaheed Khwaja Nizam Uddin Bhuiyan Smriti Sangsad chalked out different programmes both in Comilla and Dhaka.

Khwaja Nizam was the sub-sector commander of sector-4 during the liberation war. He sacrificed his life in a direct battle with the Pakistani force in Kanaighat Upazila, Sylhet on that day

in 1971. Nizam was posthumously conferred the "Bir Uttam" title.

Qulkhwani

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



mother of Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqul Alam, will be held at her Dhanmondi residence after Asr prayers on

Qulkhwani

of Begum

Rabeya

Alam,

September 6, says a press release. Relatives and well-wishers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani and pray for salvation of the

departed soul. Rabeya passed away due

to old age complications on September 2 at the age of 88.

Consultancy firm's 'graft' under scanner 5 killed Joint efforts to save tigers

minister.

already started.

tender process, he added.

FROM PAGE 1 could be signed during Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Dhaka this week.

According to a draft protocol, the two countries will patrol the waterways of their respective portions of the mangrove forest to prevent poaching or smuggling of wildlife and products derived from wildlife.

India sent the draft protocol to Bangladesh and a meeting will be held today in this regard with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Economic Affairs Adviser Mashiur Rahman in the

chair. According to the draft, forest officers or park directors and a representative

each from Indian Border Security Force and Border Guard Bangladesh will hold quarterly meetings to synchronise management strategies.

> alternatively in Bangladeshi and Indian portions of the Sundarbans. The protocol mentions safety of Royal Bengal Tigers as an agenda item in all border meetings. The draft says that nei-

ther country will take any measures that may adversely affect the biodiversity and the unique ecosystem of the Sundarbans.

However, no restriction has been imposed on border

Both countries will

protection activities.

tific research projects to improve their knowledge of the Royal Bengal Tiger and develop information database and share research The meetings will be held

> They will also exchange personnel for training and promotion of education. According to the draft, at least four spots will be reserved for Bangladeshis in the nine-month diploma

course at the Wildlife Institute of India. A special committee will also be made in each country to examine human casu-

alties in tiger attacks. The Sundarbans is split in two by Bangladesh-India border at the south-west of

Bangladesh.

Sami-al-Jabi, 15, father-in-law undertake bilateral scien-Rezaul Karim, 65, and their house helps Ashraf Hossain, 16, and Monoara Begum, 40.

> Bangabandhu Bridge east police station went to the spot and rescued the injured with the help of locals. The injured include Jubaiyda Kaniz, 35, wife of Rafi-

On information, a team of

bourhood days before Eid-ul-Fitr. The photo was taken on Friday.

FROM PAGE 20

al-Jabi; their four-year-old daughter Jabin and driver of the passenger bus Ismail Hossain, 30, and helper Monirul Islam, 25. They were admitted to Tangail General Hospital. Quoting Jubaiyda, Nazrul

Islam of Tangail Model Police Station said Rafi, an engineer of Bashundhara Group, was driving the microbus, and as he tried to overtake a truck, the microbus crashed into the passenger bus from the opposite direction.

The dead were taken to Bangabandhu Bridge east police station.

FROM PAGE 1

been informed that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had raided several locations as part of their investigation.

Authorities concerned are yet to remove garbage lying on Kazi Alauddin Road in the old part of Dhaka and spreading stench in the neigh-

SNC-Lavalin is one of the companies that bid for obtaining supervising consultancy of the bridge project. The matter is now under scrutiny of the WB, said officials of the communications ministry.

the bridge project if it has

allegations of corruption

The WB approved financ-

against it."

Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain yesterday told The Daily Star, "This is not a concern for the Bangladesh government, further details. rather the WB's. We will not consider any company for

would warrant such an investigation," Quinton said. "Because the situation is under investigation, we ing \$1.2 billion for the

Padma bridge project in cannot comment any fur-April, but had not disbursed any funds given the ongoing Constable Julie Morel, spokeswoman for the Royal investigation, the bank

"We commend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for its robust response to the World Bank referral and look forward to the outcome of its investigation," the spokesman said.

spokesman told Reuters.

Leslie Quinton, a spokeswoman for SNC-Lavalin, said the company was assisting Canadian authorities

with an investigation on a specific case. She gave no "We are complying fully with their requests and are not aware of any reason that

billion to Bangladesh to build a bridge linking its underdeveloped south with the capital, Dhaka, and the country's main port, Chittagong. An international consor-

Canadian Mounted Police,

confirmed that the police

agency on Thursday exe-

cuted search warrants at

several locations as part of

an investigation of SNC-

identify which locations or

to provide any further

details since the investiga-

deal in April to loan \$1.2

The WB signed a 40-year

She however declined to

Lavalin employees.

tion is still under way.

tium, led by the WB, last year

agreed to lend Bangladesh up to \$2.9 billion for the 6kilometre (4-mile) multipurpose bridge over the river Padma.

The bridge will improve transport between Bangladesh and other countries, and establish a missing link along the longest corridor under the Asian Highway Network that connects Tokyo to Istanbul.

The WB last week outlined its increased efforts to prevent and deter fraud and corruption. Over the past year, the

bank said its new Preventive Services Unit (PSU) had helped build precautions against fraud into 48 highrisk projects in 29 countries with a total value of \$14.1 billion.