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Exams first, then patients

In-patients forced out of their beds as medical students sit for exams

STAR REPORT

At least 85 in-patients were forced out of their beds at two government hospitals in Chittagong and Barisal to make room for practical examinations of medical students yesterday.

In Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), 35 patients of the cardiology ward had to stay in the corridor outside the ward from 8:00am to 1:00pm when an examination of post-graduate students of the cardiology department was held there.

In another case in Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH), some 50 patients of gynaecology and labour ward were shifted to the corridor Friday night to make seating arrangements for a fourth year practical exam of MBBS students yesterday morning.

The patients at CMCH alleged that ward boys and cleaners forced them to stay on the floor of the veranda

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In-patients with heart ailments are left to spend hours on the corridor as the Chittagong Medical College authorities hold an examination in the cardiology ward. The picture was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

CONSTRUCTION SITE Worker falls to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A worker died after falling from an under-construction building in the city's Mirpur yesterday morning.

The deceased, Sujan, 16, lived at Madhya Azampur in Uttara with his parents.

Sujan with some co-workers was plastering the outer wall of the six-storey building for Public Order Management of Bangladesh police. He was

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Dev project losing its way

Zilla Parishad CEOs complain of MP interference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The chief executive officers (CEOs) of zilla parishads, local government bodies at districts, yesterday accused lawmakers of interfering in preparation of development projects.

The CEOs, who are in charge of carrying out activities of the parishads in absence of elected representatives, alleged upazila parishad chairmen are also putting pressure on them to prepare the development projects in line with the latter's proposals.

"Without considering overall interests of the inhabitants of an

area, the MP wants the project to be developed on his/her will. The upazila parishad chairman, on the other hand, puts pressure on us to prepare the project proposal as per his/her direction," said Barisal Zilla Parishad CEO Mohammad Ibrahim.

"In this situation, it's very much hard to finalise a project and send it to the ministry within a given timeframe," he said while speaking at the annual evaluation meeting of zilla parishads yesterday.

Often, the clash of interests between an MP and upazila parishad chairman causes a delay in sending

project proposal to concerned ministries, said some CEOs at the meeting.

Local Government Division of the LRGD ministry organised the daylong meeting at the Local Government Engineering Division's auditorium in the capital. Along with other officials, sixty-one CEOs from same number of districts were invited to attend the meet.

Also, engineers of the district councils, who spoke at the gathering, more or less supported the CEOs' opinions.

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BNP plays down 'split rumour'

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

Some BNP leaders might shake hands with the government to avoid jail and torture or even to become a minister, but they have no ability to split the party, high-ups of the main opposition said.

They believe the government is spreading 'split theory' only to create confusion and mistrust among the rank and file of BNP ahead of the upcoming anti-government movement.

According to a recent newspaper report, some Awami League leaders contacted several BNP leaders and discussed

splitting the party. The report drew quick reactions from both the parties.

"Someone might have a good relation with ruling party leaders, but none has the potential to split BNP, which has been proved after the 1/11 changeover," insisted Rafiqul Islam Mia, a member of party standing committee.

After the changeover from a civilian government to a military-backed caretaker government, some reformist leaders wanted to reform the party by excluding its Chairperson Khaleda Zia. They had to face the wrath of BNP workers for their move.

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Macaws breed in captivity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two blue-and-gold macaw eggs hatched in a private zoo in Dhaka, the first time macaws bred in captivity in Bangladesh.

The two chicks are healthy and growing. They are monitored round the clock via close-circuit cameras and are shown to visitors on a large screen at the zoo.

Abdul Wadud, the owner of the private mini zoo at 22/2 Bir Bikram CR Dutta Road, bought a pair of the birds in 1997 from Brazil.

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Plane crashes at US air show

Three dead, dozens hurt

AFP, Los Angeles

A vintage World War Two fighter plane crashed near the grandstand at a Nevada air race on Friday, killing at least three people, including the elderly pilot, and injuring more than 50 others, officials said.

At least 15 victims were in a critical condition in hospital.

The plane, a P-51 Mustang dubbed the "Galloping Ghost" that was being flown by well-known pilot Jimmy Leeward, 74, crashed into a box seat area in front of the main grandstand at about 4:20 pm, said Mike Draper of the public relations firm R&R Partners, which represents the race.

Draper said the plane was a lap or two into the race when its pilot called in a mayday.

"We don't know why it crashed. The pilot did call in. He did pull out of the lap, which is what they do. They usually pull up, directly up to clear the race track," he added.

Organisers said a mechanical fault was probably to

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Four killed in Gazipur road crash

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

At least four people including three of a family were killed and 11 injured when a bus collided head on with a private car on Tongi-Kaliganj road in Kaliganj upazila yesterday.

The dead are lawyer of Sylhet Judge's Court Imam Hossain Chowdhury, 36, his wife Nazma Ahmed, 32, mother-in-law Sharifunnessa, 55, and car driver Babul Hossain, 26.

The Bhairab-bound bus of Chalanbil Paribahan rammmed into the Dhaka-bound car in Baligaon

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BDB for simultaneous movement with BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) yesterday decided to launch an anti-government movement simultaneously with BNP, but declined to forge an alliance with it.

The party also extended

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Last effort to avert Palestinian state bid

Mideast Quartet envoys meet in New York today

AGENCIES

Envoys from the quartet of Middle East negotiators will meet today in a last-ditch push to relaunch Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and avert a showdown over Palestinian statehood at the UN, an EU diplomat said yesterday.

The meeting in New York will come two days after President Mahmoud Abbas said he would demand full membership of the United Nations for a Palestinian state when he goes to the UN General Assembly next week, setting up a diplomatic clash with Israel and the United States.

"Envoys are meeting on Sunday in New York," the diplomat said.

With Washington calling the move "counterproductive," Abbas told Palestinians in a televised address on Friday: "It is our legitimate right to demand the full membership of the state of Palestine in the UN."

Europe yesterday joined the diplomatic tussle, calling for a "constructive solution" on Palestinian statehood and a resumption of negotiations with Israel.

"We continue to believe that a constructive solution that can gather as much support as possible and allows for the resumption of negotiations is the best and only way to deliver the peace and two state solution the Palestinian people

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PRAYER TIMING September 18

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-35 5-10
Zohr	12-45 1-15
Asr	4-30 4-45
Maghrib	6-09 6-12
Esha	7-45 8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

The Daily Star

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ONLINE POLL

The government has decided to allow more private banks. Do you think it's a good decision?

Yes	(17.1%)
No	(81.1%)
No Comments	(1.8%)

TOTAL VOTES: 387

TODAY'S POLL

Do you support the architects and city planners' demand for relocation of all military installations from the core of the capital?

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The System will be formally unveiled to the media on 20th Sep '11 at a media conference at Hotel Sonargaon, Dhaka. Media people have already been invited to attend the conference. Media organization who has not yet received invitation is requested to send SMS / e-mail to our mobile nos./e-mail.

Political leaders, Economists, Financiers, Bankers, Foreign Diplomats, Government & NGO Officials or any other professional who is interested to attend the conference may please send their names mentioning Profession, Mobile numbers and addresses by SMS / e-mail. Attendance at the conference is reserved against invitation cards, which will be sent on 'First response, First served' basis. So, please send SMS / e-mail soonest within 2.00 P.M on 19th Sep '11 for invitation.

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