



A schoolgirl struggles to pass by a lane full of big puddles on Free School Street in Pukurpar area of Kathalbagan in the city yesterday while, *inset*, an open manhole on the lane poses threat to the vehicles as well as passers-by after its lid went missing since August. Locals said the lane has been lying in a dilapidated state throughout the year while rain, ongoing construction works in the area and lack of initiative from the authorities concerned to fix the lane increase the suffering of its compelled users.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

TEESTA, TRANSIT

Chidambaram urges patience

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The Teesta river water-sharing and transit issues could be solved if enough time, patience and some degree of statesmanship were there, said Indian Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram yesterday.

He said India is in a troubled geographical location and thus needs to improve relations with neighbouring countries. "We can choose our friends, but not our neighbours," he said at a special session of Bharat Chamber of Commerce in Kolkata.

Referring to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's recent visit to Bangladesh, he said it was a major step towards building relations with the country.

It was in India's national interest that it helped Bangladesh find its feet in 1971 after the liberation war, said the Indian home minister.

"We cannot build a Berlin Wall between India and Bangladesh. We must build relations and help them build capacity. The starting point to this exercise is to find solutions to some long-festering issues," Chidambaram said.

The Tin Bigha Corridor issue was solved in the spirit of "give and take". The problems involving enclaves, adversely possessed land and un-demarcated boundaries would also have to be solved in the spirit of give and take, he added.

India should seize the moment to forge a strong relationship with Bangladesh "just as it has done with Bhutan and Sri Lanka before the beginning of ethnic conflict and hopes to do with Nepal," the Indian home minister noted.

Man hit by train dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man died as a train hit him from behind while he was talking on a cellphone and walking on the tracks near Khilkhet rail gate in the city on Tuesday night.

The deceased Abul Hossain, 48, an employee of Padma Oil Company, was hit by Bhawal Express, a Jamalpur-bound train, around 10:30pm, said Sub-Inspector Mokterullah of Kamalapur Government Railway Police Station, quoting locals.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue yesterday for autopsy.

Release of Sangram editor demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jatiya Press Club leaders yesterday said the incident that Dainik Sangram Editor and veteran journalist Abul Asad has been taken on remand is a barrier to press freedom.

In a joint statement, JPC President Kamal Uddin Sabuj and General Secretary Syed Abdal Ahmed voiced worries over the incident on behalf of the journalist community.

The leaders also demanded immediate release of Abul Asad and urged the government to stop suing Dainik Inquilab Editor SM Bahauddin and its News Editor Mizanur Rahman.

Meanwhile, Dainik Sangram Employees Union demanded release of its editor during a protest rally in the city yesterday, says a press release.

Abul Asad was arrested from his Moghbazar residence in the city on Tuesday for his alleged connection with Monday's clash between police and Jamaat-e-Islami in Dhaka. The employees also demanded release of the daily Amar Desh Director Tasnim Alam.

BNP to work for more UK-Bangla ties

Says Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka

BNP, like in the past, would work to deepen the relations between Bangladesh and the United Kingdom (UK), said BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia last night.

She was speaking to British Conservative Party Chairman Baroness Sayeeda Warsi who called on her at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel around 10:00pm with some members of the party.

After the meeting, BNP Vice Chairman Shamsher Mobin Chowdhury told reporters that the meeting is the continuation of Khaleda's meet with the Conservative Party chief in London in May this year.

Baroness Warsi expressed her belief that the relation between Bangladesh and the UK is durable and would be long standing.

During the meeting, issues concerning democracy, human rights and rule of law were discussed.

Baroness Warsi, also a minister without portfolio, invited Khaleda to again come on a visit to the UK. Khaleda accepted the invitation.

A 49-member Conservative Party delegation led by Warsi arrived here on September 17 on a seven day visit.

Meanwhile, our staff correspondent from Sylhet reports: Baroness Warsi addressed a function at Haji Shafique High

School in Sylhet city in the afternoon marking some development works at the school.

Speaking about the relation between the UK and Bangladesh, she said the ties would be strengthened further as the countries continue working on common issues.

Conservative Party, under a project titled "Maya", renovated the school and donated some benches, sports materials and a computer lab with 10 computers to the school.

They were assisted by Islamic Relief, Bangladesh, a branch of Islamic Relief, UK, an international aid organisation.

British lawmakers Nicky Morgan, Andrew Stephenson, Anne Main and Tobias Ellwood, Islamic Relief, Bangladesh acting country representative Zabeed Amer and the school's Managing Committee Chairman Md Shahjahan were also present.

The £ 40,000 project aims at improving health, education, sports and other sectors in Sylhet.

An official of the project said a large number the Conservative Party supporters living in the UK are from Sylhet which is why the project was launched here.

On successful implementation, it would be extended to other parts of Bangladesh, he added.

ASK celebration begins tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), a legal aid and human rights organisation, will begin a two-day celebratory programme from tomorrow marking its silver jubilee.

ASK Executive Director Sultana Kamal announced the programme at a press briefing in the city's Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday.

"Ain O Salish Kendra believes that light of a single candle is enough to light all the candles of a society," said Sultana Kamal.

She also called upon all to develop a human rights friendly culture based on equity among males and females.

Since September 20 of 1986, ASK has been providing legal aid, when required, to the victims of human rights violation and earned national and international fame in this regard, says a handout distributed to journalists there.

It remains vocal against repression on women and children, fatwa (religious edict), extra-judicial killing, custodial torture, minority repression, deprivation of indigenous people of their rights and repression on workers, it added.

Legal steps taken by ASK resulted in high court directives on a number of issues including ban on slum eviction without rehabilitation, custodial tor-

ture and corporal punishment at educational institutions, said the handout.

Explaining the future goal of ASK, Sultana Kamal said, "We wish to go on working with the general people by our side."

The press conference was also attended by ASK Director (investigation, documentation and research) Nur Khan and its Senior Deputy Director Motahar Akhand.

Meanwhile, the celebrations will begin with a rally from the south gate of Jatiya Sangsad tomorrow at 3:30pm followed by discussions and cultural events including theatre performances. The programmes are scheduled to end on Saturday evening.



Advocate Sultana Kamal announces the 25th anniversary celebration of Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) during a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

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Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Abdul Karim Bepari, an organiser of the War of Liberation and former lawmaker of Awami League, passed away at his Banglabazar residence in the city yesterday due to old age complications at the age of 90, says a press release.

He was a close associate of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He left behind his wife, four sons, three daughters and host of relatives to mourn his death.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held on Farashganj mosque premise after Zohr prayers and second namaz-e-janaza was held in front of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban's South Plaza.

Later, he was taken to his ancestral home in Munshiganj where he was buried at his family graveyard at Mirkadim after Esha prayers after third namaz-e-janaza at Mirkadim Eidgah maidan.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Acting President of Bangladesh Awami League Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury and General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam, Chief Whip Vice-Principal Abdus Shahid conduced his death.

সেপ্টেম্বর ১৫-২৫, ২০১১
সকাল ৯:০০-সন্ধ্যা ৭:০০

শেল্টেক শরণ মেলা ২০১১

শেল্টেক-এর নিজস্ব জমি ও এ্যাপার্টমেন্ট

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- সর্বোচ্চ ৭০% পর্যন্ত ঋণ সুবিধা*

*প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে

স্থান : শেল্টেক টাওয়ার (শেল্টেক লাউঞ্জ), ৫৫ বীর উত্তম কাজী মুক্জামান সড়ক (পশ্চিম পান্থপথ), ঢাকা

০২৭৯৩-০৯৯৭০২, ০২৭৯৩-০৯৯৭০৩, ০২৭৯৩-০৯৯৭০৫, ০২৭৯৩-০৯৯৭০৮
০২৭৯৩-০৯৯৭২৪, ০২৭৯৩-০৯৯৭৪৯, ০২৭৯৩-০৯৯৭০৬

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