

**Betar staff protest imposing tax**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

Temporary artistes and employees at Bangladesh Betar confined the regional director of Rajshahi Betar for one-and-a-half hours in his office room yesterday, protesting a 10-percent tax at source imposed on their monthly honorariums.

The protestors said the decision was taken in July but was not enforced at any Betar offices in the country following opposition from them. The Betar authorities in Rajshahi, however, started deducting the taxes from their salary last month (September), they said.



**Muddy water collects in gaping holes on the rundown Secretariat Road at Fulbaria in the city causing frequent accidents and traffic congestion. The photo was taken yesterday.**

PHOTO: STAR

**Man kills wife**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A man beat his second wife to death at their house at Sarat Gupta Road of Narinda area in the city yesterday.

The deceased was Nasima Akhter Moni, 28, wife of Kawsar Ahmed, a local Awami League leader and a furniture trader, of Wari in the city.

Deceased's family sources said Kawsar often beat her after their marriage for transferring her three-katha plot in his name.

Police said they detained a CNG auto-rickshaw driver, Babul Hossain, who took Moni to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.



**Save IU teacher**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Mohammad Mahboob Hossain Khan, an assistant professor of Kushtia Islamic University, has been suffering from acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia.

Mahboob, a former Dhaka University student, is now undergoing treatment at Singapore General Hospital and needs around 1.40 crore for his treatment.

Family sources said Tk 55 lakh is needed to continue his chemotherapy and another Tk 70 lakh will be needed for his bone marrow transplantation.

A father of 3 kids, Mamboob belongs to a middle class family and is unable to bear his treatment expenditure.

Family members requested everyone including his friends, relatives, well-wishers and kind people to help by sending money to the account below.

Account name-Umme Talha Yeakuth Nasrin  
Account num: 008412100021079  
United Commercial Bank Limited, Dhanmondi branch.

**DHAKA TODAY**

**Discussion**  
Jagrata Janata Forum will organise a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:30am.

**Sports carnival**  
Dhaka Reporters Unity will hold a sports carnival; Venue: its premises; Time: 12:30pm.

**Human chain**  
Shelter for the Poor will organise a human chain; Venue: Manik Mia Avenue; Time: 9:45am.

**Reception**  
Bangladesh Council of Scientific & Industrial Research will hold a reception programme; Venue: its premises; Time: 3:00pm.

**Play**  
Dhaka Padatik will perform a play; Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy; Time: 7:00pm.

**Candle lighting**  
Bangladesh Children Theatre Federation will organise a candle lighting programme; Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy; Time: 6:00pm.

**Cuet teacher dies in road crash**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A university teacher and a college student were killed in separate road accidents in the city and Gazipur yesterday.

The deceased were Obaidul Haque, 35, an assistant professor of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology and Joinal Abedin Badsha, 24, an undergraduate student of a Gazipur local college.

Obaidul was killed on the spot when a Mirpur-bound bus ran over him while he was crossing the road in front of Matsya Bhaban in the city around 10:00pm.

Badsha was killed on the spot when a Mymensingh-bound bus hit him near Gazipur National Park while he was riding his motorbike.

**No caretaker, no polls: BNP**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

BNP standing committee member Tariqul Islam yesterday said the opposition parties will not let Awami League fulfill its dream of holding parliamentary elections under the present administration.

"AL is daydreaming to stay in power, holding an election under their own government. But the dream will not come true", he said while addressing a human chain in front of the city's Jatiya Press Club.

The BNP chairperson on September 27 declared that no election will be held without caretaker government while Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Saturday said the opposition must take part in election.

The caretaker government system was abolished by the 15th amendment to the constitution this June. The BNP-led opposition parties said they will not participate in the national election under a political government. The party may give its formal reaction today on the prime minister's Saturday remarks.

**Stop illegal drug trade Urge businessmen**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Some businessmen yesterday demanded the government to take steps in stopping illegal drug trade and its use, saying drugs like yaba and phensidyl are threatening the future of thousands of the country's youths.

The demand came at a five-hour long discussion organised by Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) at its office in the city.

Speaking at the discussion, FCCI President AK Azad demanded a specific timeframe from Home Minister Shahara

Khatun, who was also present, to eliminate illegal drug trade and use.

Leaders of various chambers and associations shared their problems including harassment by traffic police for bribe, extortion, hijacking of goods-laden trucks on highways and removal of speed bumps from highways for faster transportation of goods.

State Minister for Home Shamsul Hoque Tuku, Home Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikder, Inspector General of Police Hassan Mahmood Khandker and Director General of Rapid Action Battalion Md Mukhlesur Rahman also spoke.

**Probe misuse in TR, FFW JS body asks ministry**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A parliamentary body yesterday asked the authorities concerned to investigate widespread allegations of irregularities in food distribution programmes under the food and disaster management ministry.

It also asked the Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) to investigate alleged corruption in the processes of appointment and tender awarding under the ministry.

The parliamentary standing committee on planning ministry directed the IMED to submit its report before the committee within the next two months.

"The committee came to know about irregularities in distributing food items under the Test Relief (TR) and Food For Work (FFW) programmes in different areas. News reports have been published on the issue, tarnishing the image of the present government", said Col (ret'd) Oli Ahmad, chief of the body, yesterday.

**3 youths held for crimes**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

Police arrested three youths for their alleged involvement in Phensidyl smuggling and an abduction at Poba upazila in Rajshahi yesterday.

The arrestees are Hasibul Islam, M Tutul, and Khorshed Alam, of Haragram Notunpara village of the upazila.



**Gonoforum organises a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday in protest of rising costs of essentials and transportation.**

PHOTO: STAR

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