

DHAKA-JOYDEVPUR  
New train service kicks off  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Railway yesterday introduced a pair of new trains on the Dhaka-Joydevpur route to meet commuters' demand.

The new Turag Express-7 and Turag Express-8, each having seven coaches, will run seven days a week.

Railways Minister Suranjanit Sengupta inaugurated the service at Kamalapur Railway Station in the city.

With this, the number of trains operating on the route stands at six.

Earlier on Wednesday, the minister inaugurated a new train on the Dhaka-Narayanganj route.

The new trains were parts of a roadmap that the railway ministry recently unveiled to revamp the struggling railway sector.

As per the two-and-a-half year roadmap, two more trains will be introduced on the Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet routes within a few months to meet the demand for more trains on the busy routes.

**Eqbal Rezvi's anniversary of death today**

BSS, Dhaka

Today is the first death anniversary of veteran journalist Sayed Eqbal Rezvi.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil and qurankhwani will be held at his Narayanganj residence.

Relatives, friends, colleagues and well-wishers are requested to attend the programmes and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

He was a permanent member of Jatiya Press Club and a senior member of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

**Noor Jahan Begum**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the first death anniversary of Noor Jahan Begum, mother of Liberation War martyr Anowar Hossain.

On the occasion, milad and doa mahfil will be held after Zohr prayers at her residence at Kazirkandi in Narsingdi, said a press release.

Jahan was also the eldest sister of the freedom fighter Md Fazlur Rahman and Rafiqul Islam who were killed by Pakistani occupation army during the war in 1971.



Railways Minister Suranjanit Sengupta waves from inside one of a pair of trains at Kamalapur Railway Station in the city after inaugurating the two into service on Dhaka-Joydevpur route yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Seven killed in road accidents

METRO DESK

Seven people were killed and 11 others injured in separate road accidents in Rajshahi, Sirajganj, Dinajpur, Brahmanbaria and Natore in last two days.

Staff correspondent from Rajshahi reports: A motorcyclist was killed on the spot and thick blood made a trail of dragging when a police truck hit him and dragged him several yards at Tikapara in the city yesterday.

The deceased was Ekramul Haque Shaon, 22, a third year student of Bengali department of Rajshahi Govt College and son of Entajul Haque of Bagmara.

Constable Rabiu Islam, driver of the truck of Rajshahi Police Lines was closed for the accident, said Morshedul Islam Khan, deputy commissioner (headquarters) of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.

The accident occurred around 4:00pm when the Sagarpara-bound police-truck hit the motorcycle while taking a turn near Tikapara mosque, said witness Abdul Alim, who was chopping woods nearby.

Locals barricaded the road putting bamboos for two hours demanding arrest of the driver until Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members went to the scene.

However, driver Rabiu said his truck did not hit the deceased.

Our Sirajganj correspondent says: Three people were killed and six others injured in separate road accidents on Hatikumrul-Bonpara highway in Sirajganj yesterday.

Police said a North Bengal-bound coach from Dhaka ran over three people at Ramerpara in Salanga upazila when they were crossing the highway.

Sakwat Hossain, 26, and Abdul Khalek, 25 were killed on the spot. The injured Labu Sheikh, 26, was admitted to Ziaur Rahman Medical Collage Hospital in Bogra.

In another accident at the same place, six passengers were injured when a human hauler, locally known as Nosimon, overturned on the highway.

Among the injured, Hasem Ali, 40, of Vikompur village of Tarash upazila, was killed on way to Sirajganj General Hospital.

Police recovered the bodies and sent those to Sirajganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Our Dinajpur correspondent adds: A retired army man was killed when a shalow run three-wheeler hit his bicycle from behind in front of Lalpur Technical Collage at Lalpur upazila in the district on Friday.

The deceased was Saiful Islam 45, son of late Zaher Uddin, of Dinajpur Satellite Town.

Our Brahmanbaria correspondent says: One man was killed and five others were injured when a tempo and a CNG-run auto-rickshaw collided head-on on Sarail-Nasirnagar road near Nasirnagar Degree College of Nasirnagar upazila yesterday.

The deceased was CNG-passenger Muhammad Ali Shamim, 28, a manager of Ashuganj Ujan Bhati Hotel in the district.

Our Natore correspondent adds: A driver of a three-wheeler was killed when a speedy truck hit the human huller from behind in front of Lalpur Technical Collage at Lalpur upazila in the district on Friday.

The deceased was Mahseen Ali, 55, of Dhakhin Lalpur village of Lalpur upazila.

**PSTU student electrocuted**

UNB, Barisal

A student of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) was electrocuted at his house in the city yesterday noon.

The victim was identified as Sajjad Parvez Saikat, master's final year student of agriculture faculty of PSTU and son of late Abu Taher of Chahota area in the city.

Hiron Nesa Afroz, mother of the victim, said Saikat was pouring water on the roof of his three-storey building when she was at the school.

At one stage, he was electrocuted as his water pipe came in touch with a high voltage power line passing near the rooftop of the building.

## Drug peddler murdered in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A drug peddler was stabbed to death at Halishahar in the port city yesterday.

Police identified the deceased as Shahadat Hossain Sajjad, 24, hailed from Devipur upazila of Noakhali.

Police also arrested one Jobaer Jewel from the area in the morning in this connection.

Mohammad Jahedul Islam, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Halishahar Police Station, said Shahadat was jailed for his involvement with drug peddling.

After getting out of jail on bail few days ago, he again got engaged in the crime at Halishahar, the OC said.

He also grew dispute with a rival group there and, recently, assaulted one of its member to establish supremacy in the area, he said.

Following this, the rival group men attacked and stabbed Shahadat at Rangi para around 12 midnight, he added.

Locals rescued him and rushed him to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where duty doctors declared him dead.

A case was filed at Halishahar Police Station in this regard.

## '8th wage board overdue'

BSS, Dhaka

The leaders of the country's journalist community yesterday reiterated the demand for immediate announcement of the 8th wage board for journalists and media employees.

They expressed high discontent at the unusual delay in the formation and announcement of new wage board despite assurance from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The prime minister instructed the authorities concerned to announce the wage board by October 30 last year, but the directive was not implemented in the past six months, leaving journalists in hardship as cost of living is increasing day by day, they said.

The journalists shared the concerns at a meeting at Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), organised by BSS Unit of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

They demanded the announcement of the wage board without further delay to end the financial sufferings of journalists and implement the directive of the prime minister.

The journalists also said they would go on movements including street protest, work abstention if the authorities fail to announce the wage board immediately.

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) President Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury and Secretary General Abdul Jalil Bhuyian and DUJ President Shah Alamgir, among others, addressed the meeting, presided over by DUJ BSS Unit chief Ashequ Nabi Chowdhury.



Bangladesh Kalyan Party forms a human chain before Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday protesting "the president's negligence in inviting registered political parties to his dialogue."

PHOTO: STAR

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**Madrasa, tech edn to be modernised**  
Says health minister

UNB, Dhaka

The government is recasting the country's education system to build a prosperous Bangladesh.

Health Minister AFM Ruhal Haque made the remark while speaking as the chief guest at a reception accorded to the students who passed primary terminal examinations of 2010 and 2011 from Debhata upazila yesterday.

He stressed the need for modernising madrasa and technical education by basing them on science and latest technology in order to advance them alongside the mainstream education.

Terming holding of primary terminal exams as one of the major successes of the government in education, he said the system was introduced to improve mettle of primary students by infusing sense of competitiveness among them to build their confidence.

He hoped that the government would take initiatives to advance farther the achievement done in the last three years to equally modernise all education.

The district council administrator Mansur Ahmed, deputy commissioner Abdus Samad and the upazila chairman SM Golam Mostafa, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Ruhul also distributed prizes among the successful students of 2010 and 2011 primary terminal exams.