



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina consoles a family member of Rahima Islam, wife of former industries minister Shamsul Islam Khan, at Rahima's Dhanmondi residence in the city yesterday. Rahima passed away in a city hospital yesterday. PHOTO: PID

## ROAD CRASHES Ilias Kanchan condemns Ashraf's remark

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Film star and Nirapad Sarak Chai Chairman Ilias Kanchan yesterday protested and condemned LGRD Minister Syed Ashraf Islam's comment in parliament on February 2 regarding road accidents.

Ashraf, also the Awami League general secretary, in his speech termed road crash fatalities "mere accidents" and criticised the media for describing those as "killings".

In a statement, Ilias Kanchan said the comments made a mockery of the deceased, injured and victims of road accidents.

He also demanded the government to reinstate section 304B of the Penal Code which says that killing of a person due to reckless driving is a bailable offence with the highest punishment of a three-year jail term or fine or both.

All those responsible for road accidents should be brought to justice to stop recurrence of such incidents, he added.

## 10 killed, 31 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Ten people were killed and 31 others injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Manikganj, Sirajganj, Lalmonirhat, Patuakhali, Magura, Bandarban and Jessore early Thursday and yesterday.

Our staff correspondent reports: A student was killed as a bus ran over his motorcycle in city's Mirpur near Dhaka College last night.

The deceased was identified as Fakrul Hossain, 24, a student of Government Titumir College in the city. An identity card was found in the victim's pocket which cited that he was a Dhaka Correspondent of Daily Pranto.

Police said Fakrul was critically injured as bus hit his motorcycle and ran over him around 9:45pm. Police rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

Police arrested the bus driver and seized the vehicle.

Our Manikganj correspondent adds: A three-wheeler fell into a ditch beside Baliakandi-Myakchami road at Pulok Member Bari in Baliakandi upazila of Rajbari, killing two brick kiln workers on the spot at around 2:00pm yesterday afternoon.

The victims are Shariful Islam, 28, and Shahidul Islam, 30.

In another accident, Seken Molla, 75, was injured after being hit by a private car in Goaland Upazila Parishad area at around 7:00pm on Thursday.

He succumbed to his injuries at Faridpur Medical College Hospital at around 9:00pm.

In Sirajganj, Mostafijur Rahman Mintu, 45, of Bamonpara village in Bheramara

upazila in Kushtia, was killed on the spot and four others were injured as a truck hit a microbus on the west approach road of Bangabandhu Bridge at Konabari at about 2:00pm yesterday.

The injured are Ariful Islam, the microbus driver, Monir Hossain, Milan Hossain and Chotu.

In Lalmonirhat, motorcyclist Malekul Islam, 42, of Kaliganj upazila, died when a bus rammed his bike on Lalmonirhat-Burimari highway at Bhullarhat of the upazila yesterday morning.

In Patuakhali, a microbus knocked down Syed Jomaddar, 50, of Kalapara upazila, on Kalapara-Kuakata road at Khalilpur of Kalapara upazila injuring him seriously at about 8:00am yesterday.

He succumbed to his injuries at Kalapara Upazila Health Complex at about 11:00am.

UNB from Magura adds: Debashis, 42, died instantly and 15 others were injured as a bus hit another bus from behind at Chhoyghoria in Shalikh upazila at about 7:00am yesterday morning.

The injured were first taken to Sadar Hospital. Five of them were shifted to Jessore Medical College Hospital as their condition deteriorated.

In Bandarban, a passenger jeep overturned as its driver lost control over the steering at Molpi para in Ruma upazila on Thursday afternoon, killing Thang Yang on the spot and injuring 12 others.

The injured were admitted to a local hospital.

In Jessore, Alamgir Hossain, 24, son of Karim Box of Jhikargachha upazila, was killed on the spot as a truck rammed a three-wheeler and in Dharmatala area in the town yesterday.



## Dr AR Mallick's anniversary of death today

METRO DESK

Today is the 15th death anniversary of Dr AR Mallick, an eminent educationist and the first technocrat finance minister of the country, says a press release.

Dr Mallick was professor of South Asian Regional Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, USA, in the early '60s, and founding vice-chancellor of Chittagong University where he set up resistance against Pakistani occupation forces during the War of Liberation.

He was president of the Liberation Council of Intelligentsia and Representing Bangladesh at the UNO in 1971.

He was the first education secretary, the first High Commissioner to India, concurrently ambassador to Nepal and Bhutan. He was also elected chairman of Asian Development Bank.

His important publications include "British Policy and the Muslims in Bengal" and "Amar Jibon Kotha O Bangladesher Mukti Sangram".

Bangla Academy will publish Dr AR Mallick Sharak Gronthocomprising 32 articles by renowned personalities from home and abroad, along with 50 commemorative photographs, texts of his speeches, etc. The book is likely to be published in the second week of February. The book will be available at the Ekushey Boi Mela.

## Nurul Asif

METRO DESK



Today is the first death anniversary of Nurul Asif, a leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), Brahmanbaria Government College unit.

On the occasion, a Qurankhwani and doa mahfil will be held at his Deora village residence of Sarail upazila in Brahmanbaria, said a press release.

On the day in 2011, eleven BCL leaders including Asif and a microbus driver met the tragic end of their lives in a road accident at Bhanga in Faridpur.

## PUNISHMENT TO COLLEAGUE Indefinite strike at hospitals starts

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The physicians of all government hospitals and health centres in Moulvibazar district yesterday launched an indefinite strike in protest of punishment to one of their colleagues by a mobile court a day before.

They demanded immediate release of Dr Ahmedur Rahman Rawnak, a medical officer of Monsurnagar union health sub-centre, who was sent to jail after being awarded one month's imprisonment and fined Tk 5,000 on Thursday for working at Lab Aid Diagnostic Centre in the district town when he was supposed to be on duty at the government health centre.

Dr Sabbir Ahmed Khan, president of Moulvibazar district unit of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), an organisation of physicians, described Dr Rawnak as "an innocent person" and said the strike will continue until BMA's demands are met.

The demands include immediate release of Dr Rawnak, removal of Executive Magistrate Md Abdul Kuddus, who conducted drives at different private diagnostic centres and clinics in the district town on Thursday and awarded punishment to Dr Rawnak, removal of the deputy commissioner (DC) of Moulvibazar, and removal of the assistant commissioner (AC-Land).

As BMA started the strike at the community clinics, health sub-centres, upazila health complexes and the district sadar hospital in Moulvibazar, suffering of the indoor patients escalated. At different hospitals, patients claimed that BMA always holds patients at hostage in the name of demonstrations.

## Rahima Islam dies, PM visits her residence

BSS, Dhaka

Rahima Islam, wife of Shamsul Islam Khan, a former industries minister of the BNP government, died at Square Hospital here early yesterday. She was 77.

Rahima Islam, who had been suffering from lung diseases, left behind only son, Moinul Islam Khan, a former parliament member, family sources said.

The namaz-e-janaza of the deceased was held at Dhanmondi Eidgah after Juma prayers yesterday. She was later buried at Banani Graveyard in the city.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited the residence of Rahima Islam at Dhanmondi in the afternoon.

Sheikh Hasina stayed there for some time and consoled the family members of the deceased. She also prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul.



State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Enamul Haque, second from left, gives away a crest to eminent tree lover Kartik Pramanik at 'Chapai Utsab 2011' at Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh in the city yesterday. Chapainawabganj Zila Samity President Eng Mahtab Uddin and General Secretary Eng Nurul Islam are also seen at the reception. The district-born eminent persons, including chief prosecutor of International Crimes Tribunal Ghulam Arief Tipoo, former vice-chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Emajuddin Ahmed and personal secretary to the president Fazlul Haque also attended the event, organised by the samity.

PHOTO: COURTESY

The Daily Star  
**Star Camps**  
LINKING YOUNG MINDS TOGETHER  
COMING OUT TOMORROW  
**LINKING YOUNG MINDS**

This week's Star Campus, a weekly supplement of the Daily Star, will have an array of mind-boggling articles for all the young readers across the country. The spotlight this week will be sure to rekindle the spirit of 1952 with the significance of the month of February.

There will be an interesting article that will evaluate the behaviour of teachers and this week's trends will show all the readers the magic of Aziz Super Market with the variety of funky and trendy t-shirts for all the students of Dhaka City. There will also be an exclusive interview with Women's National Team basketball player, Nazia Nazmul. Don't forget your copy of Star Campus that will come out tomorrow, Sunday. And as always, have a good read!

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