

Khairul Kabir's anniversary of death today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 15th death anniversary of Khairul Kabir, a noted journalist and founder editor of Bengali daily the Sangbad, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held.

He was the first life member of the Jatiya Press Club and vice-chairman of the Union Bank Ltd, formerly known as the Bank of Tripura Assam and Bengal, one of the oldest banks registered in India.

Khairul Kabir was one of the authors of the historic six-point, which was the basis of the demand for autonomy for East Pakistan. He was a close associate and friend of the father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Matilal Biswas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the seventh death anniversary of Matilal Biswas, patroniser of Ramakrishna Ashram at Shriramkathi of Pirojpur, says a press release.

He is father of Sukumar Biswas who established the Ramakirhna Ashram.

On the occasion, several rituals have been arranged at his house 'Biswas Bhaban'.

Ruby Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 47th death anniversary of eminent artist Ruby Rahman, says a press release.

On the occasion, a Qurankhwani and doa mahfil will be held at the High Court Mazar today.

She was killed in a tragic car accident on this day in 1965 at the border of Lebanon and Syria.

Out of her 25 paintings, 10 are preserved in the National Museum of Dhaka.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Freedom fighter Syed Mahbubur Rahman, former director general of Department of Films and Publications (DFP), passed away at a city hospital yesterday at the age of 60, says a press release.

Mahbubur, also a noted poet, writer and lyricist, left behind his wife, one son and a host of relatives to mourn his death.



Seminar

Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) will organise a seminar; Venue: IDB Bhaban auditorium, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar; Time: 9:30am.

Discussion

Deshpremik Janaganer Mancha will arrange a discussion; Venue: Russel Square; Time: 3:00pm.

Protest meeting

Bangladesh Mobile Phone Recharge Babshayee Association will organise a protest meeting; Venue: Novel House, Shantinagar; Time: 11:00am.

Discussion

Deshpremik Janaganer Mancha will arrange a discussion; Venue: Gono Sangskriti Kendra; Time: 3:00pm.

Human chain

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote will form a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 3:00pm.

Discussion

Manas will organise a discussion; Venue: Birdem Hospital auditorium; Time: 11:00am.

Govt to improve TCB capacity

GM Quader tells parliament

UNB, Dhaka

Commerce Minister GM Quader yesterday informed the parliament that the government is taking steps to improve the capacity of Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) to intervene in the market more effectively.

"We are going to build a new godown in Chittagong with 40,000 metric ton capacity and also increase the number of authorised dealers up to 5,000," he said replying to a supplementary question of treasury bench lawmaker Shafiqul Islam.

The minister said the state-run TCB was about to be abolished during the previous government's tenure. "The present government, after taking the office, decided to revive the TCB to intervene in the market for the welfare of the common people."

Market monitoring is the prime duty of his ministry, he said.

Responding to another question of Monirul Islam (Barisal-2), Quader said due to the capacity constraints it was not possible for the TCB to intervene in the market to a great extent.

About the price hike of essentials, he said Bangladesh is a country of free market economy. The government cannot provide all essential items for the people at subsidised rates.

"From my ministry, we are trying to monitor closely to make the market stable," he said.

Replying to Jatiya Party lawmaker Ziaul Haque Mridha (Brahmanbaria-2), the minister said in the near future, the government would be able to provide services through TCB in all upazilas.



Two officials, shot and robbed of over Tk 28 lakh at Elephant Road in the city yesterday, take treatment in Dhaka Medical College Hospital. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR

17 killed, 68 injured in road crashes

METRO DESK

Seventeen people were killed and another 68 injured in road accidents in nine districts yesterday and Sunday.

The districts are Dinajpur, Sirajganj, Chittagong, Pabna, Comilla, Tangail, Noakhali, Rangpur, and Natore.

Our Dinajpur correspondent says: Five people were killed and 35 others injured in two accidents in Phulbari and Chirirbandar upazilas of the district yesterday.

In Phulbari, a Dinajpur-bound bus hit a roadside tree after one of its wheels broke loose at Kurail, killing three unidentified persons and injuring another 35.

Twenty of the injured, six of them critically, were taken to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital, said Biman Karmakar, an assistant superintendent of police (Phulbari circle).

In Chirirbandar, a loaded tractor hit an oncoming crowded rickshaw van on Ranibandar-Khansama road at Chander Dah village, killing a minor boy and a woman yesterday.

The woman aged about 28 died on the spot while the boy of about 8 years of age succumbed to his injuries in Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.

Our Sirajganj correspondent reports: A bus plunged into a roadside ditch at Jhaol in Kamarkhanda upazila early yesterday, killing three passengers including a woman and her daughter on the spot.

The deceased were Mofizuddin, 60, of Hatibandha in Lalmonirhat, Momota Khatun, 24, wife of Nazrul Islam of Islampur upazila in Jamalpur, and her daughter Nausin, 4, said Aslamuddin, a sub-inspector of Bangabandhu Bridge West Police Station.

The injured passengers were

taken to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital.

Our Chittagong correspondent says: Two garment factory workers were killed and two others injured as a city bus ploughed into a crowd of waiting passengers in Pahartali of the port city yesterday morning.

Dulali Dey, 40, and Lucky, 22, were declared dead in Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) while the injured were under treatment there.

All of the victims, who were workers of Gaus Fashion Industries Ltd, were waiting for a bus at Pahartali, said Zahirul Islam, in-charge of CMCH police outpost.

Our Pabna correspondent reports: A bus overturned on Pabna-Sujanagar road at Kalidoho yesterday, killing its helper and injuring 10 passengers.

The dead was Abul Kalam, 30.

UNB reports: One Sultan Ahmed, 50, died on the spot after being run over by a tractor at Majikhar village in

Chandina upazila, Comilla yesterday.

DEATHS ON SUNDAY

Our Tangail correspondent says: A woman and her granddaughter were killed and 20 others injured as a bus skidded into a ditch at Chardanga in Nagarpur upazila on Sunday.

Nagarpur police identified the deceased as Aduri Sutradhar, 55, and her granddaughter Sathi

Sutradhar, 10. The injured were taken to Tangail General Hospital.

Our correspondent Noakhali says: A schoolboy was killed and his uncle injured as a pickup van hit the bicycle they were riding near Salehpur bazar in the sadar upazila Sunday night.

The deceased was Nafiz, 11, son of Nizam Uddin of Salehpur village and a student of class-V of Salehpur Government Primary School.

Redwan, paternal uncle of Nafiz, was admitted to Noakhali Medical

College Hospital.

Our Rangpur correspondent adds: An unidentified man died after being run over by a car at Shukurerhat in Mithapukur upazila Sunday afternoon.

Police sent the body to Rangpur Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Our Natore correspondent reports: An elderly man who was injured in a road accident on Saturday died in Rajshahi Medical College Hospital Sunday night.

The deceased was Rahim Sardar, 65, of Domdoma village of Singra upazila.

He suffered wounds as a battery-run auto-rickshaw he was riding hit a motorbike in Domdoma intersection area of the upazila on Saturday afternoon.

Injured in the accident, the auto-rickshaw driver was admitted to Singra Upazila Health Complex.



Hassan Shahriar made CJA President Emeritus

UNB, Dhaka

Three Bangladeshi journalists have been elected to the 15-member Executive Committee of Commonwealth Journalists' Association (CJA) at its triennial conference in Malta.

Hassan Shahriar, a two-term CJA president, has been elected a President Emeritus; Farid Hossain, bureau chief of the Associated Press (AP), Dhaka, a vice-president; and Shyamol Dutta, editor of Bhorer Kagoj, a member; says a press release received here yesterday.

The conference held from January 29 to February 2 elected Rita Payne, a UK-based journalist, president of the CJA for a three-year term.

Other office-bearers are President Emeritus: Derek Ingram (UK), Vice-presidents: Chris Cobb (Canada), Mahendra Ved (India), and Joshua Kyalimpa (Uganda), Secretary: Treasurer: Murray Burt (Canada), and Members: Syed Nahas Pasha (UK), Drito Alice (Uganda), Caroline Jackson (Malaysia), and Fauzia Shaheen (Pakistan).

The conference unanimously condemned instances of "state repression" of media reported in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and some African member countries of the 54-nation Commonwealth.

Regarding the next meeting of Commonwealth heads of government to be held in Sri Lanka next year, the CJA raised concerns about the issue of press freedom in Sri Lanka. It called for monitoring the alleged human rights violation in Sri Lanka.

PENSION OF TWO JUDGES

HC asks govt to explain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked the authorities concerned to explain in two weeks why they should not be directed to pay pensions to two retired Supreme Court (SC) judges.

Justice Mohammed Muntaz Uddin Ahmed of the Appellate Division retired on December 31 last year and Justice Md Abdul Hye of High Court (HC) Division retired on December 14 the same year.

The two judges, who were not confirmed like nine others during the regime of the BNP-led four-party government despite the chief justice's positive recommendations, were reappointed as regular HC judge on March 24, 2009, as per an SC verdict. Justice Muntaz was promoted to the Appellate Division on May 16 last year.

In response to two separate writ petitions filed by the retired judges, the HC yesterday issued two separate rules upon the government and the SC authorities to explain why they should not be directed to take effective steps to pay the pension of the petitioners.

Secretaries to the ministries of law and finance and SC registrar have been made respondents to the rule.

The HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim also fixed February 17 for holding hearing on the rules.

Petitioners' counsel Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star that his clients had submitted two separate applications to the chief justice on different days of January this year to take necessary steps so that the government authorities could pay their pensions.

But the retired judges did not receive any reply from the office of the chief justice, he said.

Manzill said it was apprehended that the authorities were not paying pension to the retired judges on the ground that the tenure of their continuous service did not complete seven years which is necessary for payment of their pension as per provision of Supreme Court (Leave, Remuneration and Pension) Ordinance 1982.

Body identified as PBCP man

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The decomposed body recovered last Friday from a Khilkhet building in the city was identified as an absconding member of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party of Khulna.

The deceased is Rafiqul Islam alias Hitler, 36, said his brother Khademul Islam, who identified the body at Dhaka Medical College morgue yesterday.

Rafiqul went missing from his Mirpur residence in the city on January 26, said Khademul.

EC sectt asked to make road map for next elections: Sakhawat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) has asked its secretariat to prepare a full-fledged road map for the next parliamentary polls, Election Commissioner M Sakhawat Hossain said yesterday.

"The 10th parliamentary election is just one and a half years away but by this time the new EC has a lot to do. That is why, we have directed the secretariat to start preparing a work plan," he said.

The tenure of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda and Election Commissioner Muhammed Sohul Hussein expired Sunday while Election Commissioner M Sakhawat Hossain is to retire on February 14.

The search committee formed to recommend names for the new chief election com-

missioner and election commissioners is expected to submit its report to President Zillur Rahman today.

Talking to reporters at his EC secretariat office, Sakhawat Hossain yesterday explained the EC reform proposal that sought control over the cabinet division and the ministries of home affairs, public administration and the LGED during general elections.

According to the proposal, during the general elections the cabinet division and the three ministries will have to consult with the EC before making any election related decision.

Sakhawat Hossain said the EC had drafted the proposal in light of the experiences gathered during the last caretaker government.

Meanwhile, the EC secretariat yesterday sent the law ministry a set of proposals on electoral reforms.

BDR trial hears of body dumping

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first-ever description of how the bodies of slain army officers were dumped in mass graves by rebel jawans of the former Bangladesh Rifles under the cover of night was narrated before a Dhaka court yesterday.

A witness, Havilder Abdul Malek, in his testimony before the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka, elaborated what he saw under the lights of two pickup-vans while hiding inside the dining hall of BDR's Pilkhana headquarters.

"For the whole night some BDR jawans dug the vegetable garden behind MT garage near the playground of 13 Rifle Battalion. Around midnight a mini-truck pulled up and dead bodies started to be dumped into the holes," he said.

A total of 74 people, including 57 army officers, were murdered during the February 25-26, 2009 mutiny.

Petitioner - LA/MAT/15987/2010(A/14) FCMC 14421/2010	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION MATRIMONIAL CAUSES NO. 14421 OF 2010	

BETWEEN	
Anita Reyes <u>AHMED</u> , also known as Anita T. <u>REYES</u> and Anita Taway <u>REYES</u>	Petitioner
Sayed Romy <u>AHMED</u>	Respondent
and	

NOTICE	
To: Sayeed Romy <u>AHMED</u>	
A Petition for Divorce has been filed against you. If within one month the within-named Respondent has not communicated with the Family Court Registry of M2 Floor, Wan Chai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, the Court may hear the case in his absence.	
To be advertised as follows:- Once in an English newspaper published and circulating in Dhaka of Bangladesh	
Registrar	