

NEWS IN
brief

Worker dies in city wall collapse

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A female construction worker was killed and her male colleague injured when a wall of a construction site collapsed on them in the city's Adabor yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Mosammat Begum, 45, wife of Shahar Ali Sheikh of Akkasnagar in Mohammadpur Beribadh, while the injured was Babul Miah, 22.

Babul was admitted to Pongu Hospital. According to their co-workers, the boundary wall collapsed on Mosammat and Babul around 2:30am when they were removing soil in the construction site named Glory Real Estate.

They were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where Mosammat was declared dead.

Mosammat's husband Shahar Ali filed a case against six persons.

Police arrested Nurul Islam, caretaker of the site, and Mohammad Rafiq, a labour leader, in this connection.

Eight Shibir men held in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested eight activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) from a restaurant in the city yesterday.

They are Badiul Alam, Delwar Hossain, Abdullah Al Mamun, Shamim and Hossain Al Javed, Hasan Al Banna, Fazlul Karim and Shariful Islam.

A DB team arrested them while CU unit ICS was holding a press conference there. DB Assistant Commissioner Tanvir Arafat said they nabbed the eight on information that they were plotting subversive activities.

ADB's loan to built RHD complex

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Asian Development Bank will provide Tk 70 crore as soft loan to the communications ministry to help set up a new complex for its roads and highways department (RHD) in the city's Tejgaon.

The complex, to be set up on the 17 acres of workshop of RHD, will cost an estimated Tk 100 crore. The rest of the amount will be borne by the ministry.

Communications Minister Obaidul Quader said this to reporters at his Secretariat office yesterday.

Koica to train BOU teachers

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Korea International Cooperation Agency (Koica) will provide training to the officials of the education ministry and teachers of Bangladesh Open University to enhance their skills and knowledge about information and communication technology (ICT) and web-based learning system.

A five-member team will take part in the seven-day course beginning on March 18 in Seoul, said a Korean embassy press release.



Shops at Baitul Mukarram Market remain closed during a rally, called by the Awami League-led 14-party alliance and staged before the south gate of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

RMG worker killed in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A readymade garment worker was stabbed to death in the city's Tejgaon Industrial area yesterday afternoon.

Victim Sumi Akter, 20, a resident of Babli intersection area in Tejgaon, was a worker of Glory Fashion Wear Limited.

Omar Faruk, officer-in-charge of Tejgaon Industrial Police Station, told The Daily Star that former husband of the deceased, Manik Miah, stabbed in the chest, hand and back of Sumi while she was on her way to residence around 1:00pm.

Sumi was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead at 2:00pm. Locals caught Manik Miah and handed him over to police. Manik claimed himself as her husband, police said.

FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

Help with finance, capacity development support

Prime minister urges dev partners

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed the need for inspiring and motivating the developed and developing world to take lead in taking people-oriented mitigation and adaptation programmes to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change.

She said this while speaking at the inaugural session of the 3-day Meeting of Parliamentarians on "Climate Change: Beyond COP 17" at Hotel Radisson in the capital.

Sheikh Hasina also called for deeply analysing the adverse impacts of the climate change to ensure happiness, peace and prosperity of the people.

She underscored the need for crafting a legally binding agreement on emissions reduction without any delay, based on the principle of common and

differentiated responsibilities.

She added: "In support of our efforts, we would expect our development partners to help us with adequate finance, technology and capacity development support."

The prime minister held the industrialised countries responsible for remaining insensitive to the predicament of the poorer and vulnerable countries in the face of climate change impacts.

Expressing her concern, she said: "We see no clarity on how the global community would raise funds in the period between 2013 and 2020 for making the 'Green Climate Fund' operational. We also do not see any mechanism for transfer of green technology to the developing countries for mitigation and adaptation purposes."

The prime minister also called upon the developed world to consider these

critical issues and decide on strategic actions that would support the governments to respond at all levels to save people and their livelihood.

Speaker Md Abdul Hamid presided over the inaugural session of the meeting while member of the parliamentary standing committee on the Ministry of Environment and Forests Saber Hossain Chowdhury made the introductory remarks.

Environment and Forests Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud and UNDP Country Director Stefan Priesner spoke on the occasion as special guests. Former US vice-president Al Gore gave a video message.

A total of 39 foreign participants including parliament members and climate experts are participating in the three-day meet with a slogan of "One Voice, One Goal".

ODOMMO CHATTAGRAM 2-day history confce starts tomorrow

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A two-day "The Daily Star Heritage Chattagram History Conference" will begin at Theatre Institute Auditorium in Chittagong tomorrow.

The conference, part of "The Daily Star Ododmo Chattagram" festival scheduled to be held from March 30 to April 6, aims at disseminating the port city's history.

The conference will begin at 3:30pm tomorrow with a welcome speech by Mahfuz Anam, Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star.

It will be followed by "The Daily Star-Abdul Karim Sahityavisharad Lecture" by Prof Ranabir Chakravarti of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.

He will then present a keynote paper on Chittagong and the Bay of Bengal.

Dr Shamsul Hossain, moderating the day's session, will present a PowerPoint presentation on Andarkilla area at 5:15pm.

A cultural programme will be staged by "Raktakarabi" at 6:00pm as The Daily Star's tribute to Rabindranath Tagore on his 150th birth anniversary.

The second day of the conference, titled "Pre-historic and pre-mediaeval Chittagong", comprises three sessions and will begin at 10:00am.

ARMS HAUL CASE

Cross-examination of ex-BCIC chief ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The cross-examination of former chairman of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) Maj Gen (retd) Mohammad Imamuzzaman, a prosecution witness in the 10 truckloads of arms haul cases, concluded yesterday.

Replying to defence lawyers, Imamuzzaman maintained that he truly stated in his deposition and earlier statements that the then industries minister Motiur Rahman Nizami had been reluctant to open investigation into the 2004 arms haul.

The defence lawyers of four accused, including Nizami, cross examined Imamuzzaman yesterday.

During the proceedings, the judge of Chittagong Metropolitan Special Tribunal-1 SM Mojibur Rahman mildly rebuked Imamuzzaman as he was hesitating to give his reply during cross-examination in line with his February 16 deposition, said court sources.

The court will record the deposition of another prosecution witness, former DGFI director general Maj Gen (retd) Sadek Hasan Rumi, today.

Save JU student

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Anisur Rahman Zinnah, a master's student at the public administration department of Jahangirnagar University (JU), has been suffering from fatal Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), a disorder that leads to paralysis, for long.

He is now undergoing treatment at the Intensive Care Unit, Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital. Doctors have said Zinnah needs around Tk 10 lakh for his treatment, which is very difficult to afford for his father Ali Akbar, a freedom fighter.

Mohammad Mahmudur Rahman, chairperson of the department, has urged the well-off people of society to extend their help to save Zinnah from being paralysed.

Contribution can be sent to Chairman, Department of Public Administration, Savings Account: 26066-4, Agrani Bank, JU branch or Md Sayed Jonaed, Savings Account: 137.101.165208, Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd, Savar Bazar branch.

Contact can be made at 01911291218 or 01912196099 or jonaed.sayed@gmail.com

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 27th death anniversary of Dr Aleem Al Razeed, a former jurist, law-maker and educationist, says a press release.

On the occasion, Dr Aleem Al Razeed Memorial Council will place floral wreath and offer 'Fateha' at his graveyard in the city's Banani in the morning and hold a milad mahfil.



BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir holds up a copy of The Daily Star during a press conference at BNP's Naya Paltan office in the city yesterday to reinforce his statement that pro-Awami League activists attacked BNP men during the March 12 rally.

PHOTO: STAR

Japan to provide \$6.28 lakh for human security

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Japan will provide US \$ 628,000 as grant for seven grassroot projects in Bangladesh on human security encompassing healthcare services to mothers, children and physically challenged people and arsenic mitigation.

Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Shiro Sadoshima signed the grant for three of the projects with representatives of the three respective implementing organisations at the Embassy of Japan yesterday.

The three projects would be implemented by Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), Arsenic Mitigation and Research Foundation (AMRF) and Unitarian Service for Development and Peace (USDP).

Four other organisations, to implement the remaining four projects, will sign the grant on March 18, says a press release of the embassy.

CRP will use its share of the grant, US \$ 102,082, to construct a four-storied "Rehabilitation Centre" in Rajshahi.

This centre will help physically challenged people access healthcare and therapeutic services, including physiotherapy, occupational, speech and language therapy, orthotics and prosthetics. It is expected to rehabilitate 23,440 people while providing vocational training to 100 people per year.

AMRF will use its share, US \$ 86,208, to construct a two-storied hospital for mothers and children in Munshiganj, which expects to serve 15,700 seekers of maternal and neonatal healthcare per year.

USDP will use US \$ 97,539 it is getting to construct a one-storied hospital, capable of providing emergency reproductive and child healthcare services, for people of the minority community of Barguna district.

DoE orders removal of dam on Dhaleshwari Fines sand traders Tk 2 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) penalised seven sand traders, seized an excavator and snapped power supply to a factory in separate drives in Manikganj and Narayanganj yesterday.

The department fined the sand traders Tk 2 lakh for constructing a road on Dhaleshwari river by illegally setting up a dam on the river at Gheor upazila in Manikganj.

It also ordered the traders, Baten Mia, Farid, Kaiser, Sajid Mia, Abdur Rahim Khan, Md Shahid Khan and Md Liton Mia, to remove the dam by 1:00pm today and to pay the fine as compensation for causing environmental damage, says a press release of DoE.

In another drive, the DoE snapped gas and power connections of Madina Dyeing Factory at Fatullah in Narayanganj for secretly resuming operations at its factory, which was shut by the department on January for polluting Shitalakhyra river.

The DoE, in another drive in the district, seized an excavator of Unique Properties for carrying out land development work for a housing project at Bhatiband village in Sonargaon without any environment clearance certificate.

DHAKA TODAY

Convention
Bangladesh Shikkhak Samity will organise a convention; Venue: Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh; Time: 10:00am.

Human chain
Voluntary Consumers' Training and Awareness Society will organise a human chain; Venue: before Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

Seminar
Bangladesh Police will hold a seminar; Venue: Biam Auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

Seminar
Consumers' Association of Bangladesh will organise a seminar; Venue: Cirdap auditorium; Time: 11:00am.

Seminar
Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum will hold a seminar; Venue: Biam Auditorium; Time: 9:30am.

will organise a human chain; Venue: before Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Competition
Independent University, Bangladesh will hold a competition; Venue: its Bashundhara R/A premises; Time: 9:00am.

Drawing competition
Jonoprosashon will organise a drawing competition; Venue: Public Library, Shahbagh; Time: 2:00pm.

Seminar
Krishibid Institution, Bangladesh will hold a seminar; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 12:00noon.

WEATHER TODAY

Slight rise in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Day and night temperature may rise slightly over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:07pm and rises tomorrow at 6:06am.

Country's highest temperature 34.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and lowest 14.6 degrees at Rangpur.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.0	20.8	53	48
Chittagong	32.9	22.5	52	60
Rajshahi	30.5	17.5	94	61
Rangpur	27.8	14.6	78	59
Khulna	32.5	19.2	75	61
Barisal	32.4	18.5	58	59
Sylhet	31.8	21.0	60	55
Cox's Bazar	33.0	22.5	56	75