



Behag Jamil Khan, son of Shawkat Jamil, a senior photojournalist of The Daily Star who passed away on Tuesday, is seen consoling his grieving mother, Syeda Khanam, at Shawkat's ancestral house at Katpatty in Barisal yesterday. Inset, Family members, journalists, socio-political and cultural personalities and locals pay their final tributes to the deceased at Chawk Bazar of Barisal city yesterday.



## Shawkat Jamil laid to rest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Shawkat Jamil, a senior photojournalist of The Daily Star, was laid to rest at Barisal Muslim Graveyard yesterday. Amid love and tears of his relatives and all sections of people, he was buried next to the grave of his mother around 11:40am after his fourth namaz-e-janaza held in front of Jame Ebaidullah Masjid in Chawk Bazar area of the city.

Jamil breathed his last in Dhaka Tuesday noon at the age of 56. Doctors could not ascertain if he died of cardiac arrest or brain haemorrhage.

His body reached his ancestral house at Katpatty in Barisal at 1:45am yesterday. It was received by the bereaved family members, journalists, socio-political and cultural personalities, and local people.

Barisal City Corporation (BCC) Mayor Shawkat Hossain Hiron, AL lawmaker Talukdar Md Yunus, leaders and members of Barisal Reporters Unity, and Photo Journalists' Association, paid their final tributes to the journalist by placing wreaths on his coffin.

The qul khwan-i of Shawkat Jamil will be held at his ancestral residence in Katpatty Road area after Asr prayers Friday, family sources said.

On Tuesday, his first namaz-e-janaza was held at his brother's office at Opsonin Group in Estakon. Then, his corpse was taken to The Daily Star Centre premises at 3:30pm for a second namaz-e-janaza. Jamil's colleagues placed wreaths at his coffin and prayed for his departed soul. His third namaz-e-janaza was held at Jatiya Press Club after Asr prayers.

Journalist Shawkat Jamil is survived by his wife Syeda Khanam and only son Behag Jamil Khan.

Meanwhile, Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) expressed deep shock at the death of The Daily Star photojournalist in a condolence message yesterday.

ASK executive director Sultana Kamal recalled Jamil's contributions in the media and said he played an important role in capturing moments of different movements and disasters.

Expressing respects to the memory of Jamil, the ASK family prayed for the salvation of his departed soul and expressed sympathy with the bereaved family members.

## Use of climate fund must be transparent

Says TIB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday called for giving top priority on transparency, accountability in the use of funds in addressing climate change impacts.

The call was made as three-day International Meeting of Parliamentarians on Climate Change opened at the city's Radisson Hotel yesterday. Parliamentarians and climate change experts from 30 countries, most affected by climate change, are attending it.

The conference should take into account the importance of ensuring participation of stakeholders, especially the affected communities...and that of zero tolerance against corruption and other forms of misuse of

funds", TIB executive director Iftekharuzzaman said in a statement.

He also welcomed the first-ever initiative, taken by the UNDP and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Environment and Forests, bringing together lawmakers.

Climate funds must be made available to be spent transparently, accountably and with specific measures to ensure that they reach the most affected people, he said.

Developed countries which have made commitments to compensate for climate change must ensure that the funds are genuinely "new and additional" and not diverted from any existing or potential development assistance programme, Iftekharuzzaman said. "Any scope of double-counting of climate money must be eliminated".

## ADMISSION POLICY

## Govt to inspect city pvt schools

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday formed an inspection committee to monitor whether private schools in the capital follow government's admission policy during student enrolment.

The four-member team will also look into whether these schools, most of which do not receive government's monthly payment order facilities, distribute textbooks of National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) to the students.

Following the directives of the education ministry, the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) formed the team comprised of its two deputy directors, an assistant director and the district education officer of Dhaka.

Initially the team will inspect Mitali Bidyapith, Bongshah Girls High School, Anandamoyee Girls High School, Milestone High School, Uttara High School, Cambrian School and College, and Nawab Habibullah Bahar School and College.

In accordance with a DSHE order issued yesterday, the committee will also inspect other private schools and college gradually.

The team has been asked to submit its report as soon as possible, said one of its members.

Asked why these institutions will be inspected first, Prof Norman ur-Rashid, director general of DSHE, said the directorate has been receiving allegations made by guardians against these institutions regarding charging higher fees than the government stipulated amount during admission.

Besides, newspapers are also publishing reports concerning high fees charged by these institutions, said Rashid, also chief of admission monitoring committee.

The government last December formulated an admission policy that fixed admission fees for the city schools at Tk 5,000 at most.

Earlier this year, the government's admission monitoring committee found that 24 prominent non-government schools charged much higher fees and asked the school authorities to return the extra money or adjust it with monthly fees.

However, these schools were not monitored by the government. They charged at least five to ten times the amount stipulated by the government, said a DSHE official.

## Boy dies inside manhole in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A twelve-year old boy died inhaling toxic gas inside a manhole in the city's Joykali Mandir area yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Al Amin, a scavenger and son of Salam Khan in Dohar upazila of Dhaka district.

He had been living in Rajdhani Super Market area for the last few months.

Mosharrif, another scavenger, said he and four others, including Al Amin, went down into the manhole to collect scrap materials at around 10:30am.

When they felt difficulties in breathing inside the manhole, four of them came out while Al Amin failed.

They went down again and found Al Amin unconscious.

Later, they rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where on-duty doctors declared the boy dead.

## 25 shanties gutted in Adabar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 25 tin-roofed shanties were gutted as a fire broke out at Shekhertek slum in the city's Adabar yesterday.

The fire was originated from an electric short circuit at 1:05pm, said Najma Akter, a duty officer of Fire Service and Civil Defence.

"Four fire fighting units from Mohammadpur Fire Station rushed to the spot and doused the fire after one hour of frantic efforts", she said.

No casualty was reported.

Witnesses said the fire completely damaged all the 25 shanties.

Meanwhile, another fire broke out at the office of Creative Engineers' Ltd on the third floor of nine-story Amin Court building in Motijheel around 7:00am.

Fire officials said the fire was originated from a faulty air cooler (AC), and two firefighting units put down the flames after half an hour's of efforts.

## India prioritises to implement all deals

Says new envoy

UNB, Dhaka

India attaches top priority to successfully implement all the agreements and MoUs signed between the two countries, Pankaj Saran, Indian high commissioner to Bangladesh, said yesterday.

"I am specially assigned here to work on rapid implementation of all agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) signed between India and Bangladesh," he said while presenting his credentials to President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban.

During the meeting, Pankaj said the Indian government has been working with Bangladesh giving top priority to Teesta water sharing issue, and expressed his hope that it would be resolved as soon as possible.

"My first job is to make the relationships deeper and stronger between the two countries," he said adding that the two countries are enjoying excellent relations.

The envoy said the Indian government has expressed keenness to open more border haats (markets) between the two countries in the days to come.

"The people of the two countries have been enjoying an excellent trading atmosphere at the border haats being operated in Kurigram district," he added.

Describing Bangladesh as a potential country, Pankaj said it has been achieving economic progress tremendously and would soon turn into a developed nation.

Welcoming the high commissioner to Bangabhaban, President Zillur Rahman said India is the friendliest country of Bangladesh.

He also recalled the contributions of India during the country's Liberation War.

The president thanked the government and people of India for their support and cooperation to Bangladesh.

Zillur Rahman also assured his all-out support and cooperation to the Indian envoy in discharging his responsibilities in Bangladesh.

Earlier, the high commissioner was given a guard of honour by the President's Guard Regiment on Bangabhaban premises.

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