

NEWS IN

brief

CU student kills himself

CU CORRESPONDENT

A student of Chittagong University (CU) committed suicide at Shah Jalal Hall yesterday.

Sohag Howladar, a fourth year student of Finance and Banking department and son of Toraf Howladar of Kalkini upazila of Madaripur, hanged himself from a ceiling fan in his room of the hall.

Students of the hall found the hanging body of Sohag, while they peeped at the room through a window-pane at 9:30am, said the university sources.

Acting Proctor Prof Dr Khan Touhid Osman said, "We recovered the hanging body of the student with the help of police at around 12:30pm after receiving information from the hall inmates."

Quoting a suicide note found in the room which said none was responsible for his death and he killed himself for his illness.

The body was handed over to his family around 1:00pm.

Helper killed as trailer hits him

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A trailer helper was killed as the vehicle knocked him down at Jetty No-12 of Chittagong port early hours of yesterday.

The deceased was Mohammed Rajib, 25, son of Kamruzzaman, of Fakirhat area under Bandar Police Station in the port city.

The police station Sub-Inspector (SI) Abu Naser said Rajib fell down from the back side of the speeding trailer on which he was sleeping. Later, he was run over by the vehicle at around 3:00am.

The injured was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

5 eateries fined in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court fined five eateries Tk 65,000 in the port city yesterday.

A team led by District Executive Magistrate of Chittagong AKM Rezaur Rahman and BSTI representative of Chittagong Inspector Md Rafiqul Islam conducted the drive in Agrabad and Chawk Bazar area and fined the eateries for serving sub-standard food.

The eateries are Hotel New Madina, Hotel Riz and Hotel Bonsai at Agrabad, and Monpura Mini Chinese, and Mini Chinese and Restaurant at Chawk Bazar.

FIGHTING MALNUTRITION UN nominates Hasina as global leader

UNB, Dhaka

The United Nations nominated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina along with 26 global leaders in a Lead Group for the global Scaling Up Nutrition (Sun) movement to fight against child and maternal malnutrition.

The UN gave the nomination for Sheikh Hasina's recognition of continued commitment to advancing child and maternal health by improving the status of maternal and child nutrition both at the national and international levels, said a release of the foreign ministry.

The SUN movement brings together over 100 organisations and governments committed to work together to fight hunger and under-nutrition of over 1 billion undernourished people in the world.

Members of the Lead Group include Armando Emílio Guebuza, president of Mozambique, Jakaya Kikwete, president of Tanzania; Nahas Angula, prime minister of Namibia, and Babu Ram Bhattarai, prime minister of Nepal.

Fazle Hasan Abed, the founder and chair of BRAC, is also a member of this Lead Group.

Sheikh Hasina along with other global leaders would work with the UN secretary general to improve the nutritional status of the world's marginalised and most vulnerable children.

With its strategic guidance and experience, the release said the SUN movement is expected to gain momentum, and mobilise support to fight hunger and malnutrition.



Vehicles often get stuck on the road from Asadgate to Shyamoli in the capital as Wasa has been installing pipe lines in the middle of the road for long. The photo was taken at 8:30am yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Dr Kharasani passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr SSMA Kharasani, a former prominent professor of applied chemistry and chemical engineering department of Dhaka University, passed away due to cardiac arrest at a city hospital on Wednesday. He was 76.

He left his wife, two sons -- Associate Prof Golam Gaus Al-Kaderi of English department and Assistant Prof Golam Dastagir Al-Kaderi of physics department of Dhaka University -- and many students and admirers to mourn his death, says a press release.

Vice Chancellor Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique and Dhaka University Teachers' Association condoled the death of Dr SSMA Kharasani.

Rabeya Begum

BSS, Khulna

Rabeya Begum Shanta, mother of SM Zahid Hossain, Khulna correspondent of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) passed away due to old age complications here yesterday at the age of 86.

Shanta, also mother of slain journalist Humayun Kabir Balu, died at her village home at 34-Iqbal Nagar, Mosque Road in Khulna at around 6.40pm.

She left behind her six sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn her death.

State Minister for Labour and Employment Begum Munnuzan Sufian and Khulna City Corporation Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleq visited Shanta and expressed their deep shock at her demise.

They prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family members.

CCCI appeal to NBR

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Acting President of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCCI) Mahbubul Alam urged the National Board of Revenue (NBR) chairman to withdraw the decision of imposing 5 percent tax on the cash value of imported or exported goods through local L/C (letter of credit) in Chittagong, said a press release.

In a letter to the NBR chairman, Mahbubul termed this tax discriminatory as the decision was only taken for this region in Bangladesh.

If Tk 25 lakh is deducted as income tax while opening a local L/C of Tk 5 crore, it will make an entrepreneur suffer at the beginning of the business.

Mentionable, the office of taxes, zone-2, Chittagong issued the circular of 5 percent tax on April 1.

US, Bangladesh to enhance partnership on security

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka and Washington during their substantive dialogue on security issues here yesterday agreed to enhance partnership in the UN peacekeeping, counterterrorism and disaster management.

Both sides at the first-ever US-Bangladesh Dialogue on Security Issues exchanged views on the ongoing engagement between the two countries in the areas of counterterrorism, disaster management, maritime security and peacekeeping operations and shared commitment to peace, security and prosperity in the region.

Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes while inaugurating the dialogue referred to Bangladesh-US relations as

a partnership characterised by convergence of values and aspirations and an expanding scope of cooperation.

Additional Foreign Secretary Mustafa Kamal led the Bangladesh at the dialogue held at the Bangladesh Institute of International Strategic Studies (BISS).

The 11-member US delegation was led by Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs Andrew J Shapiro.

The US Ambassador in Dhaka Dan Mozena also attended the event.

Describing Bangladesh as an important partner of the US in dealing with many traditional and non-traditional security threats, Shapiro stressed the strategic importance of Bangladesh for the US.

The Bangladesh delegation com-

prised of representatives from the ministries of home affairs, defence, food and disaster management, and foreign affairs and Armed Forces Division.

A press release of the US Embassy in Dhaka said the positive and substantial exchanges of the dialogue reflected the depth and strength of the bilateral defence relationship as well as shared commitment to peace and prosperity in the region.

It hoped that the US-Bangladesh Security Dialogue would broaden and strengthen bilateral cooperation on a wide range of political-military issues, and enhance partnerships in peacekeeping, joint military exercises and exchanges, counterterrorism, and security cooperation.



Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pankaj Saran pays a courtesy call on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at her Gulshan office in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: BNP

Digital police protection system still in dark

BSS, Dhaka

The newly installed digital police protection system (DPPS) "Watchman" has apparently failed to attract people's attention due to lack of publicity.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), for the first time in country's history, has set up "Watchman" on December 17, designed to monitor and instantly respond to emergency situation such as robbery, fire and other criminal activities.

"The digital security system is yet to draw public attention just because of its poor publicity and for this reason, most of the city dwellers do not know about the necessity and benefit of the system," a high official of police told the news agency requesting anonymity. But he said they are going to take initiative to inform public about the existence of such a system in the country.

The DPPS has been installed with experience of installing Global Positioning System (GPS) in DMP patrol cars to help reduce crimes, especially car lifting.

The centrally monitored intelligence security solution, DPPS, will replace the conventional system as there is no need for security personnel for guarding as technology will do the job.

The system can be installed at locations and establishments such as banks, shops, shopping malls, factories, offices, homes or apartments.

Whenever any incident of fire and crimes such as theft, robbery and other things occur, the system automatically would detect it and send alarms to police and other offices with photo evidence.

The DPPS can provide 24/7 security to anyone who is connected to this system.

It will cost only Tk 50,000 for installing the system and Tk 800 would be charged for service per month.

Ezzy Group gave full technological support to install the system in DMP control room.

The system is operated by internal battery, so it doesn't shut down during power outages or failure of UPS/IPS.

The system can automatically send alarm and MMS/SMS both to the monitoring centre at the headquarters of DMP and any 10 predefined mobile numbers.

It sends MMS and image of the intruders and alarms to subscribers' mobile instantly which is unstoppable and there is no way to destroy the evidence as it automatically stored in the system.

CASE AGAINST TARIQUE DB DC asked to submit docket

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The detective branch (DB) deputy commissioner (South) has been asked to submit a case docket (CD) by April 26 of an extortion case filed against BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman and his business partner Giasuddin Al Mamun.

Judge Mohammad Mozammel Hossain of the Special Judge Court-3 gave the order yesterday after Mamun's counsel submitted a petition while cross-examining a witness in connection with a money laundering case filed against Tarique and Mamun.

The defence lawyer submitted the petition when the witness could not show documents of the extortion case against the two as he wanted to know about the case.

Mir Alimuzzaman, the then inspector of detective branch of police, who investigated the extortion case filed with Gulshan Police Station on May 9 in 2007.

Alimuzzaman told the court on December 8 last year that he unearthed the laundering of Tk 20.41 crore by the two while probing an extortion case filed by Nirman Construction Ltd Chairman Khadiza Islam against them.

Nirman Construction Ltd, being the lowest bidder, was primarily selected for the job to install a power plant in Tongi, said Alimuzzaman, officer-in-charge of Dhobaura Police Station in Mymensingh.

But the firm was told that it would not get the job unless Tarique, elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, and Mamun were paid \$750,000, said the witness.

Later, Khadiza went to Singapore and opened a savings account with OCBC Bank, and then sent the amount to Mamun's account with the Citi Bank through Telegraph Transfer (TT).

PM leaves for Qatar today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves here for Qatar this morning on a four-day visit to attend the 13th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XIII).

A VIP flight of Qatar Airways carrying the premier and her entourage will leave Hazrat Shahjale International Airport at 8:45am.

The theme of the conference is 'Development-centred Globalisation: Towards Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development'.

A large number of global leaders representing the UN member states will attend the six-day conference beginning tomorrow afternoon at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, official sources said.

During her visit, Hasina is expected to attend a series of high-level panel discussions at the conference and hold bilateral meetings with her Qatari counterpart and other participating leaders from different countries.

As per the programme schedule, the premier will participate in the inaugural session of "Third World Investment Forum" today and then attend an award distribution programme styled "Investment Promotion Awards 2012".

She will address the World Investment Summit and take part in a question-answer session at Qatar National Convention Centre at 9:30am (local time) tomorrow.

On Sunday, Hasina will hold bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Qatar Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jaber Al-Thani.

Hasina is set to return home on Tuesday morning.

Two people killed in bus-tractor collision

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Two people died on the spot while two others were critically injured when a Lalmonirhat-bound tractor collided head on with a Dhaka-bound bus at Kawnia Bus Stand in Rangpur at around 11:30pm yesterday.

The identities of the victims, aged around 25 years, riding on the tractor, could not be known immediately. Police have seized the bus, said Officer-in-Charge Gulam Mahfiez of Kawnia Police Station.

WEATHER
TODAY

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Comilla and Noakhali in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met office said.

Mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions and the regions of Dinajpur and it may continue.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The highest temperature is likely to be 38-39 degrees Celsius and lowest temperature may be 21-22 degrees Celsius.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:22pm today and rises at 5:32am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 39.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Ishwardi and lowest 21.0 degrees Celsius at Dhaka and Sylhet.

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	35.0	21.0	77	70
Chittagong	31.5	25.4	81	78
Rajshahi	38.6	26.8	71	42
Rangpur	35.4	23.8	79	58
Khulna	36.8	27.3	77	63
Barisal	34.3	26.5	79	73