

NEWS IN *brief*

'Friends' stab schoolboy dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Friends and local miscreants stabbed a schoolboy to death in the capital's Khilgaon last night.

It was not known why Shahidul Islam Sabuj, 14, was killed. Police said there was a "feud" between Sabuj and his friend Robin over the last few days.

Raihan, a friend of the victim, said Robin, Billal and some other local miscreants stabbed Sabuj with sharp weapons near Bhuiyan Jhilpar at about 9:00pm.

He was first rushed to a local hospital in Khilgaon and later to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors pronounced him dead.

Sabuj was a Class VIII student at Ali Ahmed High School in Goran.

Sub-inspector of Khilgaon Police Station Shah Alam Molla said they picked up three persons in connection with the killing.

Youth beaten to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth was beaten to death by some unknown criminals and his body was dumped into a bush at Baraipara in Ashulia on the outskirts of the capital city yesterday.

The deceased was Mohammad Alam, 25, of Dhamrai in Manikganj.

Ashulia police recovered the body from the bush at around 12:00 noon. Later, it was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Badrul Alam Sheikh, officer-in-charge of Ashulia Police Station, said they identified the deceased after they found a cell phone number written on a

Trader mugged Tk 2.5 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A gang of muggers in the guise of detectives snatched Tk 2.5 lakh from a book trader at Elephant Road in the capital yesterday.

New Market police said the muggers numbering four to five picked up Mizanur Rahman, a trader of Nilkhet, identifying themselves as members of Detective Branch (DB) of police as he came out of the Elephant Road branch of Brac Bank withdrawing the money at around 2:00pm.

Later, the muggers dropped Mizanur off a microbus at Khilgaon. He told police that his brother-in-law sent the money from South Africa.

NAM bureau meet begins today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni will join other representatives of member nations of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in Sharm-el-Sheik, Egypt at a NAM Coordinating Bureau meeting, which begins today.

Dipu Moni, who was in an official visit in India, yesterday left New Delhi for Egypt to attend the two-day meeting, which will prepare the members for the 16th NAM Summit Conference to be held in Tehran, Iran later this year.

The Red Sea Resort city of Sharm-El-Sheikh will host the NAM Ministerial and senior officials' meetings.

One hundred and twenty member states of the movement as well as 15 other countries will participate in the meetings in their capacity as observers with Egypt presiding over the movement's current session.

Official sources said the meeting will seek to revitalise and strengthen the NAM and to reinforce the position of the movement on priority issues of concern of developing countries.

In this light, the ministers will, among other things, discuss issues surrounding the Middle East, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Global issues such as the review of international law, promotion and preservation of multilateralism, follow-up to the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences, reform to the UN, disarmament, as well as international security will top the agenda.



PHOTO: PIB, INDIA

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni holds meeting with Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh in New Delhi on May 8. (Story on Page 1)

Issue circulars to follow protocols Says HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered for issuing a circular directing the deputy commissioners and superintendents of police to follow the warrant of precedence of the republic while giving protocol and guard of honour to the very important persons (VIPs).

During hearing a rule, the court asked the cabinet secretary to submit a report to it after complying with the order by May 15.

The court also ordered the home secretary to submit the copies of instructions issued by the home ministry for giving protocol and guard of honour to the VIPs at the districts before it by tomorrow.

Following a writ petition, the HC on May 3 issued the rule upon the government officials concerned to explain in two weeks why they should not be directed to give protocol and guard of honour to the Supreme Court judges as per the relevant laws.

The court had also summoned the DC and SP of Bandarban on charge of not giving protocol to a SC judge during his visit in the district in 2010.

DC of Bandarban KM Tariqul Emon and its SP Kamrul yesterday appeared before the HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim as per the order.

The bench yesterday exempted DC Tariqul from personal appearance before it, since he was not the then DC of Bandarban, Manzill Murshid, the counsel for the petitioner, told The Daily Star.

COLLEGE ADMISSION SSC success brings worry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The big success in the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations has rather appeared as a concern for many, as a large number of successful students have to compete harder to enrol in reputed colleges.

The students, however, will not face any seat crisis in the colleges of the country, said the education ministry.

There are around 12 lakh seats in government and private colleges across the country, while the number of students, who have passed this year's SSC examinations, is 12,19,894.

The reputed colleges will undergo a huge pressure, as most of the students who have achieved GPA-5 or between GPA-5 and GPA-4 wish admission in the colleges in the capital.

As many as 82,212 examinees have secured GPA-5 this year and about 3.92 lakh others scored above GPA-4, while some 10-15 reputed colleges in the capital can accommodate only 12,000 to 15,000 students, said sources in the ministry.

According to the ministry, the number of colleges in Dhaka stands at 135 with around 40,000 seats.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said there would be no seat crisis in the colleges as seats in a number of rural area colleges lay vacant.

It is true that there will be a pressure on the reputed colleges as there is a shortage of standard educational institutions in the country, he said.

Stop encroachment on river Turag : HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to stop encroachment on the river Turag at Gabtoli point in the capital, and remove illegal structures from the point within 24 hours.

The court also asked the chairman of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) and deputy commissioner of Dhaka to take appropriate legal actions against those responsible for encroaching and constructing structures in that river point.

The HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim came up with the order following a writ petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) yesterday.

The BIWTA chairman and DC of Dhaka have been asked to submit a report before the court by May 13 after complying with the order.

Advocate Manzill Murshid moved the petition on behalf of HRPB. During the hearing, Manzill Murshed told the court that the HC in June 2009 directed the government to remove all structures from four rivers around Dhaka including the Turag, Balu and to stop all kinds of encroachment on these rivers.

But some people are encroaching on the Turag at Gabtoli point defying the HC directives, the petitioner said.

Such encroachment has to be stopped to save the river, he added.

Deputy Attorney General ABM Altaf Hossain represented the government.



Former chief adviser to a caretaker government Justice Habibur Rahman and Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique view entries at a photography exhibition at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka yesterday. Justice Habibur inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest.

PHOTO: STAR

Red Crescent services to the vulnerable must not be interfered

Says Justice Habibur Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former chief adviser to a caretaker government Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman yesterday said Bangladesh Red Crescent Society's (BDRCS) humanitarian services to the vulnerable people must not face any bureaucratic interference.

Signifying the humanitarian aspect of Bangladeshi people, he said, "Bangladesh has reputation for its corruptibility, political argumentation, but we have the quality of coming to the aid of distressed people".

Justice Habibur Rahman was speaking as chief guest at a photography exhibition held at Alliance Française de Dhaka in the capital's Dhanmondi.

The day-long exhibition, titled "Mindscape", depicting notable humanitarian activities of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society since its inception in 1971 was organised in observance of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day yesterday with the theme for this year "Youth on the Move".

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) jointly organised the exhibition, also attended by Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University AAMS Arefin Siddique as special guest, BDRCS chairman and representatives of IFRC and ICRC.

Road crash buries dream of SSC student

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

The boy was on the way to his maternal uncle's home to share the good news of his passing the SSC examination but a truck put out the light of his life in Nitaiganj area of the town early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Latif, 18, only son of Raja Mia of Bachamara village in Doulatpur upazila of Manikganj.

Shafi Mia, uncle of the victim, said after the SSC examination, Latif joined a flour mill in Nitaiganj area along with him as a worker to earn money to enrol at a college.

Soon after the accident, the mill workers held the driver along with the truck, but a group of truck workers led by its leader Hazi Ripon freed the driver assuring them of settling the matter.

In the morning, as the news of the accident spread, the workers staged demonstration demanding punishment to the driver and compensation for the victim's family.

A chase and counter chase took place between the mill workers and the truck workers.

Traffic movement from Nitaiganj to Mandol Para was disrupted for three hours.

Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

The workers stopped their agitation on the assurance of compensation from the part of truck union's leaders.

The body of Latif was handed over to his family for burial without autopsy.

HC summons chief cop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the inspector general of police to appear before it on May 16 in connection with the incident of missing of two Islami Chhatra Shibir leaders at Savar.

The court passed the order following hearings on two separate writ petitions filed by two relatives of the missing leaders.

The petitioners claimed that Rab personnel in plain clothes detained the Shibir leaders -- Al Mukaddas and Md Waliullah -- at Nabinagar in Savar on February 4 night while they were going to Islamic University in Kushtia by a bus of Hanif Enterprise.

But the Rab said they had not detained the two leaders, according to the statements of the petitions that were filed on February 12.

The IGP has to appear before the bench of Justice Abdul Awal and Justice Md Ashraful Kamal by 10:30am on the day to explain progress of investigation into the missing incident, according to yesterday's court order.

Following the petitions, the HC issued two separate rules on February 15 asking the government officials concerned to explain why they should not be directed to produce Mukaddas and Waliullah before it to prove that the duo were not detained illegally.

Earlier, police filed a case after a general diary was lodged with Ashulia Police Station by the relatives of the missing leaders.



No change in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Sylhet division in 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

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

Mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Sylhet and Khulna divisions and the regions of Dhaka, Madaripur, Majdee Court and Khepupara and it may continue.

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

The sun sets in the capital at 6:31pm today and rises at 5:19am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 38.3 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 20.8 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

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	36.0	26.8	56	53
Chittagong	32.0	25.2	80	77
Rajshahi	38.3	25.0	66	52
Rangpur	35.8	24.5	61	50
Khulna	36.2	25.0	74	58
Barisal	35.4	25.8	77	65