

Youth killed over land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A youth was killed in a clash over a land dispute at village Banshati in Iswarganj upazila of the district yesterday.

The deceased was Helal Uddin, 26, son of Ashram Uddin of the village.

Police and family sources said there had been a long standing dispute over a piece of land between Helal's father Ashram Uddin and his neighbour Chand Miah.

When Chand Miah and his men tried to harvest boro paddy on the disputed land yesterday morning, Helal stopped them.

Helal and his family members also locked into an altercation with the rival group.

At one stage, the rival group men attacked Helal and his men with sharp weapons around 11:00am.

Md Kamrul Islam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Iswarganj Police Station, said Helal and five others of both the groups sustained injuries in the clash and were rushed to Iswarganj Upazila Health Complex where Helal succumbed to his injuries.

Two of the injured were later shifted to Mymensingh Medical College and Hospital while the body was sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

A case was filed with Iswarganj Police Station in this regard.



Huge chunks of tarmac have gone missing from this road connecting Tejgaon to Gulshan 1 in the capital while pools of sewage hide the depths of the holes, leaving commuters battling to get across. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Humayun Ahmed returns

BSS, Dhaka

Popular novelist and playwright Humayun Ahmed returned home from the USA after eight months.

The Bengali fiction writer arrived at Hazrat Shahajalal International Airport yesterday morning and went straight to 'Nuhsh Palli' in Gazipur where he will stay for 20 days before going back to Bellevue Hospital for operation.

"I'm happy but I would have been happier if I had returned forever after completing treatment," said Humayun who has been suffering from cancer.

"Also I missed my mother, the friends and the relatives," said the writer flanked by his wife Meher Afroz Shaon and two sons Nishad and Ninit who also came back home with him.

Humayun went to New York on September 13 last year for cancer treatment. His treatment is now at third stage as the doctors have decided to operate upon his colon at the Bellevue Hospital in New York.

MISSING OF ILIAS

Ex-RU students to form human chains May 16

UNB, Dhaka

Rajshahi University Nationalist Ex-Students' Association announced countrywide human chain on May 16 demanding tracing out of missing BNP leader M Ilias Ali.

The human chain is also aimed at demanding the release of arrested BNP leader Ruhul Kabir Rizvi.

Convenor of the association Principal Bahauddin Bahar announced the programme at a press conference at BNP Nayapaltan central office at noon yesterday.

The programme will be held at district headquarters at 11:30am. It will be followed by submitting memorandum to the DC offices addressing the prime minister.

Protest rally will also be held in Dhaka on the day.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY MINISTERIAL FORUM Dhaka Declaration calls to strengthen cooperation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Vowing to strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation to promote the diversity of cultural expression, a three-day conference, "Cultural Diversity Ministerial Forum of the Asia-Pacific Region 2012", concluded yesterday through the adoption of "Dhaka Declaration".

The declaration emphasises on facilitating dialogue among people and states on cultural policies to raise awareness on and promote, support and protect the diversity of cultural expressions and cooperate on sustainable development and poverty reduction.

It also underscored the need to develop a platform for cross-sector dialogue and cooperation with the civil society to ensure active participation of a myriad of voices in the policymaking

and implementation processes.

The declaration calls upon United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) to assist in implementing the declaration throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

It points out the necessity to raise awareness on the Unesco "Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression" of 2005 to increase the number of ratifying countries and facilitate its implementation.

Twelve out of 44 countries of the region, including Bangladesh, ratified the Unesco convention.

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad read out the declaration at the capital's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in presence of ministers and representatives of 33 countries of the region.

The conference, jointly organised by Bangladesh's Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Unesco, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

The conference hosted six seminars and an exhibition on the cultural diversity of Bangladesh at the hotel and cultural programmes with the participation of renowned artists of the country at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Unesco Director General Irina Bokova, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, Chief Information Commissioner Muhammad Zamir, International Theatre Institute Worldwide President Ramendu Majumdar and delegates from the participating countries were present at the concluding session.

Masses fail to reap budget benefits for graft: Analysts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday said the masses are not benefiting from the national budget due to non-implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) for mismanagement and corruption.

They expressed dissatisfaction at the way the government keeps on accepting more foreign loans and decreases subsidies in the national budget every year as it forces living costs to rise.

The "Pre-Budget Discussion 2012-13" on "the necessity to reflect people's demands on ensuring their rights over essential commodities" was organised by Shushashoner Jonno Procharabhijan (Supro) at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital, moderated by Supro General Secretary MA Quader.

The masses are being deprived of the budget's benefits due to corruption and mismanagement, said Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) Secretary Badiul Alam Majumdar.

Moreover, the budget is not decentralised, meaning the local governments can not spend it as per their requirements, he added.

"The benefit of the masses will be ensured if transparency and accountability is attained through decentralisation of the budget," he said.

Badiul also criticised the proposal to reduce corporation tax, stating that income disparity is on the rise despite the economy's gradual growth.

Former state minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan said the government could not serve people because it has to spend a major portion of the budget in paying out interests of foreign loans.

He suggested the government to come

out of this practice, bring all eligible incomes under the tax net and increase the budgetary allocation in agriculture, education and health sectors.

Awami League lawmaker Golam Faruk Khandaker Prince said, "Management is a big problem. We are all involved in some form of corruption. What is the use in blaming the government?"

He also expressed his concern over the presence of such a low number of taxpayers in the country.

Another ruling party lawmaker, Al-Hajj MA Jabbar said farmers are being deprived of the just prices of crops and not benefiting from the insufficient number of government projects.

Deputy Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad Colonel (retd) Shawkat Ali, addressing as the chief guest, said since the masses want the government to respond to their necessities and expectations, the budget should comprise contemporary issues.

Supro placed some demands at the discussion, including the government's steps to implement the previously declared district-wise budget and allocation of 20 percent of the budget in education and 10 percent in health.

They also suggested increasing agricultural subsidy, participation of lawmakers, civil society members and the masses in the budget's formulation and the budget's income sources and reducing government's dependence on private firms for energy production.

Moreover, they urged the formation of a high profile committee to monitor the ADP and a gender responsive budget and transparency in climate fund spendings.



Reeling from the news of his death, a relative of Bibhas Chandra Saha, chief crime reporter of the daily Independent, gestures of her incapacity to speak before the press at Popular Medical College Hospital in the capital yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR

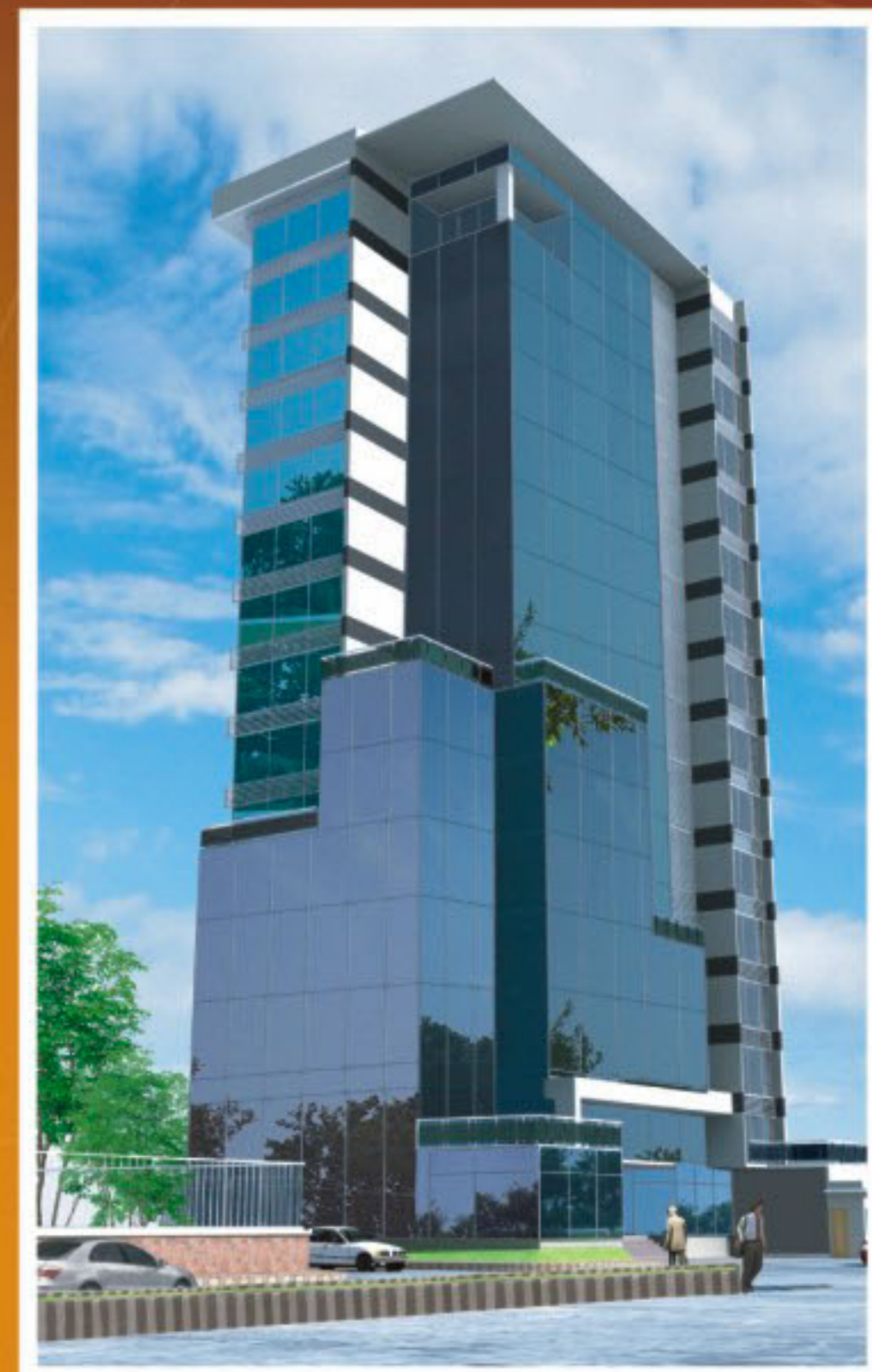


GENETIC LIMITED introducing EXCLUSIVE BUSINESS CENTER

at the corner of Banani Playground
(unblocked for life-time)

AVAILABLE OFFICE SPACE : 1747-3794 sqft

The creative architectural design of the office building enjoys flawless sophistication, which comprises construction technology, modern architectural features, fire - control automation, security, monitoring and management of the tower, in an all-round manner comes alive. The full set specialized office building is designed upon human-based ideology, in particular, the setting and operation of all the systems interprets the efficiency, comfort, safety and energy - saving. The all - round openness of the location will highlight the elegance of the tower from all possible directions as well.



GENETIC LIMITED

House #19, Road # 49, Gulshan 2, Dhaka - 1212
Phone : 8804038 8834094 8834114 8834203 8814551 8824254 8825150 8833832 9891305
Cell 01926666101 01926666102 01926666100 01926666103 01926666104 01926666105
Fax +88-02-8825941 E-mail : info@geneticlimited.com Web : www.geneticlimited.com



MEMBER REHAB