

NEWS IN *brief*

Mild tremor jolts Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mild tremor jolted Sylhet region on Sunday afternoon.

The quake that was felt at 3:24pm was measured 4.8 on the Richter scale, reports our Sylhet correspondent.

The epicentre of the quake was 195km north east of Sylhet and in the Indian state of Assam, said Sayeed Ahmed Chowdhury, regional Met office and Seismic Observatory Centre of Sylhet in-charge.

However, there was no immediate report of dam-

DRU Multipurpose Cooperative Society audit underway

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The audit work for 2011-2012 fiscal year of Dhaka Reporters Unity Multipurpose Cooperative Society has been underway and will be completed on August 25.

All the members of the Society are requested to come to the office to check their own balance before completing the audit, a press release said yesterday.

The association also requested the members or other persons or organisations to contact if they owe

Body found on roof of train

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The staff of Bangladesh Railway (East Zone) found an unidentified adolescent boy's body on the roof of an express train in Chittagong yesterday.

Abu Taher, officer-in-charge of Government Railway Police Station, said the boy had got on the roof of the train, which had come to Chittagong from the capital.

The railway staff discovered the body while washing the train at Railway Marshaling Yard in Tiger Pass area of the city.

The body was sent to Chittagong Medical College

Free medical camp organised in Satkhira

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 800 patients, including 300 children, were provided medical consultancy free of cost at Champafal APC High School in Kaliganj-Asasuni upazila in Satkhira on Tuesday.

Shikhyacharya Sahabuddin Health Service Project, a voluntary organisation named after late Sahabuddin, former headmaster of the school, organised the day-long medical camp where some medicines were also distributed for free, says a press release.

Child specialist Dr Ahsanullah-El-Baki, skin specialist Dr Prabir Majumder, medicine specialist Dr Mahtabuddin, dentist Dr Sanjib Sarker, and all the students of the specialists gave these consultations. Convener of the project MA Aziz, a college teacher

CNG driver stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested two muggers early yesterday on charge of stabbing to death a CNG-run three-wheeler driver on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway Tuesday night.

The deceased was identified as Mohammad Selim, 40, hailing from Lohagara upazila.

The two arrestees -- Haydar Ali, 20, and Mohammad Mohiuddin, 18, -- in guise of passengers got in the three-wheeler and tried to force Selim out of the vehicle at knife-point and take over the three-wheeler, said police quoting the arrested persons who confessed during primary investigation.

The trio scuffled over the control of the vehicle during which the muggers stabbed Selim in the neck. The duo fled the scene leaving the auto-rickshaw behind as it fell into a roadside ditch.

On information police recovered the body and captured the duo.

A case was lodged.



Remnants of makeshift and tin-shed structures after a tornado hit Mohorar Chairman Colony in Chittagong on the Eid day. *Inset*, corrugated tin sheets stuck to electricity poles after being blown away by the tornado.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



Public hospitals run smoothly during Eid holidays

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

The patients in the capital's public hospitals suffered less during the Eid holidays this year compared to previous years.

Despite shortage of doctors and nurses found at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), National Institute of Traumatology Orthopedics Rehabilitation (NITOR) and Sir Salimullah Medical College and Mitford Hospital, patients did not face a lot of troubles thanks to good management of the hospital authorities.

Sabbir, 7, who was injured in a Sirajganj road accident, was admitted to the neuro surgery emergency ward of the DMCH on the Eid day.

His father Shah Farid Islam told The Daily Star that the doctors and nurses took care of his son just after the admission. He could complete all the tests for the injured at the hospital in due time.

DMCH source said the hospital authorities, to overcome crisis, released a large number of patients before the holidays.

The number of patients was between 1,034 and 1,080 where it was 1,800 to 2,300 during normal period.

DMCH Deputy Director Mufiqur Rahman said the patients suffered less during the Eid vacation compared to previous years' as they admitted only critical patients in the holidays.

They could ensure adequate number of doctors at admission wards, operation theatres, Intensive Care Unit (ICU), and Coronary Care Unit (CCU), he said. "All the key logistics were kept near the respective units and wards."

"Mostly non-Muslim physicians and nurses were on-duty according to plan," NITOR Director Prof KH Abdul Awal Rizvi said adding that a team of Muslim doctors who stayed in the capital were kept stand-by.

Mitford Hospital sources said the hospital authorities planned the same.

The authorities of National Institute of Cardiovascular Disease, Shaheed Suhrawardy Hospital, National Institute of Mental Health, and Kidney and Urology Hospital also kept special teams stand-by.

However, a fewer number of patients were admitted to the hospitals during the Eid holidays.

Health Minister Dr AFM Ruhul Haque visited some hospitals in the capital on

PM exchanges Eid greetings with people

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Monday expressed her pleasure for a stable social and economic situation in the country during the just ended holy month of Ramadan that enabled the people to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr, one of the two biggest religious festivals of the Muslims, in comfort this year.

The prime minister said this in a brief comment to the media after exchange of Eid greetings with different sections of people including party leaders, professionals, judges and diplomats at her official residence Gono Bhaban.

"Prices of some essentials came down in Ramadan this year what never been happened in the country before," she said adding that power generation and its overall management and water supply situation were also good.

The gate of the Gono Bhaban opened for visitors at 9:00am when people from all walks of life started coming after their Eid prayers and waited in queue to meet the prime minister.

At the beginning, senior Awami League leaders and cabinet members greeted the prime minister by presenting bouquets.

The prime minister exchanged pleasantries with them.

Later Hasina, flanked with her younger sister Sheikh Rehana, daughter Saima Hossain and family members, senior party leader, and cabinet members arrived at banquet hall of the Gono Bhaban for exchanging greetings with the commoners.

Leaders of different political parties, parliament members, freedom fighters, front organisations of Awami League, different professional bodies, trade bodies as well as cross section of people including beggars, destitute, males and females exchanged Eid greetings with her.

A team of Bangladesh Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI) President AK Azad presented a bouquet to the prime minister.

Later, the prime minister exchanged Eid greetings with judges of the Supreme Court, senior civil and military officials and diplomats at a separate programme at Gono Bhaban lawn.

Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, Army Chief General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert W Gibson, diplomats of different Muslim countries, Europe, Saarc countries joined the function.

Remains of kidnapped boy found

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over three months after being kidnapped, the skeletal remains of an autistic 17-year-old boy was dug up around 150 yards off his Kamrangirchar residence in the capital on August 19.

The body's location came from the confessional statement of one of the kidnapers, Mohammad Samir, 32, a neighbour of the boy, on August 18 after Detective Branch of police arrested the kidnapper that day.

The boy, Mohammad Kawsar, was kidnapped on May 16. The kidnapers called up his father, Mohammad Ibrahim of Jaulahati in Kamrangirchar area, from a cellphone and demanded Tk 50,000 as ransom, said Kamrangirchar Police Station Officer-in-Charge AKM Nasirullah.

Ibrahim, owner of several tin-shed houses in the area, filed a general diary on May 17 and a case on May 24. Afterwards, police arrested seven locals tracking the phone call.

During preliminary investigation, Samir admitted that he and the seven killed Kawsar on May 18 over fears that Kawsar might reveal their identities.

Samir said they had kept Kawsar sedated for the two days right next door to the latter's house and later strangled him.

LAW, ORDER DURING EID Woman stabbed to death, two bodies found

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman was stabbed to death, two bodies were found, a businessman was beaten up and a photojournalist's house was robbed in the capital during Eid vacation since Saturday.

Home Minister Shahara Khatun, talking to journalists at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday, however expressed satisfaction over the law and order situation during the holidays.

She said people across the country, including Dhaka, celebrated Eid in an atmosphere free from criminal activities and extortion.

The woman, Kohinur Begum, 40, died after her husband, Ainal Haque Bepari, stabbed her in their Dakkhin Paikpara residence in Mirpur around 11:30pm on Friday during an altercation, said police.

Ainal also stabbed his 15-year-old daughter. She was admitted to a local hospital and locals handed over Ainal to police.

The first body, an unidentified man aged around 25 years, bearing numerous injury marks, was found in an under-construction building in Bottola area of Khilkhet yesterday, said police.

The building's storekeeper, Sohel Rana, claimed that he and a security guard caught the man red-handed stealing a cellphone and some rice from the building and tied him up on the ground floor, said police.

"The storekeeper claimed that they found him dead in the morning. The building's labourers probably beat him to death," said Khilkhet Police Station Sub-Inspector Masud Raihan.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

The second stab riddled body, identified as Nazrul Islam, 22, son of Noor Gazi of sadar upazila of Patuakhali, was found in Amtoli Hawkers' Market of Mohakhali around 10:45am on Saturday morning, said police.

The businessman, Abul Bashir, 30, claimed that a gang attacked him with sticks at Mir Hazirbagh in Jatrabari around 5:30pm on Tuesday over a previous feud, said police.

The photojournalist, Muhit Khondakar of the daily Destiny, said robbers broke into his Mohammadpur resi-

Rain or thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and a few places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over the country.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:25pm and rises tomorrow at 5:38am.

Country's highest temperature 34 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Ishwardi and lowest 24 degrees at Rangamati.

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	33.0	25.6	80	74
Chittagong	32.0	26.0	87	83
Rajshahi	33.1	26.6	81	
Rangpur	28.0	25.0	98	82
Khulna	32.2	25.5	88	100
Barisal	32.5	26.4	80	98
Sylhet	30.9	24.7	97	92



Bangladesh Mahila Awami League Vice-President Nasima Ferdousi, who was injured in the August 21, 2004 grenade attack on an Awami League rally, pays her respects to those who died in the attack, at a temporary memorial on Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital on Tuesday.

PHOTO: STAR

Housewife 'commits suicide' in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from a ceiling fan at her residence in North Pirebagh area of Mirpur in the capital yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Rikta Khatun, 22, wife of a documentary filmmaker, Manjurul Hoque.

Obaidur Rahman, brother-in-law of the victim, told The Daily Star that Rikta hanged herself early yesterday over a family feud.

Manjurul found her hanging at 8:00am and rushed her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead, he added.

However, Abdul Latif, sub-inspector of Mirpur Police Station, said they detained Manjurul as his