

Saifur Rahman's anniversary of death today

UNB, Dhaka

The third death anniversary of M Saifur Rahman, the country's longest-serving finance minister and former BNP standing committee member, will be observed today.

On this day in 2009, Saifur died in a road accident on Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Brahmanbaria district. BNP has chalked out various programmes, including a milad mahfil at its Nayapaltan central office at 11:00am, to mark the day. Moulvibazar district unit BNP will also hold discussions and a milad

Born at Baharmardan village in Moulvibazar Sadar upazila on October 6, 1932, Saifur had a unique record of preparing 12 budgets as the finance minister. He was elected to parliament four times. He had held different important posts in ADB, World Bank and IFAD.

Family members of Saifur Rahman in a message have requested all to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Trawling boats stay off the sea, as the Met office has announced cautionary signal No 3 at the maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla due to rough weather in the Bay. The photo was taken at Firingibazar of Chittagong city yesterday.

RAMNA BATAMUL CARNAGE CASE

Another witness gives deposition

COURT CORRESPONDENT

One more witness in the Ramna Batamul carnage case gave his deposition before a Dhaka court yesterday.

Mohammad Fazlul Kabir, an assistant superintendent of police of Criminal Investigation Department (CID), gave his deposition before the Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court.

Judge Mohammad Anisur Rahman recorded Kabir's statement and fixed November 20 for next hearing of the case.

In his deposition, Kabir told the court that during his investigation into the August 21 grenade attack cases, he seized two passports and two photos of accused Mustakin and Mursalin.

Both the accused were earlier arrested in India with explosives and are now at Nihar jail in India.

Later, Abu Hena Md Yusuf, CID inspector and also investigation officer of Ramna Batamul carnage case, submitted a petition to a Dhaka court seeking permission for a copy of the seizure list prepared by Fazlul Kabir as Mustakin and Mursalin are also accused in the carnage case.

Govt, GP sign deal to set up multimedia in classrooms

METRO DESK

With the objective to set up multimedia classrooms in schools, Grameenphone signed an agreement with the education ministry to facilitate internet connec-

Under the agreement, Grameenphone will supply, install and service 20,500 modems and provide laptops, speakers and multimedia projectors to 20,500 secondary and higher secondary schools in the coun-

The students will learn through audio-visual elements and enhance their knowledge through the use of the internet, said a statement of the telecom operator.

The agreement was signed yesterday at Hotel Ruposhi Bangla in the capital in the presence of Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid and Grameenphone Chief Executive Officer Tore Johnson.

AK Azad, project director of the ICT for education project of the education ministry, and Tor Harald Stromsnes, head of direct sales of Grameenphone, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.

As part of the government's vision to implement a "Digital Bangladesh" by 2021, the education ministry launched the flagship project called 'ICT for Education in Secondary and Higher Secondary Level' to digitalise and modernise the learning method in classrooms through the internet.

Education Secretary Dr Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury and ICT Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan were present, among others, at the signing ceremony.

PROSHIKA

SC stays Faruque group's control of bank accounts STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed for four weeks a High Court order that had permitted Qazi Khaje Alam, chief executive of a faction of Proshika led by Qazi Faruque Ahmed, to operate all bank accounts of the organisation.

Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana passed the order after hearing a petition filed by Mahbubul Karim, chief executive of the opposing faction of Proshika, seeking a stay on the HC order.

The HC on August 13 directed the associated banks to allow Khaje Alam to run the Proshika accounts till further order.

A counsel for Mahbubul said his client could now operate the bank accounts following the SC order.

A leading NGO, Proshika is riven by conflict between Faruque Ahmed and Mahbubul Karim, both claiming control of the organisation.

CLIMATE CHANGE FUND Trustee Board

Tk 62cr project approved to fight climate change

UNB, Dhaka

The Climate Change Fund Trustee Board yesterday approved four projects of different government agencies involving Tk 62 crore to fight impacts of climate change.

The trustee board approved these projects at a meeting at the environment and forests ministry.

The Forest Department will implement ecorestoration of Hill Forests, Cox's Bazar at a cost of Tk 2.44 crore and revegetation of Madhupur Forests through Rehabilitation of Forest Dependant Local and Ethnic Communities (phase-II) Project at a cost of Tk 9.42

Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) will implement Climate Resilient Infrastructure Improvement in Selected Vulnerable Costal Areas of Bangladesh project involving Tk 24.98 crore.

Palli Daridra Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) will bring union information and service centres under solar system involving Tk 24.95 crore.

Agriculture Minister Motia Chowdhury, Food and Disaster Minister Md Abdur Razzaque, Water Resources Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen and Shipping Minister Shahjahan Khan were present at the meeting with Environment and Forests Minister Hasan Mahmud in the chair.

13 killed in road accidents

METRO DESK

Thirteen people were killed and six others injured in separate road accidents in Sirajganj, Khulna, Chittagong, Rangpur and Thakurgaon on Monday and yesterday. Our Sirajganj correspondent reports, five

persons were killed and four others injured when a truck and a pick-up van collided head-on on Bonpara-Hatikumrul highway at Mannanagar in Taras upazila yesterday The deceased were Asad Uddin, 69, of

Manikganj, Batasi Hijra, 25, of Rajshahi, Moksed Ali, 52, of Kamarkhand upazila in Sirajganj, Nur Nabi, 25, of Ullapara upazila, and the pick-up van driver Touhidul Islam, 25, of the upazila.

The injured were admitted to different local hospitals.

Hatikumrul Highway Police said the bamboo-laden truck hit the pick-up van from the opposite direction in the area as a wheel of the pick-up burst, killing its four passengers instantly.

The driver succumbed to his injuries at hospital.

In Khulna, a couple, employees of Khulna Water and Sewerage Authority (KWASA), died as a truck knocked a motorbike carrying them on Khulna-Jessore highway in front of Khulna Betar office in the city yesterday morning.

The dead were Md Mohiuddin, 35, pump operator, and his wife Lovely Begum, 30, office assistant of the KWASA.

Sonadanga police said the truck knocked the motorcycle, ridden by Mohiuddin, from behind while they were going to their office at around 10:30am, killing them instantly.

In Chittagong, Imam Hossain, 20, of Mirsarai upazila, was killed and another injured as a bus, after hitting a human hauler, knocked them in Cement Crossing area of the city yesterday morning.

Injured Md Mohiuddin, 18, was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Meanwhile, motorcyclist Md Younus, 38, son of Abul Kalam of Chandanaish upazila, died as a truck rammed his motorcycle at Gachtola intersection in Banglabazar area of the upazila yesterday afternoon.

In Rangpur, two members of a family were killed as pick-up van hit a bicycle carrying them on Rangpur-Dhaka highway in Shayestapur area of Pirganj upazila at about 11:00am yesterday.

The deceased were Rustam Ali, 55, and his nephew Faruk, 10, son of Ayub Ali.

Police said the Rangpur-bound pick-up from Bogra hit the bicycle from behind killing the two.

In Thakurgaon, two persons died and another was injured as a tractor hit a rickshaw-van on Baliadangi-Lahiri road at Dangi in Baliadangi upazila on Monday night.

The dead were Rafiqul Islam, 35, son of late Moniruddin, and Kulfatun Nesa, 50, wife of late Goria of the upazila; while the injured was Poziruddin.

In view of Introducing Multi-media Classroom and Teachers' Developed Digital Content in 20500

Agreement Signing Ceremony Supplying Internet Modem with Connectivity to ICT for Education in Seconda and Hick Grameen

PHOTO: GP

Siraj passes away STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Syed Mustafa

Eminent litterateur Syed Mustafa Siraj, who wrote supporting the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971, died yesterday at a nursing home in Kolkata. He was 82.

He left behind his wife, two sons and a host of wellwishers to mourn his death, reports Prothom Alo.

In 1994, he received the Sahitya Akademi award for his novel Aleek Manush.

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AK Azad, project director of the ICT for Education Project, and Tor Harald Stromsnes, head of direct sales of Grameenphone (GP), shake hands over an agreement signed between their organisations at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in Dhaka yesterday. GP will supply, service and install 20,500 Internet modems at secondary and higher secondary educational institutions across the country. Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid was also present.