



BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed talks to members of the Buddhist community of Ramu in Cox's Bazar yesterday while leading an eight-member team to probe the attack carried out on the community on September 29. On his right is BNP leader Abdullah Al Noman and on his left is Abdul Moyeen Khan. (Story on Page 20)

PHOTO: STAR

Tagore's philosophy vital to resolve crisis

States Prof Anisur Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Resorting to the philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore is now essential to overcome the environment and humanity-centered crisis on earth, said an authority on Rabindranath

Prof Anisur Rahman yesterday.

"Rabindranath initiated a social movement to enliven the unity between human beings and the environment," said the acclaimed economist and Tagore singer while delivering a memorial speech on the poet.

The Second Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Speech was organised by Bangalee Shamagra Museum, a private organisation, in the capital's National Museum.

The speech was titled "Shahsara Moner Manush Rabindranath Tagore-Ekti Samajik Andoloner Dak" (A man of thousand minds Rabindranath Tagore-a call for social movement).

Rabindranath was a social philosopher preaching the unity of humanity and nature, the necessity of having cooperative responsibilities in society and the cooperative role of women, said Prof Anisur.

Aiming to unite education with nature and social activities, Rabindranath established a school and a university to carry out different creative research, he added.

Former chief adviser to a caretaker government Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman chaired the event and Finance Minister AMA Muhith also spoke on the occasion.

Youth dies in freak accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a freak accident, a youth riding a motorcycle died after kite strings, sharpened with abrasive materials like glass shards, slit his throat near AGB Colony in the capital's Motijheel yesterday.

Mohammad Shaon, 20, a Mugda resident, was leaving the colony around 6:00pm when he came back after going around 100 yards. Before losing consciousness, Shaon managed to say that he was not feeling well, said his friend Jitu.

Shaon was bleeding profusely from his throat and DMCH doctors declared him dead around 7:30pm, he said. Kite flyers use sharpened strings to take part in "dog fights" where the objective is to cut their opponent's string.

Lawyers unleash unprecedented hatred against Adivasis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

In an unprecedented manifestation of hatred, the lawyers of Joypurhat Bar Samity asked Jatiya Adivasi Parishad (JAP) to replace 26 water glasses which some Adivasi people used to drink water on Thursday.

This has deeply hurt the entire indigenous community in Joypurhat.

"The incident was unexpected in a modern civilised society," said JAP Secretary General Rabindranath Soren, who was one among the Adivasis who drank water in one of those glasses.

Witnesses said several hundred Adivasi people of Joypurhat brought out a procession to the deputy commissioner's (DC) office in the district town from Durgapur upazila on Thursday, demanding a separate land commission for indigenous people and arrest of land grabbers, among others.

They reached the town around 3:30pm, marching a 10km distance from Durgapur and had lunch boxes prepared in Joypurhat Bar Samity's canteen. Around 250 Adivasis had lunch outside the canteen and used the canteen's glasses to drink water, said organisers of the procession.

As soon as the Bar Samity lawyers learned the incident, they reached the Samity office and shouted at the canteen manager Nurul Islam since he allowed the Adivasis to use the glasses.

Amid pressure from the lawyers, the canteen manager handed over 26 glasses to Adivasi leader Advocate Babul Rabu Das, also lawyer of Joypurhat district court and himself a member of Joypurhat Bar Samity.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Babul Das, also president of Joypurhat unit JAP, said he received the water glasses from the canteen Thursday. He said he would pay for the glasses.

Rabindranath Soren said the lawyers who were meant to protect human rights forced the canteen manager to demand replacement of the glasses.

General Secretary of Joypurhat Bar Samity Advocate Abu Nasir Mohammad Shamim Inam, however, claimed that he was "unaware" of the incident and said he only protested the cooking of launch in the canteen for others.

Similar claim was made by Advocate Yunusar Rahman, a member of the Bar Samity, who runs the canteen as lessee. "I just heard it from you (The Daily Star correspondent)," he said, when contacted.

Road crashes kill 8

METRO DESK

Eight people, including a freedom fighter, were killed in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Jessor, Munshiganj, Thakurgaon, Khagrachhari, Naogaon and Magura on Thursday and yesterday.

Our staff correspondent reports, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver was killed as another CNG-run auto-rickshaw hit him in the capital's Merul Badda yesterday afternoon.

The deceased was identified as Mostofa, 45, son of late Mujibul Haque, resident of Shelbaritek of Badda.

Kamal Hossain, nephew of the deceased, said the auto-rickshaw knocked Mostofa down while he was crossing the road in the area.

With head injuries, he was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the doctor declared him dead around 2:30pm, he added.

BSS from Jessor reports, two motorcyclists were killed instantly as a passenger bus hit the motorcycle from behind on Jessor-Magura highway in Vata Amtola area of Bagherpara upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased were Plabon Rahman, 25, son of Chunnu Miah of village Nauhata, and Mursida Begum, 26, wife of Ibrahim Hossain of Narayanpur village in Mohammadpur upazila of Magura district.

In Munshiganj, an unidentified passenger bus hit a motorcycle from behind at Ramerkanda in Sherajdikan upazila on Thursday night, killing the motorcyclist on the spot.

The victim was Billal Sheikh, 28, son of Bajul Hoque Sheikh of North Maddhupara village in the upazila.

Our Thakurgaon correspondent reports, a freedom fighter was killed as a BRTC bus ran him over at Battali village in Haripur upazila yesterday.

The deceased was Tofiluddin, 57, son of Gafuruddin of Vandara village in Ranishankoil upazila of the district.

Police said the running bus crushed him

when he tried to get on it and fell onto the road at about 6:30am.

He was taken to Haripur Upazila Health Complex. Later, he was being rushed to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital but on the way he succumbed to his injuries.

He was buried with state honour in his family graveyard at 3:00pm, Ranishankoil police said.

In Khagrachhari, a Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader was killed and another injured in a head-on collision between a bus and his motorcycle in Changhi Square area of sadar upazila yesterday.

The deceased Golam Rabbani Munna, 25, hailing from Shalbagan area in the district town, was joint convener of the BCL Khagrachhari municipality unit.

Quoting witnesses, Khagrachhari Police Station Officer-in-Charge Mostafizur Rahman said Munna's motorbike was hit by the bus in the area as he lost control over his vehicle due to slippery road at around 7:30am.

The injured, Mohammad Abdullah, Munna's friend, was taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Our Chapainawabganj correspondent reports, a motorcyclist was killed as a bus hit his motorcycle from the opposite direction on Nishchintopur intersection in Sapahar upazila of Naogaon yesterday.

The deceased was Rafiqul Islam, 55, son of late Abdul Kader of Beldanga-Hapania village in the upazila.

He was taken to Sapahar Upazila Health Complex where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

In Magura, a motorcyclist died as a Dhaka-bound passenger bus knocked the motorbike on Magura-Jessore highway in Seemakhali area of Shalikha upazila yesterday.

The deceased was Plabon Rahman, 19, son of Chunnu Mian of Nohata village in Mohammadpur upazila of the district.

He succumbed to his injuries at Jessor General Hospital, on arrival at 3:45pm.

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