



Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parvin Nahar, an employee of public administration ministry, has been suffering from acute leukemia and undergoing treatment at Tata Medical Centre in Kolkata, India for the last one month.

According to her doctors, Parvin will be required to remain in Kolkata for the next eight to ten months for treatment.

About Tk 15 lakh to Tk 20 lakh is required for her treatment, said her family members.

However, being a widow, Parvin is unable to continue the treatment as most of her salary is spent on supporting the family and educational expenses of her only daughter, a master's student at Eden College in the capital.

Parvin requests society's affluent and kind people to come forward with financial assistance for her treatment.

Any financial support can be sent to: Parvin Nahar, Savings Account No 002073116, Janata Bank Ltd, Abdul Gani Road Branch, Dhaka.

ACC grills Hall-Mark MD, GM

UNB, Dhaka

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday interrogated three top accused of the Tk 3,600 crore Sonali Bank loan scandal.

A six-member ACC investigation team, headed by ACC Deputy Director Joynal Abedin Shebly, grilled Hall-Mark Group Managing Director Tanvir Mahmud and General Manager (GM) Tushar Ahmed, and former deputy general manager of Sonali Bank Azizur Rahman.

A Dhaka court on Monday placed Azizur Rahman on a 20-day remand in connection with the country's biggest-ever loan scandal. A team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested him on Sunday night.

On October 4, the ACC filed 11 cases against Hall-Mark Group MD Tanvir and 26 others, including Sonali Bank officials, with Ramna Police Station on charges of swindling Tk 1,568 crore out of the Ruposhni Bangla branch of the state-owned bank showing fake documents.



PHOTO: STAR

Passport brokers with their names and ages written on placards arrested by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) before the passport office in the capital's Agargaon yesterday.

31 passport brokers jailed in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court yesterday sentenced 31 passport brokers to six months' imprisonment each for cheating passport seekers outside the Department of Immigration and Passports at Agargaon in the capital.

A team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-2 conducted a drive in the area at 12:30am and arrested the passport brokers from in front of the passport office, said Raihan Uddin Khan, senior assistant superintendent of police of Rab-2.

"The brokers have been taking money from passport seekers, promising them to provide with passports," he said.

Executive Magistrate Mohammad Anisur Rahman gave the jail sentences to the

detainees when they confessed their crimes before his mobile court yesterday, he added.

The convicts, aged between 15 to 60 years, have been identified as Md Rubel, Saddam, Sirajul Islam, Billal Hossain, Md Palash, Abdul Malek, Abdur Rahman, Md Sohel, Md Litan, Shamim Reza Prince, Md Swapnil, Paban, Razu, Kamal Hossain, Shah Alam, Md Babul, Md Ruhul Amin, Nurul Islam, Enamul Haque, Md Rasel, Kalam, Kabir Hossain, Hemayet, Milan, Rafiqul Islam, Md Kamal, Saleha, Alamrat Begum, Tanzima, Rahela and Asma.

Earlier on October 2, Rab-2 personnel arrested 23 passport brokers from around the passport office, who were sentenced to nine months' imprisonment by a mobile court for cheating passport seekers.

16km tailback in Comilla as truck breaks down

A CORRESPONDENT, Daudkandi

A truck broke down on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Comilla's Raipur area early yesterday creating a 16km tailback.

Traffic movements came to a standstill in the 16km area, from Gomta in Chandina upazila to Rajarhat in Daudkandi upazila, when the truck broke down at about 2:00am, said passengers.

On information, Daudkandi highway police removed the truck using a wrecker.

However, traffic situation worsened as soon after at about 4:00am, two trucks collided head-on at the same spot.

On information, Elliotganj highway police removed the two trucks at about 8:00am but the road cleared much later making the passengers suffer.

Mehedi Hasan, sergeant of Daudkandi highway police, said they had removed the trucks soon after the accident but tailback was made longer by haphazard driving of vehicles.

JMB men held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Rajshahi

A listed member of banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) was arrested from Nokhopara village in Bagmara upazila of Rajshahi yesterday.

The arrestee was Yaad Ali Mondol, 48. The anti-militancy team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-5 in Rajshahi arrested him from his house in the village around 2:30pm.

He is an accused in a case for kidnapping Golam Rabban Mukul, an Awami League worker, who was later killed by JMB men on April 11, 2004, said Rab sources.

Mondol was a close associate of JMB's executed leaders Shayakh Abdur Rahman and Siddikul Islam alias Bangla Bhai, Rab sources added.

Teachers' reluctance pulls DU down in global ranking

SUBIR DAS

When the country aspires for digitalisation in every sphere, teachers of Dhaka University appear to be least bothered about updating their profiles on the university website.

Visiting the website thus gives one little opportunity to get a clear view of the university's educational standard. According to an expert, this stands as a significant reason behind the university's poor position in the global ranking.

According to a survey conducted by The Daily Star on October 13, only four out of 72 teachers of the departments of Bangla and Statistics have updated their profiles, citing publications and writings. Others offer no clue to their

research works.

Only 73 out of 158 teachers of English, History, Physics and Finance, mentioned their publications and research works on their profiles.

"A lack of updation of teachers' online profiles, especially researches and publications, leaves little opportunity for one to judge the university. That's why our universities cannot climb up the ladder of global ranking," said ICT expert Prof M Kaykobad while talking to The Daily Star.

"Because of poor ranking, foreign reputed universities will be reluctant to engage in collaborative works with our universities. Moreover, an updated online profile including research works ensures transparency," he said.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Administration) of Dhaka University Prof Shahid Akthar Hossain said, "Now all teachers of the university are provided with ID and password. They can update their profiles whenever they wish. But most of the teachers appear to be least bothered about citing their research works and publications on the website."

Asked whether the university administration took any awareness initiative in this regard, he said, "In this digital era, a teacher should be conscious enough to update his/her profile on the university website."

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique said profile updation of teachers would be conducted soon.

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