

Stop work defying plan at Jafrabad

HC directs Rajuk
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed Rajuk to stop the construction of any structure defying its plan at Jafrabad in the capital's Mohammadpur till further order.

The court, however, exonerated Nurul Huda, chairman of Rajuk; Aminur Rahman, its authorised officer; and Mostafizur Rahman, managing director of Theme Engineers Ltd, a construction firm, which was allegedly constructing a tower at Jafrabad, from personal appearance before it in this connection.

An HC bench passed the order during hearing a contempt of court petition.

The trio appeared before the HC bench yesterday as per its earlier order.

Chehlum
METRO DESK

The chehlum of Safat Ahmad Chowdhury, former additional secretary to the power, energy and mineral resources ministry, will be held at 4:00pm on Friday.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held on that day in his residence at Kahkasan-1, Government Officers' Quarters on Baily Road in the capital, says a press release.

Safat Ahmad Chowdhury died of cancer on December 9 last year.



Police trying to douse the flames on a police van set afire by Islami Chhatra Shibir activists in Rajshahi University area during the eight-hour hartal enforced by Jamaat-Shibir across Rajshahi division yesterday. Inset, an unexploded hand-made bomb hurled at police.

PHOTO: STAR



Stray incidents mark Rajshahi hartal
5 hurt, 38 detained

STAR REPORT

An eight-hour hartal enforced by Bangladesh Jamaat-Islami ended with some stray incidents, including arson and vandalism in Rajshahi division yesterday.

A police van was partially damaged when pickets set fire to it in Rajshahi city while pro-hartal activists vandalised at least five vehicles in Bogra town.

Jamaat observed the hartal demanding release of all detained leaders of the party, including its assistant secretary general Mujibur Rahman.

Our Rajshahi correspondent reports, pro-Jamaat Islami Chhatra Shibir activists set the police van afire in Binodpur area around 7:30am.

Police said the pro-hartal activists hurled brick chips on the law enforcers triggering a clash that left five people injured.

The activists also burned tyres in Rajshahi College area in the city, they said adding that 34 people were picked up from Binodpur and Rajshahi College area.

Educational institutions remained opened, and all kinds of vehicles except private cars and bus plied the streets as usual in the city.

Our Bogra correspondent adds, pro-hartal activists vandalised five vehicles in Silimpur area near Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogra.

Police picked up four hartal supporters from the area.

Govt bodies failing to provide information
Meeting told

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STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government bodies are failing to meet people's demand for information due to lack of efficient and experienced information technology experts, said speakers yesterday.

They also said lack of budget and sufficient manpower are hindering information transfer.

The officials made the remarks at a meeting on sharing experiences of providing information to the people following the Right to Information Act, 2009.

The Information Commission and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) jointly organised the meeting in the conference room of Archaeology Bhaban in the capital.

The meeting also evaluated the performances of 26 departments of the information, women and children affairs and family planning ministries.

Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu

was present as the chief guest at the meeting.

Shaheen Anam, executive director of MJF; Mohammed Farooq, chief information commissioner (CIC), Muhammad Zamir, former CIC, Abu Taher, information commissioner, Prof Sadeka Halim, information commissioner, and AKM Shameem Chowdhury, director general of the Department of Films and Publicity, also spoke in the event.

The information minister urged the government officials to disclose the information to the country's general public so that they can have clear ideas regarding the state and the government.

Shaheen Anam said a proactive disclosure of information policy has to be ensured in government and NGOs to ease the process of getting information.

She said if the policy can be introduced everywhere, then people would not have to seek information through applications rather they will be able to receive information through websites of the organisations.

Journo dies as 'train hits him'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A journalist was killed as a train ran him over in the capital's Karwan Bazar Monday night.

Mahamudul Hassan Tareq, 25, a third-year student of Philosophy department at Dhaka University, was a probationary reporter of the daily New Age. Tareq, also a poet, edited a poetry book, "Myther Pakhira", published in 2010.

Quoting locals, Alauddin Choudhury, officer-in-charge of Kamalapur GRP Station, said Tareq was crossing the rail tracks while the station-bound train ran him over around 11:30pm.

However, the OC said he was not sure whether it was a suicide or an accident.

Passers-by found the body on the rail tracks near Karwan Bazar FDC gate early yesterday.

The deceased's brother, Arifuzzaman, said Tareq was scheduled to leave Dhaka on Monday for Khagrachhari to attend his younger sister's wedding.

Someone called Arifuzzaman yesterday morning to inform of the incident. His body was taken to his village home at Panchhari in Khagrachhari.



US to give ship, boats to navy, coast guard

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

United States will provide a Cutter ship and 16 super performance boats to Bangladesh Navy and Bangladesh Coast Guard this year to strengthen watch on the country's maritime resources.

US Pacific Fleet Commander Admiral Cecil D Haney and US Ambassador in Dhaka Dan Mozena told journalists at the ambassador's residence yesterday.

Admiral D Haney said the US navy wants to work hand in hand with Bangladesh Navy to ensure peace, security and stability in the sea for its economic viability.

He earlier met Prime Minister's Defence Advisor Tarique Siddiqui and the chiefs of navy and coast guard.

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