



Guests at a programme marking "EWU Pharmacy Day, 2013" jointly organised by the Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacy Club of East West University (EWU) on their Aftabnagar campus in the capital's Rampura yesterday. Dr Mohammed Farashuddin, president of the Board of Trustees and founding vice chancellor of EWU; Prof Ahmed Shafee, EWU vice chancellor; Prof Muniruddin Ahmed, EWU pro-vice chancellor; Dr Sufia Islam, chairperson of the Department of Pharmacy; and Abdul Mukhtar, managing director of Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Incepta Vaccine Ltd; were present. PHOTO: COURTESY

Man dies 'in police custody' in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A 36-year-old man, arrested for possessing drugs, was allegedly tortured to death in police custody in Sylhet city Tuesday night.

Police denied the claim and said Abdul Khalique died a normal death.

The victim, who lived in the village Bohogram of Gowainghat, had been arrested by detectives in the city on Tuesday night with 10 bottles of Phensedyl.

An accused in seven narcotics case, Khalique came out on bail from custody 17 days ago and again got involved in drug peddling, police said.

Commissioner of Sylhet Metropolitan Police Nibash Chandra Majhi said a one-member investigation committee was formed to verify the claim of torture.

The committee would file a report within three days, he told The Daily Star.

A five-member team led by Sub-inspector Abdur Rahman of the Detective Branch of Police had arrested him.

The detectives said Khalique fell sick

some time after the arrest and was rushed to the nearby Ibn Sina Hospital and then to MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

The medical officer at the medical college hospital's emergency department, Ujjal Kanti Dutta, however, said the man was brought dead to the hospital.

Mokbul Ali, father of the victim, said there were injury marks on the arms and back of his son's body. Khalique was an able-bodied man, he claimed, and he did not have any major health problem.

Mokbul said he did not know when his son died. Police phoned Khalique's wife at midnight to collect his body from the medical college hospital, he said.

Mokbul said his son had studied up to class VI and used to work under a construction contractor for years. "I didn't know about his complicity with drug peddling."

He said he would file a written complaint with the authorities concerned over the death.



Abdul Khalique

Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Mohammad Ibne Saharia, a class III student of Mugda Asian Ideal School and College, is suffering from diseases related to haematology and oncology for long and is currently undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

Doctors say keeping Saharia alive would require regular chemotherapy and medication for five years, an expense his family cannot afford to bear for their only son.

Therefore, the generous and well-off of the society are requested to come forward in this regard.

Financial assistance can be sent to Saheeda Mridha, Savings Account Number 221-101-7357, Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited, Manda Branch, Mugda, Dhaka or can be handed over directly after contacting over phone numbers 01675-941751 or 01937594143.

Democracy best way to defeat extremism

Says Baroness Warsi

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, senior minister of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK, yesterday said democratic processes were the best way to defeat political extremism, terrorism and differences in views.

Preferring ballot for defeating political extremism, terrorism and the views of the political parties which are not liked by others, she said, "I fundamentally believe that you don't get rid of views by banning them...defeat views by challenging them and beating them through the ballot box."

On banning parties promoting extremism and terrorism, Warsi, wrapping up her three-day visit to Bangladesh, told a press conference at the British High Commission that ballot box was the perfect method of a strong democracy.

"It is important to have trial of the war criminals not only in Bangladesh but around the world and culture of impunity should not be tolerated."

She said those who committed crimes must be brought to justice while the trial should be fair and transparent. "Justice must not only be done but it must be seen to be done," she added.

On the Shahbagh demonstration, Warsi congratulated the youths for their peaceful movement away from violence and observed that the movement could be broader.

"I am not convinced that they are only demanding death penalty. I am convinced that they want a wonderful future...they want a transparent government...they want politicians to listen to them."

Replying to another question, she said Britain already abolished the death penalty provision and is campaigning against it.

3 killed, 7 hurt in road crashes

METRO DESK

Three people were killed and seven others injured in separate road accidents in Jhenidah, Pirojpur and Thakurgaon on Tuesday and yesterday.

Our Jhenidah correspondent reports, a schoolboy was killed as a speeding bus ran him over while he was crossing Kushtia-Khulna highway in Shilakupa upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Abu Musha, 8, son of Md Yunus Ali of Bardah village in the upazila. He was a student of class II of Bardah Government Primary School.

Aggrieved local people blocked the highway for two hours protesting the accident.

On information, police rushed to the spot and sent the body to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

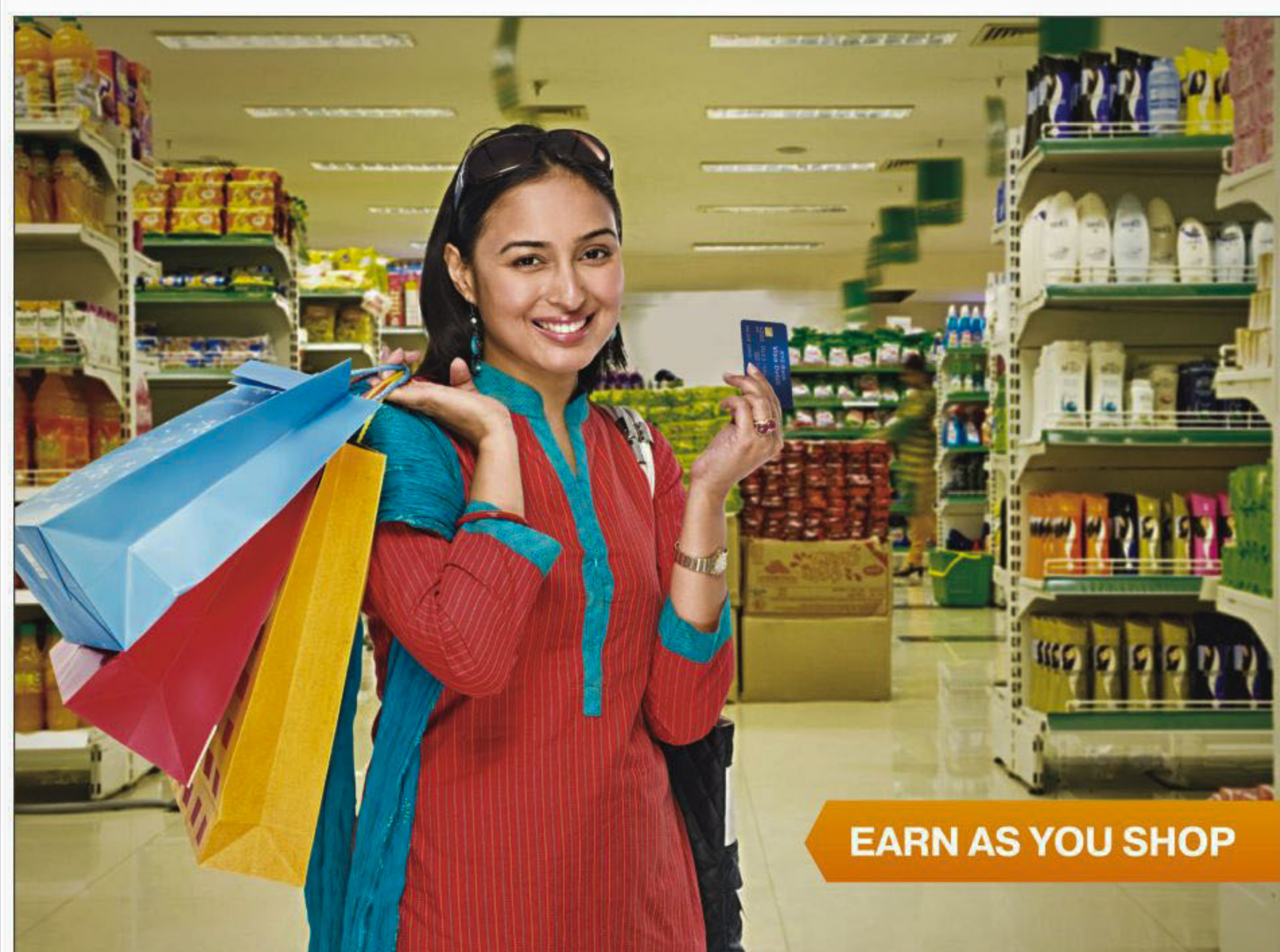
Our Pirojpur correspondent reports, a bus carrying prisoners skidded off Pirojpur-Zianagore highway in Bhaijhora area yesterday morning, leaving a policeman dead on the spot and seven others injured.

The deceased was Mostofa, of Pirojpur court.

The injured, five cops and two of the accused, were admitted to Pirojpur Sadar Hospital.

Our Thakurgaon correspondent reports, a motorcyclist died as a speeding bus hit him from the opposite direction on rail station road in Munshirhat area of Thakurgaon town on Tuesday evening.

The victim was identified as Asif, 22, son of Md Babul of Munshirhat in the town.



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