



Journalists at a rally in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday organised by the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists and Dhaka Union of Journalists demanding death penalty for war criminals and protesting attacks on journalists by Islamist parties.

PHOTO: STAR

10 hurt as JCD factions clash at DMC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 10 students were injured as two factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) clashed at Dr Fazle Rabbee hostel of Dhaka Medical College yesterday.

The clash started after one faction attacked the other around 4:00am to establish supremacy in the pro-BNP student organisation, police said.

The injured were treated in Dhaka Medical College Hospital, DMCH sources said.

The clashing students used rods and sticks to fight with each other. They also ransacked some rooms of the hostel. The situation calmed down after the intervention of the hostel authorities and common students.

A case was filed with Chawk Bazar Police Station in this connection and another case was under process of being lodged. Police did not arrest anyone yet.

Boi Mela publishers warn of withdrawal if not compensated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Amar Ekushey Boi Mela publishers yesterday declared that all book stalls would remain closed from 3:00pm-4:00pm today if Bangla Academy did not promise any compensation for the publishers whose stalls were burnt in Monday's fire.

"If the Academy keeps ignoring the plight of the publishers who lost everything in the fire, we will not open the stalls on February 28 at all," said Alamgir Sikder Loton, president of Bangladesh Publisher and Book Sellers' Association.

He was addressing a press briefing in

front of the Information Centre on the Bangla Academy premises yesterday afternoon.

Humayun Kabir, proprietor of Charulipi Publishers, said he had borrowed about Tk 8 lakh to set up the stall in the fair. "Since everything I had was burnt to ashes, there is no way I will be able to pay back the money and run the publishing house like I did before," he said.

The association held a meeting with Bangla Academy Director General Shamsuzzaman Khan last night and put their demands.

Dalits still deprived of basic civil rights: Conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After four decades of the country's independence, the dalits are still deprived of basic civil rights, speakers told the biennial conference of Bangladesh Dalit Women's Movement yesterday.

Leaders of Dalit Panchayet Forum and Harijan Oikya Parishad said dalit women were still not allowed to vote or go out of house, and child marriage and dowry system were very commonplace in these communities.

Dalit women also do not get maternal leave, which is a gross violation of human rights, they added.

Priyo Bala Bishwash, executive director of SHAREE, an NGO, said the lifestyle of the dalits was still primitive and they were isolated from society.

Baby Moudud, member of the standing committee on the social welfare ministry, said, "Quotas will be created for the dalits in job and education sectors."

"The dalit and harijan women will be trained for free under the social welfare ministry so that they can contribute in the process of national development."

SHAREE, with the support of Oxfam Bangladesh, arranged the conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Quazi Jafrul Islam, former vice-president of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, died of cancer at his residence in Chittagong city yesterday. He was 73.

He left behind his wife, one son, two daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

He was buried at his family graveyard yesterday after Asr prayers in Mirsarai upazila following his second namaz-e-janaza.

Dr Sukharanjan Roy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Dr Sukharanjan Roy, renowned physician and social worker, died of a heart attack in the capital's National Heart Foundation Hospital on Monday. He was 60.

He left behind a son and a daughter and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

He was cremated at Banaripara upazila in Barisal yesterday.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the ninth death anniversary of Mariam Shamim,

former country manager of Bangladesh Biman (Nepal branch).

She died at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital on this day in 2004.

Mariam was renowned for her poetry recital.

Her family members have requested all to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

8 killed, 16 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Eight people were killed and 16 others injured in separate road accidents in Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Mymensingh, Jessore, Tangail and Dinajpur on Monday and yesterday.

Our Lalmonirhat correspondent reports, three people were killed as a bus hit their motorbike on Lalmonirhat-Burimari highway in Karbala Dighee area in Hatibandha upazila yesterday noon.

The victims were Shahidul Islam, 35, Ahmed Ali, 42, and Mokhlesar Rahman, 36. Agitated locals blocked the highway in the area for two hours and vandalised two trucks and two buses.

Our Gaibandha correspondent reports, Mokshed Ali, 38, of Kurigram, was killed and 12 others were injured as a coach fell into a ditch beside Rangpur-Bogra highway at Jagannathpur in Pirganj upazila early yesterday.

The injured were taken to Pirganj Upazila Health Complex.

Our Mymensingh correspondent reports, Suruj Miah, 38, of Majhail village in Haluaghat upazila, died as a truck hit him on Mymensingh-Haluaghat road in Dhara area in the upazila yesterday.

Our Benapole correspondent reports, Jahanara Parvin, 34, daughter of Mujibur Rahman of Jhikargachha upazila, died on Monday night as a bus hit her on Benapole-Jessore highway in Navaran area of Sharsha upazila in Jessore on Sunday night.

Our Tangail correspondent reports, an unidentified man was killed and three others were injured when a microbus rammmed a CNG-run auto-rickshaw at Rabna in Tangail sadar upazila yesterday.

The injured were admitted to Tangail General Hospital.

Our Dinajpur correspondent reports, a madrasa teacher was killed and another injured as a pickup hit his motorbike on Parbatipur-Phulbari road at Haldibari in Parbatipur upazila yesterday afternoon.

The deceased Md Azgar Ali, 50, was a teacher of Pashchim Suvdevpur Ittedar Madrasa.

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