

BNP demands hospitalisation of 7 held leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should admit to hospital for better treatment seven BNP leaders including acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir, said BNP Joint Secretary General Salahuddin Ahmed last night.

Addressing a press conference at the BNP chairperson's Gulshan office in the capital, he claimed that this remains to be done despite a court order.

Three separate courts in Dhaka on Sunday sent eight top BNP leaders including Mirza Fakhru and Moudud Ahmed to jail after their surrender in connection with eight cases filed for the March 2 and 6 violence in the capital.

The other accused are Goyeshwar Chandra Roy, Mirza Abbas, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annie, Abdullah Al Noman, Moazzem Hossain Alal and Barkatullah Bulu.

Sylhet division truckers to go on strike tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Truck owners and labourers have called a strike for an indefinite period in Sylhet division from tomorrow evening, following an attack on fellow truckers by the vegetable traders at Sobhanighat in the city on Sunday.

The decision was taken at a joint meeting of Sylhet district truck owners' group and Sylhet district truck labourers' union on Sunday night with the union President Abu Sarker in the chair.

Iftakhar Ahmed Sohel, general secretary of the owners' group and director of Sylhet Chamber of Commerce & Industry, said in line with a decision of the meeting, they have already stopped transporting vegetables since yesterday.



HEFAJAT HARTAL

1) Hefajat-e Islam activists block the Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet rail route by felling logs on a level crossing in Brahmanbaria town during their countrywide hartal yesterday. 2) Two motorcycles vandalised by Hefajat activists in Fatikchhari upazila in Chittagong. 3) A Hefajat supporter hurling brickbats at Bangladesh Chhatra League activists as they clash in Dampara-Ispahani area in the port city. 4) Picketers block and attack vehicles on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Araihaaz, Chittagong. 5) A procession of stick-wielding Hefajat activists on Narayanganj Link Road in Chanmari area, Chasara.

PHOTO: STAR, FOCUS BANGLA



Police arrest 3 Rohingyas at Shahjalal airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed Police Battalion (APBn) yesterday arrested three Rohingyas at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital while they were trying to go abroad using Bangladeshi passports.

The three are Yasmin Begum, 18, Fatema Begum, 18, and Mohammad Tayeb, 33.

Zahed Parvej, senior assistant superintendent of police of the APBn, said they were arrested in the check-in counter area of the airport. The Rohingyas were trying to board the plane for Thailand.

"During primary investigation, the Myanmar citizens said they entered Bangladesh from Myanmar through Cox's

Bazar and managed the passports with the help of Bangladeshi brokers," said Zahed Parvej.

He said the detainees were handed over to officials of Criminal Investigation Department to find out how they managed Bangladeshi passports and the gang involved in procurement of the passports.

Meanwhile, APBn officials also arrested a Bangladeshi national, Md Shafiqul Islam, 28, while he was trying to go to Thailand with a fake passport.

Airport and police sources said several hundred Myanmar citizens were arrested in the last two years while they were trying to go abroad using Bangladeshi passports.

PM mourns death of Thatcher

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina mourned the death of first woman prime minister of Great Britain Margaret Thatcher.

In a message, Hasina recalled her role in world politics as the longest serving British prime minister of the 20th century. Thatcher, known as Britain's Iron Lady, had courage in abundance, she said.

Sheikh Hasina prayed for salvation of the departed soul and conveyed profound sympathy to the bereaved family members. Margaret Thatcher died following a stroke yesterday at the age of 87.

RAILWAY RECRUITMENT SCAM ACC gives nod to filing of 2 cases against Mridha

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission has given approval to lodge two cases against a suspended general manager of Bangladesh Railway (east zone) and two others for their alleged involvement in irregularities in recruiting process of BR.

They are BR (east) General Manager Yusuf Ali Mridha, who was suspended over a Tk 70 lakh scandal last April, senior welfare officer Golam Kibria, and senior data entry control operator Hamid Ullah.

ACC investigation found that Mridha and Kibria were involved in altering answer sheet of examinee Hamid Ullah, who was an applicant for the post of senior data entry control operator. The two also tampered with tabulation sheets.

Though Hamid could not qualify for the post, he was appointed as senior data entry control operator through the scam, ACC

sources said.

Mridha and Kibria were also involved in altering answer sheets of Srmatia Sujata Bhattachariya and Arifuzzaman who were applicants for the post of court inspector of the department, ACC investigation found.

The offences were committed between 2010 and last April, said a source in the ACC which gave the nod for filing the cases last week.

Bangladesh Railway's east zone ran seven advertisements in October and November in 2010 for recruitment of more than 3,200 employees in 25 categories. The recruiting procedure continued until last April.

Yusuf Ali Mridha was suspended over the scandal in connection with Tk 70 lakh, reportedly collected from job seekers in the BR, which was found in the vehicle of Suranjit Sengupta's assistant personal secretary Omar Faruq Talukder.



Nagorik Sanghati forms a human chain before Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University yesterday protesting ill-attempts to misrepresent religion in order to keep women confined indoors.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Road crashes kill six

METRO DESK

Six people were killed and 12 others injured in separate road accidents in the country yesterday.

Our Bandarban correspondent reports, a person died and 12 others injured as a tractor carrying them overturned in Mirinja Parjatan area of Lama upazila in Bandarban.

The deceased is Abul Kashem, 25, of the upazila.

Of the injured, five were rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital while others were admitted to Lama Upazila Health Complex.

Our Benapole correspondent adds, a motorcyclist was killed when his vehicle collided head-on with another motorbike in Benapole Port area.

The victim is Jamal Hossain, 34, of Boroachra village.

Our Sylhet correspondent adds, a

schoolboy died as a truck rammed his bicycle on Shaymoli road in Majortila area of Sylhet city.

The deceased, Ovi Rahman, son of Suruj Ali of Tultikor area, was a fourth grader.

Agitated locals blocked the road for an hour, protesting the accident.

Our Pabna correspondent reports, an unidentified woman, aged around 45, was killed after a tractor hit her on Pabna-Ishwardi highway in Dashuria of Pabna.

Our Kushtia correspondent adds, two 12-year-old children were killed at Goherpur village in Sadar upazila of Chuadanga after a truck hit the bicycle they were on.

The dead are Tariq Aziz, son of Sarjat Ali and Rubina Akter, daughter of Hasem Ali. Both were sixth graders and hailed from the village.

Protesting the accident, agitated locals blocked Jhenidah-Chuadanga road for an hour.

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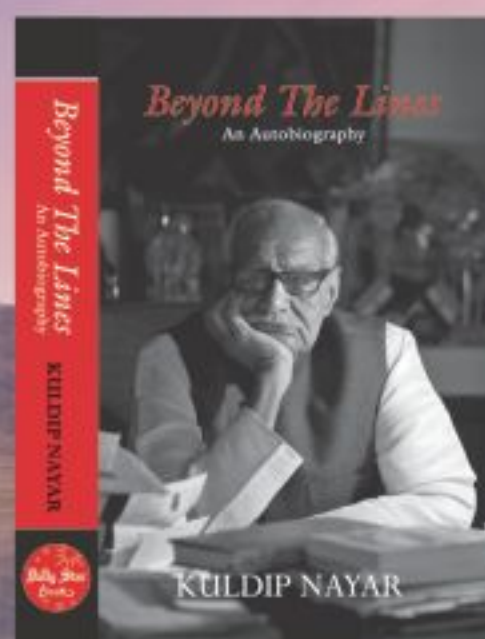
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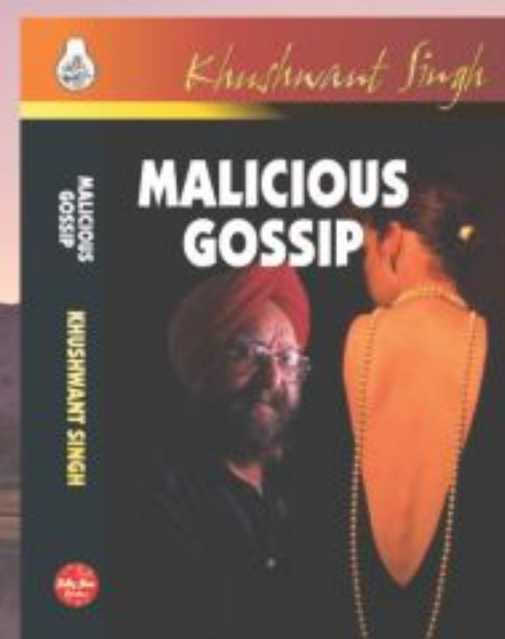
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