

Sohan still unconscious

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Surrounded by his family and relatives, young Sohan quivered in pain, lying unconscious at the veranda of the neuro-surgery ward in Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday.

The six-year-old, a victim of the April 11 hartal picketing, has not regained consciousness even after nine days.

Though doctors assured the family of "slight improvement" in his health condition, Sohan's parents and relatives are still worried and their concern is growing by the day.

"Why did I ever dare to venture out on a hartal day?" lamented his mother.

On the fateful day, Sohan was travelling with his mother on a bus in Boalmari upazila, Faridpur.



He was sitting on her lap in the front seat of the bus near the wind-screen when picketers attacked.

When the picketers broke the wind-shield, flying shards of glass pierced Sohan's skull, entering the brain.

He was rushed to Boalmari Upazila Heath Complex, then to Faridpur Sadar Hospital and finally to DMCH.

Sohan's father, Selim Sheikh, a fruit seller, said so far he had spent Tk 25,000 and relatives contributed another Tk 25,000 for Sohan's treatment. The family also received Tk 14,600 from a well-wisher on Thursday afternoon, he added.

Sohan's head was bandaged, his eye swollen. He is now being fed through a nasal tube.



Krishnachura trees in full bloom along the Crescent Lake road in Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban area of the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Participants from across the country after the end of a 3-day workshop on leadership skills and community services organised by One Day Initiative, a community service club in Dhaka, at EMK Center in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: COURTESY

BNP, Jamaat, Hefajat led Fatikchhari attack

Says imam olama parishad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Bangladesh Imam Olama Samannay Oikya Parishad yesterday blamed the main opposition BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami and Hefajat-e-Islam for instigating and carrying out the April 11 Fatikchhari attack on an Awami League procession.

Though mosques are holy places, the three, to fulfill their political purposes, announced false messages though those to instigate locals to attack, they told a meeting in the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

The attack was carried out in Kazirhat of Chittagong's Fatikchhari upazila by the locals, Kazirhat madrasa students and Jamaat and Hefajat activists following

announcements from local mosques that the procession was coming to destroy a Kazirhat mosque.

It left three AL men dead and over 100 others injured, said police.

The parishad Chairman Ismail Hossain demanded immediate legal steps against the perpetrators.

He said though Hefajat activists were creating anarchy over allegations that some people in blogs were defaming Allah and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), their main object was to obstruct the war crimes trial.

"Hefajat is another platform of Jamaat...if the government bans the party, it will run programmes through Hefajat," he added.

Punish attackers

Demand 425 DU teachers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some 425 Dhaka University teachers demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of those involved in the April 11 attack on an Awami League procession in Chittagong's Fatikchhari upazila.

They also urged the government to compensate the victims for their losses and take measures to stop such incidents.

In a statement on Thursday, the teachers said newspaper reports and video footage clearly showed that Jamaat-Shibir and Hefajat activists launched the attack on a peaceful procession.

Three people were killed and over 100 others, including cops, injured in the attack while over 100 motorcycles, four mini trucks, three private cars, a fire truck and a microbus were torched.

The signatories include Prof SM Imamul Haque, Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed, Prof ABM Faruk, Prof Akhteruzzaman, Prof Ajoy Kumar Das, Prof Sites Kumar Bachar, Safiul Alam Bhuyan and Asim Kumar Sarker.

CONNECTIVITY, TRANSIT

First tri-nation meet held in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first Bangladesh-Bhutan-India trilateral meeting on connectivity and transit was held in Dhaka yesterday with hopes that it would pave the way for future comprehensive cooperation in the sub-region.

The meeting was considered a significant breakthrough in materialising the understanding among the highest political leadership on economic development and prosperity of the region, says a joint statement of the three parties.

A draft Terms of Reference (ToR), proposed by the Bangladesh side for the Working Group, was discussed in the meeting. The next meeting will be held in India to finalise the ToR and a framework.

The Bangladesh delegation was led by Mashfee Binte Shams, director general (South Asia), Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Bhutanese delegation was led by Dasho Bap Kesang, ambassador of Bhutan in Bangladesh and the Indian delegation was led by Shri Virendra Kumar, director (works), Ministry of Railways.

Couple found dead in Khulna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A couple were found dead near their shrimp enclosure at Dumuria upazila in Khulna yesterday morning.

The dead are Kamrul Gazi, 35, and his wife Pia Begum Keya, 27, of the upazila.

According to family members, the duo went to the enclosure beside their house on Thursday night.

There were no injury marks on the bodies said Dumuria police, adding that the couple might have died due to poisoning.

However, police could not say whether it was a murder or suicide. They sent the bodies to Khulna Medical College morgue for autopsy.

CG must for avoiding Fatikchhari-like incidents: MK Anwar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

If the government wants to avoid the repetition of incidents like those of Fatikchhari, Satkhira, Bogra and Pabna in future, it should take steps to hold the next general polls under a caretaker government, said BNP Standing Committee Member MK Anwar yesterday.

He made the comment in response to a recent speech of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina over the Fatikchhari violence.

He was addressing a human chain organised by Mohammadpur, Adabor and Sher-e-Bangla Nagor units of BNP and its different wings before the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

The 15th amendment to the constitution would be terminated if BNP assumes power through the next polls, he said.

About the recent decision of World Bank regarding Canadian company SNC-Lavalin Inc, he said the World Bank banned the company for its involvement in corruption involving the Padma bridge project, indicating that the allegation was true and the government was also involved in it.

The government did not take any action against former communications minister Sayed Abul Hossain as he was its "agent", he said.



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Application Deadline: 09 May 2013

The Daily Star
Star Camps
LINKING YOUNG MINDS TOGETHER
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LINKING YOUNG MINDS

This week's Star Campus, a weekly publication of The Daily Star, has some exciting articles for the readers. The Spotlight is on the One Degree Challenge, coordinated by One Degree Initiative, funded by the US Department of States. This particular project aims to help the youth, all across the country, take part in community service and bring about betterment to the country. Saad Adnan Khan is back with his Going Spiral that talks about his experience in his first Sex Education Class. The Campus Trends is about the piece of garment that made a sudden come back this month- the lungi! The Star Chat this week is with singer Armeen Musa as she shares stories from childhood and her inspirations and aspirations. Do not forget to grab your copy of Star Campus, as it hits the country tomorrow, Sunday. And, as always, have a great read!

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