

# Road crashes kill 10

CITY DESK

Ten people were killed and 11 others injured in separate road accidents in the country on Monday and yesterday.

Our Bogra correspondent adds, two pedestrians were killed after a truck ran them over on Dhaka-Rangpur highway at Nowdapara in Sadar upazila yesterday.

The dead, Asadul Pramanik, 42, and Ratan, 22, of Sadar upazila, were sand traders of Bogra town.

A Gazipur correspondent reports, a youth was killed and his four friends were injured when the car they were traveling in hit a roadside tree after the driver lost control over the steering on Ghorashal-Kaliganj highway at Ghonapara in Kaliganj upazila early yesterday.

The deceased is Selim Farazi, 22, of Char Madhabdi area in Narsingdi. The injured, Sagar Dey, 28, Sumon Mia, 22, Sumon Dash, 27, and Chatan Mia, 27, hail from Narsingdi. They were admitted to different hospitals in the capital.

Our Tangail correspondent reports, a truck driver was killed when the vehicle collided head-on with another truck in Gol Chokkor area at the east end of Bangabandhu Bridge in Bhuapur upazila yesterday.

The deceased is Sirajul Islam, 32, of Sirajganj.

On Monday night, in Madhupur upazila, a

passer-by died after a tempo ran him over in Charaljani area.

The victim is Abdul Based, 30, of the upazila. Our Chapainawabganj correspondent adds, two labourers were killed and seven others injured as the truck carrying them veered out of control and overturned on Shibganj-Dhainagar road at Pithalitala in Shibganj upazila of Chapainawabganj yesterday.

The dead Md Mesher, 60, and Sadikul Islam, 45, hailed from Shibganj upazila. Injured Motiur Rahman, 50, Abu Taher, 55, Babu, 18, Sharif, 27, Khalek, 30, Azizul, 22, and Sabur, 23, were admitted to Chapainawabganj Sadar Hospital and Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Our Jessor correspondent adds, a pick-up van driver and his helper died when an oncoming truck hit the vehicle on Jessor-Khulna highway in Panchkabor area of Abhaynagar upazila in Jessor yesterday.

Both the van driver Mizanur Rahman, 30, and Abdulla, 22, hailed from Chaudanga.

Our Thakurgaon correspondent adds, a youth who works as a helper in a truck died after the vehicle ran him over on Thakurgaon-Dinajpur highway at Khochabari Bazar in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila on Monday night.

The incident occurred as 22-year-old Abul Kalam Azad, of Thakurgaon municipality, jumped off the running truck and lost his balance.

The deceased is Sirajul Islam, 32, of Sirajganj.

On Monday night, in Madhupur upazila, a



Transport workers park vehicles on the open space, which is meant for protecting the Buriganga bridge in the capital's Postogola, while unknown people have damaged its railings. The bridges authorities however seem unaware of the situation. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## Babunagari taken to Birdem ICU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Arrested Hefajat-e Islam Secretary General Junaid Babunagari was shifted to the Intensive Care Unit of Birdem Hospital in the capital yesterday for treatment.

The hospital staff said Babunagari was brought to this hospital four days ago from Dhaka Central Jail for an operation in one of the legs.

The doctors refused to say anything about the Hefajat leader. Four police members and jail guards who were guarding Babunagari also refused to give any information about him.

Babunagari was arrested at Lalbagh Shahi Mosque in the capital after Hefajat activists were driven away from their rally at Motijheel Shapla Chattar on May 6.

## VANDALISM CASE Shibir president, 60 others indicted

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday framed charges against sixty-one leaders and activists of pro-Jamaat Islami Chhatra Shibir including its President Delwar Hossain in a case filed over vandalising vehicles at Shapla Chattar on January 28.

Shibir chief Delwar and 40 others, now in custody, pleaded not guilty and demanded justice after the Shahriar Mahmud Adnan of the Speedy Trial Court-6 read out the charges to them.

The court fixed June 26 for starting trial of the case.

Twenty other accused have been absconding and charges were framed against them in absentia.

Meantime, hearing on a 17-day remand prayer in two cases was not held yesterday as jail authority failed to produce the Shibir leader due to his illness, said Anwarul Kabir Babul, an additional public prosecutor who conducted the cases.

Earlier on May 20, Delwar was shown arrested in two cases filed for blasting cocktails in Savar and torching a train in the capital.

On that day, the court fixed yesterday for hearing on the remand prayer in presence of the accused. The court also asked the jail authorities to submit a report by that date.

Delwar was arrested on March 31 in the capital for his alleged involvement in recent violence and attacks on police.

Three mayoral candidates--Awami League leader Talukder Abdul Khaleque, fourth from right, former BNP leader Moniruzzaman Mony, third from left, and Jatiya Party (Ershad) leader Shafiqul Islam Modhu, third from right--join hands to pledge to develop Khulna city at a programme titled "Jonogoner Mukhomukhi" (face to face with people) yesterday. Brihottor Khulna Unnayan Sangram Parishad organised it at Shaheed Hadis Park in the city.

PHOTO: STAR

## Sylhet mayoral candidates make electoral pledges

Kamran replies to show-cause notice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Outgoing mayor and a mayoral candidate in the upcoming Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) polls, Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran, yesterday began seeking votes by pledging to make Sylhet a spiritual and non-communal city.

He said completing a major water supply project in Sylhet, improving and constructing roads and bridges and solving water-logging in the city were on top of his agenda.

On the first day of his campaign yesterday, Kamran met residents of the city's Mendibag, Kushighat, Tultikor, Mirapara and Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College areas.

During the run-up to the 2008 election, Kamran had also sought support pledging to solve water crisis and water-logging, reclaim illegally-grabbed canals and ponds, improve the drainage system and construct roads and bridges among others.

However, most of his pledges remain unfulfilled.

Ariful Haque, another mayoral candidate and also the former convener of the city development committee of the SCC, also began his campaign yesterday.

In his reply, Kamran said, "Such functions are held every year and I believe my presence there did not violate rules. However, if you (EC) feel that rules were violated, I assure you it will not happen again."

## Councillor candidate held in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Police yesterday arrested a councillor candidate of the upcoming Rajshahi City Corporation polls on charge of extortion.

Rejaun Nabi Al Mamun was arrested in the city's Uposhohor area, said Ziaur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Boalia Police Station.

Mamun in his affidavit mentioned that he was accused in 13 cases. Of those, seven were solved through arbitration and he was acquitted in three. He was on bail in the remaining three.

However, the OC said Mamun is an accused in three other cases and he had been absconding. One case was filed under the explosives act and two others for violence and extortion.

## EC to deploy Rab, BGB if needed in SCC polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Hafiz yesterday said Rapid Action Battalion and Bangladesh Border Guard personnel would be deployed, if needed, during the Sylhet City Corporation polls to maintain law and order.

He was addressing a views-exchange meeting held at the regional election office in Sylhet.

The Election Commission is prepared for holding free and fair elections, said Hafiz, adding, "It is a challenge for us to keep the voting fair but we will take it up."

Mohammad Abu Hafiz further said the city polls would be very competitive as both major parties are involved in it.

ANM Zeaul Alam, Sylhet divisional commissioner, SM Ejharul Haque, regional election officer and returning officer for Sylhet City Corporation polls, and Nibash Chandra Majhi, Sylhet metropolitan police commissioner, among others, addressed the meeting.

## Bulbul promises to probe 'graft' in RCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi mayoral aspirant Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul, backed by the BNP-led alliance, yesterday announced a 20-point manifesto, promising to correct what he said "the wrongs" of outgoing mayor and Awami League leader AHIM Khairuzzaman Liton.

The manifesto says if elected he would investigate the "illegal leasing" of the old building of Rajshahi City Corporation to a lawmaker and "corruption in leasing" of the city haat (marketplace).

The RCC in September 2009 gave the old RCC building site to Ena Properties, owned by AL lawmaker Enamul Haque, to develop it into a shopping complex under public-private partnership (PPP). It was allocated through an uncontested tender.

Bulbul, city unit president of Jubo Dal, said he would "free the corporation from the clutch of three or four businessmen who were controlling all tender works" and would look into how public money was "misappropriated by party [AL] men".

He pledged that he would not increase the taxes for the next five years, formulate a master plan for the city, establish an agro-based EPZ, found an agriculture university, turn Rajshahi Medical College into a medical university, and take up housing projects for freedom fighters.

Prof M Rofikul Islam, president of Sammilito Nagorik Forum, which supports Bulbul, read out the manifesto at a press conference in the city.

## No army in elections: EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz yesterday said it was not necessary to deploy army in the upcoming city corporation polls in four metropolitan cities scheduled for June 15.

"Members of police, Rab and BGB are usually deployed to maintain law and order in different local government elections. I hope they are enough to tackle situations in the upcoming city corporation elections. There is no necessity to deploy any special force," he told reporters at his office at the Election Commission (EC) secretariat.

Shah Nawaz said, "The candidates are conducting electoral campaign in congenial atmospheres, and the law enforcers are on alert."

The commissioner warned that action would be taken if central leaders of any political party conducted election campaign in favour of any candidate. "As the city corporation election is non-partisan, no central leaders of political parties will be allowed to conduct campaign. They will not be allowed even to join indoor meetings," he said.

## 20 hurt in Barisal clash

MP's car vandalised, his son opens fire on public

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Supporters of an Awami League lawmaker and an upazila chairman clashed yesterday afternoon at Ulzirpur Upazila Complex over invitation to a function, leaving at least 20 people injured.

Monirul Islam Moni is the lawmaker while Abul Kalam Azad Badal is the chairman of the upazila.

Moni's car was also vandalised in the clash.

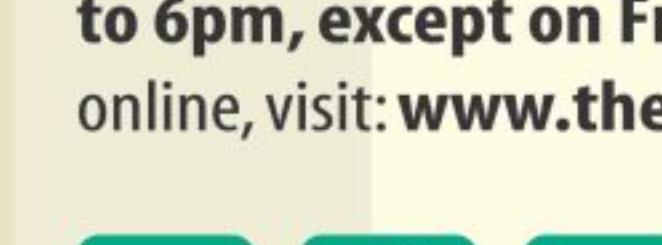
Agitators confined Moni and his son to the upazila parishad office for long and police rescued them in the evening.

Witnesses said a meeting of upazila coordination and law and order review committee was held at the upazila complex around 1:00pm.

Badal, who is also a Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal leader, said, in the meeting, he placed two development project proposals which Moni opposed without any reason.

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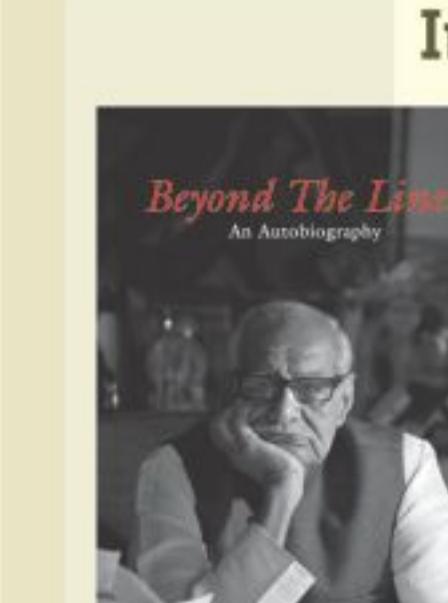
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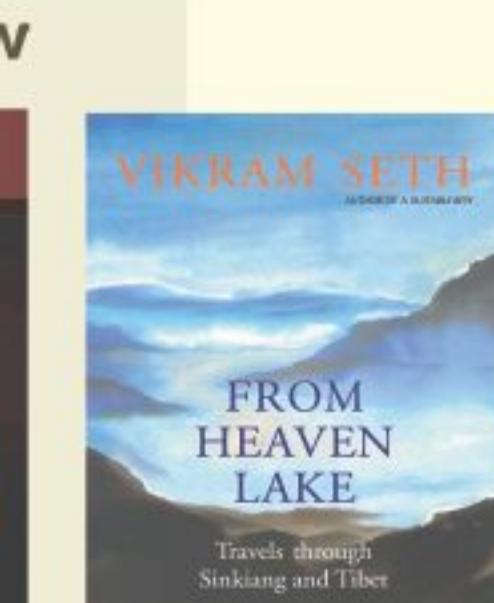
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