



TRIBUTES TO BANGABANDHU

1) President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina lay wreaths at the portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on Dhanmondi Road 32 in the capital on National Mourning Day yesterday. 2) Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury and senior Awami League leaders pay floral tributes to Bangabandhu at his grave in Tungipara, Gopalganj. 3) Children take part in a drawing contest organised by the Faculty of Fine Arts of Dhaka University on the faculty premises. 4) Visitors at a photography exhibition on Dhanmondi Road 32, organised by the Awami Swechchhasebak League. 5) People from all walks of life throng Dhanmondi Road 32 to pay their homage. 6) Participants at a discussion in Auckland, New Zealand. Bangladeshis living there arranged the event in remembrance of all those assassinated on August 15, 1975. 7) A group of kids on behalf of Bangladesh Shishu Academy places a wreath at the graves of the assassinated members of Bangabandhu at the capital's Banani graveyard.

PHOTO: STAR, PID, PMO, FOCUS BANGLA, BANGLAR CHOKH



AL man accused of grabbing hospital land in Sunamganj

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

A local Awami League man has recently started constructing a market on a plot of land adjacent to Shulla Upazila Health Complex in Sunamganj district, which the hospital authorities claimed to be theirs.

Officials say Ishak Mia, a member of the upazila AL, has "grabbed" the land using his political muscle though a recent land survey proved his claim of ownership to be groundless.

Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer (UHFPO) Dr Md Helal Uddin said Ishak started dumping earth to develop the low land last year. On May 21 that year, the hospital authorities wrote to the upazila nirbahi officer, assistant commissioner (land), district civil surgeon, and deputy commissioner for taking steps but to no avail, he said.

"Our staff repeatedly requested and put pressure on him to stop but he didn't," Dr Helal told The Daily Star.

Six months ago, Ishak started developing the land in full swing and has built several tin-shops on it. Ishak claimed that he bought the nine decimals of land from one Nikunja Das for Tk 90,000 five years ago and that his ownership documents were authentic.

On the contrary, Dr Helal said the government acquired a 4.29 acres of land on the dag no 259, 260, 261 and 262 in Dumra mouja and built the hospital in 1987. The nine-decimal plot which Ishak claimed to be his own falls on the dag no 262, he said.

Zakir Hossain, chairman of Bahara Union Parishad, where the hospital is located, said Ishak took advantage of the absence of a boundary of the hospital to grab the road-side plot. According to Ishak, the land is presently worth about Tk 15 lakh.

Shulla Upazila Parishad Chairman Aboni Mohan Das said that following a complaint, the parishad got the land surveyed by government surveyors in January. It proved Ishak's claim of ownership to be false, he added.

Aboni, also joint secretary of the upazila AL, said some corrupt people and an "AL big shot" patronised Ishak. He has "managed" the local administration officials to grab the land, alleged former Bahara UP chairman and upazila AL vice-president Abdus Sattar.

Asked whether any legal action would be taken against Ishak for his alleged grabbing of the hospital land, Shulla UNO Mohiuddin Kabir said, "We will thoroughly check the land documents first. Besides, Ishak has submitted documents and papers in favour of his claim on the land. His claim seemed to have grounds."

"Not only Ishak, some more persons, including some staff of my office, have also bought land from the same group of people," he told The Daily Star.

Sunamganj district civil surgeon ATM Abdur Raquib said he would raise the issue at the district coordination committee meeting scheduled for August 18. It will be chaired by the deputy commissioner, he added.

Road crashes kill 14

Three die in Noakhali alone

CITY DESK

Fourteen people were killed and 45 others injured in road accidents in Noakhali, Rangpur, Thakurgaon, Habiganj, Narayanganj, Chittagong, Jhenidah, Madaripur and Munshiganj yesterday.

Our Noakhali correspondent reports, three people were killed and another was injured as two motorcycles rammed into each other on Chatkhil-Sonaimuri road in Halima Dighi area in Chatkhil upazila in the district early yesterday.

The deceased were Abul Hujail, 25, of Vimpur village; Nasir, 27, of Sundalpur village; and Rayhan, 24, of Harikrisnapur village in the upazila.

Following the incident, locals rushed to the spot and informed police of the matter.

The injured identified as Rakib was taken to Chatkhil Upazil Health Complex and, later, shifted to Noakhali Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated.

Police, quoting witnesses, said a Maijdeb-bound motorbike collided head-on with the other oncoming bike around 5:30am, leaving the three dead on the spot.

Our Rangpur correspondent reports, two persons were killed on the spot and 20 others injured when a Rangpur-bound BRTC passenger bus collided head-on with a Gaibandha-bound passenger bus on Dhaka-Rangpur highway in Shatbari area of Mithapukur upazila in the district yesterday noon.

The identities of the deceased could not be known immediately.

Our Thakurgaon correspondent adds, two persons were killed on the spot and five others injured as a motorbike hit a human hauler (Nosimon) on Ranishankoil-Baliadangi road at Khutiatali village in Ranishankoil upazila of the district yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Yakub Ali, 25, of Battala village; and Ismail Hossain, 26, of Maharaza village in the same upazila.

The injured were undergoing treatment at Ranishankoil Upazila Health Complex.

Our Moulvibazar correspondent adds, two members of a family were killed and six others injured as a Sylhet-bound microbus hit a roadside tree as its driver lost control over the steering near Lashkarpur rail gate area in Sadar upazila of Habiganj district yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Tuhin Chaudhury, 22, and Nurjahan Begum, 60, of Bijoyagar upazila in Brahmanbaria district.

Their relations between the two could not be known immediately.

Of the two, Nurjahan died on the spot while Tuhin succumbed to his injuries at a

hospital.

The critically injured people were rushed to Habiganj Sadar Adhunik Hospital. Shayestaganj Highway Police Station Officer-in-Charge Rafiqul Islam confirmed the incident.

Our Narayanganj correspondent reports, a man was killed when a truck ran him over on Dhaka-Narayanganj link road in Sadar upazila of Narayanganj district early yesterday.

The deceased identified as Mofiq Noman Ahmed, 42, was an imam of a local mosque and also a teacher of a madrasa.

Police seized the bus truck, arrested its driver while the helper managed to flee the scene.

Our staff correspondent from Chittagong reports, a youth was killed and another injured as a Feni-bound microbus collided head-on with a CNG-run auto-rickshaw bound for Chittagong on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Banshbaria area of Sitakunda upazila in Chittagong yesterday morning.

The deceased Md Sohel, 20, of Askar Dighi area in the upazila, was travelling in the auto-rickshaw.

Sohel was killed on the spot while the injured passenger of the auto-rickshaw was given primary treatment.

Police seized the microbus and detained its driver Md Roni, said Alamgir Hossain, assistant sub-inspector of Kumira Highway Police Outpost.

Our Jhenidah correspondent adds, a motorcyclist was killed as he lost control over his bike and fell to the ground near college bus stand in Kotchandpur upazila of the district yesterday afternoon.

The deceased was Asadul Islam, 36, of Ishwarba area in Kaliganj upazila.

Our Madaripur correspondent adds, a covered van hit a man on Dhaka-Barisal highway in Ghotoakchar area of Sadar upazila in Madaripur yesterday, leaving him dead on the spot.

The deceased was Ali Hossain, 35, of Shikinhata village in the upazila.

Our Munshiganj correspondent reports, a girl died instantly as a battery-run three-wheeler hit her on Dhaka-Sreenagar-Dohar road in Sreenagar upazila yesterday.

The victim was identified as Rabeya Khatun, 10, daughter Babul Fakir of Balasur village.

In another incident, two buses collided head-on on Dhaka-Mawa highway in the same upazila, injuring twelve people early yesterday.

Both of the buses plunged into a roadside ditch in the accident, injuring the passengers travelling in the two vehicles.

IN MEMORIAM

3rd Death Anniversary of Atif Rahman (Bipu)

Today the 16th August 2013 is the 3rd Death Anniversary of **Late Atif Rahman (Bipu)**, Deputy Managing Director of Bengal Airlift Ltd. And Group of Companies, Elder son of Mr. Rezaur Rahman and Mrs. Koukab Reza. On this Occasion, Feeding the Distressed at Orphanages, Quoran Khani and Doa Mahfil have been organized. Relations, Friends and Well Wishers of **Late Atif Rahman** are requested to kindly pray for the Salvation of the departed soul...

All officers and staff of Bengal Airlift Ltd and Group of Companies



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