

Worker's mysterious death in clinker silo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cig

Mystery surrounds the death of a cement factory worker whose decomposing body was found inside a clinker silo in Chittagong city's Ichakhali area around noon yesterday, some 48 hours after he had gone missing.

Police are trying to ascertain how the 5-foot-4-inch Azizul Haque ended up inside the around seven-storey silo with an inlet, measuring 3 feet in length and one foot in width, at the top and an outlet of the same dimensions below.

Coworkers first smelt a stench and noticed an arm protruding from the outlet. Police sent the body to Chittagong Medical College Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

The 45-year-old crushing machine operator, a resident of Khoajnar area in Chittagong's Anwara upazila, has been working at Diamond Cement Factory for 12 years, said police.

Azizul's shift ended around noon on Friday and none at the factory realised he had gone missing till the next day, when he failed to show up at work, added police. His brother Md Hanif filed a general diary on Saturday.

The factory Coordinator Md Wahid told The Daily Star that sometimes operators visually inspect the inlet to see if there is a blockage.



(Clockwise from left) Mourning children of cement factory worker Azizul Haque, found dead inside a clinker silo of Diamond Cement Factory in Chittagong city's Ichakhali area yesterday. It is unknown how he ended up inside the silo, having an inlet measuring 3 feet in length and one foot in width. The silo's outlet has the same dimensions.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Bangladesh starts building first container, LCU vessels

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Bangladesh for the first time started building two container ships and another two vessels, called Landing Craft Utility (LCU), at the Khulna Shipyard Limited premises yesterday.

Navy Chief Vice Admiral M Farid Habib, as chief guest, initiated the construction through a keel-laying ceremony.

The container ship, meant to ply between Dhaka and Chittagong, measures 75 metre in length, 13.5 metre in width, has a depth of 5.20 meter and has two 600 horse power engines, providing a maximum speed of 20 knots. It is capable of

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Driving can make women self-reliant

Brac, BRTA certificate giving event told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a certificate awarding ceremony in the capital's Brac Driving School yesterday said women's involvement in the transport sector could be a way towards their empowerment.

Driving could be a potential tool for women's self-sufficiency and for this the authorities have to create sufficient job opportunities both in government and private sectors, they said.

At the ceremony, "Four Wheels to Freedom for Women", Brac, a non-government organisation, in association with Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), presented certificates to 15 women who completed a five-month driving course under the school.

Brac Chief Financial Officer SN Kairy said the school, with BRTA's technical support, has so far trained 75 women, 18 of whom have got a job.

The school aims to train and turn around 600 women into skilled drivers, he added.

Former adviser to a caretaker government Rokia Afzal Rahman encouraged the women, saying that they could overcome any type of challenge if they wanted.

"There was a time when the involvement of women in the banking sector was low due to misconception in their

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Youth's body found in drum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a youth stuffed into a drum on a road in the capital's Jatrabari yesterday.

A woman Salma Begum who claimed to be the victim's mother identified the body as Sorwar Hossain Rabbi, 18, son of Sukkur Ali of Suthikkhal par at Jatrabari.

On information from locals, police recovered the body confined in the plastic drum around 7:00am, said Aboni Shankar Kar, officer-in-charge of Jatrabari Police Station.

The hands of the victim were tied with a rope, he added.

Later, the body was sent to Sir Salimullah Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Morgue sources said the youth was strangled.

Salma told reporters at the morgue her son had gone missing Saturday night.

Recruit more manpower

Prime minister urges Iraq

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the Iraqi government to recruit more manpower from Bangladesh as the country has an excellent pool of semiskilled and skilled workers.

Hasina made the request when visiting Labour and Social Affairs Minister of Iraq Nassar al-Rubbaie met her at her office.

After the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad briefed reporters. The primer told the Iraqi minister that many Bangladeshi workers had previous experience of working in Iraq and knowledge of its culture and values.

She said the peace-loving and hard-working Bangladeshi workers can bring mutual benefits for both sending and receiving countries.

In this connection, Hasina mentioned that Bangladesh had already started exporting manpower to Malaysia under government-to-government arrangements in line with the MoU signed between the two countries.

She also requested Iraq to import more world-class items like readymade garments, pharmaceuticals, finished leather, leather products, jute and jute goods and ceramic from Bangladesh.

Hasina said Bangladesh remained committed to Iraq's reconstruction and its aspiration for achieving economic stability and progress.

She said Bangladesh believes that the Iraqi people would be able to establish sustainable democracy in their country.

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Punishment for Madaripur brothel attackers sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Deploping the assault on a Madaripur brothel on August 27, several human rights organisations yesterday demanded that the attackers be prosecuted.

The organisations also urged the authorities concerned to provide security to the victims, who have been driven out of their homes, to prevent further harassment, says an Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) press release.

ASK, Manusher Jonno Foundation, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association, Sex Workers Network, and PIACT Bangladesh recently visited the affected brothel.

Nearly 500 homes were destroyed and personal possessions worth Tk 50 lakh were looted. A total of 65 sex workers were still missing while another 60 were hurt, said the release.

The organisations said the attack was a clear violation of a previous High Court directive, which instructed to prevent harassment of the sex workers in the area, it added.

RANA PLAZA VICTIMS Sub-committees formed to fix compensation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A committee to set compensation rate for Rana Plaza collapse victims on Thursday formed two sub-committees asking them to submit their reports by September 20.

A sub-committee, headed by economist Prof MM Akash, will formulate a draft for providing financial benefits, while another sub-committee, headed by Dr ABM Abdul Hannan, director (hospital service) of the Directorate General

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JCD activists confine JU VC as BCL men assault their worker

They also damage his vehicle

JU CORRESPONDENT

Jahangirnagar University (JU) unit JCD activists vandalised the vice-chancellor's (VC) vehicle and confined him inside a Savar hospital for around 30 minutes yesterday demanding punishment for BCL activists, who they say, attacked a fellow hours earlier.

The attack left Abdur Rahim Saikat, AFM Kamaluddin Hall unit Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) convener, with a broken left hand and severe injuries on the remaining limbs.

The master's student of history is being treated in a private hospital in the capital's Kakrail after being shifted from JU Medical Centre to Enam Medical College Hospital's Intensive Care Unit in Savar.

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The construction of Gulistan-Jatrabari flyover in the capital is nearing completion and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to inaugurate it this month. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA



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