

Nusrat longs for mother's return

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six-year-old Nusrat Samia still lives in the vain hope that her mother is in hospital. She is too young to understand her mother is never coming back, even after witnessing her mother being crushed under a bus in the capital's Kamalapur area on Tuesday.

"Where is my mother? Why isn't she coming back?"--these are the questions she is badgering her family members with round the clock.

Right after the bus ran over Roksana Begum Laila, 37, killing her on the spot, onlookers whisked off Nusrat to Motijheel Ideal School where her two brothers study, to spare the tender heart the gory scene.

Meanwhile, Nusrat's father Saifullah Khan filed a case accusing the unidentified, absconding driver of the Ananda Paribahan bus, said Syed Ziauzzaman, officer-in-charge, Shajahanpur Police Station.

Anisur Rahman, a paternal uncle of Nusrat, said Roksana's everyday life was centred on her three children, and she would never leave Nusrat to anybody else's care. "Had I got the driver and the bus owner, I would have asked them why three children's lives should be shattered only because of reckless driving," he said.

Roksana was returning home in Rayerbagh with Nusrat, a kindergarten student in Shantinagar, by a rickshaw. Nusrat's brothers Badiur Rahman Leon, 11, and Mehedi Hasan, 14, study in class IV and class VIII.

Roksana will be buried in the capital's Matuail graveyard after Asr prayers today.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina meets President of the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly Ambassador John W Ashe at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on Tuesday.

PHOTO: PID

Tribunal to decide on contempt petition today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 will decide today whether it will issue show cause notices to five officials of private television station Channel 24 and three others, asking for an explanation why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them for commenting on the war crimes case against BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury.

The prosecution filed a petition with the tribunal on Tuesday, seeking the contempt proceedings against the managing director, chief executive officer, executive director, head of programme, and producer of talk show programme "Muktobaak" of Channel 24; anchor of the show and

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NEWSIN brief

Maitree train service shut Oct 15, 16

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The biweekly "Maitree Express" train service between Kolkata and Dhaka will remain suspended for two days, on October 15 (Tuesday) and 16 (Wednesday), on account of Eid-ul Azha, Indian Railways announced yesterday.

The train departs Kolkata every Tuesday and Saturday and leaves Dhaka every Wednesday and Sunday.

"On request from Bangladesh Railway, Indian Railways decided to cancel the trip to avoid operational complications arising due to non-running of trains in Bangladesh on Eid days," an official statement said. Services will resume thereafter, it added.

27 law professionals remembered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday held a full court reference at the chief justice's court-room in memory of 27 law professionals, who died in the last three years.

The personalities, who were honoured on the occasion, included late president M Zillur Rahman, former chief justice Kemaluddin Hossain and eminent jurist Dr M Zahir.

Judges of the Appellate and High Court Divisions of the Supreme Court, law officers and lawyers paid homage to the late jurists.

Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, Attorney General Mahubey Alam and President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) AJ Mohammad Ali spoke on the occasion.

Woman killed by husband

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman was strangled allegedly by her husband at her residence in the capital's Mughda on Tuesday.

The body bore strangulation marks but police are yet to find out the weapon, said Saifuddin, a sub-inspector of Mughda Police Station.

The victim, Nurunnahar, a garment worker, and her husband Altaf Hossain lived separately. However, on Tuesday Altaf visited Nurunnahar around 1:30pm, he said quoting Nurunnahar's father who lived with her.

The victim's father found the body around 3:30pm, he said, adding that Altaf is on the run.

A case was filed.

Four CNG hijackers arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) arrested four alleged three wheeler lifters and seized four CNG-run auto-rickshaws from them at different places in the capital's Demra area on Tuesday night.

The arrestees are Md Shaheen, Ainul Haque, Jamal Uddin and Jamal Hossain.

They used to give food with sedatives to the drivers or rub cream in their eyes and made off with their vehicles, said a press release of CID.

A case was filed with Demra Police Station.

KCC mayor takes office

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

New Khulna City Corporation Mayor Moniruzzaman Mony yesterday at a function took charge of his office from Mayor (in-charge) Azmol Ahmed Tapon.

The opposition alliance-backed mayor vowed to free the city from drugs and the KCC from political influence. He would proceed to fulfill the promises mentioned in his manifesto.

BNP lawmaker Nazrul Islam Manzu, former mayors Sheikh Tayebur Rahman and Sheikh Sirajul Islam were also present.

JU crisis deepens

Teachers declare fresh strike from Sept 28 demanding VC's resignation

SM NAJMUS SAKIB

Jahangirnagar University (JU) teachers yesterday declared a strike from September 28 demanding the vice-chancellor's (VC) resignation as, they claimed, the probe report on the allegations against the VC missed its September 24 submission deadline.

If Prof Anwar Hossain did not resign by September 30, they will embark on tougher movements from October 1, said the teachers under the Sadharon Shikkhak Forum at a press conference on the campus.

Education Secretary Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury told The Daily Star last night that the committee had sought time till September 29, when the report would be submitted.

The two-member committee led by University Grants Commission member M

Muhibur Rahman was formed on September 2 upon a directive of President Abdul Hamid, also the JU chancellor.

The crisis began on April 6 when Bangladesh Chhatra League's JU unit General Secretary Rajib Ahmed Rasel assaulted a teacher.

The agitating teachers launched a movement on April 14 demanding the VC's removal for not expelling Rajib. They also accused him of doing anomalies in teachers' appointments, ruining the campus by taking up unnecessary projects, and misusing funds.

Since April 27, the teachers have been observing strikes at different times. Coupled with other shutdowns, this has caused nearly three months' of session jam.

Academic and administrative activities in the running session were suspended for 34 and 43

days respectively till date, stated the registrar building sources. The students claim the figures are much higher.

Moreover, the teachers have not been attending the meetings of the central admission committee and of the syndicate and finance body as these are headed by the VC.

Without holding meetings, the central admission committee is not being able to decide on whether to hold the 2013-14 session admission exams department or faculty-wise, although the schedule has been fixed from November 2 to 9.

The absence of syndicate meetings is barring MPhil and PhD candidates from getting admission and holding back evaluation of 70 theses while that of the finance body is barring 25 teachers from getting retirement allowances, added the sources.

DEATH SENTENCE OF MOLLAH Pro-BNP lawyers urge reprieve

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A pro-BNP lawyers' association yesterday urged the government not to execute the Supreme Court verdict against war crimes convict Jamaat-e-Islami leader Abdul Quader Mollah until his review petition is settled in that court.

"Article 105 of the constitution ensures the right of every citizen to move a review petition against any Supreme Court verdict. We want to see execution of this provision of the constitution, the supreme law of the country," said Barrister Moudud Ahmed, an adviser of Bangladesh Jatiyabadi Ainjibi Forum (BJAF) and BNP leader.

He was placing a written statement at a press conference organised by BJAF at Supreme Court Bar Association in the capital.

The SC sentenced the 65-year-old Jamaat secretary general to death, overruling the February 5 judgment of International Crimes Tribunal-2, which had given him a life sentence for crimes against humanity during country's Liberation War in 1971.

The convict will file a review petition with the SC against his death penalty after getting the certified copy of the verdict, his lawyers said earlier, though the law minister

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SC HEARING ON APPEAL Sayedee urges two judges to quit bench

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Convicted Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee yesterday filed two separate petitions with the Supreme Court urging its two judges to quit from the five-member bench hearing his appeal challenging a death penalty given to him.

The International Crimes Tribunal (ICT)-1 sentenced Sayedee to death on February 28 for committing crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War.

The two judges are Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha and AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik.

In one petition, Sayedee said, as per "Skype conversations" between the tribunal's former head Justice Md Nizamul Huq and expatriate Bangladeshi legal expert

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Executive President of Ekatturer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee Shahriar Kabir addresses a discussion on "Jamaat-e-Islami's involvement in militancy and international terror network" organised by the committee at National Museum in the capital yesterday. On his left are Imran H Sarker, Justice Ghulam Rabbani, Prof Syed Anwar Husain, Promod Mankin, Ayesha Khanam and Muntassir Mamoon.

PHOTO: STAR

Errant public servants to face music: Nasim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A policymaker of the ruling Awami League yesterday warned public servants of facing "bad consequences" if they do not perform per the government's directives until January 24.

"Those who are in public service will have to act as per the government's guidelines until January 24. Those who will not carry out their responsibilities will face bad consequences and be sent home," said Mohammad Nasim, a member of the AL Presidium.

He was addressing a discussion titled "Successes and Developments of the Present Government" at the party's central office on Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital. Bangabandhu O Jatiya Chhar Neta Parishad organised the discussion.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently said her government will continue till January 24 as it will act as interim government from October 25 to January 24.

Referring to main opposition BNP's threats to paralyse the capital on October 25 for restoration of a non-party caretaker government, Nasim, a former home minister, said nothing will happen on that day.

QAWMI EDUCATION Hefajat opoes proposed law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Radical Islamist organisation Hefajat-e Islam yesterday sent copies of a memorandum to the prime minister, through the deputy commissioners, urging not to pass the "Qawmi Madrasa Shikkha Kortripokkho Ain-2013" in parliament and demanding implementation of their 13-point demand.

The act would destroy "the existence of Qwami madrasas, its education trends and freedom of religious practices," it read.

In another statement, the Hefajat leaders gave contradictory claims on whether police had actually charged baton on Hefajat activists, intent on going to the deputy commissioner's office, near Baitul Mukarram National Mosque yesterday.

Moulana Farid Uddin Masuod, co-chairman of

Speaker hopes opposition's return to JS

UNB, Dhaka

Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury yesterday hoped that the opposition will take the scope for resolving differences by taking part in discussions in parliament on any national issue.

"I say parliament is the centre of democracy where elected representatives can take part in discussions in light of the constitution and as per parliament's rules of procedure," she said.

The 19th session of parliament starting on September 12 will resume on September 30, Shirin replied to queries by journalists at the "Service Innovation Fund Award" presentation programme.

Access to Information Programme (A2I), Prime Minister's Office organised the event in the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

Addressing as chief guest, Shirin said it was high time to utilise technology for ensuring public service delivery and improve lives.

"In this process of transformation, it is the youth who are thinking out of the box." The award was a unique way to promote innovations for better services ensuring good governance, she said.

US Ambassador in Dhaka Dan W Mozena and UNDP Country Director Pauline Tamesis also spoke.

German envoy visits Rana Plaza collapse victims at CRP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

German Ambassador Albrecht Conze yesterday visited Rana Plaza collapse injured victims at Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP) in Savar and assured them of the German government's support.

The German government had donated €50,000 for such victims, said a press release.

He thanked Valerie Taylor and her team at the CRP for their support.

To help the victims who suffered long-term injuries, the German government has earmarked additional €2.5 million under an ongoing project of German development organisation GIZ, it added.

KEEPING CHILDREN AWAY FROM HAZARDOUS JOBS Enforcing law urgent Seminar told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Proper implementation of laws is needed to stop children from getting involved in hazardous jobs in the country, said speakers at a seminar in the capital yesterday.

They said causes of child labour in the country have been already identified but those need to be addressed.

The seminar on child labour was jointly organised by International Labour Organisation (ILO), Terre des Hommes- Netherlands and Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) in the Cirdap auditorium.

The speakers opined that overall economic development might reduce child labour in the country.

Referring to the national plan of action 2012-2016, a five-year government policy, Dhaka University's Dr Mohammad Nazmuzzaman Bhuian said there are 7.4 million children aged between five and 17 working in the country and among them 1.3 million are involved in hazardous jobs.

He pointed out that the government has published a list of 38 hazardous jobs for children through a gazette notification. "However, the list ignores agricultural activities, mining and quarrying, domestic work and the use of children to transport harmful goods including drugs, firearms and explosives," he said.

Srinivas B Reddy, ILO country director, said the number of child labourers in the Asia-Pacific region was rising.

Labour and Employment Secretary Mikail Shipar, Emranul Huq Chowdhury, chairperson of BSAF, Dr Monirul Islam Khan of Dhaka University and Syed Sultan Uddin Ahmmed of BILS also spoke.

Discussion

Bangladesh Muktijoddha Gonoparishad will hold a discussion marking the first death anniversary of journalist Ataus Samad; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Job fair

BITA will organise a job fair; Venue: Brac Centre Inn, Mohakhali; Time: 11:00am.

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