

Youth kills himself at DMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth committed suicide yesterday morning by jumping off the fifth floor of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where he was admitted after he tried to kill himself through taking sleeping pills.

The deceased, Mohammad Hafiz, 22, hailed from Bandar of Narayanganj.

Earlier on Saturday, Hafiz had attempted suicide by taking sleeping pills after an argument with a girl he loved, said deceased's brother Al Amin. He, however, could not name the girl.

At first, Hafiz was taken to a local clinic, but as his condition deteriorated he was shifted to DMCH the same day.

Hafiz, at 5:00am yesterday, woke up from sleep and jumped off the building when his attendant was in the toilet.

Critically injured, Hafiz was taken to the hospital's neurosurgery ward and then to ICU where doctors declared him dead.

DMCH sources said Hafiz was suffering from psychological trauma.

Two Jamaat leaders held in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Police arrested two Jamaat-Islami leaders in Sylhet city's Pathantola area yesterday evening on charge of clashing with law enforcers.

The arrested are Ameer Anwar Hossain Khan and Secretary Islam Uddin.

Jalalabad Police Station Officer-in-Charge Gousul Hossain said the two were held in a case filed over clashing with police and Rapid Action Battalion on Sylhet-Sunamganj road at Tuberbar during the BNP-led opposition's blockade on December 11.



Two women collect ripe tomatoes into a pile at Gabtoli in Bogra yesterday. Due to consecutive blockades and hartals, the price of this perishable vegetable has dropped to only Tk 12 a kg this year from Tk 50 of the previous year. PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Man arrested with 2.5kg of smuggled gold in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was arrested with 22 smuggled gold bars weighing around 2.5 kilogrammes and worth about Tk 1 crore in the capital's Roysaheb Bazar area Monday night, said police.

The arrestee is Kamol Das, 38.

Over his suspicious movement at a police check post around 10:30pm, the law enforcers searched him and found the gold bars, said Tapan Chandra Saha, officer-in-charge of Wari Police Station.

Kamol, who claimed to be a jewellery shop employee at Baitul Mukarram mosque market, could not show any papers in support of the gold, he said.

A case was filed with the police station.

Nirmal Sen's anniversary of death today

BSS, Dhaka



The first death anniversary of Nirmal Sen, a politician, eminent writer and journalist, will be observed today.

He died on January 8, 2013. As per his wish, his body was donated for medical research.

Comrade Nirmal Sen Death Anniversary Commemorative Meeting Preparatory Committee will place a wreath at his portrait at the temporary stage at Nirmal Sen auditorium on 23/2 Topkhana Road in the capital at 10:30am.

Sen was born on August 3, 1930 at Dighirpar village of Kotalipara in Gopalganj. He got involved in

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SC judges set to get hiked salaries soon

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The 50 percent increase in the monthly salary of the Supreme Court judges is set to come into effect shortly, as the gazette notification regarding this is expected within a few weeks.

Judges of both the Appellate and High Court divisions will get the increased remunerations as a special allowance from July 1 last year with a retrospective effect, law ministry officials told The Daily Star.

The monthly salary of the chief justice is now Tk 56,000, while an appellate judge receives Tk 53,100 and a High Court judge Tk 49,100. These amounts will double after the government issues the gazette following amendment of a relevant ordinance.

Apart from monthly salaries, the judges get

house rents and medical facilities from the government, according to sources in the SC.

The finance ministry on December 8 last year sent a letter to the law ministry, saying the monthly remunerations of the judges had been raised by 50 percent and asked the law ministry to take steps to amend the Supreme Court Judges (Remuneration and Privileges) Ordinance, 2010 to give effect to the increase, said the sources.

Requesting anonymity, a law ministry high official told The Daily Star on January 3 that the government would issue a gazette notification within a couple of weeks.

Earlier on June 15, 2011, the HC had ordered the government to implement the recommendations of a parliamentary sub-committee on raising the salaries and

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Man found dead in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man was found dead beside Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Sreepur upazila's Beraiderchala of Gazipur yesterday nearly 12 hours after he had gone missing.

Fayez Mollah, 45, was supervisor of Meghna Cycle Industries Ltd in the area.

Police recovered the body from a deserted field around 5:00am.

Sreepur police Sub-inspector Golam Kibria said the body bore several marks of injuries.

The victim's brother Hafez Mollah said Fayez had been missing since 7:30pm Monday.

Jewel's body arrives from Iran Death of the migrant worker leaves his poor family broke

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of migrant worker Jewel Mollah, who met with a tragic death in Iran 23 days ago, arrived at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital yesterday.

The 24-year-old youth was allegedly beaten to death by six of his compatriots over a dispute at Bandar Abbas in Iran on December 14 last year.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) donated the money to bring the body back home, said Binoy Krishna Mallik, executive director of Rights Jessore, an NGO, which dealt with the process.

He was one of the 30 Bangladeshi migrants confined in Iran for over three months at Bandar Abbas since September last year by a gang of abductors, also Bangladeshis.

Jewel along with his 29 compatriots got freed from confinement on November 24 but six of his fellow Bangladeshis

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Kuwait may start hiring Bangladeshis

Says BMET DG

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After more than seven years, Kuwait again may start hiring Bangladeshis with around 600 workers for its agriculture sector, said a top BMET official.

"We have received a demand letter of 593 workers, which is placed by a Kuwaiti company," Begum Shamsun Nahar, director general of the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, told reporters in the capital yesterday.

She also claimed that from now on Kuwait would recruit workers from Bangladesh on a regular basis.

Bangladesh embassy in Kuwait said the recruitment of around 600 workers was still under process. Due to various reasons, including irregularities done by the recruiting agencies and criminal activities by Bangladeshi migrant workers, Kuwait stopped recruitment from Bangladesh since October 2006.

According to the embassy, around 2,00,000 Bangladeshis are currently working in Kuwait.

MONEY LAUNDERING CASE ACC to pray to HC for hearing appeal against Tarique's acquittal

Anti-graft watchdog lawyer tells The Daily Star

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Anti-Corruption Commission will pray to the High Court so that it hears the appeal against the acquittal of BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman in a money laundering case as soon as the court starts functioning properly after the ongoing political shutdowns.

The commission could not file the prayer with the HC earlier, as its judges did not sit in courtrooms due to ongoing blockades and hartals enforced by the opposition political parties, ACC's counsel Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star on Sunday.

He said if the HC accepted the appeal, it would serve a notice on Tarique, also the elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, regarding this so that the defendant could place arguments through his lawyers. Then, it will open the

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Man dies trying to save another

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An elderly man died as a train ran him over when he moved to save a pedestrian on the railway tracks in the capital's Jurain yesterday evening.

The identity of the pedestrian could not be known as he fled the scene soon after the incident.

The deceased, Mojibul Pradhan, 65, hailed from Chandpur, was a vegetable vendor beside the rail line.

Anwar Kamal, sub-inspector of Kamalapur Railway Police Station, said the Kamalapur-bound train was heading towards the pedestrian while he was crossing the rail line and talking over the cellphone.

He was so absent minded that he could not hear the warnings from the people behind him, the SI said.

Later, Mojibul pushed the man off the tracks, he said.



The grief-stricken father Shahjahan Mollah and sister Kalpana Akter cry their heart out holding the coffin of Jewel Mollah, 24, at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital where his body arrived from Tehran yesterday. The migrant worker was beaten to death by six compatriots in Iran on December 14 last year. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Canadian High Commissioner in Dhaka Heather Cruden meets BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at the latter's Gulshan residence in the capital last night, two days after the 10th parliamentary election that was boycotted by the main opposition and its allies. PHOTO: COURTESY

Police officer's wife 'commits suicide' in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Wife of a police official allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from a ceiling fan in their Gazipur city residence at Rathkhola yesterday.

The deceased was Sufia Islam, 40, wife of Aminul Islam, assistant superintendent of police of Industrial Police in Ashulia.

SM Kamruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Joydevpur Police Station, said Sufia killed herself when Aminul left his house in the area for his office in the morning.

The cause behind the suicide could not be known immediately.

The body was sent to Gazipur Sadar Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

Two women arrested with 42kg of hemp in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Two women were held with 42kg of marijuana at their house in Baildia village of Sreepur in Gazipur yesterday.

Officials of Department of Narcotics Control Taskforce arrested Lima, 25, wife of Abdur Rashid, and Sonia Akter, 23, wife of Shamim Mia, with the drugs. But Abdur managed to escape.

A case was filed with Sreepur Police Station.

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