

# Auto-rickshaw driver found dead in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The driver of a CNG-run auto-rickshaw was found dead on the road near the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport area yesterday noon.

The deceased was Mohammad Ilias, 50, of Mohammadpur.

Family members said he might have been killed by Agyan Party (a gang to dope people).

The victim's cousin Mohammad Kalim, also the owner of the auto-rickshaw, said Ilias went out of his home with the vehicle around 7:00am yesterday.

"Someone informed me over the phone that the driver of my auto-rickshaw was found unconscious under a foot over-bridge near the airport," he said.

Later, Kalim took the victim to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

Quoting witnesses, airport police said Ilias coming from Dakkhin Khan became unconscious immediately after he got down from the vehicle.

Police were investigating the matter, they added.

# Woman jumps into river with three daughters

Two girls die; mother, another kid survive

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Locals recovered the bodies of two minor girls from the Padma river in Khalifarchar village of Chapainawabganj sadar upazila yesterday, several hours after their "mentally imbalanced" mother jumped into the river with her three daughters.

Akhtara Begum and one of her daughters, Shaheeda, 8, were rescued by fishermen immediately, said Alamgir Kabir, chairman of Narayanpur union.

But her two other children--Mahmuda Khatun, 2, and Hameda Khatun, 6--had been missing, and their bodies were recovered around 2:30pm yesterday, he said.

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# Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur



Advocate Rezina Razzak, administrator of Rangpur Zila

Parishad and also senior vice-president of Awami League district unit, died at United Hospital in the capital yesterday morning. She was 69.

She had been suffering from throat cancer for long.

She was the wife of Language Movement veteran Shah Abdur Razzak, also a former lawmaker and president of AL Rangpur district unit.

She will be buried at her family graveyard at Churulua village in Pirgachha upazila today after Zohr prayers, said Advocate Rezaul Karim Raju, general secretary of AL Rangpur district unit.



Severe traffic congestion near Doulatdia ferry ghat in Rajbari as a large number of vehicles plied the route yesterday, the first day of a two-day recess in the indefinite countrywide blockade enforced by BNP-led 18-party alliance.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

RANA PLAZA RUBBLES

# Operation to recover human remains sought

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Several hundred people from all walks of life, including labour rights activists and garment workers, who survived the Rana Plaza collapse, yesterday demanded an operation to recover human remains from the rubble of the building.

They made the demand at a human chain formed at the site of the collapsed building in Savar, on the outskirts of the capital.

The human chain was formed under the banners of Bangladesh Garments and Industrial Workers Federation, Textile Garments Workers Federation and Garments Workers Front.

The demonstrators also brought out a procession blocking the Dhaka-Aricha highway for about half-an-hour.

Referring to sporadic recovery of human remains over the last one month, speakers demanded that a full-fledged operation be launched to uncover the remains.

Ashrafuddin Khan, former

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# 2 killed, 12 hurt as train hits truck in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Two people were killed and 12 others injured when a train hit a sand-laden truck while it was crossing Joydevpur-Bangabandhu Bridge rail tracks at Basail upazila in Tangail yesterday morning.

The dead were truck driver Sujat Ali, 32, of Solonga upazila, and labourer Izar Uddin, 30, of Raiganj upazila of Sirajganj district.

The Dhaka-bound truck flung into a roadside ditch after being hit by the train at Tenguriapara in Habla. Seven of the injured were on the rooftop of the train, one was pedestrian and the others were on the truck, said Md Salahuddin Miah, officer-in-charge of Basail Police Station, quoting witnesses.

There was no bar or gateman as it was an unauthorised level crossing, said locals.

Locals rushed the injured to Mirzapur Upazila Health Complex but four of them were referred to Mirzapur Kumudini Hospital, said Khorshed Alam, chairman of Habla Union Parishad.

The truck owner, who also hails from Sirajganj, sent the bodies to their village homes, said the OC.

# TWO-DAY PAUSE IN BLOCKADE People suffer for AL rally on first day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Though the two-day pause in the opposition's indefinite blockade gave the people a sense of respite, the city dwellers experienced horrible traffic congestion in the capital yesterday due to the ruling party's grand rally at Suhrawardy Udyan.

The roads leading to and surrounding the historic ground were choked with processions of the Awami League and its associate bodies, and vehicles had been stuck there for hours.

Ahmed Hasan came out of house to have some of his works done before the indefinite blockade begins again on Sunday. It took him two and a half hours to reach Farmgate from Laxmibazar, a distance only a little over eight kilometres.

"It is really unfortunate. Neither the government nor the opposition thinks

about us. They are doing everything for their political gain while the people are left to suffer," an aggrieved Hasan told The Daily Star.

The Shahbagh-Matsya Bhaban and Shahbagh-Farmgate roads are where commuters suffered the most. Vehicular movement on those roads had remained almost halted for several hours from 2:30pm, half an hour before the AL's rally started at Suhrawardy Udyan, a few hundred metres away from Shahbagh intersection.

The ruling party held the rally on the occasion of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Homecoming Day.

The traffic jam particularly caused sufferings to people travelling back and forth to schools, colleges and universities which were kept open to hold pending exams and classes though it was Friday.

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# NEGLECT IN ADOLESCENT NUTRITION Many girls exposed to pregnancy-related risks

Shows National Nutrition Service study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A good number of the country's adolescent girls are exposed to severe health risks later in life, as the government and development agencies have overlooked the issue of their nutritional needs over the years, according to a study.

It shows the nutritional needs of the inhabitants of Dhaka, Chittagong Hill Tracts and Rajshahi are largely neglected, as projects have been focused and operated on nutrition in the coastal belt, upper Padma char region, and lower Chittagong division.

National Nutrition Service (NNS), under the health ministry, launched the "Nutrition Activities Mapping across Sectors in Bangladesh" at the capital's National Nutrition Institute yesterday. It carried out the study in November-December last year.

The map based on 201 projects aimed to identify priority areas where complementary activities need to be introduced or scaled up. It shows roughly 50 percent of the projects concentrated on maternal nutrition and infant and young child feeding while less than 20 percent addressed nutrition problems of adolescents.

Dr SM Mustafizur Rahman, programme manager, NNS,

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# Road crashes kill eight

CITY DESK

Eight people were killed and three others injured in separate road accidents across the country yesterday and on Thursday.

Our Chittagong correspondent reports, three people were killed in a road accident at Jafarabad on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Mirsarai upazila of Chittagong early yesterday.

The dead, Ataur Rahman, 35, Kofil Uddin, 36, and Md Forkan, 22, were on a motorbike when the mishap occurred. However, police could not ascertain how the accident happened. The trio were relatives and hailed from Barguna village of Banskhali upazila.

Highway police recovered the bodies of Ataur and Kofil from the road around 2:30am while Forkan was declared dead at a hospital at Sitakunda.

In another accident in the port city, a teenager was killed when a truck hit her while she was crossing a road in Sadarghat area yesterday morning.

The victim is Popi Begum, 18, wife of Md Suman, of Banskhali upazila.

Our Pabna correspondent adds, two people were killed and three others injured as a microbus collided head-on with a car carrying them at bridge no-6 of the Jamuna Bridge link road in Sirajganj on Thursday night.

One of the deceased was identified as Md Auliur Rahman, 35.

Our Rangpur correspondent reports, a man was killed when a paddy-laden truck ran him over on Rangpur-Haragachh road in Shalban-Mistripura area of Rangpur city yesterday.

The deceased was Abu Awal Bosunia, 42, of the area, a laboratory demonstrator of Rangpur Government College.

Police seized the truck, however, the driver and his helper escaped from the spot soon after the accident.

A Comilla correspondent adds, a fish trader was killed when a speeding truck knocked him down while he was crossing Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Toll Plaza area of Daudkandi upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was Monir Hossain, 38, of Tuzarvanga village of the upazila.



PHOTO: STAR

Senior painters draw the caricatures of war criminals and write slogans against Razakars on a length of canvas in front of the Faculty of Fine Arts at Dhaka University yesterday. Bikkhubdha Shilpi Samaj (Society of Aggrieved Artists) organised the programme to condemn the recent attacks on Hindus. During the Liberation War in 1971, the local collaborators aided the Pakistani army in the persecution of the religious minority community in a similar way.



Campaigners portraying the harmful effects of all sorts of tobacco consumption as part of an anti-tobacco communication campaign before the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday. Progga, an NGO, launched the campaign yesterday to make people aware about the Smoking and Tobacco Product Usage (Control) (Amendment) Act 2013.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

# Abducted girl rescued in capital, culprit held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion rescued a one-year-old girl in the capital yesterday afternoon seven days after she had been kidnapped from their Adabor residence in Mohammadpur.

Earlier on Thursday, Rab-2 arrested the alleged kidnapper Nesar Uddin, 32, at his village home in Chouddogram of Comilla.

Based on his information, Anika was rescued from a house at Pirerbagh in the capital's Mirpur, said Habibur Rahman, Rab's media wing director.

Anika's mother Ruma and Nesar work as cooks at a restaurant "Bhola Hotel" in Adabor, said Habibur.

After abduction, Nesar demanded Tk 1.5 lakh as ransom from the family over the phone, he added.

# Govt to formulate e-service regulations

BSS, Dhaka

The government is going to introduce e-service regulations soon keeping a provision to set up an e-service authority to create disciplined environment in electronic service (e-service) delivery and ensure quality service to the people, said a top official of the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology.

He said the draft regulations titled "e-Service Regulations 2013" which is now under process to launch anytime, has been prepared as per article 88 of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Act 2006.

"We are going to introduce e-service regulations to ensure quality and standard electronic services in a disciplined way to the people against the backdrop of delivering of over 250 e-services in the public sector," said ICT Secretary Md Nazrul Islam Khan (NI Khan).

He said there was no regulatory body to oversee the quality of e-services at the moment although hundreds of e-services were being created both in public and private sectors.

Immediately after gazette notification of the e-Service Regulations 2013, the ICT ministry will set up the e-service authority within a short span of time to create a disciplined environment and ensure quality e-services to the people.

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# Rally

Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad will stage a rally protesting the arson attacks on the minority communities; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar; Time: 3:00pm.

# Book publication

The Prothom Alo will arrange the publication ceremony of a book titled "Goniter Jadu" (The magic of mathematics); Venue: Prothom Alo office, Karwan Bazar; Time: 3:00pm.

# Discussion

Bangabandhu Academy will hold a discussion on Bangabandhu's Homecoming Day; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 11:00am.