



Shaheed Asad Day today

UNB, Dhaka

Shaheed Asad Day will be observed today, commemorating the supreme sacrifice of student leader Asad during the days of mass uprising of 1969 that led to the country's independence. On this day in 1969, Asaduzzaman was killed in firing by Pakistani forces before Dhaka Medical College Hospital while protesting their repression on the then East Pakistan people.

Then the graduate student of history at Dhaka University, Asad was also the DU unit president and Dhaka city unit general secretary of erstwhile East Pakistan Chhatra Union. Field Marshal Ayub Khan was forced to step down amid a mass revolt fuelled by the incident.

Different socio-political organisations, including Shaheed Asad Parishad, have chalked out elaborate programmes that include placing wreaths at the memorial plaque of Asad in front of the DMCH and

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CTG ARMS HAUL CASES Accused NSI officer seeks quizzing of first IO

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the verdict set to be delivered on January 30, an accused in the Chittagong arms haul cases has sought High Court permission for further cross-examination of the first investigation officer (IO).

Yesterday, an HC bench held a brief hearing on the January 12 petition filed by Akbar Hossain, a former National Security Intelligence field officer, and fixed Thursday for further hearing.

Akbar stated that he was not allowed to cross-examine the IO, Ahadur Rahman, as the latter had been transferred to another police station.

Deputy Attorney General Khondker Diliruzzaman told The Daily Star that it was the second IO, not Ahadur, who mentioned

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Child drowns in bucket in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-and-half-year-old girl drowned in a bucket of water while her mother was cooking in the kitchen inside their Meredia residence in the capital's Khilgaon around 1:30pm yesterday.

Dhaka Medical College Hospital doctors declared dead Nusrat Jara, the only child of Jakir Hossain, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver, and Mousumy Akhter.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Delays by the contractor in installing underground electric cables has left trenches and mounds of earth on this road in the capital's Madartek for long, causing frequent traffic congestion. Moreover, with no electricity, the streetlamps cannot be turned on at night, leading to accidents every day. The photo was taken on Saturday noon.

COP, WIFE MURDER

Oishee denied bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent Oishee Rahman back to jail after rejecting her bail petition in connection with the murder of her parents -- Special Branch of Police inspector Mahfuzur Rahman and Swapna Rahman.

Metropolitan Magistrate Asaduzzaman Nur also directed the jail authorities to supply textbooks to Oishee as she will sit for O-level examinations scheduled to be held in May.

In his order, the magistrate said Oishee had earlier made confessional statement before a magistrate admitting her role in the murders. Moreover, three other courts rejected her bail petition, so her bail was denied.

Oishee's lawyer Mahbub Hasan Rana submitted the bail prayer before the court saying that his client needs bail as she has decided to sit for the O-level exams.

This was the fourth time that her bail was denied.

The bodies of Mahfuzur, 48, and his wife Swapna Rahman, were recovered from their Chamelibagh residence in the capital on August 16, 2013.

After Oishee surrendered at Paltan Police Station the following day, detectives picked up four more people in connection with the murder.

NARSINGDI SIX-MURDER

HC splits over death sentence for 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-judge High Court bench yesterday delivered a split verdict over a lower court judgment that sentenced seven persons to death in a case filed for killing six members of a family in Narsingdi in 2007.

Senior judge of the bench Justice Shahidul Islam turned down the lower court verdict while junior judge of the bench Justice Abdur Rob upheld it. The HC judges delivered the verdict after hearing the appeals filed by the condemned convicts.

Advocate Khabir Uddin Bhuiyan, a defence lawyer, told The Daily Star that the judges will now send the case records along with their verdicts to the chief justice who will send those to another HC bench for its final disposal.

Additional District and Sessions Judge AKM Abul Kashem of Narsingdi on March 17, 2008 gave the death sentence to Akhtaruzzaman Biru, Dhud Miah, Sharif Bhuiyan, Shahid Mia, Fazlul Haq, Swapan

Mia and Jahangir for the killing.

According to the prosecution, Raisuddin, 52, his wife Salma Begum, 48, their son Rajib, 22, and daughters Yuona, 28, Swarna, 26, and adopted daughter Urmi, 8, were killed at their house at Bhelanagar in Narsingdi town on the night of May 17, 2007. The criminals slit the throats of Yuona and Swarna after rape and strangled four others.

Citing the case statement, Khabir Uddin Bhuiyan said the miscreants went to the house of Raisuddin for looting, as they had information that the family had a cash of Tk 10 lakh.

He said the miscreants entered the house by cutting its grilles and killed them with iron rods and sharp weapons. As the decomposed bodies started spreading stench, locals informed police of the matter five days after the gruesome murder. Police later recovered the bodies.

Raisuddin's younger brother Shahjahan Bhuiyan alias Ratan filed the murder case with Narsingdi Sadar Police Station.

Jica experts teach students what to do during earthquakes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A team of experts from Jica yesterday held a training workshop in Viharunnisa Noon School to teach students what to do during an earthquake.

The workshop included video clippings of massive earthquakes that hit Japan, and interactive demonstrations on how people should react during a tremor to reach to safe locations.

The workshop was held under the project "Capacity Development on Natural Disaster-Resistant Techniques of Construction and Retrofitting for Public Buildings", implemented by Public Works Department with technical support from Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica).

Jica Communication Specialist Eriko Kobayashi said although Bangladesh's geographic location is in a high-risk seismic zone, the country does not have the capacity to deal with such calamities.

Historically major earthquakes hit the region every 100-150 years, the last one hitting Assam in 1897, she said, adding that it is time to prepare for another tremor.

If proper measures are not taken, unsafe buildings in Dhaka

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Five 'commit suicide' in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five people allegedly committed suicide in different areas of the capital yesterday and Saturday.

In Mirpur-12, a 15-year-old domestic help, Abdur Rahim, of Bandarban, hanged himself from a ceiling fan at the house of his employer, Col Shahid Islam.

However, police could not ascertain the reason behind the suicide.

Meanwhile at sector-14 in Uttara, another house help, Madhabi Akther, of Netrakona, hanged herself from a water pipe in a bathroom in the house of businessman Ali Azam and his wife Kamrunnahr Jasmine.

The couple found the hanging body when they returned home hours later on Saturday night.

Dhaka Medical College morgue sources confirmed that both of them committed suicide.

In another incident, Masia, 14, took her life by hanging herself from the ceiling fan in her house in Coca Cola area of Bhatara yesterday morning, said police.

In Turag city, Md Jasim, 25, committed suicide by hanging himself from a beam in his house yesterday, said police. Shah Ali police said Jasim had been suffering from depression as his wife left him recently.

Meanwhile, a rickshaw puller, Abdul Barek, 47, committed suicide by hanging himself from a rafter in his South Manikdi house yesterday afternoon.

Police could not ascertain the reason for his suicide immediately.

The body was sent to DMCH morgue for an autopsy.

Two held with VoIP equipment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion arrested two persons with a huge quantity of illegal Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) equipment worth Tk 50 lakh at a house in the capital's Hazaribagh yesterday.

The arrestees are Habib Ullah Swapan, 35, and Abdul Matin, 27.

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Road crashes kill five

CITY DESK

Five people were killed and 18 others injured in separate road accidents in the country yesterday and Saturday.

Our Feni correspondent reports, a person was killed and three others were injured when a truck hit a CNG-run auto-rickshaw carrying them on Feni-Sonagazi road

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Makeshift shops are set up on the footpath beside Malibagh DIT road in the capital pushing pedestrians onto the main street putting them in danger of accidents. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pankaj Saran calls on President Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PID



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