



Police use a water cannon to disperse garment workers of five factories of Tuba Group, the parent company of Tazreen Fashions Ltd, in front of Hossain Market of the capital's Badda yesterday. The workers blocked Kuril Bishwa Road for half an hour, demanding arrears of two months and the salaries of the first 15 days of the current month in addition to the Eid bonus. Police also charged batons, leaving at least 10 demonstrators injured. Inset, a wounded female worker lying on the road.



PHOTOS: COURTESY

# RMG WORKERS OF TUBA GROUP Cop action leaves 10 injured

They were demanding arrears of two months blocking road in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several hundred workers of five garment factories of Tuba Group, the parent company of Tazreen Fashions Ltd, blocked the Kuril Bishwa Road in the capital yesterday morning, demanding payment of two months' arrears and the salary of the first 15 days of the current month apart from the Eid bonus.

The half-an-hour blockade caused huge traffic chaos in the area before police rushed in and broke up the agitators, firing water cannons and using batons, said Abdul Jalil officer-in-charge of Badda Police Station. At least 10 demonstrators were injured, the workers claimed.

The protestors said they were not paid the salaries of May and June despite assurances from the authorities twice. Yesterday, about 400 to 500 workers gathered to collect the salaries as per an earlier assurance but the authorities broke the promise again, and the workers took to the street for that, they added.

Police said they requested the workers to leave the road, as it was creating traffic congestion, but they got agitated, tried to damage vehicles, and hurled bricks at them, forcing them to use water cannons.

Tazreen Fashions' owner Delwar Hossain is now in jail in the cases filed over the deadly fire at the factory in Ashulia in November 2012, which killed 112 workers.

Babul Akhter, president of Bangladesh Garments and Industrial Workers Federation, said around 1,600 workers were employed in the five factories of Tuba Group in Badda, and they had been staging protests since June for their arrears.

Babul said that after a consensus among Tazreen owners, BGMEA and workers' leaders in late June, the authorities

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## Khaleda's conceit reaches new height

She claims her alliance enjoys 95pc public support

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led 20-party alliance has the support of ninety-five percent of the people, who are united and ready to save the country from Sheikh Hasina's "repressive and killer government", claimed Khaleda Zia yesterday.

"The country is in a grave crisis at present and the people are united to get rid of the situation. We all have to play strong role to oust the government after Eid," the BNP chief said at an iftar party at a hotel in the capital.

Jamaat-e-Islami organised the programme in honour of politicians, journalists and leaders of different professional bodies.

In her brief speech, Khaleda, also chief of the 20-party alliance, said people were being killed every day in the hands of members of law enforcement agencies and ruling party cadres.

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## SHOOTING OF AL LEADER IN DHANMONDI 3 more suspects arrested

All 7 arrestees sent on 5-day remand each; case handed over to DB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police late on Tuesday arrested three more people for their alleged involvement in the shooting of a central Awami League leader last month.

Monirul Islam, joint commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), disclosed this at a press briefing at DMP Media Centre in the capital yesterday.

The arrested are Nur-e-Alam Siddique, 47, a mastermind; Rana Hawlader, 25, driver of the motorbike used in attacking Shameem; and Nazmul Haque Mithu, who hired goons, the detectives claimed.

The AL leader, AKM Enamul Hoque Shameem, was shot twice in his left hand on June 19 near Ibn Sina Diagnostic and Imaging Centre, on his way to Stamford University at Dhanmondi in the capital.

Earlier on Tuesday, Rapid Action Battalion detained four suspects including Mohammad Harun and Mehedi Hasan alias Saikat, who were on the motorbike and shot at Shameem, the founder and president of Board of Trustees of the university.

A case filed with Dhanmondi Police Station following the incident was handed over to DB yesterday. When they were produced, a Dhaka court approved a five-day remand for each of the seven arrestees.

Monirul Islam, also spokesperson of DMP, said Siddique, a former trustee of the university, was removed from the post on suspicion of selling fake certificates in exchange for money.

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## PM urges Chevron to supply gas from Bibiana

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged Chevron to supply gas from Bibiana Natural Gas Field Expansion and Capacity Building project to the national grid by September this year.

The prime minister made the request when Senior Vice President of Upstream of Chevron Jay Johnson met her at her office.

After the meeting, PM's Press Secretary AKM Shamim Chowdhury briefed reporters.

Johnson hoped that the project will be completed by October next as it is at the last stage and the natural gas from this project will be added to the national grid accordingly.

He congratulated the prime minister on assuming office for the second consecutive term and

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## I saw Subhan pick up Kalimuddin

Centenarian man testifies at war crimes tribunal about a martyr's killing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A centenarian prosecution witness yesterday testified that Jamaat-e-Islami leader Abdus Subhan, along with another Razakar, picked up one person from his neighbouring village and the man was subsequently killed by Razakars.

Hossain Sarder, resident of Sreekole Diarpara in Pabna, told the International Crimes Tribunal-2 that he had seen Subhan and other Razakars take one Kalimuddin of Tatipara village of Pabna Sadar inside a building and later he was found dead.

Earlier, Nizamuddin Khan, nephew of

martyred Kalimuddin Khan, also gave almost an identical testimony about the abduction and killing, and said Sarder accompanied them when they were searching for his uncle.

During his brief testimony, Sarder said Subhan, along with Samad Razakar, picked up Kalimuddin from one Gobinda's tea stall in late Bhadra, a Bangla month, and took him to a nearby Razakar camp before taking him to Pabna.

On the following day, when Kalimuddin's family members started the search for him, he joined them and when

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## PM receives info commission report 2013

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Information Commissioner Mohammad Faruk yesterday handed over the commission's annual report 2013 to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office.

Receiving the report, the prime minister said the free flow of information has been ensured in the country with the establishment of the Information Commission.

"It'll also help ensure all rights of the country's people in the future," she said.

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## To Know is to Prevent

### No need to go abroad for complex ENT surgeries!!

The day started just like another usual Friday for Mohammed Mir Gulzar. As it was the weekend, he did not have to rush to his electronics shop and worry about selling appliances to customers. Gulzar lives in Qatar, far away from his family who lives in Bangladesh. Over breakfast with his nephew and brother who lived in Qatar with him, Gulzar suddenly started to feel numb in his face, along with dizziness and a loss of balance. "Take me to hospital," those were the last words he said before ending up in the intensive-care ward, hooked up to a life-support machine in a hospital in a land far away from home.

Gulzar was unconscious for two months in the ICU of a hospital in Qatar, struggling between life and death. After he regained his senses, he found that he was unable to breathe on his own. As he found it difficult to breathe, he had to undergo surgeries twice on his trachea (windpipe) to create a hole, a surgical procedure called tracheostomy. But unfortunately the operations led to tracheal stenosis, a complex condition where the rings of his windpipe got hard and congested. As a result of blockage in the windpipe, Gulzar could not talk and could not even breathe without support; he was unable to utter a single word for one long year. Finally, he decided that enough was enough, and resolved to return to Bangladesh. As soon as he reached the airport, Gulzar's wife decided to take him to an International Standard Tertiary Care hospital without any further delay.



"When he was brought to the hospital, we discovered the blockage above the tracheostomy tube," says Gulzar's ENT Consultant. Even though he was breathing through the tube artificially, he was not able to speak as his trachea had abnormally constricted due to the prior surgeries. The ENT Surgeon here first did laser dilation of Gulzar's stenosis, but that had granular deposit at the site because of which Gulzar wasn't being able to talk and breathe properly. "So I decided to go for another surgery where I reset his second to fifth tracheal rings and made anastomosis between the first and sixth tracheal rings," the ENT Consultant says.

\* Real name and photo used with patient's permission  
\*\* This information is for public awareness only; it is NOT a medical advice

For further queries or feedback call Dr. Nafiz Ahmed at 01713240314 (everyday 9am to 5pm) or write back to us at 2know2prevent@apolldhaka.com

Conducting this surgery in Gulzar's airway was not an easy feat. A number of risks are associated with surgeries of such delicate nature, and they require careful coordination between the surgeon,



anesthesiologist, and the operating team. It was a five hour long operation. Gulzar was kept under intense observation for two days, so that any immediate measures can be taken if something went wrong with him.

The rest of the story is no less than a miracle for Gulzar and his family. The odds of his talking again and breathing on his own were very slim, that's what the doctors in Qatar told him. But now here he is, able to breathe without any extra help from a pipe and taking the first steps to regaining his speech. Gulzar will undergo speech therapy after a month or so when his trachea is fully strengthened.

Contrary to general belief that our local hospitals are inept at dealing with complicated ailments, our countrymen suffering abroad are deciding to come back to our country to avail complicated surgery in International Standard hospital here. So why go abroad spending all these money when you can have similar or better treatment here?



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