

Goldfish

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from its head, leaving his owner with two options: to have it operated on or have the fish put to sleep.

The Melbourne-based owner opted for the delicate surgery.

"She was dedicated enough to give it a go," the vet who performed the operation, Tristan Rich, told commercial radio station 3AW.

George was knocked out with anaesthetic for the 30 minute procedure and is now recovering well back in his home pond, Rich said.

He said the whole operation was done using three buckets of water, with different levels of anaesthetic in the first two to knock the fish out and keep him under during the procedure.

"It was quite fiddly as you can imagine and you have to control any blood loss. You can only lose half a millilitre," said Rich from the Lort Smith Animal Hospital.

"Obviously it was high risk but everything went well in the end."

Rich said he knew of goldfish that had lived till they were 30 and he had performed similar operations before.

Rich added that the operation cost "a few hundred dollars". A new goldfish from a pet shop would cost less than Aus\$10 (US\$9).

25 hurt

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Police fired teargas shells, rubber bullets and charged batons to disperse the processionists when they reached Manikganj Sadar Hospital gate near Dhaka-Aricha highway, leaving at least 25 people injured including Ramjan, said witnesses.

Six people sustained rubber bullets and of them, Renu Akter, sister of mayor, Shahanur Islam, the district correspondent of daily Naya Diganta and Javed Ali were taken to Manikganj Sadar Hospital. Mayor's wife Afroza Ramjan and brother Delwar Hossain were shifted to Dhaka for treatment.

The agitating locals later blocked the Dhaka-Aricha highway for 15 minutes until 11:20am.

A tense situation was prevailing in the area following the police action. Additional law enforcers were deployed to avoid further untoward incident.

Manikganj Superintendent of Police Bidhan Tripura said police members obstructed the procession to check "any untoward occurrence."

"The agitators hurled brick chips at the law enforcers that left at least 12 policemen injured," said AMM Kamrul Islam, assistant superintendent of police of Manikganj Sadar Circle.

However, the mayor, yesterday evening, asked all to call off the hartal in the area, citing the delivery of the verdict of Jamaat leader Delwar Hossain Sayeede today, reports our correspondent.

Contacted, Azharul Islam denied it and said he (mayor) did not inform them regarding the withdrawal of hartal.

MP Enamul

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ring anonymity.

Earlier on September 10, Enamul's tax lawyer Kanchan Das issued a death threat to Jatan, warning him not to recommend filing any case against the lawmaker. Jatan lodged a general diary with Ramna Police Station in the capital in this connection.

Enamul concealed information of Tk 213 crore and amassed Tk 2.88 crore without his known sources of income, the ACC official quoted the report as saying.

Considering the probe report, the commission will decide whether it will file a case against the lawmaker, he added.

ACC in January launched a probe against Enamul, two former state ministers and four other former and current lawmakers following allegations against them of accumulating wealth illegally.

The move came in response to newspaper reports on huge discrepancies in the wealth statements of the ex-ministers and lawmaker, based on the affidavits the seven submitted to the Election Commission in 2013 and 2008.

Of them, former state minister for housing and public works Abdul Mannan Khan, Awami League legislator Abdur Rahman Bodi and ex-state minister for water resources Mahbubur Rahman were sued last month by the anti-graft body.

Industrialised

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Ki-moon has invited the heads of the governments, businesses and civil societies of the world to a climate summit in New York on September 23, they added.

Kumar Murshid, an Avaaz volunteer, said, "Industrialised countries, which are causing climate change, should provide necessary assistance including immigration opportunities to people who may become climate refugees."

Tigers in danger

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In Bangladesh, the Forest Department has divided the Sundarbans in three blocks: Katka-Kachikhali (East), Nilkamal area and Goalkhali-Koikhali. Census in the first and the third blocks has been completed. The department will start working in the other block in November. Besides, it would also conduct a canal survey to see the density of pugmarks of the national animal.

"Though the census is not complete yet, analysis of the data collected from the two blocks suggests the number of tigers would be less than 200 in the Bangladesh part of the Sundarbans," said a forest department official.

In the camera trapping census, two video cameras are placed face-to-face on two sides of the corridors used by tigers. Later, experts examine the tigers' images captured in the cameras and determine the number of the royal beasts by analysing their stripes. Each tiger has a unique set of stripes just like the finger prints of humans.

A total of 270 cameras have been set up in the three blocks, each having 90 cameras at 45 points.

Animal ecologists and conservation biologists consider this as one of the most scientific methods of Tiger census.

"The pugmark survey was not a scientific method and it overestimated the number of tigers. In the Indian part of the Sundarbans, 80 to 90 tigers were found in the latest census," said Prof Yadvendradev Jhala of the Wildlife Institute of India. Jhala is working as an expert in the Bangladesh census as well.

According to the 2004 survey, the world's largest mangrove forest that sprawls over an area of 6,000sqkm in Bangladesh and around 4,000sqkm in India was home to 668 Bengal tigers.

However, Prof Jhala, who attended the 2nd Global Tiger Stocktaking Conference 2014 in Dhaka that ended yesterday, held it more important to determine the health of the

Mysterious death

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Sanjida Akter, 25, claimed herself to be the judge's wife and the other, Lucky Akter, her mother, police said.

Sayed married Sanjida a year ago and it was his second marriage, said police quoting Sanjida.

Sanjida told police that the judge hanged himself from a window grill at her house in Halishahar.

She and her mother took him to Chittagong Medical College Hospital around 7:00pm where the duty doctors declared him dead. Police picked up the women from the hospital, CMCH sources said.

The body bore injury marks in the head and neck, said Fariduddin Ahmed, emergency medical officer at CMCH.

An autopsy, to be performed today,

Bangladesh rated

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"For example, the expanded programme on immunisation has been identified as the largest single contributing factor in the reductions to under-five child deaths," said the study series.

This strategy, it added, has benefited even the most disadvantaged populations, and has contributed significantly to reducing child and maternal mortality.

Other factors contributing to the improvements in women's and children's health include a focus on women's education, empowerment and gender equity.

Between 1991 and 2011, the proportion of literate females aged 15-24 years increased from 38 percent to 80

No room for Ban

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were essential for solving differences peacefully and reaching a broad-based agreement on the future of the country.

It is because of this paragraph that the government dropped the entire message, the official added, requesting not to be named.

But another government official said the message could not be published because of its "late arrival and lack of space".

Sources said the government was in a dilemma over the matter and that was why the supplement reached newspaper offices very late yesterday.

The UN secretary general in his message recalled his memories of the Liberation War in 1971 when he was the junior most diplomat at the Korean embassy in New Delhi and he still preserved the fountain pen with which he signed the agreement of the diplomatic ties between Korea and Bangladesh, the sources added.

He also lauded Bangladesh's

forest than determining the number of tigers.

"You see, maybe there are two hundred tigers in the forest. But we need to see whether the number is decreasing or sustaining. If the number decreases, we have reasons to be worried. But ... if it sustains, then it's fine."

He, however, did not disclose the number of tigers in the two blocks already surveyed in Bangladesh.

Asked about the impact of Rampal power plant project on the Sundarbans, Jhala said it would hamper the tiger conservation programme as continuous movement of water vessels in the rivers bordering the mangrove forest would affect wildlife and their movement across the rivers.

A forest department official, who recently did his diploma from the Wildlife Institute of India and was a student of Prof Jhala, told The Daily Star it was discussed in one of their classes that the number of tigers in Bangladesh could be as small as 130.

Under the Strengthening Regional Co-operation for Wildlife Protection Project of the World Bank, the ongoing census is scheduled to be completed in March 2015.

POOR CONSERVATION ATTEMPTS

Bengal tigers roamed in 17 districts of Bangladesh only a century ago but now the Sundarbans is the lone habitat for the majestic beasts in the country.

A new report of the Global Tigers Initiatives (GTI) shows Bangladesh is lagging far behind other neighbouring tiger range countries, including India, Nepal and Bhutan in conservation activities.

The report released during the Global Tiger Stocktaking Conference in Dhaka was prepared based on nine activities regarding tiger conservation. Among the 13 tiger range countries, Bangladesh could not fulfil any of the targets. In fact, the country that hosted the conference could not even show any updated data about the number of tigers in the country.

may confirm whether it was a suicide, he added.

Meanwhile, Shahjahan Kabir, officer-in-charge of Halishahar Police Station, said they detained a male in the evening from the area in connection with this incident.

Yet another

FROM PAGE 3

Denying the allegations, Md Rafi, another joint convener of the unit who patronises Setu's group, said there had been a misunderstanding among the activists, which would be resolved through negotiation.

To investigate the incident, the college authorities formed a six-member committee, which has been asked to submit its report within seven days.

percent.

The series was coordinated by The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) with the collaboration of the WHO, the World Bank Group, the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

The nine other low- and middle-income countries identified as "fast-track" are Cambodia, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Laos PDR, Nepal, Peru, Rwanda and Vietnam.

Carole Presern, executive director of PMNCH, said: "Successful countries made rapid progress by deploying strategies tailored to their own contexts, strengths and challenges."

outstanding contribution to the UN Peacekeeping Mission and Bangladesh's success in MDGs.

The UN chief issued the message upon request from the government, and the foreign ministry received it around 3:00pm yesterday, according to the sources.

After reading the message, ministry officials pointed out the said paragraph and drew the attention of the higher authorities. Finally, the ministry decided to drop the message.

The supplement that the foreign ministry has published today includes messages from the president, the prime minister, the foreign minister, the state minister for foreign affairs and the UN resident coordinator in Bangladesh.

Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's charismatic statesmanship earned Bangladesh a momentous entry into the UN on September 17, 1974, as its 136th member.

Charged over

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In his job dealing with the belongings stolen from camp victims, prosecutors said among other things he was charged with helping collect and tally money that was found.

"He helped the Nazi regime benefit economically, and supported the systematic killings," state prosecutors in the city of Hanover said in a statement.

Groening's attorney, Hans Holtermann, declined to comment on the charges.

In 2005, Groening told Der Spiegel magazine he recalled one incident on "ramp duty" when he heard a baby crying. "I saw another SS soldier grab the baby by the legs..." he said. "He smashed the baby's head against the iron side of a truck until it was silent."

Groening, who lives in the Hanover area, is one of some 30 former Auschwitz guards who federal investigators recommended last year that state prosecutors pursue charges against under a new precedent in German law.

Groening is the fourth case investigated by Hanover -- two have been shelved because the suspects have been deemed unfit for trial, and one was closed when the suspect died.

Holtermann said, however, his client is in good health.

Thomas Walther, who represents 20 Auschwitz victims and their families as co-plaintiffs in the case against Groening as allowed under German law, said it's their last chance "to participate in bringing justice to one of the SS men who had a part in the murder of their closest relatives."

"Many of the co-plaintiffs are among the last survivors of Auschwitz," he told The Associated Press.

5 killed

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Complex where another person succumbed to his injuries, he added. The truck driver fled the scene immediately after the accident and all the victims were the passengers of the CNG-run auto-rickshaw, reports our correspondent.

Protesting the incident, locals vandalised and torched the truck, halting traffic movement on the Madanpur-Bhulta-Joydebpur road for around half and an hour, the police official said.

On information, police went to the spot and brought the situation under control.

Police could identify only three of the five dead and their bodies were handed over to the families.

They are-- Jahangir Alam, 28, son of Ismail Hossain of Jamalpur; Mahsin Ali, 35, son of Yasin Miah and Manir Hossain, 28, son of Yusuf Mollah of Gazipur.

A case was being filed in connection with the accident, SI Ahsan said around 3pm yesterday.

Maiden satellite

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the job through open bidding.

The cabinet committee on purchase will finally make the decision as to which firm will get the job, said Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal after the meeting.

The servicing cost will be negotiated with the winning bidder, he said.

Officials of the planning ministry at the meeting said most of the developed and developing countries had brought massive changes in telecommunication, broadcasting, meteorology, defence, telemedicine and research through launching their own satellites.

Bangladesh is a densely populated country and so it needs a satellite of its own for improving the IT services.

About \$14 million is paid every year to foreign operators only for broadcasting facilities, as per the planning ministry. The cost will be much less if Bangladesh procures a satellite.

The project will generate jobs in rural areas, said an official of the Information and Communication Technology Division, adding that mobile services would be improved there.

Two projects titled "Development of NGO-based telecommunication network" and "Setting up wireless broadband network" have been undertaken. The Sheikh Hasina-led government has also moved to set up a second submarine cable.

"When the proposed Bangabandhu Satellite Launching Project will be implemented, people all over the country will get information technology services at low cost and easily," an official of the planning ministry said.

According to the proposal, the satellite will have 40 transponder capacity, 30 percent of which will be used up to meet the country's demand.

And the remaining 70 percent of the capacity would be available to sell services to other countries, officials of the planning ministry told the meeting.

There are demands in Malaysia and Indonesia. However, Malaysia launched three satellites and Indonesia placed nine satellites on the orbit, according to the planning ministry statistics.

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Inefficiency evident

FROM PAGE 1

For the first time in the country's history of constitutional amendment, a parliamentary committee has rejected the entire preamble of the bill that the cabinet okayed. But not only that. The committee has recommended that the House replace it with just a two-line preamble it has prepared. The draft preamble had seven paragraphs.

The parliamentary standing committee on the law ministry has proposed that the House delete the preamble because: (a) it contains inconsistent facts which may create complexity in future; (b) it is conflicting with the preambles of the previous constitutional amendment bills; and (c) it does not support the claim in the bill that it seeks to restore article 96 of the 1972 constitution.

The committee has also refused to endorse the law minister's statement attached to the copies of the bill that seeks to empower the Jatiya Sangsad to impeach Supreme Court judges on grounds of misbehaviour or incapacity. Upon scrutiny, the committee has found inconsistent facts in the minister's statement.

Both the preamble and the statement contain distorted facts about abolishing parliament's power to impeach SC judges and about the

Call to protect

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sharing, restoring tigers in their former habitats, developing new partnerships with business and industries, increasing flow of funds, building awareness and engaging the communities to deal with human-tiger conflict.

The declaration titled "Dhaka Recommendations on Advancing Implementation of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme (GTRP)" was released in a press conference held at a city hotel yesterday.

The tiger range countries -- Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand, Cambodia, Russia, China, Vietnam, Myanmar, Malaysia, Lao PDR and Indonesia -- agreed to work together to stop poaching and increase monitoring of tigers, their habitats and their preys.

The GTRP is the roadmap endorsed by the 2010 St Petersburg declaration aimed at making the global tiger population double by 2022.

Yunus Ali, chief conservator of forest of Bangladesh; Andre V Kuslin, programme manager, Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice; Rajesh Gopal of Indian Wildlife Institute; and Tapan Kumar Dey, conservator of forest, Wildlife Division of the Department of Forest were present at the press conference on the last day of the 2nd Global Tiger Stocktaking

Operators hike ticket

FROM PAGE 2

director of Shyamoli Paribahan.

Meanwhile, many passengers yesterday failed to get tickets for the days they had planned to travel, even after standing in long queues at different bus terminals in the capital for hours.

Yesterday was the second day of the advance bus ticket sale ahead of the two upcoming festivals.

"I wanted to buy a ticket for October 2. But the bus staff told me all the tickets for that day were already sold yesterday," said Ibrahim Miah at SR Paribahan Gabtoli counter. He had to buy the ticket for the previous day.

Many passengers alleged the bus operators were keeping the tickets for the VIPs.

However, the bus operators have denied the allegation, saying a limited number of transports against a huge demand was leading to the crisis. They said the demand for tickets for October

introduction of the chief justice-led Supreme Judicial Council.

This is gross to say the least and the parliamentary committee is rightly surprised, annoyed even. The cabinet, the law minister and his team that made such blunders owe an explanation first and then an apology to the nation. After all, law-making must not be confused with making fun.

None of the previous governments has been in such an embarrassing situation as regards the constitutional amendments brought 15 times already in the last four decades.

But what were the cabinet members thinking when they approved such a flawed bill? Was the draft thoroughly discussed, if at all? Probably not, as careful examination of the text would have pointed out the blunder. Seen from this angle, one may ask if the cabinet's function is to rubber-stamp anything that is placed before it.

In parliamentary democracy, the cabinet, led by the prime minister, forms the nucleus of government. And as a collective body, it is the cabinet that initiates, formulates and implements the policy of the government.

Therefore, the gross error in the constitutional amendment bill is a collective failure of and insult to the cabinet.

Conference.

The first conference was held in Thimpu, Bhutan in 2012 while New Delhi, India will host the third one in 2016.

NEW PROJECT TO SAVE TIGERS

To save tiger population and its preys, a new project titled Bagh Activity, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) was launched yesterday.

The five-year project is designed to reduce wildlife trafficking and minimise human-tiger conflicts in the Sundarbans.

Environment and Forest Minister Anwar Hossain Manju and US ambassador to Bangladesh Dan Mozena on Monday evening launched the project. Environment and Forest Secretary Nojibur Rahman and Chief Conservator of Forests Yunus Ali and USAID Mission Director Janina Jaruzelski were present at the programme.

WildTeam, a Bangladesh-based organisation of tiger conservation activists, will implement the project with technical assistance from the Smithsonian Institution of the US and Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies. It will also collaborate with national and international law enforcement agencies in keeping wildlife out of harm's way.

2-5 was high.

The homegoers are likely to get a five-day holiday, starting from October 3, for the two upcoming festivals.

Meanwhile, state-run Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) will start advance bus ticket sale on September 26. Bangladesh Railway will also start selling advance train tickets on the same day.

\$19.23m IPFF

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Fiber@Home is the first IT firm that obtained credit from the IPFF project.

Moynul Haque Siddiqui, managing director of Fiber@Home, said they will use the credit to set up optical fibre network in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet region, and accelerate the speed of route and machinery import to establish the infrastructure.

Recording of IO's

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this IO, [Noor Hossain] should have been testified by the first IO," Justice Mozibur said.

As prosecutor Sultan Mahmud Simon did not say anything, Justice Hassan said: "Our one hour went in vain."

The court later passed an order saying: "Even though Noor Hossain has already testified in respect of the investigation conducted by Motiur Rahman, it would be justified not to consider his deposition as evidence."

Subhan, a nayab-e-ameer of Jamaat, faces nine charges including genocide committed in Pabna during the Liberation War in 1971. The octogenarian accused, however, pleads not guilty before the court.

JABBAR'S CASE

The fourth prosecution witness in the case against fugitive war crimes accused and former Jatiya Party lawmaker Abdul Jabbar yesterday told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that he [Jabbar] had instructed to kill two freedom fighters and 23 Hindus, forcefully converted more than 150 Hindus and looted around 360 houses at Phuljhuri during the war.

Witness Siddique Matabbar said Jabbar had branded supporters of Awami League as well as independence, freedom fighters and Hindus as "enemies" and vowed to destroy them. The three-member tribunal chaired by Justice M Enayetur Rahim recorded deposition of the witness, whose testimony was similar to that of three other prosecution witnesses.

"The Hindus' wealth and property are war booty and therefore the Muslims could use it. If the Hindus want to live in this country, they will have to be Muslims," the witness said quoting Jabbar, who used to address different rallies in Pirojpur.

On May 17, 1971, Jabbar along with 30 to 35 Pakistani army men went to Phuljhuri village. He asked the army to kill one Sharda Kanto Paik, who was running for life.

The army gunned down Sharda on the spot. About 360 houses of the village were looted and set on fire that day.

State-appointed defence counsel Mohammad Abul Hasan had cross-examined the witness before proceeding of the case was adjourned until today.