

Photojournalist Peu passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Azizur
Rahim
Peu, a
renowned
photo-
journalist,
died of

heart attack at his Dhanmondi residence in the capital early yesterday at the age of 49.

Peu, photo editor of the Daily Observer, left behind his wife, a daughter and a son.

Starting his career from the New Nation, he also served the daily Ittefaq, Sokaler Khobor and other news agencies.

He was the president of Bangladesh Photojournalist Forum. He was also the editor of Baher Sangbad, a Rangpur based newspaper.

Peu, a founding member of Drik News, was a teacher of Pathshala, a photography training school.

Our Rangpur correspondent reports, Peu will be buried at his family graveyard at Guptapara in the city.

50 Gazipur RMG workers fall sick

They allege factory-supplied drinking water the reason
OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gazipur

More than 50 RMG workers of a factory at Nishatnagar in Tongi of Gazipur fell sick on Monday night after drinking water supplied by the factory, alleged the workers.

Of them, around 30 workers at CCL-1 Garment Ltd were admitted to Tongi Government Hospital between Monday night and yesterday noon, said Mahbubur Rahman Chowdhury, residential medical officer.

They have experienced vomiting, stomach pain and diarrhoea, he said.

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BHASANTEK YOUTH MURDER

One accused held in Tangail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four days into the murder of Nasir Hossain of Bhasantek, detectives finally arrested one of the accused in Dhonbari of Tangail yesterday.

The arrestee is Sharif alias Chokka, 19.

On Friday night, Sharif went to meet Nasir at a tea stall in Majumdarer Mor area in Bhasantek and took him to Mamun, who is the prime accused, and his gang members, police said.

The gang then beat and stabbed Nasir indiscriminately. He died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital two hours later.

According to the case filed by the victim's brother Mosharraf, Nasir was killed for protesting the stalking of her committed by the gang.

Other accused including

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Farmers harvest rice paddy with joy following a bumper production of BR-11 hybrid variety in Gaibandha. The photo was taken from Telian village in Saghata upazila of the district yesterday.

PHOTO:
BANGLAR CHOKH

Highest child malnutrition rate among slum kids

Reveals Bangladesh Urban Health Survey 2013

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The highest rate of malnutrition has been found among children living in the slums of the country, revealed the Bangladesh Urban Health Survey 2013 report yesterday.

Fifty percent of the slum children below five years are stunted, whereas the percentage stands at 33 in non-slum areas. The rates were 57 and 37 respectively in a similar survey conducted in 2006.

Similarly, 43 percent of the urban children are underweight while in non-slum areas the rate is 26 percent and in sub-urban areas it is 30 percent.

According to an earlier study, rate of stunting of the under-five children

across the country was 40 percent.

The preliminary findings of the survey were presented at a dissemination programme at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre yesterday.

The National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT), US-based MEASURE Evaluation and icddr,b conducted it with financial support of USAID and UKaid.

For the survey, the urban areas were divided into three categories -- slums, non-slums and other urban areas (semi-urban).

The survey looked at the features of population and households, migration, availability of health services,

fertility, family planning, maternal and child health and nutrition, health service utilisation and outcomes.

"Bangladesh aims to reduce prevalence of stunting among young children to 38 percent by 2016. This is well achieved in areas other than the slums," said icddr,b scientist PK Streatfield.

Also, in slums the under-five mortality rate is 57 and infant mortality rate is 49 per 1,000 births, and it is a decline by 30 and 22 percent respectively compared to that of 2006.

Termining malnutrition in the urban slums a big concern, Streatfield said causes of higher rate of stunting and child mortality in the slums are not

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LOWERING MARRIAGEABLE AGE FOR WOMEN

Move will encourage child marriage

Says National Committee to Observe International Day of Rural Women

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Reducing the threshold of marriageable age for females from 18 to 16 would encourage child marriage, said the National Committee to Observe International Day of Rural Women yesterday.

It would jeopardise women's reproductive health and be an obstacle to lowering maternal mortality rate, it added during a conference held at Jatiya Press Club in the capital ahead of International Day of Rural Women today.

To observe the day, the committee will hold rallies and organise seminars in 60 districts.

While addressing the event, Shamima Akhtar, the committee vice-president, said child marriage was still prevalent in the country, proving the anti-child marriage campaigns a failure.

Ferdous Ara Rumi, a member of the committee, said although the existing laws dictate women should not marry before 18, the law was violated rampantly.

Committee's members from different districts were present in the event.

Most of money looted from G4S recovered in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police recovered a large portion of the money looted from the vault of a security service company from the room of a muezzin in Chittagong city yesterday.

The law enforcers also arrested Bashirul Alam, 28, a muezzin at the mosque of Government City College, said Md Mainuddin, assistant commissioner of the Detective Branch of Chittagong Metropolitan Police.

A total of Tk 3 crore was looted from the vault of G4S in Chittagong city early Sunday. CCTV footage showed a masked man taking money out of the vault using a fake key.

Police recovered Tk 2 crore 99 lakh and 50 thousand from the muezzin's room and arrested the muezzin in Cox's Bazar.

Mainuddin said the main culprit is Shahedul Alam, a staff of G4S.

Police suspected Shahedul as he went missing when the incident came to light. They also found his phone switched off, he added.

"We tracked his phone

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BR removes illegal structures from its lands in Dhaka, Ctg

CITY DESK

Bangladesh Railway yesterday removed around 1,150 illegal structures set up on its lands in Dhaka and Chittagong.

Our staff correspondent reports, BR authorities demolished Kosabari Railway Super Market housing around 150 shops beside the railway tracks in the capital's Uttara Sector-4.

In the four-hour long drive from 10:00am, Railway Police with the assistance of Dhaka Metropolitan Police bulldozed the one-storey tinshed market.

The shop owners said they set up their stores on the land which BR leased to

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Government-academics

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He said there are allegations that the government asks teachers to be flexible when marking.

Dhaka University Professor Asif Nazrul said the education system was being destroyed by question paper leakage and teachers being allowed to be flexible when marking.

Shujon Secretary Badiul Alam Majumder said schools and colleges would be more accountable if they were allowed to hold public examinations.

Abdul Matin Patowary, former vice chan-

cellor of Buet, said education at the university level could not be improved without first improving primary level education.

Improvement in the education section has been made, but not the way other countries have done, said Education Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan. Bringing major improvement to the education sector is not an easy task as it takes time, dedicated people, investment and socio-economic condition, he added.

Dilip Kumar Sarkar, chief coordinator of Shujan, read out the written statement. Shujan President M Hafizuddin Khan also spoke.

Feud over Piash Karim's

FROM PAGE 3

said Piash had taken a stance in favour of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir, made "derogatory remarks" about the Shahbagh movement which demanded capital punishment for war criminals, and made "adverse remarks" on the trial procedure of the International War Crimes Tribunal.

Piash Karim, a professor of BRAC University and a regular television talk-show participant, breathed his last at a hospital in the capital on Monday.

At a press conference in the capital's Jatiya Press Club, journalist Mahfuz Ullah yesterday said they will take the body to Shaheed Minar around 10:00am on Friday.

However, Bangladesh Online Activists Forum in association with fifteen other organisations said if any organisation attempts to bring his body to the Central Shaheed Minar, they will be resisted.

Mahfuz Ullah said an application had already been submitted to the Dhaka University authorities for permission.

DU acting proctor Prof Amzad Ali said they were yet to get such application.

However, the cousin, Iqbal Chowdhury, at about 7:30pm said family members were yet to reach any final decision over the matter.

Piash Karim's body is kept at the mortuary of Square Hospital for now.



Barisal City Corporation takes down all illegal hoardings yesterday, which were hiding Bibir Pukur, the largest pond in the city, from view, just a day after a photo depicting the scenario was published in The Daily Star.

PHOTO:
ARIFUR RAHMAN



The road stretching from Kadamtali of Chittagong city to the old railway station is in a sorry state with only brick chips and stones making up most of it making it very difficult for vehicles to ply on it. The photo was taken yesterday in BRTC area.

PHOTO:
ANURUP KANTI DAS

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