

Cops, Shibir clash in Sylhet

Driver of police requisitioned vehicle injured, 7 held
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The driver of a human hauler requisitioned by police suffered injuries when the latter fired some 30 rubber bullets after being pelted with brick chips and firecrackers by some 100 Islami Chhatra Shibir activists trying to bring out a procession in Sylhet city's Darga gate area on the VIP Road yesterday around 11:30am.

Police detained seven Shibir men, including the district President Monwar Hossain, one from the spot and the rest in drives afterwards.

Rubel Ahmed, with wounds to the abdomen, has been admitted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, said Sylhet Metropolitan Police Additional Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Rahamat Ullah.

KIBRIA MURDER CASE

Sylhet dist to see hartal tomorrow for indictment of 3 BNP leaders

City councillors condemn charging of Mayor Arif
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A pro-BNP social organisation in Sylhet will enforce a daylong hartal across the district tomorrow protesting the recent indictment of three BNP leaders for the murder of former finance minister SAMS Kibria.

Amra Sylhetbashi announced the shutdown from a rally in the city's Court Point area yesterday, held to condemn inclusion of the names of city Mayor Ariful Haque Chowdhury, ex-Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's political secretary Harris Chowdhury, and Habiganj Municipality Mayor GK Gaus

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Police firing tear gas and rubber bullets on workers of Padma Sweaters Ltd, a garment factory, on Darussalam road in the capital yesterday after they blocked the road demanding payment of salaries which were promised twice--on November 10 and 13. About 400 workers took to the street as they found the factory locked since Thursday. Police said two of their personnel were injured as the protesters pelted them with projectiles after they had come down tough on the workers.

INT'L FEDERATION OF IMPACT ORGANISATIONS Nature saving made cross-cutting issue

Seventh conference ends in Savar
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The International Federation of IMPACT Organisations (IFIO) yesterday took environment protection as its cross-cutting issue for implementing future projects as it considers the environment as a crucial challenge for the world.

The decision came at the concluding ceremony of its three-day 7th conference in Savar where the jury also decided that the 8th IFIO conference will be held in Cambodia in January 2017.

Dr Rezaul Haque, founder trustee of IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh (IFB), chaired the concluding session at Brac Centre for Development Management while Kevin McGreath, chairman of IMPACT Switzerland, was the co-chairman.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

UPCOMING SAARC SUMMIT Ensure free movement of climate migrants

Rights bodies urge leaders
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ahead of the upcoming Saarc summit, a rights group yesterday urged the South Asian leaders to draw up a "charter on free movement of climate-induced migrants" to alleviate poverty in the region.

The Bangladesh chapter of People's SAARC, a transnational platform of rights bodies, also demanded speedy implementation of Saarc's Dhaka and Thimphu declarations on climate change which it said was a serious issue for all member countries.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

Mercury poisoning plagues dentistry Says US campaigner against use of the metal for fillings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The toxicity of mercury, comprising in liquid form half of conventional dental fillings which are popularly known as "silver amalgam", has fatal consequences on the human body and environment, said a Washington-based leading campaigner yesterday.

"Mercury is the most toxic and most volatile heavy metal that stays accumulated in the human body once permeated and leaves a lethal damage on brain and kidneys," said Charlie Brown, founder of World Alliance for Mercury Free Dentistry (WAMFD).

It also causes loss of memory, hearing and eyesight and poses the risk of paralysis, tooth fracture, insomnia, damage to reproductive health and lungs, miscarriage and congenital disorders.

Charlie was giving an interview to The Daily Star after a press conference on mercury-free dentistry in a restaurant in the capital organised jointly by the WAMFD, Asian Centre for Environmental Health, and Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO).

The conventional amalgam comprises heavy metals like liquid mercury, zinc, tin and copper, he said, adding that better alternatives are composite resins made of gummy materials, glass and plastic ionomer and gold foil.

Bangladesh as a plain land crisscrossed by many rivers remains extremely vulnerable to mercury contamination with uncontrolled dumping of mercury along with medical and industrial wastes into the waters and soil, he said, exposed to heat, mercury vapours contaminate the air too.

Burning coal, consumption of large fish, dumping of untreated electronic waste and use in heavy industries like cement and medical apparatus cause mercury contamination

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

BCL, Shibir remain

FROM PAGE 3
Shibir secretary Saifuddin Yeahia, arrested on September 26 last year over numerous cases.

Half an hour later, over 100 BCL men brought out a procession, circling the campus protesting "Shibir's presence".

Police has been deployed around the campus to enforce the ban, imposed on March 3, on all types of processions, rallies and the use of megaphones on the campus.

The order came following violence on the campus on February 2 when police and BCL activists attacked a procession of RU students who were demonstrating protesting the hike of university fees and continuation of evening masters programmes.

Avoiding the question on the reason behind the discrimination, RU Proctor Prof Tarikul Hasan rhetorically said police will take action if anyone defies the ban.

Rajshahi Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner Alam Hossain, tasked with overseeing police activities on the campus, claimed of having no knowledge of BCL and Shibir bringing out processions.

There are instances when BCL men brandished firearms before police, who turned a blind eye, said RU Bangladesh Chhatra Front President Sohrab Hossain.



PHOTO: STAR

Veena Sikri, former Indian high commissioner to Bangladesh, speaks at a press conference after conclusion of the two-day 1st India-Bangladesh High Commissioners' Summit at Dhaka University yesterday. Organised by the international department of the university, the congregation of the ex-high commissioners who served in Dhaka and New Delhi focused on enhanced economic and security engagement for mutual benefits of the two countries.

Finished Apartments at LALMATIA

Call: 9857230 - 4
01714 039844, 01713 065055, 01714 039847

ASSET DEVELOPMENTS

The Daily Star

celebrating **life**

Standard Chartered Here for good

CELEBRATING LIFE 2014 GRAND GALA CELEBRATION

Chief Guest: Honorable President Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid

Date: 22nd November 2014 | Time: 6:00PM | Venue: Osmani Memorial Auditorium

A dance drama, Tasher Desh, written by Rabindranath Tagore, and presented by Shadhona, will be performed at the end of the prize giving ceremony

Due to limited number of seats at this prestigious event, we are offering invitation cards on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested, please pick up your cards at The Daily Star Center by 16th November between 12:00PM and 6:00PM. For further information please contact Abdullah Al Amin Rubel (+8801832388155)

Partners:

Since the Honorable President Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid will be present at the event as chief guest, therefore for security reasons, personal belongings such as bags, purses, food, beverage, cell phones, cameras and any electronic devices will NOT be allowed in the Awards Ceremony premises. Please ensure that you have this card with you when you seek entry into "Celebrating Life" Award Ceremony premises. Each card is valid for one person only and is non-transferable.