

Firing by ex-BCL leader kills bystander

Wounds 7 over control of auto-rickshaw stand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A 17-year-old bystander was shot dead while a pedestrian and six transport workers suffered bullet wounds after, as police and locals allege, a former Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) man and his accomplices tried to gain control over an auto-rickshaw stand at Dakshin Bazar in Sylhet's Beanibazar upazila on Friday night.

A butcher's employee, deceased Niju Ahmed resided in the upazila's Koshba village. Abul Kalam, Shuaibur Rahman, Bimol Chandra Pal, Tarek Ahmed, Nurul Haque, Ripon Ahmed and Faisal Ahmed have been admitted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Locals said the issue was money, regularly collected by the stand's management committee of transport workers from vehicle drivers stopping there.

The upazila unit's former BCL convener Jamal Ahmed with some 60 men arrived around 10:30pm and they started shooting when some 40 of the committee's workers started hurling brick chips at them, said witnesses.

Jamal admitted going there centring a transaction

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Khaleda villain of current politics

Inu tells Dhaka Reporters Unity press conference, terms Amnesty International's report unexpected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Terming BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia "villain of the country's current politics", Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu yesterday said they would have to "defeat" her to march towards democracy and peace.

Addressing a press conference Dhaka Reporters Unity organised at its auditorium in the capital, he also termed unexpected Amnesty International's Thursday's web report condemning "excessive police force" used to tackle violence centring the ongoing blockade of the BNP-led 20-party alliance.

"Amnesty International had tried to hide militancy by shifting the blame on the government," the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal president responded to a query, urging the rights watchdog to properly gather information before preparing reports.

"BNP is gradually moving away from the path of democracy and heading towards violence. If the party does not refrain from such acts, it will soon turn into an organisation of terrorists," said Inu.

The government will take measures against anarchists as per existing laws, he added.

On whether the government will take any initiative

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(Clockwise from bottom left) Parents of children appearing in the upcoming Secondary School Certificate exams sign a memorandum before BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's Gulshan office in the capital yesterday urging her not to impose hartals and blockades during the public exam so as to ensure a congenial environment. A victim of an arson attack centring the BNP-led 20-party alliance's ongoing blockade joins a human chain formed by Sarak-Paribahan Malik Sramik Oikyo Parishad before Jatiya Press Club denouncing the mindless political violence. Nearby, these children of Kendriya Khelaghar Ashor were resonating the disapproval. National Human Rights Commission brings out a procession from before Bangladesh National Museum demanding that peace be restored in the country. Voicing the same call, Bangladesh Peace Council brings out another from Central Shaheed Minar. Development Activists' Platform forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club expressing solidarity with the others.



PHOTO: STAR

Sufia Begum passes away

CITY DESK

Sufia Begum, mother of The Daily Star Deputy Sports Editor Shah Mohammad Zakaria Simon, died from old age complications at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital in the capital on Friday, aged 71. She also left behind two daughters--Samia Rahman, who lives in France and Suraiya Rahman, a banker by profession--and many well-wishers to mourn her death, says a press release. She will be buried at Mohammadpur graveyard, adjacent to Eidgah Maidan on Tajmahal Road, after a namaz-e-janaza at Kazipara Central Jame Mosque after Zohr prayers today.

Arson victims also take to street for peace

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In an attempt to express solidarity with people pouring out onto the streets protesting arson attacks and violence, transport workers with burn injuries demonstrated before Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday.

Symbolising the state of an ailing transport sector, owners and drivers of public buses and trucks brought along coffins and burnt buses with banners pasted reading "What was our fault?"

"How will you (BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia) run the country if you destroy the transport sector trying to go to power?" asked Khandoker Enayet Ullah, convener of Sarak-Paribahan

Malik Sramik Oikyo Parishad, an organisation of transport owners and workers which formed a human chain there.

Urging the BNP-led 20-party alliance to keep the transport sector out of the purview of hartals and blockades, the parishad leaders said transportation of goods was an integral part of any production and the country's development would be hampered if the transport sector fell apart.

"Many owners of public transports bought vehicles with bank loans. As the transport sector is going through a tough time, the government should ask banks to stop taking interest from owners," said Osman Ali, secretary

general of light vehicle drivers' organisation Halka Jan Chalak Samity.

He also urged the authorities concerned to compensate transport workers for injuries they suffered in arson attacks during the alliance's ongoing blockade.

Protesting the spate of violence, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) brought out a procession with a banner, "Rally for Peace", from Bangladesh National Museum to Central Shaheed Minar belting out the slogan, "No to violence and terrorism".

Leaders and activists of human rights and professional organisations joined the procession.

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WRONGLY PLACED RIVER DEMARCATION PILLARS IN DHAKA

Try liable officials

Demand Bapa leaders, say High Court order of 2009 also violated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Officials who wrongly installed river demarcation pillars in violation of a 2009 High Court order must be immediately brought to trial, said leaders of environmentalist group Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (Bapa) yesterday.

They also demanded that all encroachments including those in Dhaka's rivers must be removed and earth filling, construction and land lease in the river areas be stopped until the pillars are installed in light of the order.

The HC made it clear that officials not doing their job of saving rivers in light of the order would be legally liable for their fail-

ure, said Bapa Joint Secretary Sharif Jamil while reading out a statement at a press conference Bapa organised in the capital's Dhaka Reporters Unity.

Despite the order, the relevant district administrations for the Shitalakkhya, Balu, Turag and Buriganga rivers went ahead with the faulty demarcation excluding an extensive river area, he told The Daily Star afterwards.

Following public outcry, the national taskforce for safeguarding rivers formed several enquiry committees to look into the anomaly.

But without taking the committees' observations into consideration, the

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PHOTO: REHMAN SOBHAN SONET

Guests at the final round of the 10th Bangladesh Astro-Olympiad 2015 held at the National Museum of Science and Technology in the capital yesterday.

Astro Olympiad 2015 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The final round of the 10th Bangladesh Astro-Olympiad 2015 was held yesterday at the National Museum of Science and Technology.

The event was organised by Bangladesh Astronomical Association, an organisation formed in 1988 aiming to spread awareness and raise interest about astronomy.

Thirty three participants beat out the competition to win the national round. Of them, 18 were in the junior category and 15 in the senior.

Md Farhan Rawnak, a student of Armed Police Battalion Public School and College, Bogra stood

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Violence against Adivasi women increasing

Say worried rights activists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Increasing incidents of violence against indigenous females has raised serious concerns over their security, rights activists said yesterday, demanding that the government take steps to bring the perpetrators to book.

In 2012, there were 75 incidents of violence against indigenous women and children but the number rose to 117 in 2014, said officials of Bangladesh Adivasi Women Network (BAWN).

Rape, murder, attempted murder, abduction, physical and sexual harassment and trafficking are some of the violence to have been committed, they said.

"Already a number of such incidents have occurred this

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আরো বিস্তৃত পরিসরে

ট্রাস্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

হেড অফিস ও রেজিস্টার্ড অফিস
এখন নতুন ঠিকানায় ▶▶

পুরাতন ঠিকানা
পিপলস ইন্সুরেন্স ভবন
(৩, ১২, ১৬ ও ১৭ তলা)
৩৬, দিলকুশা বা/এ
ঢাকা-১০০০

নতুন ঠিকানা
স্বাধীনতা টাওয়ার (১ম, ৭ম, ৮ম, ৯ম, ১০ম ও ১১তম তলা)
বীরশ্রেষ্ঠ শহীদ জাহাঙ্গীর গেইট, ঢাকা ক্যান্টনমেন্ট, ঢাকা
ফোন: ৯৮৫০৬৩৫, ৯৮৫০৬৩৮, ফ্যাক্স: ৯৮৫০৬৫১

সেরা ব্যাংকিং সেবার প্রতিশ্রুতি নিয়ে আরো আধুনিকতার সাথে বিস্তৃত পরিসরে দিলকুশা থেকে বীরশ্রেষ্ঠ শহীদ জাহাঙ্গীর গেইট, ঢাকা ক্যান্টনমেন্ট সংলগ্ন স্বাধীনতা টাওয়ারে এখন আমরা। গ্রাহক সেবায় আমরা আছি সবসময়, সবখানে, সবার জন্য।

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