



Halting the operation of long-haul vehicles at night could not save this bus from arsonists. Bound for Dhaka from Sylhet, it came under attack around 8:30am yesterday, in Borolekha upazila of Moulvibazar.

PHOTO: STAR

Bangla Academy for children at book fair

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One category of books which can be found in almost all stalls of the Amar Ekushey Granthamela-2015 is literature written for children and teenagers.

In fact, the fair's Bangla Academy premises have been dedicated for publishers who bring out only children's books.

This year 32 such publishers along with Bangladesh Shishu Academy and Bangla Academy have set up stalls there.

However, publications fit for children and teenagers are available at almost all publication houses on the fair's Suhrawardy Udyan portion.

"Books for children sell more," said



Scan the QR code to access the full version of Ahmed Riaz's interview.

Parents feel that their children should develop the habit of reading as part of the practice for the quest of knowledge so they encourage their children to buy books," he said, adding that publishers should be wary about spelling mistakes in children's books so that

there was no gap in children's learning.

Over 200 new books based on science and other fictions, comics, adventures, detective stories as well as educational tales fit for children and teenagers have arrived at

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

JAN 24 BANGALEE-ADIVASI CLASH IN DINAJPUR

Bangalee youth was killed while attacking Santal man

Parliamentary caucus tells press after spot visit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangalee youth, who was killed in last month's clash with Santal people in Dinajpur, was an attacker shot by an arrow the indigenous archers fired in self-defence, a parliamentary caucus said yesterday, revealing the findings of its visit to the scene on February 2.

Shafiqul Haq Shohag, 30, was shot while attacking Rakib Soren, a Santal man, with a knife, the team told a press

conference at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

The fight of January 24 broke out, at Chirakutipara village in Parbatipur, when Shohag and his father Jahirul Haq and several others were resisted by the Santals in the former's move to forcibly occupy their cultivable land, said the team.

One of the team members, Prof Mesbahul Kamal, said that although 19 Santal people were arrested over

Shohag's death following the clash, several thousand Bangalees later attacked the Santal village and burnt down eight houses, vandalised others, uprooted tube-wells, looted food grains, cattle, and burnt documents and books.

As males of the village, where 55 Santal families live, fled home to evade arrest, those staying back especially women and children were mercilessly

SEE PAGE 5 COL 7



Polystyrene sheets tied to a bamboo pole erected by locals warn of a sewer opening, the lid of which broke around a week ago impeding vehicular movement on the congested Shaheed Faruk Sarani in the capital's Jatrabari. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

Lidless manhole causing accidents for a week

DSCC promises to fix it by today

HELEMUL ALAM

Around 11:30am on Tuesday on Shaheed Faruk Sarani in the capital, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver narrowly escaped falling into an uncovered manhole, thanks to the locals who put a 10-foot bamboo in the hole as a warning sign.

Anowar, the driver, was on his way to Jatrabari crossing and could not notice the uncovered manhole on the eastern side of the Sarani because of a rickshaw before it but managed to put the brake on just in time seeing the bamboo and some polystyrene sheets.

Even though seven days have passed since the manhole lid broke on the busy road, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC), which is responsible for repairing it, did not even pay any heed to the situation.

Locals said some minor accidents have already occurred and some more dangerous

ones can take place anytime if the DSCC does not repair it immediately.

Nurunobi, owner of Jowardar Medical Hall, located near the manhole, said a wheel of a human hauler got stuck into the manhole yesterday and locals had to help the driver get the vehicle out of it.

"After that, we put the bamboo tying some polystyrene sheets with it to signal drivers and pedestrians but we are not sure how long it will work," he added.

A staff of Alrajhi Pharma, situated on the Sarani, said one third of the road is occupied by the human haulers of Jatrabari-Bahadur Shah route and the road has become even narrower due to the manhole which intensifies traffic congestion.

Polas, a mini-truck driver, who was crossing the place, said it is really dangerous because they cannot always notice it.

Executive Engineer of Zone-5 of DSCC, Abul Haseem, said they have already got the information and will repair it by today.

TWO ARRESTED HABIGANJ WAR CRIME SUSPECTS

Why delay in producing them

Tribunal-2 seeks reply from IGP, SP by Feb 18; tribunal-1 fixes March 1 to decide whether another accused Sakhawat Hossain eligible for bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday sought an explanation from the inspector general of police and Habiganj's superintendent of police by February 18 on why two brothers suspected of war crimes were not produced before it within 24 hours of their arrest as per the country's laws.

Sending the two suspects to jail, the three-member tribunal also fixed the date for hearing of bail prayers and submission of the investigation's progress report.

Mahibur Rahman Boro Mian, 70, former

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