



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

LIFE style

A TOP CHOICE

Japanese firms choose Bangladesh as the second best investment destination after India

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BIRDMAN THE BEST

The dark comedy grabs five Oscars, including best drama and best director

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Mysterious killing of 2

'Picked up' from 2 dists, their bullet-hit bodies found together

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Mystery shrouds the deaths of two youths whose bullet-hit bodies were found in Jhenidah early yesterday, days after they were picked up allegedly by the detective police.

Police recovered the bodies of Polash Hossain, 25, son of Golam Mostafa, and Dulal Hossain, 24, son of Nasim Biswas, from a field in Dafolbaria village of Jhenidah Sadar.

Both the youths hailed from Charkhajura village under Sadar upazila.

They were BNP activists, said Jahangir Hossain, office secretary of the party's district unit. Polash's father is the councillor of ward No 8 in Jhenidah municipality.

Family members of the deceased alleged that members of the Detective Branch of Police picked up the duo, shot them sometime on Sunday night and left the bodies in the field.

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Death toll reaches 70

Sunken launch salvaged; search for the missing on

PANKAJ KARMAKAR and ZAHANGIR SHAH from Manikganj

The death toll in Sunday's launch disaster in the Padma in Manikganj rose to 70, and the ill-fated vessel, MV Mostafa, was salvaged yesterday.

At least five passengers remained missing, said officials at a temporary control room set up by Manikganj district administration near the scene.

The launch sank after being hit by cargo vessel Nargis-1 in mid-river.

The search for bodies would continue for the next one or two days, said officials concerned.

But the assurance did little to calm the grieving family members who were still looking for the bodies of their loved ones.

"My father is still missing. I want my father back. Who will return my father? Where should I go to complain?" cried Nayan whose father Sohrab Mia, a chef, was in the launch.

He spent the whole Sunday night on the bank of the Padma, hoping to get news about his father.

Like him, Tipu, who works at a private firm, stayed on the riverbank to know about the fate of his friend Mostafa Mehruz Dana, a Brac official, who was on the launch.

"We didn't see much activity from the rescuers after the launch was salvaged," he said.

Talking to The Daily Star, Manikganj Deputy Commissioner Rashida Ferdous said, "Our operation to salvage the vessel has ended. But fire service members will continue the search for bodies."

Shahdat Hossain, station officer of Manikganj Fire

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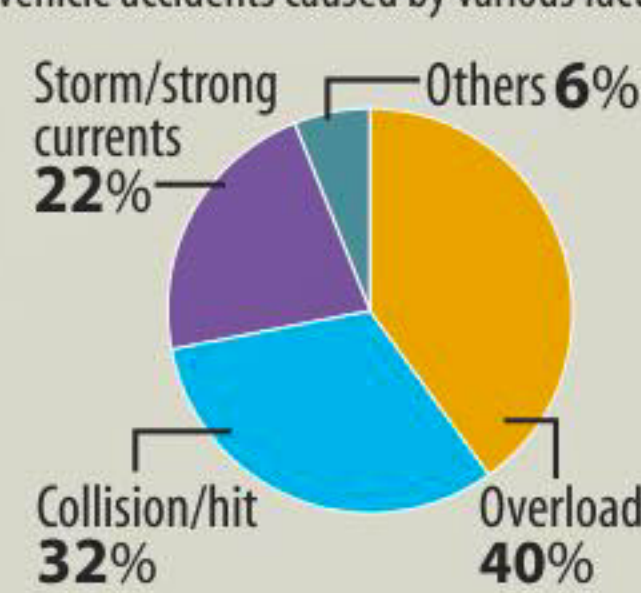
What this man is going through must be anyone's worst nightmare. He is carrying home the body of his beloved little niece, a victim of Sunday's launch capsized, from Paturia terminal yesterday morning. At least he has found the body, a solace relatives of five passengers still missing are waiting to have.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

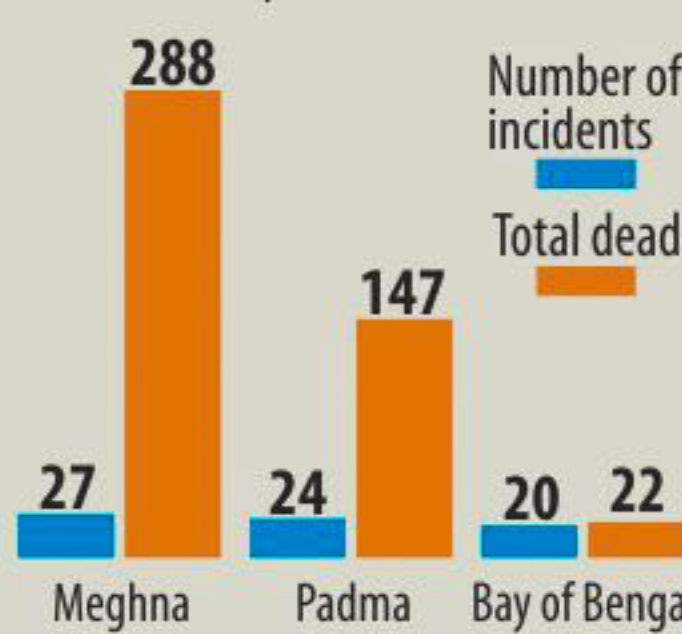
MARINE VEHICLES ACCIDENTS, 2010-FEB 2015

SOURCE: THE DAILY STAR REPORTS, 2010-FEB 2015; DONE BY STAR RESEARCH TEAM

Percentage of people killed in marine vehicle accidents caused by various factors



Most accident-prone rivers/water bodies



Total 831 people dead



Spent bullet casings on an alleyway in West Kazipara of Mirpur. Inset, bullet-riddled body of one of the three "arsonists".

PHOTO: STAR



Bullets, not mob beating

Death of 3 alleged arsonists shrouded in questions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

What first appeared to be mob justice to some arsonists has taken a mysterious turn as it is now found that the bodies of the three men killed in mob beating bear at least 57 bullet injuries.

At least 30 bullets were pumped into their bodies. The empty shells and the ropes possibly used to tie them up were still lying at the spot yesterday.

Neighbours said they heard about 30 to 35 gunshots from the alley where the bodies were found. Police claimed the trio were caught by locals while preparing to firebomb a vehicle.

"There was no evidence of torture on the bodies. Five bullets were still inside the bodies," said sources at Dhaka Medical College morgue, after conducting autopsies.

The identities of the victims, all aged around 20, could not be known as of yesterday evening.

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"I believe if yoga comes into the life of common people, then the daily incidents of rape, I would not say, they will cease to exist, but there will definitely be a decrease in them."

BJP LEADER
MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI

Controversy over two leaked calls

Manna claims his conversation with Khoka, unnamed person not for instigating coup or killings at DU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A day after the leak of two phone conversations of Nagorik Oikya convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna, the organisation abruptly postponed its planned mass procession yesterday afternoon.

Demanding "peace and dialogue", the procession was scheduled for 4:00pm. Its members started gathering in front of the Jatiya Press Club after 3:00pm to join the march.

Around 3:30pm, Nazmul Hasan, convener of Nagorik Chhatra Oikya, the student front of Nagorik Oikya, announced that the programme has been postponed due to "unavoidable circumstances."

Some 15 minutes earlier, he told the gathering that Manna would join the mass procession.

However, over a hundred people, mostly youths,

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INTRODUCING RATTAN FURNITURE

HOME IS HEAVEN



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