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Manna being denied treatment

Claims wife, says fair trial can prove his innocence, physician says tests, consultations can be done in two-three days' time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nagorik Oikya Convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna is being denied proper treatment by the jail authorities while his condition has deteriorated due to physical and mental torture following his arrest, alleged his wife Meher Nigar yesterday.

Manna is yet to undergo an MRI scan as advised by doctors, she told The Daily Star, adding, "My husband has been suffering from different ailments including heart disease and back pain. There are three blocks in his heart.



Meher Nigar

"But the authorities yesterday shifted him to Dhaka Central Jail without completing his treatment...Even the authorities did not inform us beforehand," she added.

Alerted by one of his aides, they

rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) but police officials refused to provide information, let alone allow talking to him, she

Abdul Wadud, chairman of DMCH's cardiology department, said Manna could be shifted to jail for they advised arranging an MRI scan and consulting a neurology expert within two or three days.

Police have been rejecting the torture and information refusal allegations.

At a press conference in Nagorik Oikya's central office in the capital earlier in the day, Meher said Manna's innocence

could be proven if he gets a fair and impartial trial. "Manna has full respect for the laws of the country and he is

ready to face allegations brought against him legally," she said. Manna was admitted to DMCH on March 10 after

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Informer Geda on fresh remand

A CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A Sylhet court yesterday sent Ataur Rahman Geda, a source of law enforcers, on a three-day fresh remand in a case filed in connection with the killing of schoolboy Abu Sayeed after abduction.

The court granted the remand after police prayed a sevenday remand for Geda before it after completion of his threeday remand, said Sub-inspector Shah Mohammad Fazla Azim Patwari of Sylhet Kotwali Police Station, also investigation officer of the case.

On March 11, criminals kidnapped Sayeed, 9, a class IV student of Shahi Eidgah Hazrat Shahi Mir Govt Primary School and demanded ransom from his family for the release of victim.

Following a general diary lodged by the family, police recovered Sayeed's decomposed body wrapped in sacks from the attic of police constable Ebadur Rahman's house at Kumarpara in the city on March 14.

Police later arrested constable Ebadur of Airport Police Station, Ulema League General Secretary of Sylhet district unit Nurul Islam Talukdar alias Rakib and Geda in this connection. Ebadur was suspended on Saturday night for his link to the crime. Ebadur and Rakib confessed to the killing before the court.

Ebadur was known to Sayeed and his family as he used to

live in their house as a tenant until three months ago. Meanwhile, the primary school assistant teachers association of Sylhet city unit yesterday formed a human chain on the Shaheed Minar premises in the city demanding exemplary punishment to the killers.

CNG-RUN AUTO-RICKSHAWS IN CTG CITY

Several thousand remain unregistered, untaxed



SHAHADAT HOSSAIN, Ctg

Several thousand unregistered CNG-run city, said owners. auto-rickshaws have been operating in Chittagong city for more than one year, with hibits operation of unregistered vehicles. more adding to the current fleet every day, since a couple of cases regarding their enrolment remain to be solved.

Though the owners and drivers are not facing legal harassment owing to the High Court's stay orders, the government is losing millions of taka in revenue, which it could have raked in had it registered the autorickshaws, numbering between 4,000 and 6,000 now.

Sources in the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), Chittagong, said each registration needed a one-time payment of Tk 14,000, while each owner was charged Tk 4,000 monthly as the vehi-

cle's fitness fee and road and income taxes. If the figures are taken into account, the government loses an estimated Tk 5.6 crore in one-time revenue for every 4,000 vehi-

cles, excluding the monthly charge.

Currently, 13,000 registered CNG-run auto-rickshaws are in operation in the port

The Motor Vehicle Ordinance 1983 pro-

Masudul Hasan, deputy commissioner (traffic-north) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, said that because of High Court's stay orders in response to several writ petitions, punitive action could not be taken against the unregistered auto-rickshaws.

One petitioner, Md Harunur Rashid, general secretary of Chattagram Autorickshaw-Auto-tempo Sramik Union, said the latest stay order, the period of which expired on March 12, was extended for three more months.

In the petition, he prayed for enrolment of the unregistered vehicles, while in the stay order, the HC asked the authorities

concerned not to halt their operation. Owners and drivers said the unregistered vehicles started to operate in the port city in

late 2013, and several cases had been filed SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

PCJSS don't want any part in running Rangamati Medical College

Demands its withdrawal from board of directors; calls govt decision unilateral; wants CHT peace accord's implementation first STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) yesterday condemned a health and family welfare ministry decision to include a PCJSS representative in Rangamati Medical College's (RMC) board of directors along with Health Minister Mohammed Nasim's directive to start academic activities soon.

Terming the decision and directive, taken at a health ministry meeting on Wednesday, "unilateral, going against the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) peace accord and the interest of Jumma people", PCJSS demanded that those be immediately withdrawn.

The people of CHT will never accept such a unilateral decision...The government would be responsible for any situation arising from the issue, reads a statement issued by PCJSS.

PCJSS had been urging the authority to postpone the establishment of RMC and a science and technology university there until the accord is implemented and the overall education system in CHT improves, it

"PCJSS had informed SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

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Danish minister meets Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Visiting Danish Minister for Trade and Development Cooperation Mogens Jensen met BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in her Gulshan office in Dhaka last night.

However, none briefed the media about the meeting. The office insiders said they discussed the ongoing political deadlock, and BNP's stand regarding its movement.

Earlier, the Danish minister met opposition leader Raushan Ershad at her Gulshan residence, says a press release.

Two more N'ganj fire victims die

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two more men, who were among the seven people burnt in a fire in Narayanganj on Sunday, died in Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday. The deceased are Ferdous Ahmed, 30, and Md Aslam,

27. Aslam's elder brother Nasir Uddin, 30, died on the day of the accident. The fire originated from an electric short circuit in the

office of the Society for Social Service in Fatullah, when some electricians were working on the wiring.

Woman detained for 'torturing' domestic help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police detained a woman for allegedly torturing her 18-yearold domestic help in the capital's Hazaribagh area yesterday. Arzu Akhter bore several injuries on different parts of her body and took treatment at Dhaka Medical College

Hospital. Locals informed police hearing the girl's cry from the residence. Police rushed in here and held the employer Soma Begum. Soma often tortured her, said police.

25 arrested for cutting hill in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested 25 people while cutting a hill at Prabartak Sangha in Panchlaish area of Chittagong city on Wednesday. On information a team of police conducted a raid in

the area and caught them red-handed around 11:30pm. Quoting the workers, police said they were cutting hills on the directives of a contractor of RF Properties. A case was filed yesterday.

124kg of cannabis seized, two held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) seized 124kg of cannabis and detained two alleged drug traders in the capital's Mirpur area yesterday.

The detainees are Ripon Mia, 20, and Jesmin Akter, 19. Tipped-off, a team of Rab-2 raided a house on the ground floor of a building at Paschim Shewrapara around 9:10am and seized the cannabis, said Rab officials.

FH Arif elected Rotary governor

CITY DESK

Rotarian FH Arif has been elected district governor of Rotary International District 3281 Bangladesh for 2017-18.

A member of the oldest Rotary Club of Dhaka, he served as the elected chief of Rotaract, the youth movement of Rotary of Bangladesh and was adjudged

the best club president (2007-08) and best lieutenant governor (2012-13). An additional commissioner of taxes, Arif was awarded President Rover Scout Award, CNC Medal, President Medal and Silver Hilsha Award.

NSU top officials meet new alumni association conveners

CITY DESK

Vice-chancellor of North South University Amin U Sarkar with four school deans met the new conveners of the Alumni Association of North South University (AANSU) on Wednesday, said a press release.

The association has reorganised its structure and the university is taking an initiative to work over registration of all NSU graduates, job placements, internship and career counseling.

