

'Cockpit error caused crash'

Rajshahi accident investigators say; conflicting claims over emergency response time

STAR REPORT

Making a 180-turn well below the altitude required caused the Cessna-152 in Rajshahi to fall out of the sky on Wednesday, crash investigators and experts said yesterday.

As per the instructor's directive, the pilot made the turn before the plane even reached 200 feet altitude when the minimum altitude required for the manoeuvre was 700 feet, they claimed. It, however, could not be known why such a turn was made at such a low flight level.

The crash also exposed how poor the fire



Tamanna Rahman

unit's response time to the emergency was.

An engineer of Bangladesh Flying Academy reportedly drove the ambulance, which accompanies the fire engine, to the scene of the crash as there was no driver for the vehicle.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) standard response time for fire engines for a crash site at the ends of a runway is two minutes tops. It is three minutes for other movement areas of an airport, aviation experts said.

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Khaleda out to go to power by burning people

PM alleges in JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday alleged that BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia wants to go to power through burning people, but people would never let it happen.

In her 80-minute-long wrap-up speech at the fifth

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'Haji Salim now to work for Khokon'

'Falls into line' at an AL top brass meet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League leader Haji Mohammad Salim has agreed to join party-backed mayor candidate Sayeed Khokon's campaign in Dhaka South City Corporation polls.

Salim made the commitment at a meeting of AL top brass at Health Minister Mohammad Nasim's Dhanmondi home last night, sources said. The independent lawmaker from Dhaka-7 had collected nomination paper to run for mayor, but did not submit the paper later.

Salim, also a joint general secretary of Dhaka city AL, decided to quit the

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EU urges unity against violent extremism

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Describing the recent murder of blogger Oyasiquir Rahman as an attack on free speech and democracy, the European Union has called upon all concerned in Bangladesh to stand against violent extremism.

"Government authorities, political parties and civil society should stand together against the actions of violent

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World agrees framework for Iran nuclear deal

AFP, Lausanne

Iran and world powers yesterday agreed on the framework of a potentially historic deal aimed at curbing Tehran's nuclear drive after marathon talks in Switzerland.

It marks a major breakthrough in a 12-year standoff between Iran and the West, which has long feared Tehran wants to build a nuclear bomb.

US President Barack Obama welcomed the "historic understanding" with Iran but cautioned more work needed to be done.

"If Iran cheats, the world will know it," he said in a televised address from the White House.

After eight days of talks that sometimes went through the night, Iran agreed to curtail its nuclear programme in return for the lifting of punishing sanctions, said EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini.

The main outlines agreed at the negotiations in the Swiss city of Lausanne now have to be finalised in a highly complex agreement by June 30.

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A trawler and a cargo vessel in Bhasharchar of Gazaria upazila in Munshiganj yesterday. The cargo vessel hit the trawler in the Meghna Wednesday night, killing at least four people.

PHOTO: STAR

8 killed as trawler sinks in Buriganga

4 bodies recovered in Meghna trawler capsized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

At least eight people were killed and several others reportedly missing as a trawler capsized after being hit by a sand-laden bulkhead in the Buriganga river under Fatullah upazila yesterday afternoon.

The deceased were identified as Samir Uddin, 65, son of Lak Mian of Lalbagh area in Dhaka; Rubel, 18, son of Wohab Mollah; Rubel Mian, 30, son of Hafizuddin; Jakir Hossain, 28, son of Nur Uddin; Sagar Mian, 11, son of Mizan Mian; Karamjan Bibi, 65, wife of Aiyub Ali; Kajal, 28, and Shawpan, 16.

Quoting witnesses, police said the

Dhaka-bound trawler with 70 to 80 passengers on board started in the morning from a traditional fair, known as the Beltali Lengar fair, in Matlab of Chandpur district.

In the afternoon, a bulkhead Shatibul Bahar-2 hit the trawler in Aliganj area of Fatullah when it sank. Although many passengers could swim ashore, several others went missing.

Twenty people were also injured in the accident. They were sent to different hospitals, said police.

Fatullah Model Police, a Coastguard team from Pagla Station and Fire Service officials from Narayanganj rushed to the

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Khaleda needs security to go to court Apr 5

Says her counsel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will appear before a Dhaka court on April 5 in two graft cases "if the government provides her with adequate security", her counsel said yesterday.

The BNP chief apprehended that she might be attacked on her way to the court, Khandker Mahbub Hossain said while addressing a press briefing at his office in the SCBA.

The government would have to ensure that she would not be attacked on

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Strict water limits for California

BBC ONLINE

The governor of California has implemented the first mandatory water restrictions in the state's history.

The order implements a 25% reduction in water usage for cities and towns across the parched state.

Vast areas of government-owned lawns will be replaced by drought-tolerant landscaping, and towns will be banned from watering ornamental grass.

Last year, Governor Jerry Brown proclaimed a state of emergency after years of drought.

The snow in the mountains is at its lowest level since records began, so water supplies from melting snow will be lower than normal in coming months.

"We are standing on dried grass, and we should be standing in five feet of snow," said Brown, speaking in the Sierra Nevada mountains.

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