SAFETY'S

Salahuddin faces trespass charges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

⊘BSRM

Shillong police in the Indian state of Meghalaya yesterday pressed charges against BNP leader Salahuddin Ahmed for trespass.

M Lamhare, investigating officer in the trespass case, submitted the charge sheet to the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate

KML Nongbri, said Vivek Syiem, superintendent of police in East Khasi Hills district. The charge sheet comes 23 days after the case was filed

under the foreigners act. If the BNP leader is found guilty, he might be handed a jail term, said lawyers. Salahuddin, 54, is now receiving treatment at North

Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (Neigrihms) under judicial custody. Police arrested him on May 11, around two months after he went missing in Dhaka. Law enforcers would again produce Salahuddin before

the court on June 10 upon expiry of the tenure of his 14-day judicial custody as ordered by the court, said Subrata Acharjee, India bureau chief of Somoy TV.

On May 27, a Shillong court placed the BNP joint secretary general on judicial custody. Two days later,



WATER STILL JET BLACK

The water of the Buriganga is as black as charcoal even after considerable amount of rainfall recently. The water level has increased but the river remains black and stinky. The photo was taken in late May. Mindless pollution over the years has already killed the rivers around the capital and despite the prime minister's pledge six years ago to clean and revive the rivers, any improvement is hardly visible. Bangladesh is going to observe World **Environment Day 2015** tomorrow with the slogan "Consume with care".

PHOTO:

Blatter resignation a 'positive move'

AGENCIES

A day after FIFA president Sepp Blatter said he would step down from the hot seat after renewed criticism of his reign and new corruption revelations about FIFA, his decision was greeted as a first step to a positive direction on Wednesday.

The Swiss official, who has ruled football's governing body for 17 years, said he would remain in charge until a special congress can choose a new leader and vowed to pursue strong reforms in that

"I do not feel that I have a mandate from the entire world of football," said the 79-year-old while peaking impassively at FIFA headquarters in Zurich on Tuesday, four days after winning a fifth team as FIFA president. "That election is over but FIFA's

challenges are not. FIFA needs a profound overhaul," he added.

UEFA chief Michel Platini, a former ally who last week told Blatter to his face that he should leave, said: "It was a difficult decision, a brave decision,

Horrors still haunt Nimtoli

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Five years have gone by, but the horrors of the devastating fire that claimed 124 lives still haunt the residents of Nimtoli in Old Dhaka.

Runa Akhter has not set foot in that neighbourhood since the fire gutted their house on June 3, 2010. Her engagement party was underway when the fire broke out.

"I cannot go there ... It reminds me of that dreadful day I lost my mother and several relatives," said Runa, who now lives with her husband Jamil in Hosni Dalan area, adjacent to

Jamil, a trader, also lost his family members and relatives in the fire.

Minister Sheikh Hasina took up the guardianship of Runa, her elder sister Ratna and their brother Faisal.

After the tragedy, Prime

Later, the weddings of Runa and Ratna were held at the Gono Bhaban.

"We are proud that she called us daughters. We have her blessings and we hope her blessings will be there also for our children," Ratna told The Daily Star.



Ratna Runa

She said they could not always communicate with the PM but they got to meet her at least once in the month of Ramadan.

The two sisters also expressed gratitude to local Awami League leader Haji Selim for his

constant support and role as a local guardian.

Unlike Runa and Ratna, Gulzar Khan is left with no choice but to stay at his fivestorey house where 11 of his family members were burned to

"I do not want anyone to make the same mistake I made by renting out a place to people without checking their backgrounds," he said.

The deadly fire spread from his house's ground floor that his tenant, Mohammad Ohid Ullah Mazumder, had used to store chemicals.



A crowd gathers on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in Karwan Bazar yesterday afternoon after a bus flipped on its side while trying to outrun another. The bus overturned into the fast lane from the middle lane and hit the other bus before crashing into the central reservation and landing on its side.

Buses 'race' on Dhaka street

Helper killed, 10 passengers hurt in accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A person was killed and 10 others were injured as a bus flipped on its side while trying to outrun another at Karwan Bazar in the capital yesterday.

Police and witnesses said the dead, around 25 years old, was the helper of the bus that overturned. His details could not be known immediately.

Eye-witness Ali Asgar said the accident took place around 6:00pm when two Gabtoli-Jatrabari buses were "having a race" towards Farmgate on an "empty" Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue.

At one point, one of the buses swayed into the first lane from the middle one and hit the other bus before crashing into the central reservation and landing on its side, he added. The helper was killed on the spot. Both the drivers fled.

Several pedestrians rushed to the spot and rescued the injured, all passengers, from the buses. Several blood spots were visible on the street.

Of the victims, Parul, 30, her three-year-old son Ashfaq, Ibrahim Noman, 26 and Awal Bepari, 24, were being treated at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The other bus was seized from the scene.

Talking to reporters at the hospital, injured Awal said his bus driver had been trying to outrun the other bus several times even though he was repeatedly asked not to do so.

Traffic movement on the busy street remained suspended for around 20 minutes following the accident.

Home boss threatened with death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Home Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal has received a death threat in a letter from a militant outfit.

The letter lists the names of six others, including that of former Dhaka University vice-chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury.

Prof Azad received the letter, purportedly sent by Ansarullah Bangla Team, at his Dhanmondi residence SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING JUNE 4

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-45 8-15 JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-55 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

US reforms security policy

Obama signs bill on new surveillance scheme

REUTERS, Washington

President Barack Obama signed into law on Tuesday legislation passed by Congress earlier in the day reforming a government surveillance program that swept up millions of Americans' telephone records.

Reversing security policy in place Leader Mitch McConnell. since shortly after the Sept 11, 2001 attacks, the bill ends a system exposed by former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden. The spy agency collected and searched records of phone calls looking for terrorism

leads but was not allowed to listen to

their content.

result of an alliance between Senate Democrats and some of the chamber's most conservative Republicans, was a victory for Obama, a Democrat, and a setback for Senate Republican Majority

After the Senate voted 67-32 on Tuesday to give final congressional approval to the bill, Obama used his Twitter account, @POTUS, to say he was glad it had passed. "I'll sign it as soon as I get it," the tweet said.

Before voting, senators defeated three amendments proposed by Republican Passage of the USA Freedom Act, the leaders after they reversed themselves and ended efforts to block it. The House of Representatives passed the measure overwhelmingly last month.

In the end, 23 Senate Republicans voted for the Freedom Act, joining 196 who backed it in the House. In a rift between Republicans, who control both chambers, House leaders had warned that amendments proposed by McConnell would be a "challenge" for the House that could delay the bill.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

TREE PLANTING Bhutan breaks world record

BBC ONLINE

A team of 100 volunteers in Bhutan has set a new world record by planting 49,672 trees in one hour.

They smashed the previous record by almost 10,000 trees. It had been set by an Indian team three years ago.

ered in the capital, SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

