



# CRUSHING DREAMS

Santa, *top left*, sweats next to her mother. At 10, she was not supposed to swing a hammer and crush bricks but hold a pen in her hand and have fun with kids at school -- at least it is what society likes to visualise children. At 8, her younger brother Yusuf, *bottom left*, struggles even to lift a hammer. The two siblings represent several lakh children doing hazardous jobs, with the government doing little to protect them. Fate has brought the family to this yard, in Dhapa of Narayanganj's Pagla, after their father abandoned them. The three work throughout the day and can crush around 500 bricks, earning only Tk 450. The photos were taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Khulna Jubo League man stabbed to death

UNB, Khulna

A Jubo League man was stabbed to death at Mandra Khal of Khulna yesterday. Victim, Imran Sajib Akando, 28, of Gollamari area, was an activist of ward-6 of Jolma union Jubo League. Police said about 10 to 20 armed miscreants stabbed Imran at noon. He was declared dead at Khulna Medical College Hospital. Police said Imran was wanted in several cases, including murder.

## Lawyers to meet Mojaheed today for instructions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five lawyers of convicted war criminal Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed will meet him at Dhaka Central Jail today for instructions regarding seeking a review of the Supreme Court verdict that upheld his death penalty. Contacted, his lawyer Shishir Manir said they will seek necessary information from the Jamaat secretary general about filing a review petition with the SC against its verdict depending on the situation at the jail. On June 16, the Appellate Division of the SC upheld the death penalty of Mojaheed for planning and instigating the killing of intellectuals and professionals in 1971. During the war, he was chief of infamous Al-Badr Bahini, one of the Pakistani occupation army's auxiliary forces, responsible for abducting, torturing and killing freedom fighters, intellectuals and pro-liberation people. This is the first time that an ex-minister has been sentenced to death by the SC for war crimes. Mojaheed is also the first war crimes convict facing death for the killing of intellectuals and professionals. Mojaheed can now file a review petition and if rejected, seek presidential clemency as a last option to save his life.

# Wrong-way Ctg human haulers threatening lives

MINHAJ UDDIN, Ctg

Around 100 three-wheeler human haulers, locally called tempo, are driving down the wrong way along a busy Chittagong city road every morning risking accidents and allegedly bribing traffic police to turn a blind eye. On June 10, a garment worker was killed and another two passengers were injured after one of the vehicles was hit by a covered van on the road, around four kilometres in length stretching from Saltgola to the EPZ

intersection. Locals say smaller accidents were a regular phenomenon for a large number of workers pass the road during the two-hour period from 6:00am. One worker, Rekha Begum, recently told The Daily Star, "These vehicles often push and brush against pedestrians...and move dangerously." It is worrying keeping an eye on both ways for vehicles, said another, Pizush Chakma. A covered van driver, Mohammed Emran, said the vehicles often block

the road creating a gridlock. The vehicle drivers say they usually ply on the Berek Building to Chawkbazar intersection route, for which they have permits, but have been running on the illegal route for the past one year to make some extra cash. Each vehicle bribes traffic police Tk 20 to 30 every day, they claimed. Chittagong Metropolitan Police Deputy Commissioner Traffic (Port) Sujayet Islam said he was unaware of the malpractice and bribes. He assured taking immediate steps.



One of the around 100 three-wheeler human haulers, locally known as tempo, regularly driving down the wrong way of a busy Chittagong city road stretching from Saltgola to the EPZ intersection for around two hours from 6:00am. The drivers have been taking to the illegal route for around one year. The photo was taken on Thursday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Man's head recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday recovered the head of a man from a jheel at Shekhergaon in capital's Khilgaon. Locals noticed the head floating in the water body around 6:00pm, said Mostafiz Bhuiyan, officer-in-charge of Khilgaon Police Station. The decomposed head was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy. Earlier on Wednesday, police found the body of a man with the head missing in the same area. The head is of that man, suspects the OC.

## Smuggled Indian clothes worth Tk 71.52 lakh seized in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Coast Guard (East Zone) yesterday seized 3,576 smuggled Indian clothes, mostly saris, worth Tk 71.52 lakh. On secret information that a group has smuggled a consignment of Indian clothes by dodging government tax, a team of Coast Guard members conducted a drive at 7:40am and seized the clothes from an alley inside the market. Those who smuggled the clothes fled the scene as they sensed the presence of Coast Guard Members, he said. The process of handing over the seized items to the customs authority was underway.

# NEWS IN brief

## Man held with 4kg of gold at airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Airport Armed Police Battalion (APBn) arrested a passenger of Malaysia Airlines after recovering four gold bars, weighing 4 kilogramme, worth Tk 2 crore, on his person in round ground area at the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday. Mizanur Rahman, 40, of Munshiganj, landed at 11:00am, said police.

## Unidentified youth found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

An unidentified youth, aged around 30, was found dead in bushes beside the Dhaka-Aricha highway at Boliarpur in Savar, outside the capital, yesterday. Savar model police presumed that the youth was beaten up and then suffocated. They sent the body to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed.

## Two Shibir men arrested in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Detectives arrested two Islami Chhatra Shibir activists in Bogra town's colony area yesterday. Abdul Hadi, 25, office secretary of Shibir Bogra town unit, and Rubel Mia, 30, activist of the same unit, were shown arrested in a case filed for carrying out subversive activities during hartals and were sent to jail yesterday, said officials of the Detective Branch of police.

## Robber held with arms in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police arrested a robber with a submachine gun and two bullets at Rajarchar village in Barisal on Thursday night. On information, police arrested Mamun Mallick, 40, of Khontakhali village, who is accused in several robbery cases, but his cohorts Khalil and Jalil managed to flee, said police.

## Boy dies from electrocution in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A boy yesterday died from electrocution when he tried to enter a mango orchard without knowing that the barbed wire fence was electrified. Nayeem Sheikh, 7, son of Dulal Sheikh, went to Zillur Rahman's orchard for collecting mangoes, and became caught on the barbs. Agitated locals torched Zillur's poultry farm on the orchard land. According to Zillur, who went into hiding soon after Dulal filed a case against him and his employee, he electrified the fence to protect his chickens from foxes.

## Fire breaks out at Gazipur RMG factory

UNB, Gazipur

A fire broke out at a garment factory at Bangla Bazar in Sadar upazila of Gazipur yesterday. Fire service sources said the fire broke out at Habitus Fashion around 3:30pm and two fire fighting units doused the blaze around 4:00pm, said Gazipur fire officials. But they could not ascertain the reason behind the fire immediately.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

A tree being planted on the premises of Gorpara ML High School in Sadar upazila of Manikganj on Thursday under a plantation programme organised by YKK Bangladesh Pte Ltd. A total 150 trees were planted and 1,600 were distributed at the event joined by YKK Director Yuji Yamase and its other higher officials.

# Locals' role helps improve

FROM PAGE 3 the supply from alternative sources. He suggested that the community people raise funds by themselves for infrastructure development. If the initiative fails, local representatives may assist, he said, adding that if it too did not work, then the upazila parishad would intervene. A platform for raising awareness among the local community about the clinic services and organising interactions with officials has been created by World Vision Bangladesh, an international humanitarian body. The organisation is also working in Fulbaria upazila the same way. According to locals, the practice has

improved healthcare services in their areas. "Earlier, we did not get the doctors (healthcare providers) in the clinic most of the time and it closed after Zohr prayers. But now we have them till 3:00pm," said Rafiqul Islam, who came to Teligram Community Clinic at Fulbaria last week. There are 39 clinics in Muktagachha and 46 in Fulbaria. At Montala Community Clinic of Muktagachha, service-seeker Ramisa Begum said, "Earlier, we did not get medicines here, but now we get those for minor diseases like fever, cold, headache." There are over 13,000 community clinics in Bangladesh.

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