

9 more rescued migrant workers return home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nine more Bangladeshis, who were rescued by the Malaysian authorities during the Southeast Asian migrant crisis in May this year, returned home yesterday.

They arrived at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport around 6:00pm by a flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

They are: Mohammad Islam, Mohammad Azim and Rafiqul Islam of Jessore; Monowar Hossain of Jhenaidah; Salim Uddin of Cox's Bazar; Alim of Chuadanga; Ali Amzad of Sunamganj; and Mohammad Apon and Faruba of Narsinghdi.

Asif Munier, spokesperson for the International Organisation for Migration, told The Daily Star that the workers were provided with snacks and transport cost needed to get home. They are a part of some 4,000 Bangladeshis and Rohingyas of Myanmar who were rescued by the authorities of Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Myanmar from the rickety boats used by the human traffickers. Of the total 698 Bangladeshis, who were sheltered in different camps in Malaysia, 506 have been repatriated, while repatriation of 192 others is under process, said Shahida Sultana, first secretary of Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.

NEWS IN brief

Man held with Indian currency worth Rs 1.28 crore in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police held a man with Indian currency, worth Rs 1.28 crore, from Kalsi in the capital's Pallabi on Tuesday night.

The detainee is Azharul Islam, 37, of Shariatpur.

Police said they were not sure whether the currencies -- 78 bundles of Rs 1,000 and 100 bundles Rs 500 inside a luggage -- were fake or real.

In primary interrogation, Azhar said he received the luggage from a person in Pakistan and was supposed to hand it over to a person at Purabi Cinema Hall, police added.

13 'doping gang members' held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives nabbed 13 alleged dope gang members after raiding different areas in the capital yesterday.

The arrestees are Ali Hossain, Sazzad Hossain, Monu Mia, Omar Faruq alias Kalu, Amir Hossain alias Tukun, Rony, Sohel, Badal Mia, Selim, Liton Mia, Babu, Kalam and Akbar.

The law enforcers also recovered balm, chilli power, sedatives and deep heat spray from them.

Ahead of Eid, traders and buyers at different cattle markets across the city were the main target of the criminals, said Muntasirul Islam deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

Ctg man hacked to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A person was hacked to death allegedly by rivals following a feud over drug peddling in Cantonment area of Hathazari upazila in Chittagong on Tuesday night.

The deceased Lutfar Rahman Labhlu, 24, of the area was also involved in drug peddling, said police.

Locals caught two -- Md Ibrahim, 28 and Md Sohel, 30 -- in this connection and handed them over to police.

The body was sent to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Youth's body found in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a youth in the capital's Hatirjheel yesterday.

The deceased was Ehsan Ahmed Tushar, 25. He was suffering from mental illness, said Officer-in-Charge of Ramna Police Station Moshir Rahman quoting Tushar's brother.

The body bore no injury marks and it was handed over to his brother, added the OC.

Three spice mills fined in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court of the Chittagong district administration yesterday fined three spice mills Tk 37,000 in Chittagong city.

In Fakirhat Gosaildanga area, Three Star Flour Mills and Khaja Taiyabia Flour Mills were fined Tk 10,000 each for producing and selling adulterated spices and for not having licences.

Meanwhile, Dream Flour Mills in Lalkhan Bazar area was fined Tk 17,000 for not having licence and not maintaining hygiene.

Chittagong Metropolitan Police assisted the court.



This is not the bank of a river during an ebb but rather one of the biggest cattle markets in Pabna, Amritokunda, yesterday after two days of rain.

Bangladesh gets glowing appraisal for combating terrorism

BSS, Dhaka

Political will and firm commitment shown by the government to combat domestic and transnational terrorism, and its counter terrorism activities have made it harder for transnational terrorists to operate in Bangladeshi territory.

Former UN under-secretary general and ex-Indian union minister Shashi Tahroor told the media recently that Bangladesh, under less friendly regimes, had been a haven for terrorist and militant groups that wreaked havoc in India but the country was freed from terrorism and militancy under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as she adopted "zero tolerance" policy towards any sorts of terrorism and extremism.

According to the findings of the Centre for Research and Information (CRI), since the current Awami League government assumed power in 2009, the country ceased being a safe haven for national and transnational terrorists, a notoriety the country garnered during the first years of the 2000s.

The Awami League government enacted the Anti-Terrorism Act 2009 for the first time and updated the act in 2011, a specific legislation designed to fight terrorism in line with the UN Action Plan on Counterterrorism Strategy and other resolutions.

Bangladesh is also the highest contributor of troops to various United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping Missions.

Appreciating the AL government, Sergey A Ryabkov, deputy foreign minister of Russia, said Hasina's uncompromising policy in establishing peace and security in the world has widely been recognised.

Dutch Foreign Minister Bert Koenders lauded Bangladesh's efforts in containing recruitment of potential foreign terrorist fighters.

Besides, in the US Department of State's latest Country Reports on Terrorism 2014, Bangladesh's efforts in counterterrorism and militancy have once again been vindicated.

The report stated that Bangladesh continued making progress in counterterrorism in 2014 with the current government demonstrating a commitment to counter both domestic and transnational terrorist groups. It noted that no major terrorist incident took place in Bangladesh in 2014.

The efforts by Bangladeshi law enforcers in arresting operatives and recruiters of ISIS, Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh, Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami and Ansarullah Bangla Team was also mentioned specifically.

Illegal cattle market galore in Sylhet city

Allegedly being run by people affiliated with the ruling Awami League

MINUTU DESHWARA

Some 15 unauthorised cattle markets have been set up around Sylhet city allegedly by people affiliated with the ruling Awami League leading to the loss of revenue for Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) which otherwise could have come from leases.

A visit to some of the spots revealed cattle put up for sale in spaces marked with bamboo fences and megaphones being used to invite customers.

Lulon Mahmud, manager of the

sole cattle market authorised by SCC in Kazirbazar, said he was losing out on hasil (an amount the market owners charge customers on the sale value of animals) as trucks carrying cattle were being forced to unload at the illegal markets.

The markets are at Tilaghar point, Abul Mal Abul Muhit sports complex area, Chorarpur, Chalibandar, Shahporan, Mendibagh, Jhalopara, Technical Road, Kumargaon Bus Stand, Masimpur, Ambarkhana, Akhalia, Taltola and in front of the Shahjalal University of Engineering and Technology and of MC College.

Sources said the markets at Chorarpur and Chalibandar were being run by Mushfiq Jaigidar, joint convener of Jubo League's Sylhet city unit, and Abul Kaher Iju, president of Truck Malik Group, respectively.

Both claimed that their names were being used.

SCC Chief Executive Enamul Habib said a monitoring committee has been formed to "take steps" against the illegal markets and those involved.

However, none of the markets were removed as of last night.



Tourists have started flocking Kuakata Sea Beach in Patuakhali for the Eid-ul Azha holidays. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH



Potholes riddle Topkhana road in the capital with the recent rains worsening the condition. The photo was taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Charge sheet Indictment hearing against

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Tk 5 lakh and later killed him. Police on March 14 recovered Sayeed's body wrapped in sacks from the attic of the building at Kumarpara where both Ebadur and the deceased with his family used to reside.

Ebadur on March 12 confessed before a magistrate to the kidnapping and killing.

Pry asst

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decision at a meeting at its office at Purana Paltan with its coordinator Aatur Rahman in the chair.

The association expressed frustration over its meeting with the director general of the Directorate of Primary Education, held on September 22, as it ended without any decision.

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investigation officer in the case, submitted the charge sheet against Rony to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka.

Rony, son of AL lawmaker and acting Mohila AL general secretary Pinu Khan, fired random shots in the air from his vehicle for "being frustrated over post-midnight traffic" on New Eskaton Road on April 15, leaving a rickshaw puller and an auto-rickshaw driver dead.

Hakim's mother Monowara Begum filed the murder case on April 15 against some unidentified persons.

The murder case was transferred to the DB police on May 25, and the detectives arrested Rony and his driver Imran on May 31.

Later, Rony's three friends, who were with him in the vehicle, gave judicial statements as witnesses, while Imran gave a confessional statement to magistrates.

Frightful anarchy in Bangladesh

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were...part of the government's evil efforts to harass him," said Asaduzzaman Ripon while addressing a briefing at the party's Naya Paltan central office.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police's Detective Branch on Sunday submitted the charges against Khaleda's elder son in a case filed for calling Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman "Pakbandhu" (friend of Pakistan).

Moshir Rahman Malek, president of Bangabandhu Foundation, filed the case on October 19 last year with the Chief

Metropolitan Magistrate Court of Dhaka.

In it, he said Tarique used the term while addressing a programme in London on September 29, 2014.

Defending Tarique, Ripon said Tarique quoted the remark from different books and articles on the Liberation War. "If any sedition case needs to be filed, it should be against writers of those books and articles," added the international affairs secretary. He called upon the government to come to the path of national unity shunning the politics of vengeance and repressive acts.

Be very careful

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incident that made me lose five months' worth of memories. I believe the theft was not carried out by one person but rather a gang.

So, with a heavy heart I advice everyone to be careful with their belongings especially with Eid-ul Azha right around the corner.