

Construction worker hacked to death by muggers in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers hacked a man to death and injured his brother and snatched away valuables from them in the capital's Aftabnagar early Friday, said the survivor.

The deceased, Madan Roy, 23, and his brother Tapan Roy, 20, worked together as construction workers.

Around five muggers waylaid them at Aftabnagar Ansar camp while they were returning to their house in the area from their workplace in Banasree around 3:00am, said Tapan.

As Madan tried to resist them, the criminals attacked with sharp weapons and took away Tk 7,500 and two cellphones from them, he said.

Locals took the two to Dhaka Medical College

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5



Visiting BJP National Secretary General Ram Madhav pays a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Gono Bhaban residence in Dhaka yesterday. PHOTO: PMO

Road crashes kill 6 including DU student

Injure one

CITY DESK

Six people were killed, including a student of Dhaka University, and another was injured in road accidents in three districts yesterday and on Friday.

In Madaripur Sadar, three people, including the DU student, were killed and another was injured when a bus of Eagle Paribahan rammed a three-wheeler carrying them at Kalabari point on Dhaka-Barisal highway yesterday.

The deceased were Lutfar Rahman Sikdar, 45, member aspirant in the upcoming Kendua Union Parishad polls of the upazila, a three-wheeler driver Meraj Bapari, 34, of Hogleghat village and DU student Shoriful Islam of Srinidhi village, said Officer-in-Charge of Madaripur Sadar Police Station Zuiaul Morshed.

Shoriful was a masters student of the criminology department. Police seized the bus, but the bus driver managed to flee.

In Manikganj, a four-wheeler helper Alamgir Hossain, 32, of Tewta village was killed when a covered-van ran him over while he was changing a wheel of his vehicle in Pukhuria Bus Stand area on Dhaka-Aricha highway at Ghior upazila yesterday.

Meanwhile, five minutes later Mozammel Hossain, 55, of Sholdhara village was killed when a truck hit him while he was crossing the highway at Baniajuri.

In Joypurhat, Golam Mostafa, 35, of Pechulia village was killed when a bus hit him in Shokhinpara village on Friday.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Artist and freelance journalist Rajeshwari Priyoranjini, daughter of freedom fighter Ferdousi Priyabhashini, died due to throat cancer on Thursday at a hospital in India. She was 39.

Rajeshwari was a contributor to Bangla dailies and magazines including Ittefaq, Ajker Kagoj, Bhorer Kagoj, Prothom Alo, Anondo Alo, Charbela, Canvas, and Anannya.

She will be buried today in Azimpur graveyard in the capital after the Zohr prayers.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the eleventh death anniversary of Farida Sarkar, a Fulbright scholar and former civil servant, newscaster of the Voice of America and a teacher of North South University.

She was the wife of former power and energy minister and Jatiya Party presidium member, Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu.

On the occasion, special prayers will be offered at an orphanage, and food will be distributed among the residents, says a press release.

Crocodiles also facing trouble in Sundarbans

Survey says population now stands hardly at 130

UNB, Bagerhat

The crocodile population in the Sundarbans has declined further due to rapid destruction of their breeding grounds and unchecked poaching, according to the preliminary findings of a new crocodile survey carried out in the mangrove forest.

The survey predicts that there are now only 120-130 crocodiles in the rivers and canals of the forest while the number was about 200 in 2004.

Bangladesh Forest Department and the Centre for Advanced Research in Natural Resources & Management (CARINAM), a wildlife research organisation, jointly conducted the survey.

A Tk 1.24 crore Crocodile Survey Project was taken with financial support from the World Bank comprising of an eighty-member team of experts and trained forest officials, divided into four groups, to collect field-level data from four ranges of the forest from January 31 to February 15, 2016.

The Global Positioning System (GPS) was used for the first time during the survey to identify the locations of the crocodiles.

Forest officials said the Forest Department is now examining the data collected from the field level, and it is expected that the actual number of the Sundarbans' crocodiles would be announced in May next.

Divisional forest officer and survey coordinator M Jahidul Kabir said it is not possible to say the exact figure of crocodiles, without examining the field-level data. "But we, based on field-level data, can primarily predict that there would be about 100 crocodiles in the Sundarbans."

Wildlife experts, who took part in the survey, observed that there is a huge possibility of enhancing crocodile population to several thousands in the Sundarbans, but its number has declined due to destruction of their habitat.

Rapid destruction of crocodiles' breeding grounds, unchecked poaching and fishermen's indiscriminate access to rivers and canals contribute to the rapid fall in the crocodile population of the forest, Dr SMA Rashid, chief executive of CARINAM said.

Divisional forest officer (Sundarbans East) M Saidul Islam said the Forest Department established a crocodile breeding centre at Karamjal point of the Sundarbans to save the endangered salt-water crocodiles.

"About 19 salt-water crocodiles have already been released to the canals and rivers of the Sundarbans from the breeding centre...now there are also 264 crocodiles in the centre," he added.

Wildlife is currently facing various troubles due to the unchecked poaching and destruction of natural forests. According to the Tiger Census 2015, tiger population also declined to only 106 in the Bangladesh part of the Sundarbans in 2015 but it was 440 in 2004.

FIGHTING KIDNEY DISEASES

Reduce treatment cost, equipment import tax

Doctors urge govt from KAMPS discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Doctors at a meeting yesterday stressed the need for reducing the prices of medicines and taxes to import the machinery related to the critical diseases.

Kidney Awareness Monitoring and Prevention Society (KAMPS), a voluntary organisation of physicians, arranged the discussion on "Kidney disease and children: Act early to prevent it" at the capital's Jatiya Press Club ahead of World Kidney Day 2016, which will be observed on March 10.

Speakers also urged the government to take steps to reduce the price of per dialysis for the kidney patients at Tk 1,500 from Tk 3,000-Tk 5,500 depending on the hospitals.

Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury, chairman of Gonoswashya Kendra, said abnormal rise of medicine price and numerous irregularities in the health sector are happening. "People get free dialysis in many countries like Taiwan, Iran, and Cuba etc. Though it is not possible to provide free dialysis in Bangladesh, but the cost can be brought down," he added.

Chairman of Kidney Foundation Prof Harun ur Rashid said if people can conduct screening and tests of diseases like kidney, diabetes and heart at the primary healthcare centres in the rural areas then it is possible to prevent all of these critical diseases.

Chairman of KAMPS Prof MA Samad and head of kidney department in Lab Aid Specialised Hospital presented a keynote paper at the meeting.

"The main objective of the World Kidney Day is to make people aware of kidney diseases. Early detection can help a patient live longer...The prevalence of kidney disease is very high worldwide, in Bangladesh about 2 crore people are suffering from different sorts of kidney diseases," he said.

"The treatment cost is so high that at least 10 percent of patients cannot afford it and as a result, most of the kidney patients die without treatment," he said. Only awareness can prevent nearly 50 to 60 percent of kidney failure, he added. While speaking about the need for a disciplined lifestyle, he said at least 68 percent of death risk can be reduced by walking for at least 30 minutes every day, eating sufficient fruits and vegetables, controlling weight and shunning smoking.

S Korean firm wants

FROM PAGE 3

The project is expected to start in 2018.

"Rural development should be more cross-sectoral and multi-occupational and aim for increasing productivity," said Kazi Ali Taufique, research director of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

Bangladesh has also achieved many successes in rural development, said general economics division (GED) member Prof Shamsul Alam. SUM can boost development but the model needs to be redesigned because of the socio-cultural differences between the both countries, he opined.

LOST

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Position Vacancy Announcement

Position: Acquisition and Assistance Specialist, FSN'9

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Bangladesh is seeking applications from qualified Bangladeshi nationals for the position of Acquisition and Assistance Specialist (multiple positions), in the Office of the Acquisition and Assistance (OAA).

Location: USAID/Bangladesh, Deadline for application submission: March 27, 2016.

For a complete job description, required qualifications and detailed information on how to apply please visit USAID/Bangladesh website: <http://www.usaid.gov/bangladesh/work-with-us/careers> and www.bdjobs.com

D-181

Bureau of Economic Research
University of Dhaka
Arts Faculty Building
Nilkhet, Dhaka-1000

Training Course on Use of Excel and SPSS for Research Design, Data Analysis and Modeling

19 March 2016 to 24 April 2016

The Bureau of Economic Research, University of Dhaka is going to organize Training Course on Use of Excel and SPSS for Research Design, Data Analysis and Modeling to be held from March 19, 2016 to April 24, 2016. Classes will be held on Saturday, Monday and Wednesday between 5.15pm to 8.00pm. The training is designed for participants who intend to learn the use of Excel and SPSS for research design, data management and data analysis in social sciences/banking/business/natural sciences. Candidates must have a 2nd class (CGPA 2.5 or above) Bachelor Degree in any subject in Science/Social Sciences/Business. Application forms are available in the Office Room No. 3051/Ka, 2nd Floor, Arts Building, Dhaka University. Contact: Phone-9661920-73/Ext 4560, 01719-019694, 01556380373. Application Form is also available for download. Candidates must apply in the prescribed forms on or before **March 15, 2016**. Seats are limited for quality purpose. Course fee: BDT 15,000.00 (per participant). For details, please visit www.berdu.ac.bd

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TIME EXTENSION NOTICE FOR DPDC'S INTERNATIONAL TENDER

Reference: 1. MemoNo.DPDC/SE/132/33KV S/S/PD/PPMP-3 NOCS/2016/03 ; Date :31.01.2016

The Tender submission/opening date of the following tender is hereby extended as shown below :

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Name of the Tender	Last date of Selling Tender		Tender Submission/opening date	
			Previous	New	Previous	New
01.	DPDC/SE/P D/PPMS for 3 NOCS/2015 /525; date 23.07.2015	Design, Supply, Installation, Interfacing with existing Pre-Payment, System, Testing & Commissioning of Pre-Payment Metering System at NOCS Satmasjid, Shere-e-Bangla Nagar & Mugdapara Division on Turnkey basis	08/03/2016	10/04/2016	Submission: 09/03/2016, 12:00 Noon Opening: 09/03/2016 03:00PM	Submission: 11/04/2016, 12:00 Noon Opening: 11/04/2016, 12:00 Noon

A.H.M Mohiuddin, Superintending Engineer & Project Director, Pre-Payment Metering System, DPDC.