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CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN

SAKEB SUBHAN

"I want to be a medical doctor working for the disadvantaged like my dad. I do have to keep bringing everything back to my Dad, my Dad is everything I want to be," was how Asahi Hoque, a fourth-year student at University of Connecticut majoring in Cellular Biology and Human Rights, responded to a question about what she plans to do after completing her studies.

Her father, Dr. Ehsan Hoque, is the founder of Distressed Children and Infants International (DCI), a non-profit organisation which began in 2003 at Yale University in Connecticut, USA. Although based thousands of miles away, DCI's heart resides very much in Bangladesh, where through four programmes -- the Sun Child Sponsorship, Orphan Support, Healthcare for the Underprivileged and Blindness Prevention -- it has benefited thousands of children and their families by providing education opportunities, skills training, preventive healthcare and pre- and post-natal care for mothers. In Bangladesh, DCI works in Dhaka, Patuakhali, Nilphamari, Feni and Habiganj.

CHANGE MAKERS



Asahi Hoque among the children at the Sun Child Home in Dhaka, which is run by Distressed Children and Infants International.

Brutality, cold and calculated

15-yr-old pregnant girl, 'goaded by husband', sets herself afire, dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A teenage housewife, who had set herself on fire on being goaded by her husband on Friday, died at a city hospital yesterday.

The 15-year-old, Shilpi Akhtar from Joinpur of Keraniganj in Dhaka, was five months pregnant when she lost her battle with death at Dhaka Medical College Hospital around 2:30pm, doctors at the hospital told The Daily Star.

Her husband, Al Hasan, was unemployed and would often torture her for dowry, according to Shilpi's mother Rahima.

Hasan, 25, could not be reached for comments.

The local police said they were still waiting for a complaint to be lodged.

"The victim's family is yet to come to us. We will take proper actions after receiving a formal complaint,"

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CID to arrest suspects soon

Says top official

RAFIUL ISLAM, from Comilla

Investigators are poised to make a breakthrough soon in the probe into the murder of Comilla college student Sohagi Jahan Tonu as they have got some clues and identified some suspects, says a top CID official.

They are going to arrest some suspects and interrogate them in custody to learn what actually happened on the night of March 20 when Tonu was found dead in Comilla Cantonment area.

"We are now in a position to make some arrests," Masud Karim Khan, special superintendent of Comilla-Noakhali division of CID, told The Daily Star yesterday.

"We hope to arrest some suspects within two to four days."

About questioning of people, including family members, Masud Karim said those were merely "interviews", and now they would go for interrogation in custody.

He declined to disclose the names or number of the suspects.

The CID, tasked with probing the murder, yesterday recorded statements



TONU MURDER

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'Blame me'

David Cameron says he could have handled tax row better

BBC ONLINE

Prime Minister David Cameron has said he could have handled the row over his financial affairs "better", admitting it had "not been a great week".

Addressing the Tories' spring forum, he said he was to blame for the handling of revelations about his holding in his late father's offshore fund.

Days after questions were first raised, the PM admitted this week he had owned and later sold units in the fund.

Cameron also said he would publish information on his tax return later.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said the PM had "misled the public" over his financial affairs and "lost the trust of the British people".

'LESSONS TO LEARN'

Addressing Conservative Party activists in central London, Cameron said: "It has not been a great week. I know that I should have handled this better, I could have handled this better."

"I know there are lessons to learn and I will learn them."

"Don't blame Number 10 Downing Street or nameless advisers, blame me."



PHOTO: AFP
A protester in London.

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BNP injecting fresh blood

Party gets 6 new joint secys gen and 6 organising secys

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday announced the names of seven joint secretaries general and eight organising secretaries, including two women, of its new national executive committee.

Mujibur Rahman Sarwar, Syed Moazzem Hossain Alal, Khairul Kabir Khokon, Habib-un-Nabi Khan Sohel, Harun-ar-Rashid and Aslam Chowdhury have become new joint secretaries general.

The other one, Mahub Uddin Khokon, held the same post in the previous committee.

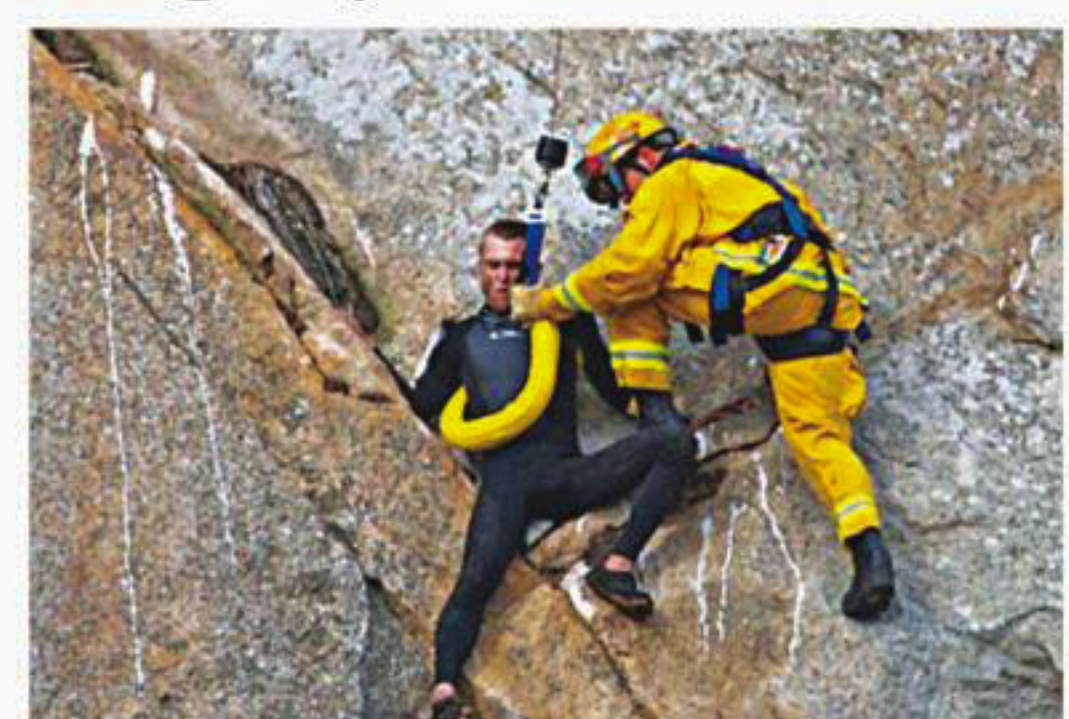
Shahadat Hossain (Chittagong), Nazrul Islam Monju (Khulna), Ruhul Quddus Talukder Dulu (Rajshahi), Bilkis Shirin (Barisal), Emran Saleh Prince (Mymensingh) and Sama Obaed (Faridpur) are new organising secretaries in the districts.

The other two, Fazlul Haq Milon (Dhaka) and Asadul Habib Dulu (Rangpur), were in the same position earlier.

Newly promoted BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed made the

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Man rescued from cliff after proposing to girlfriend



BBC ONLINE

A US man aimed high when he decided to propose to his girlfriend - climbing a steep cliff face to pop the question via a video-app on his phone.

Only Michael Bank's romantic gesture hit the rocks after he became stuck on his way down and had to be rescued.

The drama unfolded on the 600ft (180m) high Morro Rock off California's Central Coast.

The good news, his girlfriend said yes. The bad news, he now faces a hefty bill for his rescue.

A helicopter had to be called to help bring the 27-year-old back down to earth.

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Banshkhali protests postponed for 15 days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A committee for the protection of houses and graveyard in Gondamara union yesterday postponed its today's programme of laying siege to the upazila parishad.

The decision came after Chittagong district (South) Awami League leader Abdullah Kabir Liton visited the area yesterday and asked for 15 days' time to resolve the issue.

Liakot Ali, convener of the committee, at a mass rally held at the union on Friday declared the lay-siege programme.

His aide Abu Ahmed said the committee deferred the programme after Abdullah Kabir Liton asked for 15 days to resolve the problem.

"At a rally held at Gondamara union yesterday, he [Liton] assured us

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Piles of new ledgers at a shop in Andarkilla of Chittagong city yesterday. Traders close their old books at the end of the Bangla year and open a new one on Pahela Baishakh, which is on Thursday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

SIBL
Social Islami Bank Limited
Prayer Timing April 10
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-45 6-24 7-45
JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 5-00 6-28 8-15
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

United Hospital
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OBITUARY

PIR SHAHEB OF KHANKAH ABUL ULAIYA, SATROUZA, DHAKA HAZRAT SYED SHAH MOHAMMAD SOHAIL QADRI ABUL ULAYEE (RAHMAT ULLAH ALAIHE) EXPIRED THIS MORNING (April 9, 2016) AT 03:45 HOURS BANGLADESH TIME AT GLEN EAGLES HOSPITAL, SINGAPORE.

NAMAZ-E- JANAZA OF HIS HOLINESS IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD AT SWIMMING POOL PLAY GROUND, DHAKA UNIVERSITY TOMORROW, April 10, 2016 AFTER Z'HAR PRAYERS.