



Fahim Munaim's janazas, burial today

Staff Correspondent
Eminent journalist and well-known TV personality Syed Fahim Munaim will be buried today at the capital's Banani graveyard, according to Maasranga Television.

Fahim's body will be taken to Jatiya Press Club from the Square Hospital's mortuary for the first namaz-e-janaza at 10:00am. The second and third janazas will be held at Maasranga Television Centre on Bir Uttam Ziaur Rahman Road around 11:30am and Gulshan Azad Mosque after Juma prayers, a Maasranga TV official also said. The chief executive officer and chief editor at Maasranga Television, Fahim Munaim, who devoted his whole life to building professional and ethical journalism in the country, died from a cardiac arrest at his Gulshan residence on Wednesday, aged 63. A former executive editor of The Daily Star, Fahim left behind his wife, three sons and a daughter-in-law.

Obama writes to Xulhaz's family

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US President Barack Obama in a letter to the family of slain LGBT activist Xulhaz Mannan has expressed deepest condolences saying the pain of loss is indescribable.

Xulhaz, an employee of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), who also served the US Embassy in Dhaka with distinction, and his friend Mahbub Tony were brutally killed at his (Xulhaz) residence on April 25.

A family member of Xulhaz confirmed about receiving a letter from the US president. The Daily Star obtained a copy of the letter.

The US president and his wife Michelle in the letter dated May 5 said, "Michelle and I join you in heartbreak and grief, and we extend our deepest condolences.

"The pain of a loss like this is indescribable. Guided by his commitment to shaping a more just and equal future across Bangladesh, Xulhaz devoted his life to service.

"I hope it brings you some measure of solace to know that his courageous, compassionate spirit will endure through all who knew and loved him, and in all who are inspired by the difference he made—now and for generations to come.

"During this extraordinarily difficult time, please know I am holding you in my thoughts."

6 including 4 Nigerians held for selling fake medicines

DU CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion-2 on Wednesday night arrested six persons including four Nigerians in Dhaka's Mirpur and Lalmatia allegedly for selling fake herbal aphrodisiac and medicines, says Rab press release.

The Nigerians are Madubuike Onyekachi, 26, Nowsu Chimezie Albinus, 45, Opara Macdonald, 30, Mmadubuike Christian Uchenna, 30, while the other two are Sayema Saidur alias Bristi alias Sonia, 24, and Sayed Taslim Sadat Oyasi.

The gang used to sell herbal seeds named "Bio Livia".



Representatives of Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) and The Aga Khan Foundation (Bangladesh) at a signing ceremony at BYLC headquarters in the capital yesterday to implement the Linking Youth to Employment in Bangladesh initiative through BYLC's new Office of Professional Development (OPD) programme. Under the agreement, OPD will seek to increase employment among BYLC graduates and other youths by providing them with opportunities for leadership and career development. PHOTO: BYLC

CNG filling stations to stay open 24hrs from July 1 to 10 for Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to keep open all the CNG refuelling stations countrywide round the clock for 10 days from July 1 to ensure smooth travel of people during the Eid-ul-Fitr.

The decision was taken at an inter-ministerial meeting chaired by Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader at a restaurant in the capital yesterday.

Laws must be enforced to stop plying of Nasiman, Karimon, easy-bike and other unfit and unregistered vehicles on highways during Eid rush to prevent road crashes, said discussants at the meeting.

Movement of truck, covered-van, lorry and other heavy vehicles will

remain off the highways three days before and after the Eid, expected to be celebrated on July 6. However, the vehicles carrying perishable goods will remain out of the purview of this rule.

Three vigilance teams will be formed at the capital's Gabtoli, Mohakhali and Sayedabad bus terminals to check overcharging of passengers and overloading.

The home ministry in collaboration with other departments will take necessary measures to check extortion, mugging and pick-pocketing.

The Roads and Highways Division will form 25 monitoring teams to keep watch on the condition of roads and highways during the Eid.

The entrance and exit points of the capital must be kept free from barriers

like temporary bus stoppages and roadside kitchen markets to help holidaymakers have hassle-free journeys.

Talking to The Daily Star, Bangladesh Passengers' Welfare Association Secretary General Mozammel Hoque Chowdhury said, "The government took similar decisions ahead of Eid in previous years. But most of them remained unimplemented."

Railways Minister Mazibul Hoque, State Minister for Local Government and Co-operatives Division Mashiur Rahman Ranga, Dhaka South City Corporation Mayor Sayeed Khokon, representatives of different government bodies, road transport owners and workers associations, were present there.

MIGRATION Cut economic, social cost

Urge activists, returnees STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rights activists and returnee migrants and their families yesterday demanded that the government take effective measures to reduce economic and social costs of labour migration.

The cost for low skilled Sri Lankan migrants is equal to one month's earnings in Kuwait and for Indians 2.5 months' but for Bangladeshis it is 9 months', said RMMRU Executive Director Prof CR Abrar.

He was highlighting the issues at a public hearing the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) organised for the purpose in the capital's Cirdap auditorium.

Since 2013, Bangladeshis have been paying the highest amount, around Tk 12 lakh, to find jobs in Saudi Arabia while it is on an average Tk 3.5 lakh for other Middle Eastern countries, he added.

Some returnee migrants and their families alleged being exploited through excessive charging by recruiting agents, which was "really difficult to earn even in two or three years".

They demanded that the government establish a mechanism to reduce the

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