

Fake medicine factory busted in Khulna, two sent to jail

A CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A Khulna court yesterday sent a former Awami League (AL) leader and his employee to jail for manufacturing and selling fake medicines under renowned manufacturers' labels. Rapid Action Battalion arrested them in Jabusa area of Rupsha upazila in Khulna on Monday night. Khandoker Rafiqul Islam, additional DIG and captain of Rab-6, said Kazi Shah Nawaj, former president of AL Khulna city unit and also of Bangladesh Frozen Food Export Association, used to run the business in collaboration with many hospitals for getting orders of fake medicines.

The factory was being run in the guise of sea food processing factory with the name "Shahnawaj Sea Food". Rab recovered a huge amount of raw materials, including rice powder, and 2.5 lakh empty strips of Fluclox capsules having ACI Pharmaceuticals' name inscribed on it, four sacks

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When development work hurts... a rickshaw-van puller with the help of others try to make the van stand after one of its wheels gave away hitting a pothole hidden under stagnant water in the capital's Chamelibagh area yesterday. Due to the development work for the Mouchak-Moghbazar flyover, this section of the road from Malibagh to Shantinagar is in a dilapidated condition since trucks with heavy construction materials frequently ply the road, which not only causes asphalt to erode away in many parts, but also increases the risk of accidents.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Youth hacked to death in Savar

A CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A youth was hacked to death at Vorari in Savar, outside the capital, on Monday night for Tk 2,000 that he lent to his neighbour.

Khursheduzzaman Rubel, 27, son of Sadek Ali, was a taxi driver.

Victim's wife Farjana Begum claimed that Liton, a garment worker, owed Tk 2,000 to Khurshed and on that night Liton's landlord Aslam phoned her husband and called him over to Liton's place.

Aslam during primary interrogation admitted to police that he only called Khurshed but it was Liton who along with four associates killed him.

Hearing a hue and cry, locals rushed Khurshed to Enam Medical College Hospital where he was declared dead. Liton is absconding.

Police sent the body for an autopsy. A murder case was filed.

Milestone for Sino-Bangla ties

Says Chinese minister ahead of its president's visit to Dhaka Friday

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Strategic cooperative partnership between Dhaka and Beijing is set to enter a "new level" during the upcoming visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping, who is scheduled to arrive on Friday for 22-hour visit.

It would be the first time a Chinese president is paying a state visit to Bangladesh in the past 30 years.

"Bangladesh is China's important partner in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region, and the visit would be a milestone for China-Bangladesh relationship," Kong Xuanyou, assistant foreign minister, said in Beijing.

According to draft programme schedule, the Chinese president will arrive at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 11:40am from Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia.

President Abdul Hamid will receive him at the airport. He will hold official talks with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Prime Minister's Office at 3:00pm which will be followed by signing of agreements. Ahead of Xi's arrival, an important Chinese delegation led by its commerce minister is expected to arrive in Dhaka



President Xi Jinping

tomorrow to finalise the deals to be signed after the official talks on Friday. The Chinese president will meet Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury. He will also meet his Bangladesh counterpart at Bangabhaban.

On Saturday morning, the Chinese president will depart for Goa after visiting the National Memorial.

A reliable source told The Daily Star that the Chinese side agreed to give an opportunity to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to meet with the Chinese president at his hotel suite on Saturday morning. During Xi's visit, China will sign a number of cooperative agreements with Bangladesh to implement the Beijing-proposed "Belt and Road Initiative", which focuses on improving infrastructure and boosting interconnection, Kong said.

So far, more than 70 countries and international organisations have actively participated in the "Belt and Road" construction. In Goa, Xi will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other leaders, including heads of BIMSTEC (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand) countries who have been invited to the Goa summit.

ANANTA MURDER Court accepts charge sheet

STAR REPORT

A Sylhet court accepted the charge-sheet of blogger and science writer Ananta Bijoy Das murder case on Monday.



Ananta Bijoy Das

The court fixed October 18 for the first hearing, said court sources.

Arman Ali, inspector of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge-sheet on August 28 accusing five persons, reports our Sylhet correspondent.

Of the accused, Mannan Rahi and his brother Mohaymen Noman are in jail, while Abul Hossain, Faisal Ahmed and Harunur Rashid are on the run.

Harunur is from Tahirpur upazila while the rest are from Kanaighat upazila of Sylhet.

Mannan admitted his involvement in the

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Justice for Khadiza now sought abroad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A section of students from North China University of Science and Technology raised their voices to demand justice for Sylhet college student Khadiza Begum Nargis who was brutally hacked by a Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) man.

Under the banner "Student Union: North China University of Science and Technology", the students, mostly Bangladeshis, formed a human chain on Monday on the university campus, where Khadiza's brother is a student.

Holding placards that read "We want justice", "Pray for Khadiza", "It is the time to prevent people like Badrul," the students urged people not to spread rumours about the victim.

The students emailed a statement to some media outlets including this newspaper and said when Khadiza was battling for life, rumours had been spread against her in the social media.

The 23-year-old college student is undergoing treatment at Neuro Intensive Care Unit of the capital's Square Hospital. On

October 3, she was hacked multiple times by Badrul Alam, a fourth-year student of economics at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust).

Badrul is also the senior assistant secretary of the Sust unit of BCL. He attacked Khadiza inside MC College where she had gone to sit for an examination. BCL, however, says Badrul has nothing to do with it.

Meanwhile, neurosurgeon AM Rezaus Sattar at Square Hospital, who carried out surgeries on her, said her condition was improving slowly. He said they hope to withdraw her ventilation support within a few days.

The students in the statement said, when Badrul was hacking her [Khadiza], some people were watching the brutality from the distance.

"A whole college got defeated by the brutality of Badrul," said Faisal Mahmud in the statement on the students' behalf. "We know thousands of Badrul are around you and us and could swoop on your sister."

When Khadiza was battling for life, some people like Badrul were spreading rumours against her by uploading pictures of someone

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The grandfather holds his grandson while standing next to his daughter.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

A happy reunion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

It was a happy reunion as the father and daughter hugged each other at Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa) in Rajshahi city's Mohisbathan area.

The joy escalated when Firingi's father was introduced to his grandson Swapno.

Her father, Shafiqul Islam ran to the charity organisation yesterday to meet his daughter Firingi Khatun.

Shafiqul, a day labourer, informed that Firingi Khatun was the eldest among his three daughters and three sons.

He said Malek, a college student of their village Islampur-Laxminarayanpur in Chapainawabganj, identified her from The Daily Star report published on Monday and sent information to Shafiqul about his daughter.

Shafiqul said Firingi wanted to stay at the charity for a few more days and later at a suitable time, they would take her home.

He also alleged that Firingi was driven out of her home by her husband after she became pregnant and remarried another hearing-impaired woman.

Three years ago, Firingi first fled home after her mother refused to buy her a pair of sleepers. She returned home 13/14 months later and brought Sona Mia with her, who was also hearing-impaired, he said.

During that period, Sona Mia, Firingi and two other hearing-impaired man and woman worked at a hotel at Choradhap Hat, some 10km from Bogra town, said Shafiqul.

Firingi then left with Sona Mia again, but gave him the hotel's number where he used to call to know about her whereabouts, he said.

In April, Shafiqul went to Choradhap for bringing Firingi home for her vote in the UP elections and saw Sona Mia was living with another

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NEWS IN brief

Worker dies falling from building

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A construction worker died after falling from the roof of an under-construction five-storey building at Chandgaon in Chittagong city yesterday.

Md Rakib, of south Hatia, touched a live electric wire while he was lifting up iron rods and fell from the roof in Ek-Kilometer area.

Fellow workers rushed him to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

ADB launches essay contest

CITY DESK

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) yesterday launched an essay competition for graduate and post-graduate students in Bangladesh as part of its 50th anniversary celebration.

The topic of the essay is "Transforming Bangladesh into a Developed Country by 2041: Role of ADB".

Participants are invited to submit an original essay in English within 1,000 - 1,200 word limit, excluding references. Each participant must submit only one entry to: adbbm@adb.org by 12 noon Bangladesh time, November 10.

The first prize for the competition is \$500, while the second and third prize winners will get \$300 and \$200, respectively.

Youth arrested with arms in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested a youth with a short-gun and two rounds of bullets from Kadamtoli bus stand area of Chittagong city yesterday morning.

The arrestee was Md Robiul Hossain, 26, of Comilla. Tipped-off, Rab-7 conducted a drive at Alam Hotel and Restaurant in the area and arrested Robiul, said a press release.

Man, son held with alcohol in Savar

A CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The Detective Branch of police arrested a man and his son and seized 500 bottles of wine from their house in Deogaon area of Savar, outside the capital, on Monday night.

The arrestees are Tapan D Costa, 53, and his son Harry D Costa, 26. A case was filed.



A section of students of North China University of Science and Technology form a human chain yesterday on its campus demanding justice for Sylhet college student Khadiza Begum Nargis.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

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Head Office: Iqbal Centre, 42 Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka-1213
© +88 02 9820844-8 www.premierbankltd.com customer.service@premierbankltd.com