

Ragib Ali's son held while entering thru' Sylhet border

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Immigration police arrested industrialist Ragib Ali's son Abdul Hai from Zakiganj immigration check post yesterday afternoon while he was entering the country from Karimganj of India.

"He was accompanied by his wife and son, who were detained," said Sugyan Chakma, additional superintendent of Sylhet district police.

Sylhet Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court issued arrest warrants against six persons in a case filed for forging the land ministry's official documents to grab the land of Tarapur Tea Estate -- an endowment property.

The six, Ragib, Hai, the land's Shebayet (caretaker) Pankaj Kumar Gupta, Ragib Ali's daughter Rujina Kadir, son-in-law Abdul Kadir and a relative Dewan Mostak Majid, fled to India afterwards on August 10.

Ragib Ali and his son Abdul Hai are accused in three cases filed over grabbing the land of the tea estate, forging government papers and holding the posts of publisher and editor of a local newspaper while being fugitives.

In 1915, the 422.96-acre land of the tea estate was endowed by its owner. Ragib and Hai reportedly grabbed the land in 1990 by forging its documents and later established medical colleges and other infrastructures there. They also sold out at least 150 plots.

In 2005, Sylhet Sadar land commissioner filed a case with Kotwali police, accusing Ragib and some others. On July 10 this year, the Police Bureau of Investigation submitted a charge sheet to the court accusing the six.

Meanwhile, the district administration handed over 323 acres of the land to the caretaker following a High Court order.



International Press Institute Executive Director Barbara Trionfi addresses a discussion in a city hotel yesterday, flanked by media professionals gathering in Dhaka for a celebration marking the 18th anniversary of Bangla daily Prothom Alo.

BNP men attacked by 'pro-AL activists' arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Eight BNP activists were left injured and another eight arrested after a meeting of the party was attacked in Barisal's Gournadi upazila yesterday allegedly by Jubo League men.

The arrestees include Bulbul Chockdar, chief of BNP's Mahilara union unit.

Convener of the BNP unit in the upazila Abu Hossain claimed that Jubo League's Gournadi unit Secretary Al Amin Howlader arrived at his house in Tarki area around noon with men on motorcycles and carried out the attack with lethal weapons.

Al Amin denied his involvement in the attack.

AIRPORT KNIFE ATTACK Case probe transferred to counterterrorism unit of DMP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The responsibility to investigate the killing of a security staff at the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on November 6, was transferred from Airport Police station to the counterterrorism unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police yesterday.

Police held a knife-wielding person at the airport after he had stabbed dead Ansar staff Md Sohag Ali and injured at least three other security personnel when they barred him from entering the airport terminal.

The attacker identified himself as Shihad, but police are suspicious of the name being real. And, his detailed identity could not be ascertained even after a week of the incident.

MARKING HUMAYUN'S BIRTHDAY TODAY Hasan Azizul Haque, Noman receive award

DU CORRESPONDENT

Veteran writer Prof Hasan Azizul Haque and Swakrito Noman were awarded Exim Bank-Anyadin Humayun Ahmed Sahitya Puraskar-2016 yesterday.



Prof Haque got the award for his contribution to Bangla literature and Noman for his novel "Kalkeuter Suk (The happiness of Cobra)" in young writer category.

The writers were awarded at a programme held at the Bangla Academy in the capital marking the 68th birth anniversary of Humayun Ahmed today.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith and Prof Emeritus Dr Anisuzzaman gave away the awards.

Mazharul Islam, editor of fortnightly magazine Anyadin, Dr Mohammed Haider Ali Miah, managing director of Exim Bank, and family members of Humayun Ahmed were present at the programme.

Humayun Ahmed, the person who had consistently entertained people with his prolific writings, films and dramas for

Print media future lies in satisfying readers' needs

International media professionals tell dialogue marking 18th anniversary of Prothom Alo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The emergence of new media poses a formidable challenge to traditional print media but by catering to varied needs of readers and by reaching out to them with quality journalism, print still holds a good future.

A galaxy of media professionals representing Bangladesh, South Asia and beyond, gathering in Dhaka for a celebration marking the 18th anniversary of Prothom Alo, said in a dialogue yesterday that despite the rise of digital news platforms, people still do tend to seek print journalism for authentication.

That trust is valuable and restoring public confidence in the media by establishing better connection with readers, viewers, listeners and reflecting their interests through quality jour-

nalism can help the media thrive and face the present and future challenges, they opined.

Prothom Alo, the largest circulated vernacular daily, organised the dialogue among the international and local journalists titled "Present and Future - Challenges before Journalism" at a city hotel.

Some 30 leading editors, senior journalists and journalism professionals took part in the half-day dialogue moderated by The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam with the host paper's editor Matiur Rahman delivering the note of thanks.

Chairman of the International Press Institute John Yearwood said people do go back to mainstream media outlets to get details after getting links from different social media platforms.

He considered this to be a significant issue and

urged media leaders to share ideas and learn from each other's experiences. He laid special emphasis on upholding the idea of press freedom.

The Hindu Editor Mukund Padmanabhan noted the disruptions created by many digital media platforms and the blurring of news and opinion. He put emphasis on the need for good journalism.

The Indian Express Chief Editor Raj Kamal Jha said the need to serve news to the public very fast along with the need for due diligence in fact-checking is increasingly becoming a big challenge at an era when politicians, corporations and elites have their own armies of social media platforms, breaking news apps and propaganda machinery.

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These are some of the 200 ducks of a farmer in Sherpur's Shribordi which died after being poisoned yesterday allegedly by another centring previous enemy.

Doubts barrier to employment

People with disabilities tell discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amina Fahmida Khanam, a youth from Uttara who completed her master's recently, has been applying at different places for a job for the last two years but she could not get one for being a physically challenged person.

The employers do not want to recruit her as they doubt whether she would be able to work properly although she has taken many skill development trainings that are designed for people like her.

"It hurts me a lot when I get rejected...due to the physical impairment. But I am confident enough to do the work," she said.

Amina and some other challenged persons yesterday shared their experiences in their search for jobs during a discussion, "Inclusion of young persons with disabilities in skills and employment", jointly organised by ActionAid and Access Bangladesh Foundation (ABF) at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

"Employers' negative mindset

regarding the disabled people is the main barrier to their employment. This exclusion ultimately creates a negative impact on the GDP and the country loses around US \$1.2 billion per year," Albert Mollah, executive director of ABF, said in his keynote presentation.

So the employers need to be committed to employ this group for including them in the country's workforce while colleagues' mindset also should change to ensure that the people get good behaviour, he said.

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Road crashes kill 5

CITY DESK

Five people were killed and eight others injured in road accidents in four districts yesterday.

In Jhenidah, two people were killed and four others injured as a human-hauler collided head-on with a pick-up van on Kaliganj-Kotchandpur road in Patbila bus stand area of Kaliganj upazila.

The deceased were Amjad Hossain, 55, of Chandpur village

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