



Tragedy at Kaliakoir

5, including 2 mothers, their kids, die as train smashes car into pieces on level crossing in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

It was the first day of school for Rufaida Lozhat Rizza, 4, yesterday, and for her six-year-old cousin Talha it was the first day in nursery class.

Their mothers -- Nusrat Jahan Lucky, 28, and pregnant Tahmina Khatun, 32 -- were taking them to their school in Kaliakoir of Gazipur in their family car in the morning. They never reached the school.

The car was going over unmanned Shonakhali level crossing in Kaliakoir around 9:15am when it was hit by Maitree Express at speed. The collision shattered the vehicle like a piece of glass and instantly killed all five, including driver Minhaz Hossain.

Motaleb Mia, officer-in-charge of Kaliakoir Police Station, said the locomotive of the train pushed the twisted and mangled pieces of the car about 500 metres until the

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The pieces of a car after an express train hit the vehicle on the unmanned Shonakhali level crossing, pushed it 500 metres, and dropped it from a bridge. All five in the car, including two children, died in the accident at Kaliakoir of Gazipur yesterday morning. *Inset*, a warning sign at the level crossing asking people to be cautious while crossing.

PHOTO: ABU BAKER SIDDIQUE AKAND

New Guinness World record for skipping



PTI, Tokyo

A new Guinness World record has been set in Japan by a 11-year-old beagle and its owner for the most number of skips by a dog and a person in one minute using a single rope.

The pair beat their own previous record by an incredible 58 skips. The attempt took place in Ito, Shizuoka in Japan.

The dog and her owner Makoto Kumagai first set the record last year with a total of 51 successful jumps.

Purin, the multi-record-breaking dog, first rose to fame in 2015 when she earned a place in the Guinness World Records 2016 Edition for the most

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FIRE TO SANTAL HOUSES Explain why evidence destroyed

HC to mill authorities
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked the Rangpur Sugar Mills authority to explain why the evidence of setting fire to Santal houses in Gaibandha had been destroyed.

The mills' Managing Director Abdul Awal has to submit a report on the matter in 30 days, said an HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice Mohammed Ullah.

The order followed a writ petition according to which the crime scene where houses of Santal people were torched on November 6 last year have been destroyed by tractors

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THREATS TO 'TAKE DOWN' UK MINISTER Israel apologises over comments

AFP, London

The Israeli embassy in London sought to head off a diplomatic storm yesterday, apologising after one of its staff was caught on camera threatening to "take down" a British government minister.

The Mail on Sunday newspaper posted the footage showing the embassy employee telling an undercover reporter from Al-Jazeera that "I want to take down... the Deputy Foreign Minister" (Alan Duncan) -- a long-time critic of Israel, and Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson's second-in-command.

Duncan was "doing a lot of problems," he added. The embassy issued an immediate apology, saying it "rejects the remarks concerning Minister Duncan, which are completely unacceptable".

"The comments were made by a junior embassy employee who is not an Israeli diplomat, and who will be ending his term of employment with the embassy shortly," it added.

Ambassador Mark Regev apologised personally to Duncan on Friday, according to the embassy. Britain's Foreign Office confirmed they had received an apology, and that it now considered "the matter closed".

The footage was recorded at a restaurant opposite the Israeli embassy in Kensington, west London, during a

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ATTACK ON HINDUS Ankhi placed on five-day remand

A CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A Brahmanbaria court yesterday granted a five-day remand for Dewan Atiqur Rahman Ankhi, one of the main accused in a case filed over the October 30 attack

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PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 9
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-30 12-45 4-00 5-30 7-00
JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-15 5-35 7-30
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

LAPTOP LIFTING ON BUSES Beware, looks can be deceiving!

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

If you are carrying a laptop and travelling on a bus, you should be a little cautious about the gentleman sitting next to you if he tries to distract you.

Such people appear gentle and well-dressed and carry empty laptop bags with them. They target passengers carrying laptops and sit next to them. Usually another gang

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