



Sewer pipes being laid by the Savar municipal authority through a canal in Namabazar as per their initiative to mitigate the area's waterlogging crisis. The waterway, which used to flow into the Bongshi river, was already in dire straits due to unabated encroachment on its both sides with influential locals erecting boundary walls on one side and people building shanties on the other, narrowing it down considerably. Simultaneously, incessant dumping of waste continues to pollute the water body and exacerbates the drainage congestion. The photo was taken recently.

12 lives lost in road accidents

A fatal ride back home

CITY DESK

Twelve people were killed and 15 others injured in road accidents in seven districts yesterday.

In Chittagong, a microbus carrying at least nine policemen overturned in Sitakunda upazila last night killing a cop and leaving the eight others injured.

The deceased was identified as constable Mostofa Kamal, 35, of district detective branch of police, said Sitakunda police.

The injured were taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

In Cox's Bazar, four people were killed and five others injured as a microbus carrying 12 tourists plunged into a roadside ditch in Chakaria upazila.

The deceased are Kulsuma Aktar Sumi, 27, of Rayerbagh in Dhaka, her sister Ayesha Aktar Shilpi, 25, of Manda in Bogra, microbus driver Amir Hossein, 35, of Dakhhin Basabo Sabujbagh in Dhaka and Golam Kibria, 33, of the area.

The injured were hospitalized in Chakaria, said police.

In Ramu upazila of the district, two people were killed as a pickup-van carrying fruits ran into a roadside tree due to dense fog in Rashidnagar.

The deceased were Tayab Mia, 28, of Ukhia upazila and

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Sathi took her only child seven-month-old Safwan to a hospital in Tangail Sadar upazila yesterday with a hope to cure his club foot, but by a quirk of fate the two returned as dead bodies.

Around 11:00am, the mother and son along with the father, Razibur Ahmed Razib, 32, were returning in a CNG-run auto-rickshaw from Tangail General Hospital when an oncoming truck hit the vehicle at Ashekpur on Dhaka-Tangail highway where all types of three-wheelers are banned to ply.

Razib, a grocery shop owner at Korotia Bazar, along with the auto-rickshaw driver and two other passengers are fighting for life at the hospital.

Police seized the truck and arrested the driver with the help of locals, and sent the bodies of Sathi Akter, 20, and Safwan to morgue for autopsies.

PHOTO: AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

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Ruling party thuggery at RU once again

RU CORRESPONDENT

Ruling Awami League men yesterday once again staged demonstration and besieged the administration building of Rajshahi University (RU) demanding jobs.

A top AL leader even threatened to lock the building's gate "permanently", if their demands were not met.

The AL men have been pressuring the university authorities to provide jobs to the party men since April, 2015.

Yesterday, some 200 leaders and activists, led by Motihar Thana unit AL President Dr Mannan and General Secretary M Alauddin, brought out a procession on the campus around 11:40am.

Around noon, they staged a sit-in in front of the administration building

and chanted slogans demanding jobs for the party men, said RU officials and witnesses.

"We want jobs," demanded Alauddin.

Later, Rajshahi city AL General Secretary Dablu Sarkar joined them.

"We have information that the university authorities are going to recruit some 250 officers and staff permanently out of 554, who were recruited temporarily during the BNP-led government, through a syndicate meeting today," he said.

"The authorities were providing jobs only to the relatives of the employees and the BNP-Jamaat men. That's why we staged the sit-in," he added.

The situation became normal around 12:50pm, when Proctor Prof Mujibul Haque Azad Khan rushed to the scene and said there was no such issue in the

yesterday's syndicate meeting.

Dablu Sarkar said, "We want jobs for the people who uphold the ideology of the Liberation War." He threatened to lock the gate of the administration building permanently, if their demands were not met.

Terming the incident "misunderstanding", Vice Chancellor Prof Muhammad Mizanuddin said, "They (AL men) demonstrated following a rumour."

Earlier, on February 6, the AL men padlocked the main gates of the university demanding jobs. On December 21, 2016, local AL leaders foiled a viva voce for recruiting class-IV employees at Rajshahi University School on the university campus.

Two days later, they again stopped three recruitment tests, forcing job seekers

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Menon slams Hefajat's call to remove SC sculpture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon yesterday censured Hefajat-e Islam for demanding removal of a sculpture that represents justice in front of the Supreme Court and expressed concern over the reemergence of the fundamentalist forces.

If the demand is met, it will be an extreme outcome of communalism and against the spirit of the Liberation War, he told the inauguration of the 7th National Convention of Bangladesh Jubo Moitree at the capital's Central Shaheed Minar.

"After the tragic Holey Artisan attack, the government has taken effective steps to curb militancy from the country and slowed down the rise of the militancy," said Menon, also president of Workers Party of Bangladesh.

But the fundamentalist forces have again emerged, he observed.

Referring to the Hefajat, he alleged that they had successfully influenced the education ministry to radicalise textbooks.

Menon requested the youths to be aware of such evil activities.

Leaders and activists of Jubo Moitree from different districts are participating in the two-day convention which will end today.

Bangladesh Jubo Moitree President Mostafa Alamgir Ratan chaired the inaugural programme while lawmaker and Workers Party General Secretary Fazle Hossain Badsha, among others, spoke.



Awami League activists stage a sit-in besieging the administration building of Rajshahi University (RU) demanding jobs for the party men.

PHOTO: STAR

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