



Rickshaws are kept by grabbing an entire footpath and some portions of a road in the capital's Tejgaon. The authorities concerned apparently turned a blind eye to such a malpractice that is becoming common in the city. The photo was taken on Saturday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Tortured domestic help moved to Dhaka CMH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A minor domestic help, who endured physical torture by her employer in the capital's Pallabi area, was transferred to Combined Military Hospital (Dhaka) yesterday, said police.

Sabina Akhter, 11, was being treated at the One-stop Crisis Centre (OCC) of Dhaka Medical College Hospital since Sunday evening.

Pallabi Police Station Sub-inspector Asif Iqbal, also the investigation officer of the case, took her to CMH around 10:30am yesterday, an OCC official told The Daily Star.

On Sunday, Sabina filed a case against Ayesha Latif, wife of an army officer, a resident of Mirpur DOHS area, allegedly

for torturing her.

According to the first information report (FIR), Sabina was hit in the eyes and her right chest and left wrist were burnt with hot kitchen utensils on Friday as she failed to fry an egg. She was also struck in the head and back.

The girl managed to flee the house around 11:00am on Sunday and sought help of locals.

Sabina, from Tangail, have been working at the house for the last six months. She is second among her four siblings.

Officer-in-Charge Dadon Fakir told The Daily Star that no guardian of the girl came to them till last evening. He was shifted to the CMH for better treatment, he added.

About the accused, the OC said she is on the run.



Tortured Sabina Akhter under police protection. The police and OCC have verified the photo collected from Facebook.

Samakal journo sued under 57

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A pro-Awami League Union Parishad chairman in Rangunia upazila of Chittagong on Sunday night sued a Samakal journalist in the district under section 57 of the ICT act.

Iqbal Hossain Chowdhury Milton, chairman of Islampur Union Parishad, filed the case against senior reporter Taufiqul Islam Babar with Rangunia Police Station following a June 22 report that mentioned the accused of murder cases are

goons of Hasan Mahmud, said Officer-in-Charge Imtiaz Mohammad Ahsanul Quader Bhuiyan.

Hasan Mahmud is the central publicity secretary of the ruling AL and lawmaker from Rangunia.

Milton said Babar "intentionally" wrote the report that carried "false, baseless and motivated" information about Hasan Mahmud in a bid to "tarnish" his image.

The OC said they are investigating the matter.

HC stays defamation trial of MK Anwar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed the trial proceedings against BNP leader MK Anwar in a defamation case for the next six months.

The HC also issued a rule asking the government to explain in four weeks why the trial proceedings in the case should not be scrapped.

The bench of Justice Md Miftah Uddin Choudhury and Justice ANM Bashir Ullah issued the order and the rule following a petition filed by Anwar, also a member of BNP standing committee.

Lawyer Sagir Hossain Leon, lawyer for the BNP leader, told The Daily Star that Debashis Biswas, president of Dhaka south unit of Awami Swachchhasebak League, filed the case with a Dhaka court against MK Anwar in May 2013.

MK Anwar was sued as he, during a press briefing, said some people led by Debashis Biswas burned the Quran at Baitul Mukarram Mosque in Dhaka during a Hefajat-e Islam gathering on May 5, 2013.

MK Anwar recently filed the petition with the HC challenging the trial proceedings of the case.

Earlier, the lower court concerned accepted the charge sheet of the case against MK Anwar, he added.

Meanwhile, Deputy Attorney General Shakh AKM Moniruzzaman Kabir told this correspondent that the government will move an appeal before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court against the HC order that stayed the trial proceedings against MK Anwar.

752 Bangladeshis detained in Malaysia in two days

STAR REPORT

For months, Muhamad Salrup Khan, 22, from Bangladesh, had been urging his boss to apply for an enforcement card (e-card) for him so he could work legally in Malaysia.

"But he kept delaying it. He would rather have me working than straightening out my papers," he told local Malay Mail Online in a temporary detention cell at the Bukit Jalil Immigration Depot.

Salrup was picked up on Saturday near his workplace during a clampdown against undocumented migrant workers that the Southeast Asian country launched after the deadline to apply for the temporary enforcement card (e-

card), which expired at midnight on Friday, according to the report.

"I was allowed to call my employer, but he hung up the moment I told him I have been detained. He owes me three months' salary and my passport is with him," he said.

The Immigration Department detained 1,509 illegal immigrants for various offences since July 1 following the end of the e-card application deadline, according to another report of the Malay Mail Online yesterday.

Its Director General Datuk Seri Mustafar Ali said the number of arrests was the outcome of 181 enforcement operations nationwide since July 1 until 8:00am (local time) yesterday, following inspections

conducted on 5,278 foreigners.

"A total of 28 employers were also detained and 86 people were given notice to attend and give statements since the operation was carried out," he said in a statement yesterday.

The majority of illegal immigrants detained were Bangladeshis (752), followed by Indonesians (195), Myanmar (117), Filipinos (50), and Thais (45). The rest were from other countries.

There were 1,314 male illegal immigrants, 192 females and three children, he said.

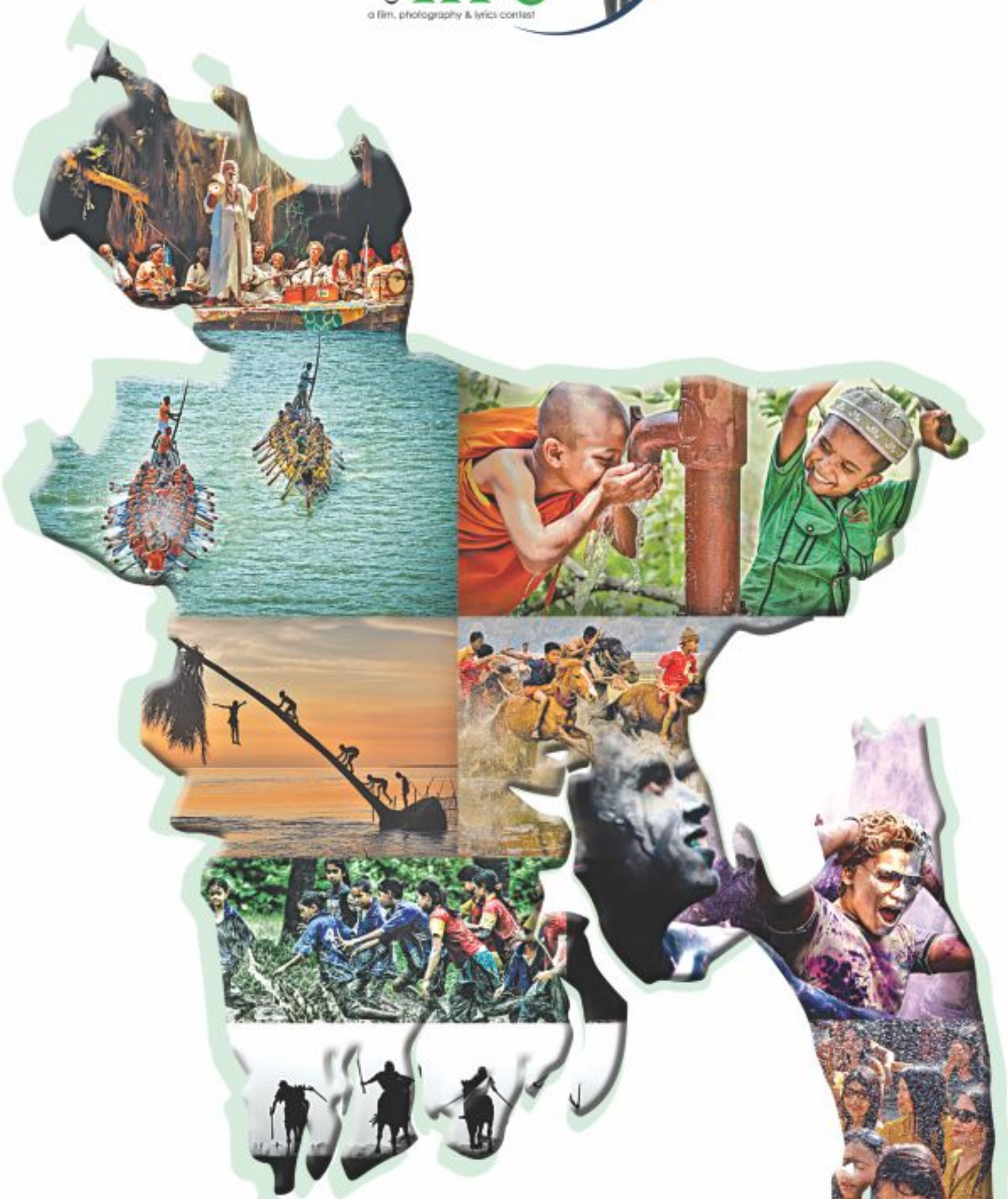
Earlier, Mustafar Ali said the detained illegal immigrants gave various reasons for not having applied for the e-card.

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Cabinet approves company for satellites

Also okays draft seeds law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet yesterday approved a proposal for formation of the Bangladesh Communication Satellite Company (BCSC) Limited in a bid to smoothly operate the country's first-ever Bangabandhu Satellite-1.

The approval came at the weekly cabinet meeting at Secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Briefing reporters about the outcome of the meeting, Cabinet Secretary Mohammad Shafiul Alam said Bangladesh is going to join the Satellite club very soon as the process for launching the first-ever satellite "Bangabandhu Satellite-1" has almost been completed.

"The satellite will be launched into the space very soon, and to operate it, a decision to form a company has been made," he said.

The company will be formed with an authorised capital of Tk 5,000 crore and it will have Tk 500 crore shares with Tk 10 price for each share.

There will be an 11-member committee to run the company, while post and telecommunications secretary and the managing director of the BCSC Ltd will act as the chairman and the member secretary of the company.

Besides, the cabinet gave final approval to the draft of "The Seeds Law 2017" to make the existing law more time befitting.

According to the new draft law, a 25-member National Seed Board would be constituted with Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture as its chairman, while director general (seed wing) under the Ministry of Agriculture would be its member secretary.

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