

JUST A HOOK TO SOME LOVED ONES' SAFETY TO US



Roppur, Country's Largest and the First Nuclear Power Plant
Proud to be a part of a new era in progress

Roppur project work in progress using Shah Cement

DEALING WITH REFUGEES

WB offers to help Dhaka

REJIAH KARIM BYRON

The World Bank is ready to lend a helping hand to Bangladesh in dealing with Rohingyas who have recently entered the country in huge numbers putting pressure on its economy and social structure.

It has allocated \$2 billion for those seeking refuge in different corners of the globe in the first-ever move of such kind, of which any nation can get a maximum share of \$400 million.

The WB already communicated the fund's availability to the government that will now decide whether to ask for the financial assistance upon considering the conditions attached to it.

A finance ministry official said that if the disaster management ministry or home ministry comes up with a proposal, they will forward it to the WB.

Shah Kamal, secretary to the disaster management and relief ministry, told The Daily Star that they had already contacted the WB and asked it to clarify what mode of assistance it will be if it is grant the government will take it, but if it is loan the ministry will have reservation about accepting this.

In a document the WB said, "The purpose of the fund is to help refugee host communities to assist shocks, facilitate sustainable solutions, and strengthen preparedness."

To get the financial assistance, IDA countries meaning those who get loans from the International Development Association, WB's concessionary arm, must host more than 25,000 refugees or more than 0.1 percent of the population, have adequate refugee protection framework and action plans.

In case programmes target only refugees, 100 percent grant can be considered case by case. But if they involve

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The commercial hub in the capital's Karwan Bazar gets inundated after a few hours of rain yesterday afternoon.

Sylhet BCL activist stabbed to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A Chhatra League activist died of stab wounds at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital yesterday afternoon, around one and half hours after he had come under attack allegedly from members of a rival BCL faction in the city's Shibganj Lamamapara area.

The dead, Jakaria Muhammad Masum, 24, was from Chhalibanda in the city.

Police and Chhatra League sources said Jakaria was killed in retaliation for beating up of BCL activist Ali Ahmed Mahin in the city's Sobhanighat area on Tuesday evening.

Victim's brother Khaled Saifullah said some BCL men called Jakaria to Shibganj Lamamapara and stabbed him around 4:00pm, leaving him critically injured.

On information, Jakaria's family members and locals rushed him to Sylhet MAG

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Accidents claimed 322 lives in 13 days

272 road, waterway, railway accidents took place during Eid rush; bad condition of roads, speeding, overtaking among major reasons

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 322 people were killed and 759 others injured in 272 accidents on roads, waterways and railways across the country in 13 days when the transport sector experienced huge rush centering Eid-ul-Azha, indicating that around 25 people were killed each day on average, a report says.

Bad condition of roads, over speeding and overtaking of vehicles, plying of slow-speed vehicles alongside high-speed ones and lack of awareness among passengers have been held responsible for road accidents.

Of the deceased, 254 were killed in 214 road accidents while 43 under the wheels of trains and 25 in 15 accidents on waterways between August 28 and September 9, the reports says.

Last year, 265 people were killed and 1,153 others injured in 208 accidents on roads, waterways and railways across the country in 12 days, including the Eid-ul-Azha holidays. At least 311 people were killed and 862 others injured in accidents in 13 days during Eid-ul-Fitr this year.

Bangladesh Jati Kalyan Samity, a passengers' welfare association, yesterday disclosed the report at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity. The organisation prepared the report based on the reports of 22 national and six regional dailies and 10 online news portals.

At the conference, Mozammel Haq Chowdhury, secretary general of the organisation, said home-goers faced relatively less difficulties during Eid holidays this year as many people left Dhaka earlier following media reports on bad condition of roads.

But they went through immense sufferings while returning to Dhaka,

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BNP's relief operation obstructed

The party accuses govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday alleged that the government had obstructed the party's central relief team from visiting Cox's Bazar's Ukha to provide humanitarian assistance to Rohingya refugees.

"We have received information that the Ukha administration has barred our central relief team along with our 20 truck-load of relief materials, from visiting the spot," said Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, secretary general of the party.

He made the allegation at a discussion at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, marking the 10th jail release day of BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman.

Md Ali Hossain, deputy commissioner of Cox's Bazar, however, refuted the allegation.

"There are some rules and regulations for relief distribution. As per the rules, any individual or organisation has to arrange the distribution through the administration," he told The Daily Star correspondent there. "The BNP leaders did not follow the rules."

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TRAIN FARE Swedes use hand implant microchip

MAIL ONLINE

When you're in a rush, it can be easy to forget your travel card on the way out of the house.

But for around 3,000 commuters in Sweden, this isn't something to worry about.

The brave commuters have futuristic microchip implants embedded into their hands to pay for their journey.

But the technology raises security and privacy issues, as the data generated could be used to track people.

In June, SJ Rail, the Swedish train operator, announced that around 100 people were using microchips to pay for their journey.

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BNP to take part in polls

CEC expresses hope

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda yesterday said BNP had told them that they would contest the next parliamentary elections.

"They [BNP] did not say in any print or electronic media that they would not contest the national polls. I am hopeful all the major political parties, including BNP, will take part in the upcoming parliamentary elections," he said.

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 14

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4:32 12:45 4:30 6:14 7:45

JAMAAT 5:10 1:15 4:45 6:17 8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Rupa was raped before murder

Confirms autopsy report

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Law student Rupa Khatun, who was killed in a moving bus nearly three weeks ago, was raped before being murdered, confirmed her autopsy report.

According to the report, she died of head injuries, said Tangail Civil Surgeon Sharif Khan.

Police yesterday sent the victim's clothes to the laboratory of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for DNA tests.

The DNA analysis of the clothes will help the investigation and ensure punishment of the culprits," said Sub-Inspector Kaiyum Khan Siddique, in-charge of Arzonkhola Police Outpost in Madhupur.

Earlier, police had applied to the Tangail senior judicial magistrate

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Hilsas have flooded kitchen markets in Barisal city in the last couple of days. A fish weighing about a kilogram was sold at Tk 600-700 yesterday. The price was twice as much last week.

PHOTO: SUSHANTA GHOSH

Two women murdered in a shrine

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Two women, including a khadem (devotee), were murdered inside a shrine in Shilimandir area of the town on Tuesday night.

Police recovered throat-slit bodies of Amena Begum, 60, of Gozaria upazila and Zaitun Khatun, 48, of Munshiganj sadar, at Shah Solaiman Lengta Mazur yesterday morning.

Police detained Masud Kowal, 55, owner of the shrine, and Babu, 25, a resident of the area, for interrogation.

Officer-in-charge of Munshiganj Sadar Police Station Alamgir Hossain said the investigation was focusing on a long-standing dispute over land and control of the shrine. He added that there was "evidence of sexual acts" at the scene.

Masud told police that he found the door of the shrine open when he went there on Wednesday morning. He called police the moment he saw the bodies.

He added that he built the shrine in 1988.

Locals said a group of drug addicts often hung out at the shrine.

Hosne Ara, a local ward councillor said, Amena had been taking care of the shrine since it was established. She lived in a tin shack beside of the shrine. Devotees came every Thursday and performed songs and zikir.

Zaitun sson Kafil Uddin said his mother lived in the capital's Shyampanur area. She came to the shrine on Tuesday evening.

Law enforcers were trying to solve the mystery. Mostafizur Rahman, additional superintendent of Munshiganj police, said.

Meanwhile, several hundred locals formed a human chain yesterday afternoon in Kunder Bazar area on Tongbari-Dhaka road demanding punishment of the killers.