

JUST A HOOK TO SOME LOVED ONES' SAFETY TO US



Aktaruzzaman Flyover Chittagong

Principal Cement Brand



The school of hope

Nilphamari's Saidpur school an invaluable blessing for autistic children, their parents

EAM ASADUZZAMAN with ANDREW EAGLE

To find a good school for their children is many a parent's dilemma. It's a task made harder if the child happens to be on the autism spectrum; even more so if the autistic child lives in a regional area.

The Unique Gift Foundation, a school for autistic children in Chadnagar of Nilphamari's Saidpur municipality, stands out. For students and parents alike, this school is an invaluable blessing.

"Children on the autism spectrum are often shy and introvert," says the project's manager and school principal, Sheikh Robayatur Rahman. "Such children may not like to socialise. Of their own will they may repeat some small task again and again. Day-to-day activities can prove quite challenging. This school is for them."

"My daughter is often overlooked and neglected within our family," says Arjumand Banu, the mother of six-year-old Afia. "My relatives often think of her as a burden. Now that she is enrolled here I have hope. I want her to learn the behavioural and social skills that will lead others to accept her."

Md Anisur Rahman, the father of another student Fardin, said he was very anxious for his son. "He couldn't eat rice with his hand. He couldn't get dressed on his own. Since he started studying here, there have been signs of improvement."

The school is the heartfelt initiative of founder Touhida Sultana Runu who lives in Dhaka. Since establishing the

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Teachers and children share a joyous moment at the Unique Gift Foundation, a school for autistic kids in Saidpur, Nilphamari. *Inset*, classroom activities. The school features academic learning along with music, play, vocational training and physiotherapy. It assigns one teacher for one student to assess the individual need and provide support accordingly.

PHOTO: STAR

2 'criminals' killed in 'gunfights'

STAR REPORT

Two alleged criminals were killed in "gunfights" with detectives in Narayanganj and Kushtia early yesterday.

They are Moniruzzaman Shahin alias "Bonduk" Shahin, 40, of Narayanganj, and Shahinur Rahman, 30, of Kushtia.

Both of them stood accused in criminal cases, report our Narayanganj and Kushtia correspondents, quoting police.

In Narayanganj, Moniruzzaman was killed during a "gunfight" with detectives around 4:30am. The "gunfight" took place when a team of the Detective Branch of police raided a drug den at Galachipa in Narayanganj city, said Md Sharifuddin, additional superintendent of police in the district.

Two DB officials, including Officer-in-Charge of Narayanganj DB Mahbubur Rahman, were hurt in the incident, he claimed.

The police official also claimed to have recovered a pistol and four bullets from the spot.

In Kushtia, Shahin, an

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Faridpur AL Feud Sajeda Chy's motorcade attacked

Four policemen injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

The motorcade of Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, deputy leader of parliament, came under attack allegedly by supporters of an Awami League leader on Dhaka-Khulna highway in Faridpur's Nagarkanda upazila yesterday.

Sajeda, also an AL presidium member, however, was unhurt in the attack that happened around 2:30pm, police say.

The attackers attacked the motorcade with brickbats and homemade weapons, breaking the glass of the MP's car and two other cars carrying senior police officials. But all the passengers were unharmed, ASM Nasim, officer-in-charge of Nagarkanda Police Station, told The Daily Star.

Four policemen, including the OC, were injured while trying to bring the situation under control.

Police fired a couple of rubber bullets to bring back normalcy in the area, said Nasim.

He added that the attackers were the supporters of Jamal Hossain Mia, joint secretary general of Nagarkanda upazila unit AL, who is an MP hopeful from

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Iran furious as Trump 'decertifies' nuke deal

US lays out tough new Tehran policy but stops short of scrapping it; other signatories reaffirm commitment

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump yesterday struck a blow against the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement in defiance of other world powers, choosing not to certify that Tehran is complying with the deal and warning he might ultimately terminate it.

Trump announced the major shift in US policy in a speech in which he detailed a more aggressive approach to Iran over its nuclear and ballistic missile programs and its support for extremist groups in the Middle East.

He accused Iran of "not living up to the spirit" of the nuclear agreement and said his goal is to ensure Tehran never obtains a nuclear weapon.

"We will not continue down a path whose predictable conclusion is more violence more terror and the very real threat of Iran's nuclear breakout," Trump said.

Trump's hardline remarks drew praise from Israel and Saudi Arabia, Iran's arch-foes, but were criticized by European allies.

The move by Trump was part of his "America First" approach to international agreements which has led him to withdraw the United States from the Paris climate accord and the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade talks.

His Iran strategy angered Tehran and put Washington at odds with other signatories of the

Trump throws fate of accord to Congress with stern ultimatum

Iran's Revolutionary Guards hit with targeted sanctions

Rouhani warns against changes to clauses of deal, vows to double its efforts to expand its missile programme

Israel, Saudi Arabia praise his 'courageous decision'

Russia rules out renewal of UN sanctions, slams unilateral action

accord such as Britain, France, Germany, Russia, China and the European Union, some of which have benefited economically on renewed trade with Iran.

Responding to Trump, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on live television that Tehran was committed to the deal and accused Trump of making baseless accusations.

Rouhani also vowed to double its efforts to build weapons for deterrence, expand its missile programme.

"The Iranian nation has not and will never bow to any foreign pressure...Iran and the deal are stronger than ever...Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps will continue its fight against regional terrorists," Rouhani said.

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Man rented lion cub to 'show off'



NDTV ONLINE

A tiny lion cub was found in an empty apartment in a gritty Paris suburb after being abandoned by a man who hired the creature to show off, investigators said on Wednesday.

Police began hunting for the cub after noticing selfies on social media of the 24-year-old man posing with his tawny pet.

On Tuesday, they caught up with the man at his home east of Paris, but discovered he had left the big cat at another address.

On arriving at an apartment in the northeastern Noisy-le-Sec suburb, the fire service found the abandoned cub "wasting away."

After being captured with a lasso, the startled lion was placed in the care of an animal rights group.

The man was taken into custody on charges of illegally keeping a wild animal.

A series of photographs posted on Facebook by Pompiers de Paris, the Paris fire brigade, shows

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Elderly couple found dead in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police yesterday recovered the bodies of an elderly couple from Satpai area in Netrakona town.

The victims are retired schoolteacher Mihir Kanti Biswas, 70, and his wife Tulika Biswas, 58, an NGO worker, of Bablu Sarani area of Satpai.

Quoting neighbours and locals, Ameer Taimur, officer-in-charge of Netrakona Sadar Police Station, said the couple lived in their house alone as their only

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 14

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-45 7-15

JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-50 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

RUNNER EICHER বাজিমাতে অফার

কিনলে ট্রাক EICHER উপহার পাবেন বারবার

- ▶ প্রতিটি গাড়ির সাথে ফ্রি রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও ইন্সুরেন্স।
- ▶ গাড়ি কিনলেই উপহার হিসেবে থাকছে এপি, ফ্রিজ, মোবাইল ও বিদেশ ভ্রমণ সহ আরও অসংখ্য পুরস্কার।
- ▶ প্রতিমাসে লটারির ড্র এর মাধ্যমে ভাগ্যবান বিজয়ী পাবেন গোল্ড কয়েন অথবা সঙ্গী সহ ঢাকা-কক্সবাজার-ঢাকা ভ্রমণের সুযোগ।

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