

Dinajpur road crash kills one

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A person was killed and four others were injured in a road accident in Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur yesterday morning, said police.

The deceased is Momotaz Ali, 50, of Huglipara village in the upazila. The injured were rushed to Parbatipur Upazila Health Complex and M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital.

Police said the accident occurred when a milk-loaded lorry hit a battery run three-wheeler on Parbatipur-Badarganj road near Jhallaram village around 7:30am.

Railway school reunion held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Reunion of students of Bangladesh Railway High School held on the campus at Saltgola in Chittagong on Friday.

Students of batch 2006 organised the reunion. Railway Minister Mujiburul Haque inaugurated the programme as the chief guest while Secretary to the ministry Md Mofazzel Hossain, Director General of Bangladesh Railway Md Amzad Hossain, and Railway East Zone's General Manager Md Abdul Hai were present as special guests.

Head teacher Ishaq Mia presided over the programme, attended by some 600 former students from the batches 1980 to 2017.

Skills competition 2017 today

CITY DESK

The finale of "Skills Competition 2017" will be held in Dhaka Mohila Polytechnic Institute today.

The competition is being held for the fourth time under the "Skills and Training Enhancement Project (STEP)".

The project is being implemented with assistance from the government, the World Bank and Canada.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid will inaugurate the event where 52 projects, selected from entries made by 165 government and private polytechnic institutes, will compete for the final title.

Over two crore children fed vitamin A plus capsule

BSS, Dhaka

National Vitamin-A Plus campaign was observed yesterday across the country by giving vitamin A Plus capsule to over 2.21 crore children aged between six months to 59 months to prevent childhood blindness and reduce child mortality.

Children, aged between six months and 11 months, were given blue capsule while children, aged between 12 and 59 months, were administered red capsule, the Health and Family Welfare Ministry sources said.

Health workers and volunteers fed the capsules to children at 1.20 lakh permanent and 20,000 mobile centres from 8:00am to 4:00pm. Mobile centres were set up at bus stops, airports and launch terminals and other transport points to give children vitamin A plus capsules.

'Arms trader' held in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion claimed to have arrested an alleged arms trader with a rifle and two rounds of bullets in Patiya upazila of Chittagong yesterday.

The arrestee is Mohammad Aktar, 52, said Rab sources. Based on a tip-off, a team of Rab-7 arrested Aktar in Isharkhan area of Dhalghat under the upazila, said ASP Mimitanur Rahman, assistant director of Rab-7 media wing.

A case was filed with Patiya Police Station, he added.



SHOWING RESPECT OR SELF-PROMOTION? Jubo League leaders and pro-Awami League businessmen have put up huge banners and billboards with their pictures and names in Aganagar area of Keraniganj in the name of marking Victory Day. It has been a week, they seem to have forgotten to remove those. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Appeal for help

CITY DESK

Sabit, a three-year-old boy, has been suffering from blood cancer for last one year.



Sabit, of Muragachha in Tala upazila of Satkhira, is now undergoing treatment under Dr Alamgir Kabir at Oncology Ward of Ibne Sina Hospital in Dhaka, said a press release.

Sabit's father Md Hasibur Rahman, a school teacher, has already sold all his belongings for his son's treatment. An additional Tk 30 lakh is needed to complete his full treatment. But Hasibur cannot afford the treatment cost further. So, the family has requested all to come forward to save the boy.

Financial assistance can be sent to the bank account name: Md Hasibur Rahman, saving A/C no: 999090693, Sonali Bank Ltd, Magura Bazar Branch, Tala, Satkhira. Mobile no: 01736830465 (bKash).

Women's household work largely unrecognised

Says ActionAid Bangladesh report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Household chores, which are widely considered to be the sole responsibility of women in South Asia, are actually keeping women out of economic activities, according to a report released yesterday.

The social, familial and above all national attitude towards women should be changed as well as the changes should be reflected on policies and laws to facilitate the empowerment of women, it said.

ActionAid Bangladesh revealed the policy review report at a hotel in the capital. The report seeks attention to the gender gap between work hours of men and women in this part of the world and suggests that the starting point of the solution is to recognise the value of work women do at home.

While women in Nepal, Bangladesh and India spend on "unpaid care work" 6.6, 6.3 and 5.1 hours per day respectively, men in these nations dedicate

only 2.1 hours, 1.1 hours and 24 minutes of a day for household activities, according to the report.

Women's role in their families has become so stereotyped that women themselves consider cooking, washing and caring for children and aged family members are the jobs they are obligated to carry out. Meanwhile, women who engage in economic activities are subjected to double burden since in most cases they have to balance work and familial responsibilities, depriving themselves of pleasure, rest, healthcare, said the report.

Speaking at the programme, Helal Uddin of ActionAid said the government has made many policies aimed at empowering women in society, but it has hardly acknowledged women's engagement at home.

Saarc, UN organisations and even gender policy advisory groups working for women empowerment have overlooked the burden of household work on women, he said.

Simeen Mahmud, a researcher at Brac University, said more and more women are getting into labour market, but their household work burden remains the same.

The work pressure at home should be redistributed through forging a partnership between husband and wife, said Nazneen Ahmed, senior research fellow at Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

The social changes necessary to alter the popular perception of household chores and women's role must begin at home and school, she said, adding that children should have the freedom to choose what they want to learn.

Shamsul Haque, director general of Saarc and Bimstec, was present as the chief guest while Shaikh Mohammad Bokhtiar, director of Saarc Agriculture Centre, was present as a special guest.

Farah Kabir, country director of ActionAid Bangladesh, chaired the programme.

No division in BNP

Says Fakhru

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said there is no division in the party and it is united.

"There is no division..., the party is united. Khaleda Zia is the chairperson and Tarique Rahman is the senior vice-chairman. We work in unison under their leadership." He said this in reply to a remark made by Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader on Friday in Dhaka.

Fakhru was talking to reporters after attending a meeting of Thakurgaon Sadar upazila unit of BNP held in the town.

He alleged that those who disagree with the government are being victims of enforced disappearance. He also criticised the government for "the false Zia Orphanage Trust graft case against Khaleda".

Barisal boy hit by cricket bat dies at DMCH

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A teenaged boy of Dalit community died at Dhaka Medical College early yesterday, a day after one of his classmates hit in the head with a cricket bat.

Abir Robi Das, 14, son of Joy Robi Das of Fallpatty area, was a class-VIII student of AK School in Barisal City, said police.

Abir was locked into an altercation while playing cricket with his friends. At one point, one of his friends hit him with a cricket bat on Friday afternoon, said the father.

Abir was referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital from Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital for better treatment.

"I want justice for my son", said Joy.



Guests hold copies of a special issue of literary magazine "Kaler Dhoni" at Bangla Academy in the capital. The 580-page issue, "Kom Chena Boro Manush", was launched yesterday highlighting the life and works of poet and Nazrul researcher Abdul Quadir. Marking the launch and commemorating death anniversary of poet Quadir, a discussion was also held. "Kaler Dhoni" is being published regularly from 2009. Its fifth issue, published in 2015, featured life and works of journalist-litterateur-politician Abul Mansur Ahmad. From left, Quadir's daughter Prof Roksana Quadir, Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman, Prof Rafiqul Islam, Prof Salimullah Khan, Prof Habib R Rahman, essayist Mamun Siddiqui and "Kaler Dhoni" Editor Imran Mahfuz.

PHOTO: STAR

Baby girl's body recovered from carton

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a newborn baby girl inside an abandoned carton near the kitchen market in Shah Ali area of the capital's Mirpur yesterday.

On information from locals, police recovered the body of the one-day-old child around 12:30pm and sent it to Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College morgue for an autopsy, Sub-inspector Zahangir Alam of Shah Ali Police Station told The Daily Star.

The carton might have been left abandoned there by someone, he said. A general diary was filed with the police station in this connection.

ENCOURAGING YOUTHS FOR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES DUA A campaign starts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) Alumni Association yesterday launched a campaign involving 610 students of the university to encourage them towards social activities.

The alumni association organised a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity in the capital, where details of the campaign were described.

The six-day campaign will start tomorrow aiming to creating awareness on terrorism, drug addiction and child marriage among general people and students.

The students will be divided into 160 groups and will cover a total of 1,200 educational institutions and 1,600 villages in 60 districts across the country, the organisers said.

The participants will hold talks with other students and villagers to spread awareness about the pressing social problems in the country.

"The programme will help the youths to remove the barriers of being good citizens," said Ranjan Karmakar, general secretary of the association. "We need support from the local administration to carry out the campaign," he added.

Risky living

FROM PAGE 3

Around 1,000 students live in the dormitory with plaster flaking off and walls developing cracks, and rods sticking out of the ceiling.

The incident of concrete bits flaking off the ceiling has increased in the past six months, the students added. They said they were worried that the incidents might take a serious turn if not addressed immediately.

Contacted, Vice Chancellor Prof Farzana Islam assured of immediate renovation of the building. She said she also had instructed the authorities to take proper initiatives in this regard.

Ethical journalism

FROM PAGE 4

although there were initiatives like written policies by some media houses and legal measures taken by the state.

Stressing the need for a "solution-oriented" role from media, Reaz Ahmad, executive editor of United News Bangladesh (UNB), said journalists had to promptly fight those who were actively seeking to confuse the society through fake news.

Journalists have to counter propaganda with producing more quality and authentic news, he said.

Ajay Dasgupta, deputy editor of the Bangla daily Samakal, said journalism was still the "lighthouse" for the society amid different challenges.

He also highlighted the importance of training for journalists.

Prof Mofizur Rahman, chairman of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism at DU, said uniform understanding of human rights was required for journalists to incorporate rights issues in their practice.

Nasim Ara Haque Minu, president of Bangladesh Nari Sangbadik Kendra, urged the media to continuously play up the statistics of incidents of violence against women to properly show the gravity of the situation before the nation.

Saima Khan, country manager of UNAIDS, and M Moniruzzaman, national information officer of UN Information Centre in Dhaka, among others, spoke.

Palmyra
Exclusive Apartments
At Bashundhara
(Block-A)

Please Feel Free To Call
Tel: 55068001 - 5
01713 063243, 01714 040457, 01713 048556

ASST/241217

Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Mymensingh

Office of the Project Director: Culture of Cuchia (Mud Eel) and Crab in the Selected Areas of Bangladesh and Research Project (Component-B, BFRI Part)
Memo No. 33.04.0000.136.04.002.15-425 Date: 21-12-2017

e-Tender invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the below works.

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of package description	Last selling date & time	Opening date & time
148261	BFRI/Project/Cuchia/G-7	Office Equipment	09/01/2018 17:00	10/01/2018 14:00
148086	BFRI/Project/Cuchia/G-8 (1)	Laboratory Equipment	09/01/2018 17:00	10/01/2018 11:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

GD-2803 Dr. Durin Akther Jahan
Project Director