

3 held with 18,000 yaba pills, microbus seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
 Detectives of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) arrested three persons with 18,000 yaba pills and seized a microbus in Firingi Bazar area of Chittagong city early yesterday.
 The arrestees are Abdul Rashid, 34, Abdul Mannan, 32, and Babul Uddin, 18.
 Assistant Commissioner (West) Md Moinul Islam of the Detective Branch of CMP said on information, a team of detectives stopped a microbus coming from Cox's Bazar in front of BIWTA office and detained the trio.
 After searching, they found a secret chamber inside the vehicle where the pills were hidden.
 The three were handed over to Kotwali Police Station, and a case was filed.



Demanding justice for Rezaul Karim Roni, people form a human chain in City Gate area near the port city yesterday. On Monday, the 35-year-old was allegedly pushed off a minibus, run over and killed following an altercation with the driver's helper in the area.

'Such incidents would continue if culprits go unpunished'

Human chains for Rezaul Karim Roni

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg
 Oli Ullah was holding his one-and-a-half-year-old granddaughter in his arms tight while standing in the corner of a road in City Gate area near the port city yesterday morning.
 This was the very place where his son, Rezaul Karim Roni, was allegedly pushed off a minibus, run over and killed following an altercation with the driver's helper just two days ago.
 Oli Ullah's eyes were welled up in tears. He was still struggling to come to terms with the fact that his son is gone forever.
 There was also anger in the father's eyes as it has been two days, but police were yet to arrest the driver of the minibus and his helper.
 Demanding justice, Roni's family members, friends and locals formed a human chain in the area.
 On the day, following an altercation apparently over bus fare, the helper allegedly pushed Roni, 35, a businessman from the same area, off the minibus. He fell down and got stuck between the road and the

vehicle. As the driver drove on, Roni was crushed under the rear wheels, his relatives said, quoting witnesses.
 "My wife and I returned to the country from the US to celebrate Eid with my son," said Oli. "Not even in my worst nightmare did I think it would turn out like this."
 "We were planning to take them [Roni and his family] with us. Now, everything's ruined. His mother has fallen sick after the incident."
 "We will miss him forever..." the father could not finish the sentence.
 On Tuesday night, Roni's uncle filed a murder case against Didarul Alam, 35, driver of the minibus, and Md Manik, 32, the helper, with Akbar Shah Police Station, said Sub-inspector Dhiman Majumder, also the case's investigation officer.
 Law enforcers said they were raiding different places of the district, including the city, to arrest the duo.
 Meanwhile, family members and friends formed another human chain in front of Chittagong Press Club in the morning.

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Senior citizens most vulnerable to TB

Prevalence in the country is 260 out of every 1,00,000 people, study finds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 People aged over 65 are most vulnerable to infectious pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) among people in Bangladesh, with 954 people out of every 1,00,000 suffering from it, according to a national survey report.
 The prevalence of the disease in the country is 260 per 100,000 population, it said.
 Findings of the report titled "National Tuberculosis Prevalence Survey Bangladesh 2015-2016" were disclosed at a workshop, jointly arranged by the National Tuberculosis Control Programme of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the World Health Organisation at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka yesterday.
 It also says the prevalence was higher among males compared to females (452 compared to 143 per 1,00,000), and was higher in urban compared to rural clusters.
 As per the report, 316 people per one lakh population in urban areas and 270 people per one lakh population in rural areas were diagnosed with bacteriologically confirmed TB.
 The report also says the rate of detection of the disease is higher with using X-ray screening compared to symptomatic screening.
 Only 10.6 percent people with

symptoms of TB first sought facilities at government hospitals compared to 51.8 percent people seeking treatment at private hospitals, it further says. A significant 29.3 percent people first rushed to the pharmacies for remedy.
 Prof Mahmudur Rahman, principal investigator of the survey team and former director of Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), said TB prevalence increasing with age is a concern. The government should look into the older population as they are most vulnerable.
 There is a need to improve case findings by application of symptomatic screening while programmes need to focus on case detection among older population, he said.
 Health Minister Mohammed Nasim urged civil surgeons at district level to take leadership role and ensure healthcare facilities for poor people of the country.
 He said his ministry will provide necessary medical equipment across the country to help detect TB at early stage, and ensure reducing its prevalence rate.
 Zahid Maleque, state minister for health and family welfare and Prof Abul Kalam Azad, director general of Directorate General of Health Services, among others, spoke at the programme.

DOUBLE MURDER IN SITAKUNDA Jubo League leader among 46 sued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
 A local Jubo League leader is among 46 people sued on Tuesday night for the murder of two siblings in Sitakunda upazila the night before.
 However, police could not arrest anyone yet.
 On Monday, miscreants stabbed to death local Jubo League leader Ramjan Ali Khokon and his younger brother Srijan, 16, in Borodarogharhat area of Sitakunda. They came under attack while on their way back home after attending a mourning rally for Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
 Ramjan was a Jubo League leader of Baraiyardhala union of the upazila.
 The victims' elder brother Mohammed Selim filed a murder case naming 34 persons including Baraiyardhala union Jubo League President Saidul Islam and 12 unidentified others with Sitakunda Police Station, said Officer-in-Charge (OC) Iftekar Hasan.
 According to locals and police, Ramjan and key accused Saidul were friends, but they grew enmity with each other later over political allegiance.
 Locals said that during the last Union Parishad (UP) election, Ramjan supported incumbent chairman of Baraiyardhala union Raihan Uddin, while Saidul was a rival of the chairman over getting nomination ahead of the election.
 The rivalry of Ramjan and Saidul grew bitter when the former started to become

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'Mother got me involved in yaba business'

Claims arrested 'drug peddler'

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN, Ctg
 A mother had allegedly turned her son into a yaba peddler so that he could join the "family trade" along with her and her sister.
 This came to light after the son was arrested by police with 13,500 pills in port city's Cinema Palace area early yesterday. Md Al-Amin Sheikh, 25, got arrested while delivering a yaba consignment.
 "After the arrest, he claimed that his mother Saju Begum and aunt Runa got him involved in the business," Mohammed Mohsin, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station, told The Daily Star.
 Al-Amin said he worked as a peddler while his mother and aunt used to gather the product, contact buyers and set up time and place for delivery, the OC added.
 Hailing from Narail district, Al-Amin and his mother live at Firingi Bazar.
 According to Al-Amin, his entire family was involved in yaba trade. After the death of his father, his mother and aunt started operating the "business".
 The two are listed yaba traders and accused in several narcotics cases, said the OC.
 During primary interrogation, Al-Amin said he did not want to follow their footsteps and started working at a readymade garment factory to earn an honest living, said OC Mohsin.
 Couple of months ago, he opened up an eatery in the city's Bayezid area with the savings he had.



Al-Amin Sheikh

"But my mother was not happy. She started pushing me into the business to make quick bucks," Al-Amin told police. At one point, he caved in to pressure from her and started peddling yaba pills, he added.
 OC Mohsin said, "Saju Begum gathered the pills from different sources while her sister Runa used to find out or contact potential buyers. Al-Amin used to supply the tablets."
 He said Saju Begum hails from Satkania upazila and Runa's in-laws are from Teknaf.
 "Both were sentenced to 10 years in prison after being convicted by a Narayanganj court in a narcotics case. They later walked out on bail," said OC Mohsin.
 The OC said a case was filed against Al-Amin with Kotwali Police Station. Police are trying to arrest the mother and aunt, he added.

Five smugglers held in capital with 11kg gold

UNB, Dhaka
 Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Tuesday night arrested five suspected members of an international gold smuggling gang, along with around 11 kg of gold from Gabtoli area in the capital.
 The arrestees are Rejaul, 35; Md Olier, 50; Md Waliur Rahman, 30; Ohidul Islam, 34; and Md Billal Hossain, 35.
 Briefing reporters at Rab's Karwan Bazar media centre yesterday, Commanding Officer of Rab-2 Lt Col Anwaruzzaman said the smugglers were arrested from a Jessore-bound bus of "Eagle Paribahan" at Gabtoli bus terminal around 9:30pm.
 They also recovered 96 gold bars worth around 4.5 crore from their possession.
 During preliminary interrogation, the arrestees revealed that they usually collect gold bars from Old Dhaka and then go to Jessore concealing those in shoes, said Anwaruzzaman, adding that the gold bars were being smuggled to India.
 The arrestees also revealed that they usually carry gold consignments from Dhaka to Benapole eight times in a month and for this, they are given Tk 7,000 each time, he added.



Truckloads of pomelo (locally known as jambura) from Rangamati have started to reach wholesale markets in Chittagong city. Each truck usually holds around 9,000 pomelos, which the wholesalers buy for Tk 10 to 12 each. The photo was taken yesterday in Chittagong city's Firingi Bazar area.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Rohingya crisis region's largest humanitarian emergency

Says Australian High Commission statement, welcoming UN fact-finding mission report on Myanmar

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
 Australia yesterday welcomed the report of the UN fact-finding mission on Myanmar and renewed its call for justice for the Rohingyas.
 The Australian High Commission in Dhaka in a press statement said, "The Rohingya crisis is our region's largest humanitarian emergency -- with over 900,000 displaced Rohingyas in need in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, and more than 530,000 remaining in Rakhine

State in Myanmar.
 "Australia is deeply disturbed by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission. Australia consistently has urged Myanmar to take action on human rights violations."
 The fact-finding mission, of which Australia has been a strong supporter, has conducted a thorough, credible and independent investigation of human rights abuses in northern Myanmar and Rakhine State, read the

statement.
 The Australian government will continue to work internationally to this end, including through their position on the Human Rights Council and at the UN General Assembly, the high commission statement added.
 Australia has so far provided 70 million dollars in humanitarian assistance to deliver emergency supplies to Rakhine State in Myanmar and Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh.



Prof. Dr. Madhu Andrew Philip
 MBBS, DNB (General Surgery)
 MCh (Cardiothoracic Surgery)
 Fellowship (Cardiothoracic Surgery)
Consultant, Cardiac & Vascular Surgery

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Dr. Madhu Andrew Philip, Professor and Head of Unit-1, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery of CMC Medical College, Vellore, India is now a part of SQUARE Heart Centre (Cardiac Surgery Department). He had his graduation from P S G Institute of Medical Science and Research, DNB in General Surgery from Tamilnadu Hospital, Chennai and achieved MCh in Cardiothoracic Surgery from CMC Medical College, Vellore.

Dr. Madhu also got the opportunity to work as a Fellow in the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Auckland City, New Zealand. He has the expertise and knowledge to perform a wide array of cardiac surgeries. He trains many consultants to gain independence in doing Cardiac Surgery like Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting surgeries, Mitral valve replacements, Aortic valve replacements, Double valve replacements, Tricuspid valve annuloplasty, ASD closures amongst others.

Dr. Madhu actively takes part in giving lectures for cardiothoracic trainees, post-graduate and undergraduate students. He has also been appointed as an examiner by the University for various courses. Now he is a Consultant, Cardiac & Vascular Surgery of SQUARE Hospital.




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