

DEMO AGAINST PAY DISPARITY TURNS VIOLENT



Garment workers continue to stage demonstrations, protesting disparity in their wage structure. *Clockwise from top left*, Police use water cannon to disperse workers in Ashulia's Jamgora area around 10am yesterday. A law enforcer in a heated exchange with an RMG worker near a factory in Mirpur's Darussalam area in the afternoon. Around same time, violence broke out in Ashulia as workers started to vandalise vehicles on Dhaka-Tangail highway. Amid protesters throwing brickbats at police and law enforcers charging batons, a schoolboy tries to run to safety in the area. Due to the agitation, long tailbacks were created on many streets like this one on Mirpur Road, stretching from Kalyanpur to Shyamoli around noon.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN, PALASH KHAN



Climate change may cause shortfall in food production

Adaptation must, says Prof Ainun Nishat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unless adaptation is initiated, climate change is going to cause shortfall in the country's food production in near future, said climate expert Prof Ainun Nishat at a conference in the capital yesterday.

"In the face of climate change impacts, imbalance in the ecosystem will lead to change in flowering pattern and pollination, reducing crop production almost by half," he said, adding, "Plan of action for adaptation, resilience and preparedness must start now."

He was speaking at the three-day international conference on disaster risk manage-

ment organised by Buet-Japan Institute of Disaster Prevention and Urban Safety, Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha, Fire Service and Civil Defence.

The foremost challenge in the climate change process is that it is going to turn the weather pattern erratic, said Nishat, professor emeritus at Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research of Brac University.

Citing the incident of shortfall in the country's monsoon paddy production due to floods mid last year, Prof Nishat said that despite Bangladesh's self-sufficiency in food production, the government had to import rice due to last year's deficit.

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Trucker responsible for injuring actress Ahona arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested the trucker responsible for injuring television and film actress Ahona Rahman Lucky following a scuffle with her at Uttara-7 in Dhaka on Wednesday.

The driver, Sumon Mia, 27, was arrested in Ashulia around 4:30am, on information from his 16-year-old helper, who was held in Uttara on Friday night, Abdur Razzak, inspector (investigation) of Uttara West Police Station, told The Daily Star.

"We have sent the helper to court where he gave confessional statement under section-164, accepting that they tried to drive the truck over Ahona," said Razzak. He said the trucker will be produced before court today.



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Truck hit by two trains at Moghbazar level crossing

Rail communication disrupted for 2 hours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A truck was hit by two trains, one after another, at a level crossing in the capital's Moghbazar area yesterday, disrupting rail communication for more than two hours.

The incident happened at Wireless Gate area around 5am, said railway police.

The vehicle came to a halt right on a railway track due to mechanical reasons and the driver could not restart it even after repeated attempts, said Yasin Faroque, officer-in-charge of Dhaka Railway Police Station.

By that time, a train was approaching the

spot, prompting the driver and his helper to get off the truck, said Yasin.

Eventually, the Dhaka-bound train "Upakul Express" from Sylhet passed through the level crossing hitting the vehicle, said the OC.

Then, the truck was pushed to another rail track, said the police officer.

Minutes later, another train bound for Mymensingh from the capital's Kamalapur station hit it, said OC Yasin.

The rail communication remained suspended until the authorities removed the wreckage of the truck around 7:30am, he said.

The driver and helper were not found on the spot.



Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader inspecting a battered bus as part of mobile court activities by Bangladesh Road Transport Authority on Manik Mia Avenue in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

The Daily Star 20th 'O' & 'A' Level Awards Presentation Ceremony, 2017-2018

Announcement for 'O' & 'A' Level
Private Candidates and Schools

Private Candidates

Private candidates who fulfill the criteria described below are requested to register their names at The Daily Star office for inclusion as awardees. The criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

Criteria for 'O' Level

Minimum 6 (six) 'A' grades in two consecutive sittings within May/June 2017 to May/June 2018 and November 2018

Criteria for 'A' Level

Minimum 3 (three) 'A' grades in two consecutive sittings within May/June 2017 to May/June 2018 and November 2018

Eligible candidates are requested to contact Mr. Mahub Ahsan Rashid at The Daily Star, 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Level-5, Dhaka-1215, with their original results certificates and a photocopy and 2 (two) passport-size photographs in person from 21st January to 31st January, 2019, anytime between 11:00 am to 5:00 pm (Except Fridays and Saturdays)

Schools

Any school that has students meeting the above criteria but has not been contacted by The Daily Star (i.e. has not been informed of the first scheduled meeting through regular post, email or phone) is requested to contact Mr. Mahub Ahsan Rashid at The Daily Star (64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Level-5, Dhaka-1215), on the aforementioned dates and times or email him at o.alevel.tds@gmail.com by 30th January, 2019, with:

- The name of the school, phone number of a responsible representative and a valid email address that is checked regularly.

The schools are also requested to promptly prepare a list of the candidates meeting the above criteria, the number of 'A'/'A*' grades obtained by each candidate, and photocopies of results certificates for each candidate.

No registration will be allowed or accepted after 5:00 pm of 31st January, 2019.

NOTE: If you know of any private candidate(s) or school(s) that may be unaware of this, please pass on the above information to them so that we may include them in this ceremony.