



A macaw on display at a two-day bird fair in Khulna yesterday. Over 500 birds of 26 species were exhibited at the event, mesmerising visitors with their charm and beauty.

PHOTO: STAR

Visitors flock to bird exhibition in Khulna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A two-day-long bird fair concluded in Khulna Press Club auditorium yesterday. Interested visitors gathered there to see many varieties of birds.

Khulna Aviculture Bird Breeders (KABB) organised this fair for the third consecutive year, with the slogan "we won't kill birds, we won't destroy nature." Most visitors were interested to see macaw, grey parrot, and Australian sparrow.

According to the organisers, over 500 birds of 26 species were brought to the fair. Many of them were budgerigars and love birds. Besides there were parakeet, sun conure, lorikeet, and rosella birds.

"Birds have an indispensable role in the environment, as they help maintain ecological balance. So we should protect birds as well as other animals," said Rathindra Nath Shil, a visitor at the fair.

Sabbir Ahmed Munna, president of KABB, said, "The younger generation is becoming interested in aviculture to stay in touch with nature."

The fair also had a few bonsai and flower exhibits. "This fair is only for showing birds and flora, not for selling them," said Sabbir, "We want to protect these precious creatures, not harm them."

Seven injured in CU BCL infighting

CU CORRESPONDENT

At least seven activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) were injured when two rival groups clashed on Chittagong University (CU) campus in the early hours of yesterday.

Of the seven, three were taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) while the rest were given primary treatment at CU medical centre, said in-charge of CU police outpost, Inspector Md Akhteruzzaman.

Around eight rounds of gunshots were heard during the clash, said witnesses.

Supporters of Golam Rosul Nishan, former vice-president of a dissolved BCL committee, alleged that Nishan was kidnapped by activists of BCL group Sixty-nine while he was returning home from a wedding ceremony around 11pm on Friday.

Failing to find him, Nishan's supporters padlocked the university main gate and staged a 15-minute demonstration around midnight, police said.

As the news spread, both groups, equipped with sharp weapons, took position at Shahjalal and Suhrawardy halls respectively, triggering chase and counter chase. Both groups hurled brickbats at each other, leaving seven persons injured, added police.

Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control after dispersing BCL men, added Akhteruzzaman.

Nishan was found in the city's Lalkhan Bazar area in an injured state around 12:30am, his supporters said. He is now undergoing treatment at CMCH.

Later yesterday, the two groups clashed again around 5:30pm, injuring two activists.

Ctg road tragedy kills father, son

STAR REPORT

Sagir Ahmed was returning home in Chattogram city's Mansurabad area on his motorbike on Friday night. His 10-year-old son Junaid was sitting on the pillion seat.

They could not have imagined that it would be their last ride.

After attending a wedding in MA Aziz Stadium area, they were passing through a road in Dhaniapara. All of a sudden, a lorry rammed their motorbike from the opposite direction, said police.

The accident happened around 11:45pm. The road was too narrow to pass through smoothly, said Zahir Hossain, inspector (investigation) of Double Mooring Police Station.

The lorry was not found on the spot after the accident. On information from locals, police rushed in and the 50-year-old man and his son ended up at Chattogram Medical College Hospital around 12:30am yesterday.

The doctors said they were already dead. Junaid was a fifth-grader of Ganopurto Bidya Niketan School in Mansurabad area.

In another accident in Tangail, two people lost their lives as a microbus they were travelling in hit another vehicle parked on Bangabandhu Bridge east link road in Kalihati area yesterday.

Six other passengers of the microbus were injured, said OC Mosharaf Hossain of Bangabandhu Bridge East Police Station.

Syed Shahjamal, general secretary of Chapainawabganj unit of Bangladesh Manabdhikar Commission; and Mosharaf Hossain Musa, the microbus driver, died on the spot.

Poor visibility due to dense fog might have caused the accident, the OC added. The injured were admitted to Tangail General Hospital.

Meanwhile, a bus ran over Samad Khan, 60, a timber trader, on Dhaka-Tangail highway in Baorkumarjani area of Tangail the same day, leaving him seriously injured, said locals.

He succumbed to his injuries at Kumudini Hospital.

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Rohingyas are violent as they are stateless:

Foreign minister

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen yesterday said Rohingyas are violent as they do not have citizenship anywhere.

Attacking German journalists at Ukha Rohingya Camp in Cox's Bazaar was an unfortunate act by the Rohingyas, he said.

After attending a programme at Model High School in Sylhet, the minister made this remark while talking to journalists.

"Repatriation of eight lakh Rohingyas, out of twelve lakhs, are in progress.... Myanmar has also agreed but failed to create a viable environment in Rakhine state," he said, adding that Rohingyas will return to a safe Rakhine state soon.

The minister also said Sylhet will be a "digital city" soon and the ICT ministry has already started working towards that goal.

"Free WiFi connection will be provided in the city which will help students greatly, and the flow of information will be easier with the help of digitisation," he said.

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