



University students block Pragati Sarani in the city's Nodda yesterday morning, protesting the death of a fellow student in a road accident in the area.

PHOTO:
PALASH KHAN

ROAD CRASHES ON RISE DESPITE GOVT MEASURES

TUHIN SHUBHRA
ADHIKARY

Despite measures taken by the government following an unprecedented student movement for road safety, the numbers of road crashes and fatalities had increased last year compared to those of the previous year. According to police, 2,635 people were killed in 2,609 road crashes last year. At least 2,513 people had

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Student's blood stains road again

Bus runs over, kills him while he was crossing road; protesters block Pragati Sarani for 10 hours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A university student was killed yesterday as a bus ran him over while he was reportedly using a zebra crossing near the capital's Bashundhara Residential Area, touching off a firestorm of protests.

The victim, Abrar Ahmed Chowdhury, himself a road safety campaigner, met this tragic end while Dhaka Metropolitan



Abrar Ahmed

Police was observing traffic week to bring discipline on the city streets.

Son of Brig Gen (ret'd) Arif Ahmed Chowdhury, he was a first-year honours student of international relations department at Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP). He was the

elder of two brothers.

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4 KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS
IN TWO DIST - PAGE 4

AL leader killed in Rangamati

He was shot in front of family members in broad daylight

STAR REPORT

An upazila Awami League chief was gunned down and killed right before his family in Rangamati yesterday, hours after seven people were shot dead in another upazila of the district.

Unknown assailants opened fire on Bilaichhari AL President Suresh Kanti Tanchangya while he along with his family members was travelling in a boat from Farua union to the upazila town, Alamgir Kabir, superintendent of police in the district, told The Daily Star.

The attack around 9:30am left Suresh dead on the spot. Others in the boat were unhurt, police said.

The law enforcers were trying to identify the attackers and know their motive, the SP said.

Talking to journalists, the victim's son Nirupom Tanchangya said three to four men intercepted the boat and shot his father at close range.

Contacted, the district unit AL General Secretary Hazi Mucha Mathbar alleged that the Parbatya Chattagram Janasanghati Samity (PCJSS-Santu



Suresh Kanti

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Khaleda is sick Says Fakhrul after meeting her at court

COURT CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said party chief Khaleda Zia was very sick.

"Khaleda Zia cannot take food properly. She could not keep her head straight properly during the hearing at the court. Her whole body aches. She vomited before coming to the court," the BNP leader said.

Fakhrul was talking to journalists in front of old Dhaka central jail after meeting Khaleda during the hearing on charge framing in the Niko graft case.

He said the former prime minister's blood tests were not conducted yet. The government should take steps so that she could receive treatment by her personal specialist physicians, he added.

Expressing concern that doctors of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) were "not giving



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GDP growth may cross record 8pc

Says finance minister; economists say forecast inconsistent with revenue collection, exports

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

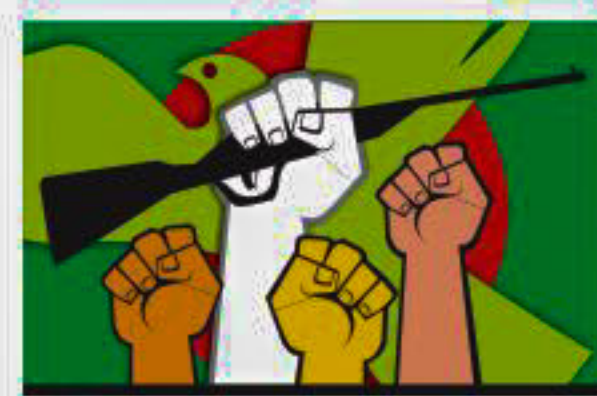
Bangladesh economy is going to cross a record 8 percent growth mark in the current fiscal year, powered by high performance in manufacturing and service sectors, the finance minister has claimed.

Despite a dip in the farm sector performance, the GDP growth in 2018-19 is likely

to be 8.13 percent, up from 7.86 percent the previous year, according to the provisional figure from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).

Finance Minister AHM Mostafa Kamal released the data yesterday after a meeting of the National Economic Council at the planning ministry.

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MARCH 20, 1971

Bangabandhu holds meeting with Yahya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The fourth meeting between Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Pakistani President Yahya

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