

Media, civil society playing vital role for democracy

Says JS Speaker

BSS, Dhaka

Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury yesterday said the media and civil society are playing vital role for strengthening democracy in the country.

"Both media and civil society possess very strong position in the country... so their contribution is very important for giving democracy an institutional shape," said Dr Shirin.

She made the remark while meeting a delegation led by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Bangladesh Mia Seppo at her office, said an official release.

During the meeting, the UN resident coordinator discussed the national human rights commission and existing laws of the commission. She said that the UN bodies and other countries will extend their cooperation for continuation of democracy and establishing human rights in Bangladesh.

Norwegian Ambassador to Bangladesh Sidsel Bleken, Swedish Ambassador Charlotta Schlyter, Swiss Ambassador Ren Holenstein, British High Commissioner Robert Chatterton, US Ambassador Earl R Miller, EU First Secretary (Political) Erica Hasznos, UNDP resident representative Sudipta Mukherjee and high officials of the Jatiya Sangsad were present, among others, during the meeting.

Pedestrian hit by 'Chander Gari' dies

CU CORRESPONDENT

A pedestrian was run over by a "Chander Gari" (locally modified passenger vehicle) at Narayanhat of Fatikchhari upazila in Chattogram yesterday afternoon.

The victim was identified as Mohammad Rasel, 18, said police.

ASI Md Alauddin Talukdar of Chittagong Medical College Hospital police outpost said the vehicle hit the victim when he was crossing a street. He was declared dead after being taken to CMCH, the ASI added.

Police arrested the driver while the vehicle was seized, he said, adding that the body was sent to CMCH morgue for autopsy.



With iron rods jutting out, a truck travels on Topkhana Road in the capital yesterday. Despite a ban on movement of such vehicles during day hours, this risky way of transporting construction materials continues unabated. It can turn fatal for motorists and pedestrians anytime.

Justice after 23 years

Five convicts get 13 years' jail for provoking girl's suicide

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A Rangpur court yesterday sentenced five people to 13 years' jail each, in a case filed over instigating a girl to take her own life in 1996.

Judge Jabit Hossain of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-1 handed down the verdict in a crowded courtroom, in presence of three of the accused.

The convicts are: Manik, Ratan, Rana, Babla and Maleka Begum. Of them, Maleka and Ratan were absent at the court.

According to the prosecution and case statement, Romana Afroz Tandra, an HSC second-year student of a college in Dhaka at the time, was visiting her mother Masuda Chowdhury in Rangpur for a few days.

On July 1, 1996, when she went out of her house to buy a box of matches, one of the accused men grabbed her and harassed her publicly.

The distraught girl returned home and described the incident to her mother. As the mother protested the incident, the five people ganged up on the mother and daughter and assaulted them publicly.

Manik also sexually harassed the girl and ripped off her clothes.

Unable to cope with the humiliation, the girl took her life that same night.

The next day, her mother filed a case with Rangpur Sadar Police Station over sexual harassment, assault and provoking suicide.

Police filed the charge sheet against the five that same year.

"After examining the witnesses and evidence of the case, the judge delivered the judgement of the case, finally serving justice after 23 years," said Jahangir Alam Tunin, public prosecutor of the court.

'Yaba trader' snatched from police custody in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Miscreants snatched an alleged yaba trader from police custody in Chattogram's Sitakunda upazila on Monday night. During the attack, at least 10 police personnel sustained injuries.

Afterwards, when law enforcers launched a drive in the upazila's Kumira area, where the incident took place, a clash broke out between police and locals. Law enforcers arrested 13 persons in this connection.

"A police team came under attack after arrest of one Md Rubel, 26. He was arrested with 30,000 yaba pills from Jelepura of Chatghar area," said Sub-inspector Jahidul Islam Jashim of Sitakunda Police Station.

"Rubel started shouting and suddenly a group of criminals attacked us and snatched him from our custody. They vandalised our vehicle," said the SI, who was also injured during the incident, which took place between 10:30pm and 1:30am.

SI Jahid said he informed the matter to the officer-in-charge of Sitakunda Model Police Station. The OC rushed to the spot within 30 minutes, he said. "When the OC conducted a drive to arrest the attackers, some pelted stones at us and blocked the roads."

SI Jahid said police had to fire blanks to bring the situation under control. Later, police arrested 13 persons.

Kumira Union Parishad Chairman Mohammed Morshed Hossen Chowdhury, who witnessed the incident, told The Daily Star, "Police were forced to fire blanks as they were attacked."

During the incident, an 80-year-old woman died at her home due to old age complications, he said. "Some miscreants spread rumours that the woman was killed in police firing and blocked the roads," added the UP chairman.

"The UNO and I went to the woman's house and spoke to family members. They said she died a natural death. Later, we sent the body to the Upazila Health Complex, where doctors also declared that she died of natural causes," he said. "The situation became normal around 2:30am."

This correspondent could not get in touch with Sitakunda Police Station OC and additional superintendent of police for comments. SI Jahid said the injured officials were treated at a local hospital. A case was filed in this connection.

Rubel was planning to smuggle the pills to Sandwip, said the SI.

13th death anniversary of Golam Rasul Mallik



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 13th death anniversary of Golam Rasul Mallik, a freedom fighter and veteran journalist. He was the former chief editor of the now-defunct Eastern News Agency.

On the occasion, a Qurankhwani will be held at his residence after the Asr prayers, according to a press release.

Considered a pioneering journalist, Golam Rasul was elected chairman of Commonwealth Press Union's Bangladesh wing three times. He was the first member of Bangladesh Press Institute.

Iftar packets for people stuck in traffic

CITY DESK

"Snickers Cares" -- an initiative of Transcom Distribution Co Ltd and Mars International -- are distributing food packets to working people who cannot have iftar with their family and friends due to being stuck in traffic during that

time, said a press release.

The transparent packs will include a bottle of drinking water, dates and a Snickers bar. They will be distributed at the traffic signal points in Dhaka. The initiative aims to provide relief to individuals who cannot reach home for iftar on time.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Student's body recovered from canal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Divers of Fire Service and Civil Defence recovered the body of a school student from a canal at Boalkhali upazila in Chattogram on Monday.

The deceased is Ankhi Akter, 16, daughter of Abul Hossain of East Gomdandi in Boalkhali upazila, said fire service officials.

Ankhi went to take a bath in Chhandaria

canal in Ali Bakery area of Boalkhali upazila around 2pm, said Jasim Uddin, assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence, Chattogram.

She fell into the canal and was swept away due to the strong current, he said.

On information, divers of fire service rushed to the spot and searched for her in the canal, and finally recovered her body about 200 yards off the spot at around 10pm, he said.

Ramadan rhapsody at Four Points by Sheraton Dhaka



CITY DESK

Four Points by Swheraton Dhaka has created a host of exclusive offers for this month of Ramadan. From sunset, guests can enjoy a generous array of Middle Eastern delicacies.

The "Starry Arabian Nights" themed dinner buffet is being held at their signature restaurant "The Eatery" (24th Floor), "The Eatery-Four Points Residence Suites" and "The Beast" (26th floor). The buffets include Arabian cuisine, along with Middle Eastern, Indian and Western favourites, said a press release.

The iftar+dinner buffet at The Eatery and The Beast restaurants is

priced at Tk 4,999 net per person whereas it is Tk 3,499 at "The Eatery-Four Points Residence Suites".

For those interested in sehri, the buffet is also served every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from midnight at Tk 3,499 per person at The Eatery. Larger groups can enjoy an exclusive iftar and dinner experience in the ballroom with menu specially designed for Ramadan. The ballroom can accommodate up to 200 guests.

For reservation, one can call at +8801966662152 for The Eatery or +8801966662158 for The Beast. There are also various bank offers available for buy one get one free.

Suspended DU BCL activist tries to take own life

DU CORRESPONDENT

A BCL activist of Dhaka University unit, who was suspended from the organisation following a recent scuffle at Madhur Canteen, attempted to take her own life yesterday.

The former member of BCL central committee took some sleeping pills at her residence around 1am, said Rana Hamid, former social welfare secretary of DU unit BCL.

Bacchu Mia, inspector of DMCH police outpost, said she was brought to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and was released after treatment around noon.

Tanbir Hasan Shaikat, a Ducus member and former member of DU BCL committee, said the former BCL activist was saddened after the scuffle. She completely broke down after being suspended, he said.

Meanwhile, BCL former publicity secretary Saif Babu, spokesperson of the post-deprived faction, termed the suspension of BCL activists "farical".

Saif claimed that the girl was injured in the scuffle and BCL president-general secretary suspended her out of "a personal grudge".

However, BCL central general secretary Golam Rabbani said the decision was taken following a "100 percent accurate" investigation. "It was taken as per recommendations of the probe committee. We did not interfere," Rabbani told reporters.

On Monday, BCL expelled an activist of its DU unit and suspended four others including the girl, following the scuffle on the campus.

<div>Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Bangladesh Police Rapid Action Battalion Forces Headquarters Central Procurement Section Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229</div>		
Memo No. RAB Forces HQ/CPS/2018-2019/3258116/1001		Date: 21/05/2019
Invitation for Tender (OTM)		
01	Ministry	Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA).
02	Agency	Rapid Action Battalion (RAB).
03	Procuring entity name	DG, Rapid Action Battalion (RAB).
04	Invitation for	Tender of Goods.
KEY INFORMATION		
05	Procurement method	Opening Tendering Method (OTM).
FUNDING INFORMATION		
06	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
07	Project/programme name	Repairing and Procurement of Portable Accessories for Criminal Database (Re-Tender).
08	Tender package No. and year	G-08 (Q)/2018-2019
09	Invitation Ref. No. & date	Memo No. RAB Forces HQ/CPS/2018-2019/3258116/1001 Date: 21/05/2019
10	Tender last selling date	Date 09/06/2019 Time 17:00 hrs.
11	Tender closing date and time	10/06/2019 12:00 hrs.
12	Tender opening date and time	10/06/2019 13:00 hrs.
13	Pre-Tender meeting	27/05/2019 11:00 hrs.
14	Place of pre-tender meeting	Conference Room, 1st Floor, RAB Forces Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229.
15	Name & address of the office	Director (Admin & Finance), RAB Forces Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229.
16	Place of selling tender document	Central Procurement Section, RAB Forces Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229.
17	Name & address of the office receiving tender document	Director (Admin & Finance), RAB Forces Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229.
18	Place of opening tender document	Conference Room, 1st Floor, RAB Forces Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
19	Eligibility of tenderer	The bidder should have valid trade license, current bank solvency certificate, Income Tax certificate, VAT registration certificate and the legal capacity to enter into the contract. Bidder should not be blacklisted by any Govt. organisation in Bangladesh. A complete set of tender document may be purchased by interested bidder for submission in written application on their own pad to the addressee below.
20	Brief description of goods	Repairing and Procurement of Portable Accessories for Criminal Database (Re-Tender).
21	Tender document price	BDT=1,000.00 (one thousand) only in cash payment.
22	Tender validity	60 (sixty) days.
23	Tender security amount in taka	BDT=1,69,000.00 (one lac sixty-nine thousand) only.
24	Special instructions:	a. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any tender prior to acceptance. b. Interested tenderer may obtain further information from the Office of the Director (Admin & Finance). c. No tender document will be sent by courier or mail.
GD-976		Md Shariful Islam BA Number-5089 Lieutenant Colonel Director (Admin & Finance) RAB Forces Headquarters, Dhaka Telephone No: 02-48963104