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PHOTO OF THE DAY

A sudden burst of rain sweeping through the capital yesterday afternoon caught some pedestrians off-guard, forcing them to run for cover. Those who left home with umbrellas made full use of it, even while sitting in a rickshaw with a plastic sheet to keep them dry.

Overseas Jobs

Aspirant female migrants must be made aware of challenges: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Women must be made aware of the challenges tied to migration, so that they consider those and prepare themselves well before setting foot in a foreign land, speakers yesterday said at a seminar on migration policy.

The reasons behind female domestic workers coming back are often language barriers, food and home sickness, said Nurul Islam, director of the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training, at the programme organised by the Institute of Informatics and Development in collaboration with Bangladesh Nari Sramik Kendra at Probashi Kalyan Bhaban.

Separate budgetary allocation for dissemination of information and training are necessary to avert such cases of failed migration.

Moreover, opportunities for skills development should be created to divert the flow of female migration from the Middle East to other destinations where they would get decent jobs -- like that of a caregiver or garment worker -- with better pay and safe work environment, speakers said at the seminar titled "Gender responsive budget to empower women migrants".

In the last one year, nearly 2,000 female migrant domestic workers returned from the Middle East. Most of them returned from Saudi Arabia and received emergency

support from Brac's migration programme. From the experience of assisting female

returnees, Shariful Hasan, head of Brac's migration programme, said that around 10,000 women migrants had returned in the last four years from the Middle East with complaints of abuse and torture.

Representatives of all stakeholders were present at yesterday's event to discuss how gender responsive budget could protect them.

In the budget for fiscal 2019-20, Tk 591 crore has been allocated for the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry.

Ahmed Munirus Saleheen, additional secretary to the ministry, assured that money would not be an issue if the ministry could come up with programmes to address the issues that female migrant workers face.

Speaking as special guest, Rownag Jahan, secretary to the ministry, said that Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies has agreed to open local offices and make a list of brokers engaged in the migration process to stop irregularities.

Infrastructure has been built even at the local level to train aspirant migrants. Now the ministry has to spend on improving governance of the training centres and training module to ensure safe and easy migration.

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Lawyers' petition to meet ex-Sonagazi OC dismissed

Hearing on charge framing against him July 10

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Lawyers of former officer-incharge of Sonagazi Police Station Moazzem Hossain were not allowed yesterday to meet him to discuss about the case filed on charges of filming a statement of madrasa student Nusrat Jahan Rafi and circulating the clip on social media.

Judge Ash Sams Joglul Hossain of Dhaka Cyber Tribunal dismissed the petition after Moazzem's lawyers submitted it, seeking permission to talk to their client about the case in presence of police at the court prison.

The tribunal, however, granted another petition of the defence to supply a copy of a USB memory drive in which Nusrat's statement was recorded by their client.

charge framing against Moazzem after his lawyer submitted a petition, seeking adjournment of hearing.

Moazzem was produced before the court for the hearing at 2:15pm, amid tight security.

On April 15, Supreme Court lawyer Syed Sayedul Haque Suman filed the case against Moazzem under Digital Security Act, for recording the statement of sexual assault victim Nusrat on camera without her consent, and circulating it on social media.

The tribunal then directed Police Bureau of Investigation to investigate the matter and submit a probe report. PBI submitted the report on May 27, saying that the charges brought against the former OC were found to be true.

According to the probe report,

It set July 10 for hearing on Moazzem himself had recorded the video on camera and later passed the footage to someone else. The footage show that Moazzem was asking Nusrat

"insulting" questions.

The same day, the tribunal issued a warrant against Moazzem, who went into hiding. On June 16, police arrested

Moazzem from the Supreme Court area and he was sent to jail the next day, rejecting his bail in the case.

Nusrat, a student of Sonagazi Islamia Senior Fazil Madrasa in Feni's Sonagazi upazila, was set ablaze on April 6 allegedly for refusing to withdraw a case filed against the madrasa principal for sexually harassing her.

She died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital on April 10. SEE PAGE 4 COL 3 RIDESHARING DRIVER MURDER

Premeditated carjacking bid gone awry: police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The murder of a ridesharing car driver in the capital's Uttara last month was carried out by professional carjackers, detectives claimed yesterday.

In a press conference at Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) media centre, Abdul Baten, additional commissioner of Detective Branch of DMP, said three youths had premeditated to hijack specifically a car of Toyota Allion model, but fled the scene after killing the driver as the circumstances were not in their favour.

The development comes after the arrest of three suspects allegedly involved with the murder of the driver -- Arman Hossain, 40, who was found slit-throat in the driver's seat of a car on June 14.

The arrestees -- Sejan, 24, Sharif, 19, and Sajib, 20, were held from different parts of the country with two switchblades in their possession, said Moshiur Rahman, deputy commissioner of DB (north).

The trio have been put on twoday remand each by a Dhaka court.

"A friend of Sejan's in Khulna, who allegedly runs a stolen car business, wanted a Toyota Allion car and offered Tk 8 lakh to Sejan, prompting his plan to hijack a car,' said Moshiur.

Sejan with his two associates bought two switchblades from New Market on June 13. That night, they sent out a ride-hailing request from Rampura to Uttara on Uber, and kept on cancelling and asking for new rides five times, until driver of an Allion car responded, he added.

"They asked Arman to stop the car in a dark and secluded place at Uttara sector-14, got out of the vehicle and kept the driver waiting for about 20 minutes to pay his fare. At 12:37am, they went back

DHAKA TODAY

CELEBRATION **Dhaka University Day** Venue: DU Time: 10am

CRAFTS FAIR Desher Kabya Kotha

Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi Time: 11am

PROTEST

Stopping Rampal project to save the Sundarbans Organiser: The National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports Venue: Jatiya Press Club Time: 4:30pm

THEATRE

Wrong Legeche (comedy) Venue: Shilpakala Academy Time: 5pm

WORKSHOP **Glass Painting** Venue: Twinkle Tots,

Uttara

Time: 4pm COUNSELLING SESSION For homemakers on dealing with

stressful situations Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi Time: 2:30pm

PROTEST Demonstration rally against gas

price hike Venue: Jatiya Press Club Time: 3:30pm

COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

Remembering country's writers, poets & artists Venue: Shilpakala Academy Time: 6pm

Formulate guideline to prevent unnecessary C-sections: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the government to form a committee in a month to formulate a guideline for preventing medically unnecessary Cesarean section delivery of babies at all public, private hospitals and clinics. The HC also ordered authorities concerned of the government to formulate the guideline and submit it to

the court within the next six months.

The HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Ashraful Kamal passed the order following a writ petition filed by Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST).

The court also issued a rule asking the authorities concerned to explain in four weeks why their failure to prevent medically unnecessary C-sections at private and public hospitals should not be declared illegal.

As per the HC order, the health ministry, the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) and Bangladesh Medical SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

High Court seeks DU report on packaged milk

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday sought the report of Dhaka University's Pharmacy Faculty and Biomedical Research Centre that found detergent and antibiotics for humans in packaged milk available in kitchen markets

and grocery shops. The antibiotics include levofloxacin, ciprofloxacin and azithromycin that are used mainly to treat bacterial infections.

HC asked lawyer of Bangladesh Standard Testing Institute (BSTI), Barrister Sarkar MR Hassan, to collect the DU researchers' report on packaged milk and submit it to the court on July 7.

The HC bench of Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir Lytton passed the order while hearing a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Advocate Tanvir Ahmed.

A PEDESTRIANS' NIGHTMARE... With work for metro rail project already narrowing the Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue,

pedestrians in front of the Birdem Hospital in Shahbagh are left with no footpath to walk on as work for dismantling

a foot-overbridge is also going on, forcing them to squeeze between traffic on the busy thoroughfare. Patients, their

attendants, hospital doctors and staff say their lives have been made difficult due to the situation. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

During the hearing, the HC bench accepted a test report of BSTI which said it has not detected any harmful substance in fourteen brands of milk.

After testing seven samples of widelysold pasteurised milk and three samples of unpasteurised milk, the Pharmacy Faculty and Biomedical Research Centre of DU in a report said the researchers found detergent and antibiotics in packaged milk.

The study began in May last year and samples were collected from shops in Shahbagh, Chankharpool and Palashi in the capital. Prof ABM Faroque, director of Biomedical Research Centre, unveiled the

findings at a press conference on June 25. Earlier in February, BSTI's own survey found lead and pesticides in milk marketed by top brands. It also found that the majority of raw and packaged milk do not

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PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

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Two Star journos receive CTTC awards



Award winners with guests at the ceremony.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two journalists of The Daily Star yesterday three-member jury board who selected the received awards for their outstanding reporting on prevention of violent extremism.

The awards were conferred by Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP). The newspaper's head of Crime

Desk Shariful Islam and staff reporter Mohammad Jamil Khan were jointly awarded in the print media category.

Four other journalists were also awarded for their reports. They are: Sheikh Sabiha Alam, special

correspondent of the daily Prothom Alo; Khan Muhammad Rumel, senior reporter of Somoy TV; Shamima Sultana Labu, staff correspondent of Channel 24; and Nuruzzaman Labu, senior crime reporter of online news portal Bangla Tribune.

CTTC unit chief Monirul Islam, who is also the acting commissioner of DMP, handed the awards to the six journalists at a ceremony in DMP Media Centre.

CTTC unit organised the programme under the project "Construction of counter terrorism and transnational crime protection centre for Bangladesh police".

PHOTO: COLLECTED Prof Abdus Salam of Dhaka University's journalism department was chief of the

awardees. Two other members of jury board were: Press Club President and Editor of the daily Jugantar Saiful Alam and DBC News

CEO Mohammad Manzurul Islam. Winners were presented crests, Tk

50,000 for each report and certificates. Prof Dr Abdus Salam said policing and journalism are both risky professions.

He suggested that the journalists take on a heroic role for the sake of society with objective reporting.

Masudur Rahman, deputy commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, moderated the programme, where Pralay Kumar Joarder, deputy commissioner of CITC unit, gave the welcome speech.

CTTC unit chief Monirul Islam said they hold talks with people from different professions and students to generate awareness on extremism.

At the programme, Counter Terrorism

and Transnational Crime unit also gave awards to school, college and madrasa students for winning the anti-violent extremism essay competition. Three students received awards in the category.

Some provisions 'repressive' NGOs say on Voluntary

Social Welfare Orgs Act STAFF CORRESPONDENT

and rights organisations yesterday expressed deep concerns over the proposed Voluntary Social Welfare Organisation (Registration and Control) Act-2019, saying some of its provisions are "repressive, ambiguous and

the government should change, correct or omit such provisions. They also called upon the government authorities concerned to include stakeholders and experts to

taking steps for its approval.

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contradictory". Issuing a joint statement, local and foreign organisations working in Bangladesh demanded that re-write the draft law before

Twenty-four development