



Clockwise from left, two buses that collided in Nowpara area of Faridpur's Bhanga; firefighters gather around a mangled bus that hit two others near Bangabandhu Bridge in Sirajganj; and a Cox's Bazar-bound bus that hit a tree on Dhaka Chattogram highway being hauled off. Road crashes across the country left 18 people dead and 81 injured yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Probe committee

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Assistant Commissioner (Operation) Abdul Halim and Deputy Director (Posta zone) Newton Das.

Around 10:45pm on Wednesday, a fire broke out at the factory on Water Works Road in Posta area.

Sixteen firefighting units brought the blaze under control around 12:45am. No casualty was reported and the cause of fire and extent of damage could not be known yet.

ACC can be a symbol

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the corrupt will get a scope to continue their dishonest activities which in turn will portray ACC in a negative light, Iqbal Mahmud added.

"We have to change our mindset and discharge our responsibilities properly being imbued with the importance and spirit of National Mourning Day," said the ACC chief.

ACC Secretary Muhammad Delwar Bakht, Director General AKM Sohel and directors Syed Iqbal Hossain and Md Akhter Hossain spoke at the discussion, among others.

Fast-tracked Manikganj power plant fails to start operation

UNB, Dhaka

The fast-tracked 162MW Manikganj power plant failed to commence commercial operation as per the schedule.

Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) sources said the plant was scheduled to start operation on January 1 this year. "But it only made 70 percent progress till July 14," said a top BPDB official.

Sources said China's Consortium of Changzhou Hutang Coal Power Co Ltd, and Bangladesh's Icon Enterprise Ltd and Chase Power Ltd obtained the project as an unsolicited offer which the government awarded as a priority project.

The progress of the project was discussed at a review meeting at the Power Division in July. According to a report placed at the meeting, the

letter of intent was issued on April 2 last year with implementation of the project within nine months. This set the date for starting commercial operation by January this year.

A review meeting on November 11 last year noted that the engine of the power plant reached the project site in October and the commercial operation could start in March 2019.

But the sponsors of the project failed to keep commitments about commercial operation, said the BPDB official. They said the project was getting delayed due to complications over land ownership.

However, it was informed at the July meeting that the financial closing of the project has been completed and they have fully progressed in this regard.

Alcohol poisoning leaves 3 dead, one in critical condition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Three men died and another -- in critical condition -- was undergoing treatment following alcohol poisoning at Malipara in port city early yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Shaon Majumder, 32; Milton Gomez, 30; and Bishwajit Mallick, 35, according to police.

Ujjwal Banik, 35, a friend of the deceased, was undergoing treatment at a private hospital in the city.

The four friends had alcohol at the home of Bishwajit on Tuesday night, said Mostafizur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Akbar Shah Police Station. After drinking, they went to their respective houses at dawn, he added.

All of them were unwell in the morning, around 11am, he said quoting family members.

Initially, family members were taking care of them. As their condition deteriorated, they were rushed to

hospitals in the city.

Bishwajit and Shaon were admitted to Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH) on Wednesday night. Bishwajit passed away in the hospital around 2:30am while Shaon died around 8am, said Assistant Sub-inspector Alauddin Talukder of CMCH Police Camp.

Milton, who was admitted to Centre for Specialised Care and Research (CSCR) on Wednesday afternoon, died in the hospital around 11:30am yesterday, said OC of Akbar Shah Police Station.

Meanwhile, Ujjwal was undergoing treatment at Max Hospital Limited.

Contacted, Abdullah Al Mamun, medical officer of HDU of Max Hospital, said Ujjwal had been suffering from metabolic disorder due to alcohol overdose.

His condition was critical, said the doctor.

Titu Mallick, Bishwajit's brother, filed an unnatural death case with Akbar Shah Police Station yesterday afternoon.

In the case statement, Titu said his brother came to their home with three friends on Tuesday night, said the OC. They were drinking, Titu said.

The following day, when his brother was feeling unwell, the family members called on a doctor, who found Bishwajit's blood pressure to be very high. The doctor prescribed some medicines and told them if the patient did not feel well, he must be hospitalised.

As his health condition did not improve in the afternoon, they took Bishwajit to hospital, said the OC referring to the case statement.

The bodies were sent to CMCH Morgue for autopsy, said the OC, adding, "We will take statement of Ujjwal after he recovers."



Children play a game of street cricket, take advantage of empty roads. The city is yet to return to its busy self, with this year's extended Eid vacation. The photo was taken from Phoenix Road in Old Dhaka.

Man drowns in waterfall in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man drowned in a waterfall in Mirsarai upazila of Chattogram yesterday.

The deceased is Md Mehedi Hasan, 21, a worker of Chattogram Export Processing Zone, said Chattogram Fire Service and Civil Defence Headquarters in Agrabad.

The incident occurred at Ruposhi waterfall in Hajalkhali around 10am.

Divers' team leader of Chattogram fire service Akther Hossain said Mehedi went to the waterfall with his friends to enjoy their holidays. He then suddenly slipped off the top of the stream and fell into the 30-feet deep water-body and drowned.

On information, fire service divers rushed to the spot and recovered Mehedi's body around 1:30pm.

The body was handed over to Mirsarai Police Station.

Rajshahi ticket

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ticket scalping.

"Being a civil authority, how can we challenge someone for just buying tickets?" he said.

When contacted, Rab ASP Anwar Hossain said, the elite forces were monitoring the situation but did not "find anything wrong".

Rajshahi Metropolitan Police's additional deputy commissioner Golam Ruhul Kuddus came up with similar observation.

Country attained remarkable success in dev indicators

Says state minister Shahriar Alam

BSS, Rajshahi

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam said Bangladesh has attained remarkable success in various development indicators under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

He mentioned that the country at present is progressing fast in every sector, especially in ICT, food production, education, women empowerment, GDP and per capita income. Now, Bangladesh has become a rice-exporting country instead of an importing one, he added.

The state minister said this while addressing a meeting marking inauguration of a four-storey academic building of Arpara Government Primary School in Bagha upazila of the district on Wednesday as chief guest. The Local Government Engineering Department constructed the building at a cost of around Tk 86 lakh.

Shahriar Alam said the present government attached highest priority to the education sector for boosting it with skilled human resources as the government pledged to build a science and technology-based education system to take the nation forward.

Mentioning that Bangladesh was moving ahead on all fronts, he renewed the government's vow to turn the country into a prosperous one in the South Asian region.

He said whenever Awami League remains in power, people get the chance to uplift their socio-economic conditions.

Chaired by president of the school managing committee Bellal Uddin, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Upazila Education Officer Sanwar Hossain and headteacher of the school Irene Parveen.

Build 'Sonar Bangla'

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were martyred that day.

Supreme Court Registrar General Dr Md Zakir Hossain also spoke on the occasion, among others. Earlier in the morning, the chief justice paid homage to Bangabandhu by placing wreaths at his portrait in front of Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at the capital's Dhanmondi.

NBR to introduce app

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complaints with the respective tax circle," he said. The NBR official hoped when businessmen see customers checking whether they have paid taxes or not, they will feel obliged to pay their taxes.

"As a result, revenue collection will be increased and tax evasion cases will come down," he said.

Through the app, it would be possible to check the status of tax payment and the certificate will automatically be cancelled in absence of regular payment. Ineffective certificate means the particular person or organisation does not pay tax.

"There's no need to provide extra information in this regard," the NBR official said.

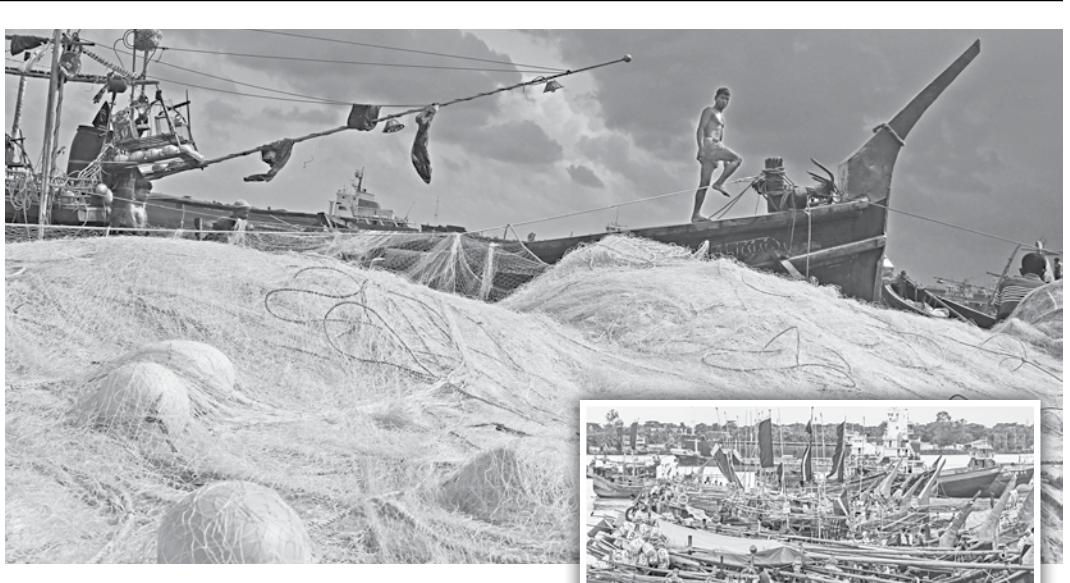
He also mentioned that NBR is trying hard to increase the number of taxpayers to one crore within

the next two years. As part of the initiative, a tax survey has started.

"Enhancing capability in technology will help us bring more dynamism into tax administration," the official said.

Currently, the number of TIN holders in the country is around 40 lakh, only 20 lakh of whom submit their income tax returns, which is much lower compared to other countries of the world.

For the current fiscal, the revenue target has been fixed at Tk 325,600 crore. Of the amount, Tk 113,912 crore will come from income, profit and capital tax; Tk 123,067 crore will be contributed in the form of VAT; supplementary tax will provide Tk 48,153 crore; Tk 36,498 crore will come from import duty; Tk 54 crore from export duty; Tk 2,239 crore from excise duty and Tk 1,677 crore will be fetched as other taxes.



Fishermen gear up to return to the sea, after a hiatus of a few days due to a depression in Bay. The photos were taken from New Fishery Ghat area of Chattogram's Rajarkhali.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



2nd death anniversary

Today (16 August) is the 2nd death anniversary of Syeda Samshuzzahan (Baby). She is the daughter of Shah Syed Abdur Rahim, Peersaheb of Poribagh, Dhaka and wife of Doctor Late Abdul Khaleq Bhuiyan. To mark the 2nd death anniversary, family members have arranged feeding for destitute and parentless children. All relatives, well-wishers and devotees of Syeda Samshuzzahan (Baby) are requested to pray for salvation for her departed soul.