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Caring for the not cared for

Gouripur Helpline starts educating children of Harijan community

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

At a time when children of Harijan, a community that largely serves our society as sweepers and cleaners, are stymied by gross discrimination, a group of youths has stepped forward to provide them with basic education.

An online forum, "Gouripur Helpline" came up with the initiative in February this year.

They picked a spot inside a kitchen market in Gohata area of Mymensingh's Gouripur upazila and started giving pre-primary education in English, Bangla and Mathematics to the local children of Harijan.

The forum is comprised of 20 boys and girls, mostly college students, who believe that it is their social responsibility to do something for the neglected children of the minority community.

"Currently we have 20 children aged between five and 10. We teach for two hours on Wednesdays and Fridays. The spot remains occupied by vegetable vendors on other days," said Mustakim Ahmed, an admin of Gouripur Helpline.

"These children are not even allowed to sit beside their classmates in other schools. Such an adverse condition coupled with poverty forces them to drop out," said Tofazzal Hossain, another admin.

The members of the forum have created a fund through small contributions. They also distribute biscuits and education materials among the children during classes," Tofazzal told this paper.

There is no bench under the tin-roof. Both the teachers and the children sit on mats.

"Harijan people are looked down upon in the society. Due to poverty, they cannot arrange proper education for their children," said Rongila Banshfur, a local member of the Harijan community.

In this backdrop, such an initiative by a voluntary group

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Shops remain shuttered in Geneva Camp yesterday following a crackdown by law enforcers after protests on Saturday over frequent power outages in the area. Inset, police stand guard outside one of the camp's entrances. A sense of panic prevails in the locality, with residents fearing harassment and arrests. Officials attribute the electricity disruption to unpaid electricity bills.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

GENEVA CAMP
Uneasy calm on surface, panic within

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fearing arrests and harassment, residents of Geneva Camp in the capital's Mohammadpur area were panicking yesterday, a day after clashes with police.

The clashes erupted during a demonstration for free and uninterrupted power supply to the camp.

The power supply, however, remained uninterrupted throughout yesterday, but most of the shops in the alleys, including the kebab and biriyani eateries, were found shut.

Police were deployed at the entrance to the camp.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, some Urdu-speaking people complained that police did excess during the raid following the running battles on Saturday.

They alleged that police indiscriminately charged truncheons on them, including women and children. The law enforcers also fired teargas and shotgun shells inside the camp.

Mohammad Akbar, 55, a rickshaw puller, showed this correspondent his

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BCL activist arrested for rape in Benapole

STAR REPORT

Police yesterday arrested an activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League for allegedly raping an eighth-grader girl in Jashore's Benapole on Saturday.

The arrestee is Shangram Hossain, 23, an activist of Benapole Municipality Unit BCL, said police.

The victim's father filed a case against three people on Saturday night in this regard, said Mamun Khan, officer-in-charge of Benapole Port Police Station.

According to the case statement, Shangram's 17-year-old sister Mukta was a friend of the victim. Mukta took the victim to her home on Saturday

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PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 7

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-53 7-30
JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

70-yr-old conquers 'Death Road' race

REUTERS, La Paz

Bolivia's "Death Road" might seem an odd place for a septuagenarian grandmother on two wheels.

The world's most dangerous road spirals skyward nearly 11,000 feet, from the country's lowland jungles to the snow-capped peaks of the Andes.

Fog, rain, rockslides and sheer cliffs are main attractions. The road has likely claimed thousands of lives.

But for 70-year old Bolivian Mirtha Munoz, the oldest ever competitor in Bolivia's 60 km (37 mile) Skyrace, an extreme bike racing competition, it was a natural extension of a passion she picked up years ago.

Munoz took up biking on the advice of her family and a psychologist friend after her son died unexpectedly.

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RIFAT MURDER Four fugitives surrender to court

One sent to jail, three to juvenile correction centre

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Four of the eight fugitives in the Rifat murder case surrendered to a Barguna court yesterday.

The court rejected their bail prayers and sent one of them to a Barguna jail and the other three to a juvenile correction centre in Jashore.

Mohaiminul Islam Sifat, 19, and the three others surrendered before the court of Barguna Senior Judicial Magistrate Mohammad Sirajul Islam Gazi and sought bail.

The magistrate sent Sifat to Barguna district jail and referred the three others to Barguna Juvenile Court of Judge Hafizur Rahman as they are under the age of 18. The juvenile court sent them to Youth Development Centre in Jashore, said Golam Mostafa Kader, a lawyer of the accused.

In October, the court issued an order to seize the movable wealth of all eight fugitives accused in the case.

Earlier, the court sent six other underage accused to the Jashore juvenile correction centre.

On June 26, Rifat Sharif, 25, who used to provide internet services, was hacked to death in broad daylight in front of his wife Ayesha Siddika Minni's in Barguna.

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Fresh violence rocks HK

Police fire teargas as thousands hit streets to defy mask ban; scores arrested; HC rejects mask ban appeal



AGENCIES

Hong Kong police and protesters clashed yesterday as tens of thousands marched through the central city wearing face masks in defiance of colonial-era emergency powers which threaten them with a year in prison for hiding their faces.

Police fired tear gas and baton charged protesters in several locations, while some protesters threw bricks and petrol bombs at police, as night began to fall.

In the first arrests under the new emergency laws, police detained scores of protesters, tied their wrists with cable and unmasked their faces before placing them on buses. Others lay in foetal positions on the ground, their wrists tied behind their backs, after being subdued with pepper spray and batons.

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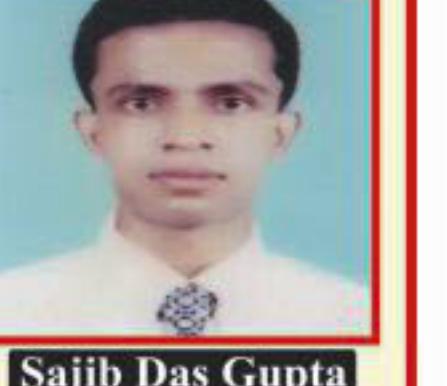
Caution Notice



Md. Belayet Hossain



Kamrul Hossain



Md. Atiqur Rahman

Sajib Das Gupta

It is to warn publicly that, Mr. Md. Belayet Hossain, (Ex Manager, Accounts Dept.) s/o. Late Mr. Abdul Kader, of Langalmoni of PO: Doulapurt, PS: Chagalnaiya, Dist: Feni, Mr. Kamrul Hossain (Ex- Manager, Operations), s/o, Mr. Sultan Ahmed of Flat no: A-1, Equity Village, 7, Katalgonj Road, Mirjapool, Muradpur, Chattogram, Mr. Atiqur Rahman (Ex- Asst. Manager), s/o. Mr. Md. Mujibur Rahman, of Nazirpur of PO: NP School, PS: Muladi, Dist: Borishal and Mr. Sajib Das Gupta (ex-Officer of Sales), s/o Mr. Sudhir Ranjan Das Gupta, of Chandraghona, PO: Khondokar Para, PS: Rangunia, Dist: Chattogram were in service into my client's company named Standard Asiatic Oil Co. Ltd. They were dismissed due to their irregularities, misappropriation against Company's interest and embezzling of money, various criminal offence and so on. My client has already filed number of Criminal Cases as well as Civil cases for recovery of money which has been listed below and many more cases are under process to file against them. Mr. Belayet Hossain: ST: 611/19, ST: 612/19, ST: 615/19, Money: 16/19, Money: 17/19, Money: 18/19, Money: 8/19, Money: 9/19, Money: 10/19, CR 220/19, CR 221/19, CR 222/19, CR 243/19, CR 244/19, CR 245/19 pending. Against Mr. Kamrul Hossain: CR: 169/18, CR: 220/19, 221/19, 222/19, CR: 243/19, CR: 244/19, CR: 245/19, Money: 12/19, Money: 16/19, Money: 17/19, Money: 18/19 pending. Mr. Atiqur Rahman: CR 230/19, CR 221/19, CR 222/19, CR 243/19, CR 244/19, CR 245/19, ST 610/19, ST 629/19, Money: 16/19, Money: 17/19, Money: 18/19, Money: 6/19, Money: 7/19 pending. So, all are requested and warned by my clients company not to make any transaction with them who are engaged with our company such as dealers, traders and customers. If anyone wants to deal any agreement and make financial transaction with them my client's Company i.e. Standard Asiatic Oil Co. Ltd. will not be liable in any way for their misdeeds.

Thanks and Regards,

Shuvagata Chowdhury Advocate Judge's Court,
Chittagong & Retainer Standard Asiatic Oil Co. Ltd.

IMPEACHMENT BID

Second Trump whistleblower comes forward

REUTERS, Washington

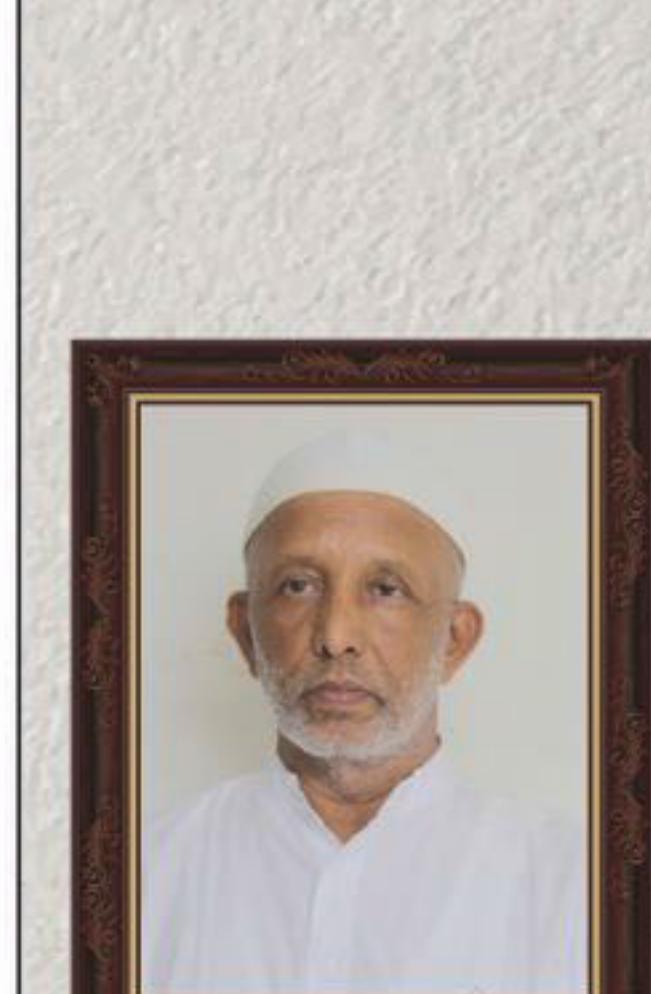
A second whistleblower has come forward about President Donald Trump's attempts to get the Ukrainian president to investigate a political rival, lawyers for the official said yesterday.

Lawyer Mark Zaid said the person, also an intelligence official, has first-hand knowledge of some of the allegations involving the initial whistleblower complaint, which triggered impeachment proceedings against the Republican president.

The second official has been interviewed by the intelligence community's inspector general, Michael Atkinson, Zaid said.

The first whistleblower complaint, filed with the inspector general on August 12, cited information received from half a

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We Mourn
Sponsor and former Chairman of the Board of Directors of IFIL, Veteran Industrialist, Social Worker and Founder Member & Managing Director of Youth Group Janab Feroz Alam has passed away on 5th October, 2019 (Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaahi Rajaun).

The Board of Directors, Sponsors, Executives, Officers and Staff of IFIL deeply mourn at his sad demise and express profound sympathy & empathy to the bereaved family.

We pray to the Almighty Allah for salvation of the departed soul.



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