



A joint team of Bangladesh Railway and district administration yesterday came face to face with several hundred locals of Pahartali, when they arrived at the place to carry out an eviction drive against encroachment. Despite the demonstrations and obstruction, some illegal establishments were later demolished. The photos were taken from Segun Bagan area.



PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

DENGUE OUTBREAK

Another patient dies in Khulna

STAR REPORT

Although the number of hospital admissions from dengue are coming down steadily, the death toll continues to tick up.

A woman died at Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) yesterday, becoming the 162nd fatality to the mosquito-borne disease. However, the official number of deaths stands at 81.

Rafi Bagum, 45, from Betgram village of Gopalganj, was admitted to KMCH on Tuesday night, said Soiledranath Biswas, resident physician of the hospital.

She had been suffering from dengue fever for the last few days. She died yesterday morning around 10am, about eight hours of admission to the hospital.

The patient died of dengue shock syndrome, said Soiledranath.

Atiar Rahman Sheikh, assistant civil surgeon of Khulna told The Daily Star that 19 people, including 13 women have died of dengue fever in Khulna. Of them, 16 died in KMCH.

According to Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), 254 patients were admitted to hospitals across the country in the last 24 hours till 8am yesterday -- of whom 193 are outside Dhaka.

A total of 1,339 dengue patients are now undergoing treatment at hospitals nationwide, of whom 873 are outside Dhaka, according to DGHS.

3 held over murder of college student

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police yesterday detained three youths, including the prime suspect in the murder of a college student at Gulpukurpar in Mymensingh city Tuesday night.

However, police did not disclose the names of the detainees, for the sake of investigation. Drives are on to arrest the other accused soon, said Khondaker Shaker Ahmed, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Kotwali Police Station.

The victim, identified as Shawon Bhattacharya, 20, was stabbed to death on Tuesday night, said the OC.

Shawon, a second year student of Mymensingh Commerce College, had an altercation with some youths in Gulpukurpar area while he was preparing to join a rally of immersion of idol Durga at Kachari Ferry Ghat of the city, around 8:30pm on Tuesday.

At one stage of the scuffle, the youths stabbed Shawon indiscriminately, leaving him injured critically, said the OC. He was taken to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) immediately, where doctors declared him dead, the OC said.

On information, police recovered the body and sent it to MMCH morgue for autopsy.

The detainees were being interrogated at the police station, said the OC. Primarily, police suspected that the murder might have occurred over previous enmity.

The victim's father lodged a case with the police station yesterday, against seven named persons and some 10 unnamed, the OC informed.

'Country made tremendous progress in corruption'

Says Sultana Kamal

UNB, Dhaka

Urging the government to take actions to implement laws for persons with disabilities in its entirety, eminent rights activist Sultana Kamal yesterday said the allowance provided for them is not sufficient.

"Each of them [person with disabilities] is given a monthly allowance of only Tk 700, which is by no means enough," she said. "Moreover, local representatives pocket the first six months' money as a 'fee' for the allowance card. They should also be brought under recent drives," she added.

The chairperson of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) made the comments at a press conference on the implementation of "Protection of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Act-2013".

National Council of Disabled Women (NCDW) with support from Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) and USAID organised the event at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Sultana Kamal in her speech as chief guest alleged that various media use demeaning words to identify a person with disabilities, which should be stopped.

The former caretaker government adviser also mentioned that the country's development is not reflected in the lives of its citizens.

"We are on the highway of development and have become a role model in this regard... but with that development have we been able to move humanity forward in the same pace?" she questioned.

She further said the evil of corruption still lurks in the country.

"Now development means we have roads and big projects..." she said, adding that development reflects in buying pillows and covers at exorbitant prices. The country has made tremendous progress in corruption, the rights activist said.

About people with disabilities, she said although the prime minister's intention was to protect them, officials were reluctant to

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4 get death for killing boy in 2011

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A Sylhet court yesterday sentenced four people to death for killing an 11-year-old boy in 2011.

The convicts are: Ismail Ali; Mithun Miah and his brother Rubel Miah, and Biplob Miah.

Sylhet Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal Judge Muhitul Haque Enam Choudhury passed the order in presence of the accused, said Shah Musahid Ali, special public prosecutor.

The court acquitted another accused Junaid Hossain as the allegations brought against him could not be proven, he said.

On August 14, 2011, Mozammel Hossain Nayeem was kidnapped while he was on his way to a mosque for evening prayers.

The body of Nayeem, son of Abdul Haque of Tetli village under Dakshin Surma upazila in Sylhet, was recovered from a ditch a week later.

Nayeem's father filed a murder case with Dakshin Surma Police Station, accusing unknown people.

On November 26 that year, Sub-inspector Harun Majumdar of the police station, after investigation, pressed a charge sheet against the above-mentioned five, said the public prosecutor.

Advocate Golam Ahia, a lawyer for the complainant, said, "We hope that the verdict will be executed soon."

Road accidents kill three

STAR REPORT

At least three people were killed in road accidents yesterday, our correspondents report.

In Rajshahi, a couple was killed on the spot after a truck hit their motorbike in Sink Building area of Puthia upazila around 11am, said police, quoting locals.

The deceased are Azim Uddin, 42, a Border Guard Bangladesh member, and his wife Ruma Begum, 35.

On information, police recovered the bodies and handed them over to their family, they added. Police seized the truck but its driver and helper managed to flee.

In Dinajpur, Abdul Mojid, 60, was killed after a speeding bus hit him at Fakirpara village in Chirirbandar upazila.

Police recovered his body and handed it over to the family. The bus driver fled the scene.

Identify those behind price hike of essentials

Consumer Rights Protection Committee to govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Consumer Rights Protection Committee yesterday threatened to wage a tough demonstration against the syndicate responsible for price hike of daily commodities if the government does not take steps to keep the market price of essentials at a tolerable level.

They made the announcement at a human chain held in front of Jatiya Press Club.

"Government should identify those who are behind the syndicate immediately," said Rana Chowdhury, founder president of the committee, adding that the syndicate members must be brought to book.

Price of essentials is now beyond purchasing capacity of the average consumer, he said.

Freedom fighter Ruhul Amin Mazumder demanded punishment of those who are amassing wealth through the syndicate.

Two get life-term in Khulna for murdering student

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A Khulna court yesterday sentenced two people to life imprisonment for killing BL College student Abdullah Al Faisal alias Shiblu Mollah, 27, in Daulatpur area of Khulna city.

The convicts are Arif Sheikh, 28 and Rahmat, 22. Judge Md Nazrul Islam Howlader of Khulna Speedy Trial Tribunal gave the verdict. Out of the 14 accused, 12 were acquitted.

Victim's father filed a case with Daulatpur Police Station a day after the murder. Md Ahaduzzaman, public prosecutor of the case, said Shiblu, a master's student, was hacked to death on June 20, 2017.

According to the case statement, the accused killed Shiblu over rivalry.

Govt official impersonator arrested in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A mobile court on Tuesday night sentenced a man to three months in jail for posing as an official of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and possessing fake documents of different government offices.

The convicted person was identified as Illam Shahriar, 37, who lived in a rented house at Shimultoli Moubagh area of Gazipur city.

Rab said Shahriar used to introduce himself as a senior government official. Sometimes he claimed to be a deputy director of PMO, and used other identities as well.

By using these fake identities, he embezzled money from different persons promising to arrange job, transfer of government employees and more, said Lt Commander Abdullah Al-Mamun of Rab-1.

On the basis of these allegations, Rab arrested him from his home in Gazipur on Tuesday afternoon. Law enforcers also seized fake ID cards, seal-pads, stickers and fake documents of different government organisations, said the Rab official.

After the arrest, Jannatul Ferdous, executive magistrate of the district administration, sentenced him to three months in jail.



Illam Shahriar, inset, paid attention to detail in crafting his fake persona, decorating his car with several fake government stickers and plaques.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

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EU envoy joins hands with others to clean Gulshan-Banani Lake

UNB, Dhaka

The European Union (EU) Delegation to Bangladesh yesterday organised a symbolic clean-up programme on a stretch of the Gulshan-Banani Lake in Dhaka as part of EU's global campaign for clean, plastic-free beaches and oceans.

This year, members of the Gulshan Society and Prokriti O Jibon Foundation alongside various representatives and ambassadors from the EU member state embassies joined the event led by European Union Ambassador Rensje Teerink.

Participants collected plastic waste in large jute sacks and worked to raise awareness on the importance of limiting the usage of single-use plastic products such as bottles, containers, bags, packets etc that ultimately cause environmental pollution and damage.

EU Ambassador Teerink said the amount of plastic litter in oceans and seas is growing rapidly and not only is it causing environmental pollution, but plastics and micro-plastics have also entered ecosystems -- and therefore our food and water -- with manifold health impacts.

Teerink also thanked the Gulshan Society for their participation in the programme and for their tireless efforts in keeping the lake clean. "I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Gulshan Society for taking the initiative to maintain a pleasant environment around the lake and discouraging the use of plastic. I hope they continue to pursue such noble endeavours."

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