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Train derails in Sirajganj, catches fire

Eight hurt; another train narrowly escapes accident; B'baria tragedy probe hits snag

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, from Sirajganj

Three days after the tragic rail accident in Brahmanbaria, a Rangpur-bound passenger train derailed in Ullapara of Sirajganj yesterday noon.

Nine compartments of Rangpur Express, including its engine and power car, derailed in the Ullapara Railway Station area around 2:00pm and a fire broke out in three of its compartments, said Rafikul Islam, stationmaster of the railway station.

At least eight people, including a locomotive driver, were injured and rushed to Ullapara Upazila Health Complex, said Monzil Haque, deputy assistant director of Sirajganj district fire brigade, who conducted a rescue operation.

"The fire might have originated from the power car," he added.

Six units of fire fighters from Sirajganj and adjoining areas took part in the rescue operation and brought the fire under control within two hours.

Locals alleged that the accident happened due to wrong signal.

"Rangpur Express is a metre-gauge train and always runs on the track number one. Today [yesterday], the train was running on track number two," said Biplob Hossain, who lives right beside the rail station.

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Derailed compartments of Rangpur Express at Ullapara Railway Station in Sirajganj yesterday. Nine coaches of the train came off the tracks around 2:00pm and three of them caught fire, leaving at least eight people injured.

PHOTO: AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU

Deportees were illegals

Says Bangladesh ambassador to KSA about migrants being sent back

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Migrant workers who were deported from Saudi Arabia in recent weeks had been staying in the Gulf country illegally, Golam Moshi, Bangladesh ambassador to Saudi Arabia, said yesterday.

Before being sent back, each worker was interviewed by the mission's legal assistants at the deportation centre because they had issued travel permits, he said.

"We found each of them to be illegal," he told this newspaper over phone.

He blamed recruiting agencies for misguiding the workers about so-called "free visas", which did not actually exist.

The migrants, however, believed they could work anywhere with the visa.

The deportees were not found at the workplaces they were supposed to be in. For example, they had a work visa for Riyadh, but were found in Medina, he said.

Saudi authorities had

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Expel all 25 accused of Abrar murder

Buet protesters urge authorities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Agitating Buet students yesterday said they would not return to classes until the authorities met their three-point demand, including expulsion of the charge-sheeted accused in Abrar Fahad murder case.

The protesters made the announcement at a press conference in front of the Buet Shaheed Minar.

The other two demands are: punishing the students involved in previous incidents of ragging at Buet halls, and formulating specific rules prohibiting ragging and organisation-based politics.

They demanded the rules and the penalties for violations be added to the university ordinance.

"We would accept the exam schedule if the authorities meet our first two demands, and sit for

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141 top taxpayers honoured

Transcom, Star, Prothom Alo once again on the list of awardees



Rokia Afzal Rahman Latifur Rahman Shahnaz Rahman Matiur Rahman Mahfuz Anam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Editors of The Daily Star and the Prothom Alo, along with the owning companies of the national dailies and their printer, were recognised as the top taxpayers in the journalist and media categories for the fourth straight year yesterday.

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) handed out the accolades to 141 highest taxpaying individuals and companies at a ceremony in the Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden in the capital.

The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam and Prothom Alo Editor Matiur Rahman received the awards in the journalist

category from Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal.

The Daily Star's parent company Mediaworld Ltd, Prothom Alo owner Mediastar Ltd and the printer of the dailies Transcraft Ltd also received the recognition.

The three companies are sister concerns of Transcom Group, one of the largest conglomerates in Bangladesh.

Latifur Rahman is the chairman and managing director of Transcraft.

Rokia Afzal Rahman, chairperson of Mediaworld Ltd, received the award for the company, while Matiur Rahman received it on behalf of Mediastar Ltd.

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HARMFUL INGREDIENTS Ban imposed on ranitidine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) has permanently "postponed" the production, distribution, sale and export of heartburn drug ranitidine after detecting carcinogenic ingredients in its raw materials.

The decision came over a month after the DGDA had imposed a temporary ban on September 29 on the import of the ingredients, production and sale amid global concerns over the presence of a probable carcinogen in the products.

Later, the DGDA sent the sample of raw ingredients, widely supplied by Indian companies Saraka Laboratories Ltd and SMS Life Science, to the World Health Organization (WHO) accredited laboratories for testing.

The result showed the existence of the carcinogen -- N-nitrosodimethylamine

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Import of toxic ship MT Producer illegal: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday declared that the permission given for importing, beaching and scrapping of radiation-contaminated vessel MT Producer was illegal.

The vessel is now at a ship-breaking yard in Chattogram. No ship can be imported and beached at the ship-breaking yards violating the conditions of environmental clearance, the HC said, adding that every domestic and international law has been violated in this case.

Delivering its verdict on a writ petition, the HC ruled that the buyers and the agencies that certify whether the ships are free from contamination and hazardous wastes must be listed and controlled strictly by the relevant laws.

Steps will have to be taken to regulate the import of ships from the countries that operate ships in violation of international laws.

The writ petitioner's lawyer Syeda Rizwana Hasan said some of such countries were Comoros, Palau, Cambodia, Tanzania, Vanuatu, St. Kitts and Nevis, Belize, Cook Islands, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

The HC ordered the Department of Environment (DoE) not to allow any import and beaching of any ship for breaking without getting complete and detailed information about their waste.

The DoE must follow the rules of domestic and international laws in this regard, the HC said.

The court asked the Health Physics and Radioactive

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Rohingya man killed in 'gunfight'

UNB, Cox's Bazar

A Rohingya man, accused in several criminal cases, was killed in a "gunfight" with police in Teknaf's Shalbagan area early yesterday.

The dead is Mahmudul Hasan, 37, of Nayapara Rohingya camp.

Pradip Kumar Das, officer-in-charge of Teknaf police station, said they arrested Mahmudul on Wednesday noon over possessing firearms.

After interrogation, a team of police, led by Additional Superintendent

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PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 15

Fajr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5:35 12:30 3:45 5:22 7:00
JAMAAT 5:35 1:15 4:00 5:25 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Daler Mehndi's musical flight transcends the realm of melody and rhythm. The photo was taken during the fifth edition of the Dhaka International Folk Festival 2019 at the Army Stadium late last night.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Songs of the soul return

Folk Fest 2019 inaugurated

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Thousands of folk music aficionados thronged Dhaka's Army Stadium yesterday, as the fifth edition of the Dhaka International Folk Festival (DIFF) 2019 was inaugurated.

The festival was opened by Bangladeshi Manipuri dancer Samina Husain Prema and her dance troupe -- Bhabna Nritya Dol -- showcasing mesmerising dance performances set to popular folk songs, including "Ami Robona Robona Ghar-e" and "Kon Gaang-e Ailo Pani". The dancers incorporated three dance styles and performed with dhol, sticks and instrumental music.

Next on stage was Chvneburebi, a Georgian folk music band known for its rich tradition of homophonic music. The band members started off with a West Georgian folk melody. These folk musicians

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“আতংক নয় সচেতন হই”

বাংলাদেশে গবাদি প্রাণীর নতুন রোগ লাম্পি স্কিন ডিজিজ

লাম্পি স্কিন ডিজিজ ভাইরাস দ্বারা সৃষ্ট একটি চর্মরোগ যা গুণ্ডামাত্র গরু ও মহিষে হয়। বাংলাদেশের গবাদি প্রাণীতে ২০১৯ সালে এই রোগটি প্রথম দেখা দেয়, যা বর্তমানে দেশের বিভিন্ন অঞ্চলের গরুর মাঝে মারাত্মক আকার ধারণ করেছে। তবে রোগটি প্রাণী থেকে মানুষে ছড়ায় না।

রোগের লক্ষণ সমূহ

- * প্রথম পর্যায়ে আক্রান্ত প্রাণীর জ্বর, ব্যথা, খাবার গ্রহণে অসুস্থতা দেখা দেয়
- * আক্রান্ত প্রাণীর শরীরের বিভিন্ন জায়গায় গোলাকার গুটি বা ফোকা দেখা দেয়
- * পায়ের এবং শরীরের নিম্নাংশে স্থলে পানি জমা হয়
- * শেষ পর্যায়ে কয়েকটি গুটি বা ফোকা ফেটে যায় ও ক্ষত সৃষ্টি হয়

রোগটি ছড়ানোর মাধ্যম

- * রক্ত চোখা আঠাশী, মাইট, মশা ও মাছির মাধ্যমে রোগটি দ্রুত এক প্রাণী হতে অন্য প্রাণীতে ছড়ায়
- * আক্রান্ত প্রাণী এক স্থান হতে অন্য স্থানে পরিবহনের মাধ্যমে রোগটি ব্যাপকভাবে ছড়াতে পারে

রোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণের পরামর্শ

- * খামারে জীব নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করা, খামার ও এর আশ পাশের পরিবেশ পরিষ্কার পরিছন্ন রাখা এবং মশা-মাইট নিয়ন্ত্রণ করা
- * খামারে আক্রান্ত প্রাণীর জন্য মশারির ব্যবস্থা করা এবং আক্রান্ত প্রাণী দ্রুত অন্য স্থানে সরিয়ে পৃথক ভাবে চিকিৎসা ও পরিচর্যা করা
- * আক্রান্ত অঞ্চলে প্রাণীর চলাচল নিয়ন্ত্রণ করা এবং সুস্থ্য না হওয়া পর্যন্ত চারণ ভূমিতে না নেয়া
- * গোট পত্র বা শীপ পত্র ড্রাগিন প্রাণীর ওজনভেদে ৩ থেকে ১০ গুণ বেশী হারে দেয়া
- * আক্রান্ত প্রাণীকে গ্রুচর পুষ্টি ও মিনারেল সমৃদ্ধ খাদ্য খাওয়াতে হবে
- * আক্রান্ত প্রাণীর ক্ষতস্থান টিফার আয়োডিন বা পডিসেপ দ্বারা পরিষ্কার করা, বাখানাশক ও এন্টি হিস্টামিনিক জাতীয় ঔষধ প্রয়োগ করা

বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট
মৎস্য ও প্রাণিসম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়