

Raisuddin Ahmed no more

City Desk

Raisuddin Ahmed, a former director of Biman, and former general secretary and vice president of Bangladesh Cricket Board, passed away yesterday, at the age of 82.

The veteran sports organiser breathed his last at around 9:30am, said a press release.

K-sports family mourned the demise of Raisuddin Ahmed, father of its director Ashfaq Ahmed.

They prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and expressed sympathy to the bereaved family members.



Two MPs

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environment-friendly bricks. "But what is the point of doing it if it is not implemented even after the law is passed?" he questioned.

He also said no department of local government, public works and education engineering mentions the use of eco-friendly bricks in the tender. That is why eco-friendly bricks are not being used in construction work of government works.

'YOU CAN CROSS THE RIVER ON FOOT'

Former state minister for primary and mass education Motaahar Hossain yesterday in parliament raised the issue of poor flow of water in Teesta River that he said was bringing immense sufferings of people in his constituency.

Saying Teesta has become a source of grief in his area, the ruling Awami League MP from Lalmonirhat-1 said there is no water in the river. "You can cross the river on foot. The water that comes from India is very little. Cultivation of land cannot be done with that water," he said while participating on the thanksgiving motion on the President's speech.

He said the treaty on water sharing of Teesta River is yet to be inked. "People of the region will be benefitted greatly if this agreement is made as soon as possible," he added.

Dreaming

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and entrepreneur was presented to me."

"It's got me all dreamy-eyed," Sabina laughed. "I am really hoping that the training will get me somewhere, that it will help me earn enough money to sustain both myself and my family, as well as cover all my treatment costs."

Tamzid Hossen, founder of PDAF, told The Daily Star, "The training was arranged with the hope that people with disabilities gain some knowledge on the crafting of jute and its business side, so that they don't have to lag behind financially. It's tailor-made to take their circumstances in consideration."

The programme offered sessions on all steps of the trade, from raw material sourcing to crafting, all the way up to lessons on how and where to sell the end product, Tamzid emphasised.

"This is the first time we have organised something like this," he added.

"We'll be arranging more sessions of this sort in the future."

13 canals

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Ecnc meeting, and our first priority is to construct drains beside the roads of the area," said the mayor.

The mayor said their second priority is to level the roads of the area, and local people and political leaders and activists are helping them in this regard.

"We have issued a letter to Rajuk so that they do not give approval of any new plan of

constructing buildings in the 18 extended wards of DNCC, and asked councillors to observe so that no new buildings are constructed," he said.

Among others, DNCC chief executive officer Md Selim Reza, chief waste management officer Commodore M Saidur Rahman, chief health officer Brig Gen Zobiaur Rahman, and chief engineer Brig Gen Amirul Islam were present at the time.



Ismat Ara's 1st death anniv

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the first death anniversary of former lawmaker and state minister Ismat Ara Sadique.

Ismat Ara, former Awami League MP from Jashore-6 constituency and former State Minister for Public Administration, expired on this day in 2020.

His son Tanvir Sadique and daughter Naureen Sadique, in a press release, said her love, respect and dedication for her family, friends, country and the party shall be missed dearly.

She will be remembered as a devoted MP of Jashore's Keshobpur and state minister for public administration, they said.

Her siblings requested all her relatives, friends, colleagues and acquaintances to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Four engineering

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tests and there would be three exams under the new system -- one each for science, humanities and business studies students -- based on the curriculum of grades XI and XII.

The new method of university admission has been in discussion since 2010. It is aimed at relieving admission seekers of the hassles of travelling to different universities in various parts of the country just to be able to sit for the tests every admission

season.

On January 23 this year, the UGC announced that universities would hold a uniform admission test in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Seven agricultural universities will form a separate cluster to hold the uniform admission test.

Dhaka University, Rajshahi University, Jahangirnagar University and Chattogram University have decided to opt out of the cluster.

China's role as mediator very crucial

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making it a major issue in multilateral forums.

International relations analysts say Bangladesh signed a bilateral deal with Myanmar on repatriation in 2017 on suggestions from China and India, two Asian powers having strong bilateral relations both with Bangladesh and Myanmar.

"The international community has issued a lot of statements, but has not come to mediate on the issue on the ground. Against this backdrop, China is bringing Myanmar and Bangladesh to the negotiation table for talks," said Prof Imtiaz Ahmed of international relations department at Dhaka University.

The process actually began when a ministerial-level tripartite discussion was first held in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in September last year. An official-level talk was held in Dhaka in January last year.

Imtiaz said China has a lot of influence on Myanmar and it is expected to bring about a positive result. Failure of the tripartite mechanism would be a discredit to China, he told this newspaper yesterday.

Following Tuesday's hour-and-a-half virtual meeting, led by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Luo Zhaohui, Myanmar Deputy Minister Hau Do

Suan and Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen, officials said China is very interested in resolving the crisis bilaterally.

"We have faith in China as it is a powerful country. It is also a matter of credibility for China," Masud said.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi's recent visit to Naypyitaw and raising the Rohingya issue also means a lot, he added.

The foreign secretary said Myanmar has shown flexibility during the discussion on Tuesday and spoke in a positive tone after Dhaka's assertion that a lot of development activities and regional connectivity projects were being hampered due to the unresolved Rohingya crisis.

Analysts say Myanmar, facing a genocide case at the International Court of Justice in The Hague for atrocities against Rohingyas, also faces the UN rights body through the Universal Periodic Review this year. These factors might also have led Myanmar to think differently.

The tripartite meeting on Tuesday decided to hold a joint working group meeting next month and then the secretary- and ministerial-level tripartite meetings to sort out unresolved issues on Rohingya repatriation and arrangements before starting the repatriation in the second

quarter of the year.

Munshi Faiz Ahmad, former chairman of the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS), said a number of countries and organisations have influence on Myanmar, especially India, China, Japan, European Union, Singapore and ASEAN. They all had a chance to help mediate on resolving the Rohingya crisis, but none have done so, except for providing humanitarian assistance.

He said Rohingyas want guarantee of citizenship and safety in Rakhine, and China can be a guarantor. "I would propose that China leads formation of a joint international taskforce, which will monitor the overall repatriation process and creation of conducive environment in Rakhine," said Faiz, also a former ambassador.

With the presence of such an international body, Rohingyas would have confidence in returning to Myanmar, he said.

Also, another confidence-building measure for the Rohingyas would be the full rehabilitation of the internally displaced Rohingyas already in Rakhine, he added.

Prof Imtiaz suggested that Myanmar takes up a rigorous programme to interact with the Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar for building confidence.

Road crash

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duty doctors of Faridpur Medical College Hospital after he was taken there around 1:30pm, the police official said.

Of the 24 injured, 14 were sent to the hospital whereas rest of them were admitted to Bhanga Upazila Health Complex, he added.

The driver and other staffers of the bus escaped the scene after the accident. Police managed to seize the bus and took it into custody.

Prowling

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The arrestees are Sajal, Musa, Bachchu, Sajib, Munna and Siddique.

Speaking at a press conference at DMP media centre yesterday, the DB official said the arrestees are members of an organised group of robbers, who set out in the middle of the night with a pick-up van to rob unsuspecting people seeking rides.

Whenever anyone boarded the vehicle, they robbed the passengers of cash and other valuables and threw them off the running van, police said.

Their targets are usually low-income traders who head towards wholesale kitchen markets in Dhaka late at night, the DB official added.

The arrestees, during primary interrogation, admitted that they robbed people on the road -- Abdullahpur to Karwan Bazar, Rampura to Jatrabari, and Bhulta Gausia area.

According to detectives, the gang had been robbing people in this manner more than once a week.

Two to three people used to sit in the front seat of the vehicle while the rest used to pose as passengers in the rear, police said quoting the arrestees.

UK Covid

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"If it is found that children are more affected, public health social measures may need to be adapted."

The number of new deaths climbed to a record high of 93,000 over the previous week, it added, with 4.7 million new cases reported over the same period.

Meanwhile, the latest research has revealed that the Covid-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer and BioNTech is likely to protect against the new variant.

The encouraging results from an analysis of blood of participants in trials are based on more extensive analysis than those released by the US drugmaker last week.

Stolen

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It is a copy of Leonardo's famous work that in 2017 became the most expensive painting ever sold, fetching \$450 million at a Christie's auction.

Rain adds to their plight

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traveling on a rickshaw around 9:00am in the capital's Bangla Motor area yesterday.

Rickshaw-pullers and day labourers suffered most in yesterday's biting cold. "The cold is so severe that our hands and legs seem to be freezing. But we cannot sit idle. We have to pull rickshaws to earn our livelihoods," said Anwar Hossain, a rickshaw puller in the capital's Bailey Road area.

Meanwhile, northern border districts Kurigram and Lalmonirhat witnessed a sharp fall in temperature due to a cold wind from the Himalayan region sweeping over the region. "Slight rain has occurred in this morning. It has intensified severity of the cold," said Taher Ali, 50, a farmer at Kulaghat village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

Jaldhar Chandra Das, 55, a fisherman from the Brahmaputra River basin Jorgach area in Kurigram's Chilmari upazila, said, "I went out of the home to net fish in the river this [yesterday] morning. But I had to return home quickly without any delay because it is not possible for me to stay on the river amid such biting cold."

[Our correspondent from Lalmonirhat contributed to this report]

No one held, a month after the murder

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rickshaw by one leg was published in The Daily Star in August 2007. Apex Bangladesh Foundation took note of it and gave him Tk 30,000 in financial help. With the money, Babul started the grocery shop in his village home.

"When we were in Dhaka, a neighbour named Suruj Ali, 35, a chowkidar, and his accomplices grabbed our 3.50-decimal land of our 16-decimal homestead. They were trying to grab the rest. When we returned home in 2007, we protested it, but Suruj and his men did not stop," said Sheuly.

Since 2014, Babul lodged several general diaries with Kotwali Police Station seeking police help as his life was at risk, but police did not take any action, alleged Sheuly.

Babul also informed Khairul Alam Sohagh, former chairman of Khaghdahor union parishad, and its present Chairman Anwar Hossain Nannu of the matter. They did not take any initiative to settle the long-standing dispute, Sheuly further alleged.

Recently, Babul decided to sell his homestead and leave the area to avoid the dispute over the land. It angered Suruj and his men.

Following this, Babul and his younger brother Mobarak Hossain were beaten up allegedly by Suruj and his men on December 25 morning, said Babul's sister Mosheda Akter.

Hearing the news, Babul's daughter Farzana Akter and her husband Anarul Islam, a battery-run auto-rickshaw driver, rushed to the spot and attempted to take Babul to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital, but Suruj and his men obstructed them, she said.

"There had been an altercation with them and at one stage, we managed to take him to the hospital where he died soon after his admission," said Anarul.

Following day, Babul's wife Sheuly lodged a case with Mymensingh Kotwali Police Station against seven people. Suruj was made the prime accused.

The attackers also ransacked his house, the shop and looted valuables and cash, alleged the victim's family.

"Suruj and his men are threatening us with dire consequences if the case is not withdrawn. But I lodged another case with a Mymensingh court on January 13," said Sheuly.

The victim's family members said to harass them, Suruj's second wife Rekha Akter lodged a "false" case against 12 people, including Babul's eldest son Billal Hossain, a mason, daughter Farzana and her husband Anarul, on January 6.

This correspondent could not contact Suruj for his comments as his phone was found switched off.

Contacted, Khaghdador UP Chairman Anwar said he was aware of the incident. He added that Babul was getting disabled allowance and he withdrew his last instalment in June last year.

Replying to a question, he said action was being taken against Suruj. Contacted, Faruq Hossain, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Kotwali Police Station, said drives were on to arrest all the accused.

Poacher held with tiger skin

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point of the bargaining, he decided to sell it for Tk 13 lakh."

Later, forest guards, with the help of Rab-8, carried out a drive in Rayenda Bazar area of Sharankhola and arrested Gaus along with the skin around 7:30pm on Tuesday, he said.

A case was filed against Gaus for killing tigers under the wildlife conservation act. Yesterday, he was produced before a court, which sent him to jail. The court also ordered the forest department to preserve the skin, said sources at forest department.

SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
BARC Complex, Farmgate
Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

Vacancy Announcement

SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) is inviting application for a Professional Position of "Senior Program Specialist (Priority Setting & Program Development)" from the nationals of the SAARC Member Countries.

The application form, details of appointment notice, qualification and experience, terms and conditions, salaries/allowances, facilities and benefits etc. shall be available in website: <http://www.sac.org.bd>.

All Applications should be reached to Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) not later than 31st March 2021.

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Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain
Director, SAC

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Request for Proposal (RFP)
Consultant for Drafting Strategic Plan

Bangladesh Folk Art and Crafts Foundation, an autonomous body of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, invites proposal from qualified individuals to prepare a Strategic Plan for the foundation for next ten years (2021-2030) to attain its mission. Prescribed form (with TOR) is available at www.sonargonmuseum.gov.bd and interested consultants need to submit the proposal to director.s.museum@gmail.com on or before 6th of February 2021, 5:00pm. For further query please contact Mr. Rabiul Islam, Deputy Director, Bangladesh Folk Art and Crafts Foundation at 01712201759.

Dr. Ahmed Ullah
Director
Bangladesh Folk Art and Crafts Foundation

GD-142

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH
Department of Operations and Maintenance

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Work: Supply & Installation of Classroom Furniture and Fixture at Dr. A. Majeed Khan Building, IUB

- Sealed Bids are hereby invited from the bona-fide Contractors / Firms for Supply & Installation of Classroom Furniture and Fixture at Dr. A. Majeed Khan Building of IUB Campus, Bashundhara, Dhaka. The bidders shall be required to submit a complete offer in two separate envelopes, one for the Technical Offer while the second envelope shall contain the sealed Financial Offer with earnest money.
- The bidders shall apply in their Official Letter heads to Director, O&M, IUB, along with the following documents:
 - Updated Trade License, Income Tax Clearance Certificate, VAT Registration Certificates & Ownership evidence of the Company / Firm.
 - Experience certificate of similar type of work (should be minimum 05 years with minimum Tk. 8,000,000/- (eighty lac) in single tender)
 - Certificate of Average annual Turnover should be at least Tk.2.00 crore.
 - Certificate of similar Experience.
- The bidders shall furnish an earnest money, equivalent to 2.5% of the bid amount, in favour of Independent University, Bangladesh, in the form of Bank Draft / Pay Order from a scheduled Bank of Bangladesh, as part of the Bid Documents.
- Interested bidders are requested to collect the Tender Schedule from the Office of the Director, O&M, IUB, between 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM up to 27th January 2021 on payment of a non-refundable amount of Tk. 1,000/- (Taka one thousand) only in cash.
- A Pre-bid Meeting with the intended bidders will be held on 11:30 AM, 28th January 2021 at the Office of the Director, O&M.
- The Tenders will be received at the Office of the Director, O&M, IUB up to 01:30 PM of 7th February 2021 and the Technical Offers shall be opened at 02:00 PM on the same day & at the same place, in presence of the bidders who wish to attend the Tender Opening.
- The Financial Offers of the technically responsive bidders will be opened separately with due notification to the respective bidders.
- All bidders should mention their contact number & email address clearly in the forwarding letter of the Tender.
- IUB Authority reserves the right to accept only the technically responsive tenders without any consideration of the lowest bid and shall have the right to reject any or all tender without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Director, Department of Operations and Maintenance
Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)
Plot-16, Block-B, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara R/A, Dhaka-1212

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Principal
Govt. Ishwardi College
Ishwardi Pabna
www.igc.edu.bd

Memo No. IGC/2021/230 Date: 20-01-2021

e-Tender Notice 01/2020-2021

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of supply	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	539279	Renovation & refurbishing of classroom office room library teachers & students common rooms sanitation and electrical etc.	09-Feb-2021 12:30pm	09-Feb-2021 01:00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to 08 February, 2021.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Professor. Dr. Md. Zakirul Hauque
Principal
Ishwardi Govt. College, Pabna

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