

COP KILLING IN CTG

Don't stop, run them over

Bootleggers' gang leader told driver, say police; 3 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CTG

Three persons were arrested yesterday on charge of killing an Assistant Sub-inspector (ASI), Kazi Md Salauddin, of port city's Chandgaon Police Station, who died after being run over by a microbus carrying alcohol in Chandgaon area on June 11.

A drug peddler, who smuggled homemade alcohol from Rangamati to Chattogram, told his driver to run over the police officer if they tried to stop the vehicle on the way, said officials after they arrested three members of the gang.

The arrestees are Uttam Biswas alias Belal (34), Md Rashed alias Rasel (26), and Shamsul Alam (60). Among them, Belal was driving the microbus which ran over ASI Salauddin.

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A worker loads a truck with leftover paper from printing presses in Chattogram city's Katalganj area. Traders buy these scrap papers for Tk 10-12 per kilogramme, these are sold back to paper producers for Tk 13-14, which is then composted and made into new pieces of paper.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Ex-VC's recruits lock up crucial buildings at RU

Their goal to cancel meetings they fear could scrap their jobs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, RU

Authorities at Rajshahi University (RU) were forced to suspend a financial committee meeting yesterday, after a number of the 137 staffers who were unlawfully recruited by former Vice Chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan, locked administrative buildings, senate building and the VC's residence at the university.

University sources said a finance committee meeting was scheduled to be held around 10am yesterday, as well as a syndicate meeting scheduled for Tuesday.

But around 9:20am, some 30 staffers, mostly former and current Chhatra league leaders of the university, locked two administrative buildings, senate building and the VC residence to stop the meeting.

They also met acting VC Prof Ananda Kumar Saha at his residence for discussion around 9:50am, and demanded to allow them to join their posts. Later they took position before the administrative building.

Demonstrators said they fear their appointment might be cancelled at the syndicate meeting next Tuesday, unless they stop the meeting.

Former BCL leader Atiqur Rahman Sumon said, "We have heard the syndicate meeting may recommend the authority to cancel our recruitment. So we took position in

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Toddler, his grandparents run over by bus in Bogura

Six people including his parents injured

STAR REPORT

In a tragic accident in Bogura's Shibganj upazila, a head-on collision between a bus and a CNG-run auto-rickshaw killed a two-month-old and his grandparents yesterday, reports our Bogura correspondent.

The parents of the toddler and four others were also injured in the accident.

The deceased are Parul Begum (42) and Ashraf Ali (50), and their two-month-old grandchild Rezowan, who were all in the three-wheeler.

Ashraf and Parul died on the spot while Rezowan died after being taken to Bogura Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Hospital. His parents are being treated at the same hospital, said police.

The accident happened when the family was taking Rezowan to the hospital as he was suffering from breathing issues, said Md

Khairul Islam, OC of Gobindaganj Highway Police Station, quoting family members.

The other injured were sent to local TMSS hospital, he said.

Belzar Hossain, station officer of Shibganj upazila fire service, said the accident occurred around 7:30am after the bus lost control and ran over the auto-rickshaw on the Dhaka-Rangpur highway near Hatibandha area.

The bodies were handed over to the family members, police said.

Meanwhile, the driver and helper of the bus managed to flee. Police seized the bus.

In Thakurgaon's Boda upazila, a pedestrian was killed on Boda-Debiganj road at Shimultali bazar yesterday.

The deceased is Mostafa Elahi (50), of Kherbari village under the same upazila, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent.

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'Metro rail for Ctg'

Obaidul Quader says govt has already done feasibility study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CTG

Road transport and bridges minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said the government is working to introduce metro rail in the port city.

He was virtually addressing the council of Chattogram city unit of Awami Swachhchasebak League as chief guest. "The people of Chattogram have some demands -- one is introducing metro rail service and another expanding Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Highway," he said.

"Feasibility study has been conducted to initiate metro rail project in the port city," he said. "Work on Chattogram-Cox's Bazar highway will start soon," he said.

Addressing the council, he said no conspiracy could halt the country's march forward. "Bangladesh has become a state of loan giver from a loan receiver. We have given loans to countries like Sri Lanka and Sudan," Quader said.

AL joint general secretary Hasan Mahmud; president and general secretary of Swachhchasebak League Nirmal Ranjan Guha and AKM Afzalur Rahman; AL Chattogram city unit president and general secretary Mahtab Uddin Chowdhury and AJM Nasir Uddin also addressed the event, held at Institution of Engineers Chattogram.

Monsoon brings misery for port city residents

Heavy rainfall submerges low-lying areas



Agrabad's Ma O Shishu Hospital is a regular victim of waterlogging in the city, and yesterday was no exception. The situation was so bad that patients had to be carried through the entrance by their relatives.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Residents of Chattogram city woke up to a bad day yesterday, as incessant rainfall brought back all-too-familiar problems.

In the 24 hours till 9am yesterday, the Chattogram Met Office recorded 121.2 mm of rain, said met officer Sheikh Harunur Rashid.

Most low-lying areas in the city -- Chawkbazar, West Bakalia DC Road, KB Aman Ali Road, Katalganj, Kapasgola, Bahaddarhat, Muradpur, Sholashahar, Halishahar, Agrabad CDA, Chandgaon and Shulakbahar -- went under knee- to waist-deep water, as streets got flooded by water mixed with filth, overflow from roadside drains.

Residents blamed authorities concerned for their sufferings, saying that they failed to bring about any improvement in waterlogging for over a decade, while continuing to point their fingers at the Chattogram Development Authority (CDA) mega project.

The submerged roads were not just a matter of inconvenience. For some, it

became a safety issue.

A CNG-run auto-rickshaw fell into a drain in Chandgaon residential area as the driver could not see it under water. An injured passenger had to be rushed to Chattogram Medical College Hospital, said Mustafizur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Chandgaon Police Station.

But beyond just commute issues, the never-ending problem is also posing health risks for the residents. "It's a health hazard in my family," said Uzir Ali Shah Bylane's Sadhan Das. "Most of the 16 members of my family have been suffering from diarrhoea and upset stomach because filthy water has leaked into our ground floor water tank."

He went on to ask why the Chattogram Development Authority could not alleviate the situation in three years since its launching.

Abdul Hamid, a resident of West Bakalia DC Road also put the blame on Chattogram City Corporation (CCC) for not cleaning the drains and canals properly and regularly.

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Four burglars arrested in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police early yesterday arrested four alleged burglars and seized electronic devices, gold ornaments and cash, after conducting drives at different areas of Chattogram city.

The arrestees are Md Imon (32), Md Asrab Khan (35), Imon's wife Sajada Akhter Sadia (20) and Anika Sultana Sony (19), said police.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) Nezam Uddin of Kotwali police said, "Imon is an apparel worker in Chattogram EPZ and has been doing burglary for the last 12 years."

After looting valuables and cash, they deposited the money through booths of a bank, the OC said.

Sub-inspector Mominul of the station said the gang so far committed over 300 burglaries in the last 10 years in different areas of the city and nearby districts.

"During investigation of a case, police traced the gang and recovered electronics devices including laptops and expensive mobile phones from their possession," said the SI.

'Provide outline for inoculating migrant workers'

Recruiting agencies urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A platform of recruiting agencies yesterday urged the government to give an "outline" while inoculating migrant workers with Covid-19 vaccine.

Forming a human chain in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club, members of Recruiting Agencies Oikya Parishad (RAOP) said the government earlier allotted 1.20 lakh doses of Covid-19 vaccine for migrant workers on paper only.

In reality, no effective step was taken to vaccinate migrant workers with those doses, they said.

Recently, the health minister assured expatriates' welfare minister of providing migrant workers with vaccine on a priority basis. But, no specific outline was given to this end, they added.

They urged the government to immediately implement its measure to inoculate on a priority basis both migrant workers who are waiting to fly abroad with new employment visa and those who remained stuck after coming home on vacation.

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Dhaka sees sporadic showers all day long

UNB, Dhaka

Dhaka witnessed a drenched morning yesterday as intermittent monsoon rain continued across the country.

The monsoon trough is active over Bangladesh and moderate over North Bay, commencing at 9am yesterday, according to a Bangladesh Met Department weather forecast.

Meanwhile from 6am to 3pm, 28mm of rain was recorded in the capital.

"The axis of monsoon trough runs through Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal to Assam across the central part of Bangladesh. One of its associated troughs extends up to North Bay," said the BMD's weather forecast.

Maritime ports were advised to lower the local cautionary signal-three for now.

According to the forecast, light to moderate rain/thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna, Barishal and Chattogram divisions.

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From the classic "chin-mask" to hanging them by the wrists and ears, and putting them on the forehead, masks are sometimes everywhere except where they should be: over the nose and mouth. With low-priced face-masks swamping the market, they can even be seen in abundance on the roads, just lying there. Health measures, like the "no mask no service" signs in front of shops may have made the mask more common but not ever-present, as many don't even bother wearing them. These very same masks, when worn properly and regularly, can protect oneself and others around them from the deadly coronavirus. The photos were taken all over Dhaka in the last week.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

