

5th death anniv of M Abdur Rahim today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the fifth death anniversary of M Abdur Rahim, a close associate of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and western zone chairman of the then Mujibnagar government.

A Liberation War organiser, Rahim was a veteran lawyer and recipient of the Swadhinata Padak, said a press release.

On this occasion, family members and different organisations have arranged various programmes including doa mahfil, Qurankhwani and more.



Death anniv

FROM PAGE 3 Her two little boys, who fell sick due to living in bushes or in the open, died soon after the war.

After independence, she took to writing and penned 18 books, including 1001 Din Japoner Padya, Bhab-Boichitre Rabindranath, Agun Ranga Agun Jhora and Ashru Veja Ekti Din.

Ekattorer Janani (Mother of 71) details her memory of the nine-month war.

She walked barefoot most of her life as she would not step with footwear on the soil where her two sons and hundreds of thousands of Liberation War martyrs were laid to rest.

China develops

FROM PAGE 12 did not give details.

China landed a Mars rover in May in its first-ever mission to the planet, becoming the second country after the United States to do so. Nasa's most advanced rover, Perseverance, landed on the planet in February.

From the Nasa rover, Ingenuity made its inaugural flight in April, rising about 3 metres (10 feet) above the surface, in humankind's first successful deployment of a powered aircraft in a world other than Earth.

The challenge for the 1.8 kg (4 pound) Ingenuity is the planet's thin atmosphere, which is just 1% as dense as Earth's.

To compensate for the lack of aerodynamic lift, Nasa engineers equipped Ingenuity with rotor blades that are larger - 1.2 metres (4 feet) tip to tip - and spin more rapidly than would be needed on Earth for an aircraft of its size.

Like Ingenuity, the Chinese prototype sports two rotor blades, a sensor-and-camera base and four thin legs. But there is no solar panel at the top like Ingenuity, according to the photograph.

Ingenuity has made more than 10 outings since April, covering an overall distance of more than 2 km (1.2 miles) with flight time of about 20 minutes in all.

China is planning its first crewed mission to Mars in 2033.

SSF bill placed

FROM PAGE 12 Court verdict.

The new law will have only one additional feature -- providing state security to the family members of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and other "very important" persons.

Bangabandhu's family members mean his two daughters, grandchildren, and in some cases, spouses or issues of the grandchildren.

The other "very important persons" under the law will be defined through gazette notifications.

In case of providing security to Bangabandhu's family members, this new act will be given priority no matter whatever is there in Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Family Members Security Act-2009.



Farmers shout slogans as they burn an effigy of Punjab and Haryana chief ministers during a demonstration against the central government's agricultural reforms, on the outskirts of Amritsar, India yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Bangladesh's reply to Yahya

FROM PAGE 12 Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra today gave a befitting reply to Yahya's recent interview with Paris-based right-wing newspaper Le Figaro. In that interview Yahya viciously attacked Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, calling him a "criminal" and a "minor fascist".

The Swadhin Bangla Betar said, "He [the Le Figaro correspondent] should also have reminded the major fascist [Yahya Khan] that if Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman did not believe in democratic processes he could have made mincemeat out of these Pakistani fascists if he wanted. It's his civilised behaviour that has given the major fascist the opportunity to breathe air in Islamabad instead of pushing up the daisies."

"It is indeed an irony of history that one of the world's most cowardly killers and despicable liars now sits in judgement of a defender of democracy. Until now crime has not only paid but it seems to have allowed enough latitude for such intolerable effrontery. But history also shows that things do change for better at long last. Otherwise today we would have had Hitlers, Mussolinis and Tojos settling the destiny of mankind," added the station.

In reply to Yahya's shameful boasting about his soldiers' Nazi-style massacre of the people of Bangladesh, the clandestine radio run by the exiled Bangladesh government said, "Using typically army mess lingo he [Yahya] boasted that 'it was no football match'. Unfortunately, 'Le Figaro' correspondent failed to remind him that his barbarous army was let loose on an unarmed and unsuspecting civilian population and that only a cowardly army would declare war on women and children."

Marooned, they wait

FROM PAGE 12

"We fear that our food stock will finish within a few days. We need urgent help from the government. We need food, drinking water and medicine."

Asked, Yakub Ali Prodhhan, chairman of Haldiya Union Parishad, said he just got three tonnes of rice and Tk 15,000 to distribute among 7,000 flood victims in his union. He will distribute them from next week, he added.

Contacted, AKM Idris Ali, relief and rehabilitation officer of Gaibandha, said, "We have distributed 80 tonnes of rice and Tk 2 lakh among the UNOs five-six days ago when water crossed the danger level in four upazilas."

In Bogura, water of the Jamuna was flowing 69cm above the danger level at Muthurapara point in Sariakandi upazila yesterday, said Water Development Board (WDB) officials.

According to local representatives, over 85,000 people in five upazilas of the district have been affected by floods.

However, the flood victims in different char areas of Sonatala and Sariakandi upazilas are yet to receive any relief materials.

The situation is the same for the

The correspondent should also have reminded this major fascist that his animals in army uniforms not only did the killing with professional efficiency but also displayed great talent in rape, loot and arson. Cruelty with a great purpose may be called efficiency but, otherwise, it is plain sadism."

ON THE WAR FRONT

In the Mymensingh-Sylhet sector, Mukti Bahini exchanged fire with enemy troops in Nawagram area today killing 13 Pakistani troops. On the same day they raided Pakistani troops' position in Atgram area and exchanged fire with them inflicting heavy casualties.

In Dinajpur district, Mukti Bahini raided Parlia and Amarkhanna today and killed six Pakistani troops. They blew up railway tracks between Chirirbandar and Parvatipur and paralysed train communication.

In Sylhet, freedom fighters blew up railway tracks between Chhatak and Sylhet, and paralysed rail communication between these important places.

US LONGSHOREMEN TO BOYCOTT PAKISTANI ARMS SHIPS The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union directed all its members not to load or handle any ships carrying military supplies and weapons from the Pacific coast of the USA which could be used against the people of Bangladesh.

The ILWU which controlled the port and dock workers at the ports on the Pacific coast of the USA deplored the butchery and the uprooting of millions of Bangladeshis from their homes and lands by the armed forces of Pakistan.

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18 Bangladeshi migrants return from Lebanon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of 18 Bangladeshi migrants returned home yesterday from Lebanon after the International Organisation for Migration in coordination with governments of the countries facilitated their return.

They were unable to come back home on their own due to their financial hardship.

They landed at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka in the morning on a flight arranged by the IOM.

Prior to their departure from Lebanon, the Bangladeshis underwent health check-ups and PCR tests, were offered pre-departure transportation assistance and counselling services, and were screened for underlying protection vulnerabilities by IOM in Lebanon, IOM Bangladesh said in a press release.

They were also provided with post-arrival reception assistance in Bangladesh and will receive reintegration support, it added.

It added that the repatriation of the migrants was part of a coordinated effort from the Bali Process, through its Voluntary Returns Support and Reintegration Assistance Programme, and IOM's Cooperation on Migration and Partnerships for Sustainable Solutions (COMPASS) initiative funded by the Netherlands government to "support and protect stranded migrants, particularly against human trafficking and smuggling."

A recent IOM survey on more than 1,000 migrants in Lebanon showed that nearly half wanted to return home, the release said.

With the economy in deep crisis and a political stalemate after the Lebanese government resigned following the devastating Beirut Port explosion a year ago, embassies have also seen a sharp rise in the number of migrants asking to return to their countries of origin, it added.

The results of the IOM survey showed that many migrants have lost their jobs and livelihoods due to the impact of concurrent crises in Lebanon, and an increase in exploitative practices such as non-payment of wages, unfair dismissal, or breach of contracts by employers, have subjected migrants to greater hardship, it further said.

IS-inspired

FROM PAGE 12

gunman murdered 51 Muslim worshippers and severely wounded another 40.

"What happened today was despicable, it was hateful, it was wrong," Arden said after the latest attack.

"It was carried out by an individual, not a faith, not a culture, not an ethnicity. He alone carries the responsibility for these acts."

Asked about the man's motivations, she said "it was a violent ideology and ISIS-inspired", using an acronym for the Islamic State jihadist group.

BCL leader, 2 others held

FROM PAGE 12

wife was first admitted to Nasiragar Upazila Health Complex. As her condition deteriorated, she was admitted to Habiganj Sadar Modern Hospital on Wednesday.

Moin Uddin Chowdhury, medical officer at the hospital, said the victim's medical examinations were completed.

The plaintiff's lawyer Hafizul Islam said the couple, who got married a month ago, went on a boat trip to a haor on August 25.

The couple, a friend of theirs and a boatman were on the boat when around eight men on another boat stopped them. They then beat up the husband and the friend and took the girl to their boat and gang-raped her while filming the incident.

They also threatened the victim and her husband if they told anyone of the incident, the video would be made viral. That is why the victim and her husband did not disclose the incident immediately, their lawyer said.

The husband alleged that four days after the incident, the accused demanded money from him. As the money was not paid, the video was made viral, he added.

Five others accused in the case are: Musa Mia, 26, Sujat Mia, 23, Jewel Mia, 25, Musa Mia, 20, and Hridoy Mia, 22.

44 dead as flash floods hit

FROM PAGE 12

were canceled at LaGuardia and JFK airports, as well as at Newark, where video showed a terminal inundated by rainwater.

President Joe Biden declared emergencies in the states of New York and New Jersey on Thursday, ordering federal disaster management agencies to coordinate relief efforts and provide emergency support.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency was mandated "to identify, mobilize, and provide at its discretion, equipment and resources necessary to alleviate the impacts of the emergency," the White House said in a statement.

Ahead of a visit to the southern state of Louisiana, where Ida earlier destroyed buildings and left more than a million homes without power, Biden said "we're all in this together. The nation is ready to help".

'HISTORIC WEATHER EVENT'

Flooding closed major roads across New Jersey and New York boroughs including Manhattan, The Bronx and Queens, submerging cars and

forcing the fire department to rescue hundreds of people.

At least 23 people died in New Jersey, Governor Phil Murphy told reporters.

"The majority of these deaths were individuals who got caught in their vehicles," he said. A state trooper died in the neighboring state of Connecticut.

Thirteen died in New York City, including 11 who could not escape their basements, police said. The victims ranged from the ages of two to 86.

"Among the people MOST at risk during flash floods here are those living in off-the-books basement dwellings that don't meet the safety codes necessary to save lives," lawmaker Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez tweeted.

"These are working class, immigrant, and low-income people & families," she added.

Three also died in the New York suburb of Westchester, while another four died in Montgomery County outside Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, a local official confirmed.

Woman who complained

FROM PAGE 12

The Rapid Action Battalion in a press release yesterday said the arrestees are involved with a transnational human trafficking ring which lured young women with promises of better jobs in a neighbouring country and then trafficked them.

The elite force said 10-15 people are involved in the ring and their main target is young women from low-income families. It claimed that the arrestees used to force women into "immoral activities" in exchange for money.

The Rab also said they rescued a female victim from Rasheda's house. The victim filed a case with Rupnagar Police Station under the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act on Thursday accusing the two arrestees and two-three unnamed people.

A Dhaka court on the same day sent the two arrestees to jail.

However, several tenants of Rasheda told The Daily Star that the "victim" lived in a room with her "husband" who is an informant of law enforcement agencies.

Speaking to this correspondent, the "husband" said he has been living at the house for 15 months. He claimed that he did not marry the "victim", but Rasheda kept her with him introducing them to others as a couple. He said he has been living there for two and a half months.

Although he claimed to be a bus driver, he said he did not have a driving licence.

Rasheda's daughter Moni Akhter Rotna said the "husband" brought the "victim" to their house about three

months back and introduced her as his wife.

She said the "husband" did not pay rent for eight months and that is why they were pressing him to vacate the house.

Moni said her mother is a "seasonal trader" who sells cigarettes and clothes wholesale. Besides renting out rooms and some auto-rickshaws, she trades cattle and fruits seasonally.

Earlier on August 21, Rasheda had filed complaints against an SI and five others with the complaint cell of the inspector general of police and the commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

She alleged that SI Masudur Rahman of Rupnagar Police Station took Tk 2.5 lakh from her home during a drive on August 19.

She said she earned the money by selling cattle ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha. She alleged that the SI asked her to keep mum and threatened to implicate her in a narcotics case if she did not comply.

The SI, however, denied taking money from her.

During the raid, police claimed that Rasheda was a member of a gang of mobile phone thieves and that they had information that there are 30-35 stolen phones at her house.

Police then picked up Rasheda and three of her tenants, including two women, and later showed the four arrested under section 74 of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police Ordinance, over running prostitution at the home.

On August 20, the four were freed by a Dhaka court after they paid fines, said police.

Airlines operate flights

FROM PAGE 1

Besides, 10 percent of the seats in the planes have to be left empty.

CAAB also proposed including "Passengers with Business Visa" to facilitate airlines crew members to travel to India for simulator training.

CAAB primarily accepted India's proposal to operate seven flights a week to India by Bangladesh airline companies, but proposed to double the number.

According to the circular, Biman will operate two weekly flights each on Dhaka-Kolkata-Dhaka and Dhaka-Delhi-Dhaka routes while US-Bangla Airlines will operate three weekly flights on Dhaka-Chennai-Dhaka route.

US-Bangla Airlines in a press release yesterday said as per Indian Civil Aviation guidelines, travellers must test negative for Covid-19 in a PCR test done no earlier than 72 hours of traveling. The travelers will have to go through molecular tests at their own expenses after arriving in Chennai airport.

Individuals with tourist visas will currently not be allowed to visit India, it said.

Flights of US-Bangla Airlines will leave Dhaka for Chennai every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at

10:30am and will reach Chennai at 12:40pm (local time).

The US-Bangla flights will leave Chennai for Dhaka at 1:30pm.

Talking to The Daily Star, Abu Saleh Mostafa Kamal, managing director and CEO of Biman, said the national flag carrier will operate two weekly flights on Dhaka-Kolkata-Dhaka route and two weekly flights on Dhaka-Delhi-Dhaka route.

On August 28, Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation in a circular said flight operations between the two countries may resume from September 3 under the air bubble agreement.

With rising demands in Bangladesh to resume flight operations, CAAB on August 4 sent a letter to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation of India seeking its approval for resumption of the flight operations from August 11 under the air bubble agreement as infections in both countries decreased significantly.

In response, the Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation issued a circular stating that it may resume the arrangement from September 3.

Three Indian airline companies will operate three Spicejet flights, two Indigo flights and two Air India flights each week. The flights will operate from Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai.

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What is Covid brain

FROM PAGE 12

go away, you might be wrong. Harvard health believes brain fog can last long after Covid symptoms are gone.

Currently, there is not a lot of research on why or how Covid leads to brain fog. But just like all viruses, once it enters our system, it spreads to as many organs as possible. According to a research by National Center for Biotechnology Information in the US, around 25 percent of patients who recover from Covid still find themselves experiencing some sort of cognitive dysfunction.

Such neurological manifestations of Covid-19 can be hard to maneuver for many, but not impossible. For starters, it is always a good idea to consult your doctor regarding the severity of brain fog and incorporate mental exercises that can bring you up to speed.

A good sleep cycle is also one of many practices one can develop during, and especially after, their Covid episode to help their brain activity catch on its bearings.

Covid-19 is a fluid event in history, with most medical implications drafted as we move forward. Our evolution through the pandemic means there might not be easy answers to most questions we have. The good practice, always, is to maintain all that we can control, so we can mitigate untoward consequences if we find ourselves infected.

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CORRIGENDUM

In the advertisement Request for Proposal (RFP) published in this newspaper on September 02, 2021 on page 04 in the 2nd top line the RFP Ref. No.: 9169696 has been wrongly printed as 9169676. The correct RFP Ref. No. will be LRPS-BAN-2021-9169696 and should be read as such. This inadvertent error is deeply regretted.

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