

MORE NEWS

'Ganatantrik Mukti Dibash' today

BSS, Dhaka

"Ganatantrik Mukti Dibash" (Free Democracy Day) will be observed in the country today, marking the fall of the then autocratic ruler in 1990.

On the eve of the day, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in a message, greeted the country's people. December 6 is a significant day in the history of restoring democracy. On this day in 1990, the autocratic government crumbled under pressure from the pro-democracy movement, she said.

"We spearheaded a long campaign to restore democracy, uprooting the autocratic regime to establish people's fundamental rights. The country's people," she said.

Couple, two others burnt in N'ganj fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Four people including two of a family suffered burns in a fire at their residence in Narayanganj early yesterday.

Abu Sayeed (35), his wife Chaina Begum (35), Milon (28), and Osman (25) were taken to Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burns and Plastic Surgery in Dhaka. Later, Chaina, Milon and Osman were released after treatment, said Chaina's brother Mizanur Rahman.

The couple sublet their house to Milon and Osman.

Gas leak from cylinder caused the fire at their flat on the fifth floor of a six-storey building at Kayempur in Sadar upazila, said Abdullah Al Arefin, deputy assistant director of fire service in Narayanganj. The fire broke out when the stove was lit and was put out before firefighters arrived.

At least 52 people were killed and 45 others injured in 477 fire accidents in the district from January to September this year, according to fire service in Narayanganj. Mainly electric short-circuit, gas leak, faulty stoves and cigarette caused the incidents, said Al Arefin.

HC seeks govt explanation over compensating Sadia's family

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule asking the government to explain in four weeks why it should not be directed to give Tk 10 crore as compensation to the family of university student, Sehrin Mahbub Sadia (19), who died after falling into an open roadside drain in Chattogram city on September 27.

The court also ordered the deputy commissioner of Chattogram to submit a report detailing the incidents of death in unprotected drains in the city in last one year before it in two months. The HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman issued the rule and order following a writ petition.

NSU holds in-person admission test

CITY DESK

North South University (NSU) organised in-person Spring 2022 semester undergraduate admission test on Saturday on its campus in the capital's Bashundhara.

VC Prof Dr Atiquil Islam, pro-VC Dr M Ismail Hossain, Treasurer Prof ABM Rashedul Hassan, test coordinator Dr KMA Salam, deans and senior administrative officials visited exam centres during the tests.



This timid creature, known as "Gandhagokul" (Asian palm civet) was found inside a house at Bandutia of Manikganj on Saturday night. The residents captured the animal the next morning and informed the forest department. It was released in the forest yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



The capital saw a sudden increase in traffic congestion yesterday, possibly due to the constant drizzle throughout the first day of the week. This photo was taken from the Moghbazar-Tongi diversion road.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Habibur Rahman no more

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail



Freedom fighter Habibur Rahman Hobi died at Bhuanpur Upazila Health Complex in Tangail yesterday. He was 85.

He left behind his wife, three sons and three daughters.

Born at Bamonhati village, Habibur took part in the 1971 Liberation War and fought against the Pakistani army bravely.

He will be buried at his village graveyard with state honours after a namaz-e-janaza on the Ibrahim Khan College premises in Bhuanpur after Zohr prayers today.

68 more hospitalised with dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 68 dengue patients were hospitalised in the last 24 hours yesterday, of whom 21 are from outside Dhaka, according to DGHS.

With the new cases, the total number rose to 27,604.

According to DGHS, 98 people have died of dengue this year.

Resilience in captivity

FROM PAGE 3

instructions were simple: make them look strong and freedom fighters look weak and defeated," Jagannath recalled.

Reluctant, Jagannath told them he doesn't have any colours or brushes with him. But this was not a problem for the occupying army. Within minutes, a sack full of brushes, colour, and other painting gear arrived.

"While people died around me, while women screamed in pain, I was painting a pro-Pakistan painting, all for the sake of survival," he reminisced.

The first draft of the painting featured a Pakistan army tank knocking out a huge contingent of the opposition.

"But this was completely against my fantasies, which saw the Mukti Bahini beating the Pakistan army. Suddenly, I landed upon an idea. Subtly, I drew a tiny Bangladeshi flag hoisted in the middle of the battlefield, in a way that no one would notice it looking from a distance," Jagannath said.

Playing with the grass on the file, he eventually drew a painting that showed the Pakistan army metaphorically surrounded by a Bangladeshi flag. "I was satisfied with my work, and the major was too full-headed to notice it. He appreciated it and went to work on the Pakistan Day celebrations."

Although Jagannath wasn't released immediately, orders on that regard arrived soon. "The soldiers called me a rickshaw. Before I boarded it, one of them slapped me twice and asked the rickshaw to take me home."

"I limped back home. But it was all worth it. My parents couldn't believe I had come back alive. All of us broke into tears in this reunion," Jagannath finished his story.

The painting is now lost to time. During the final skirmish of the Pakistan army and the freedom fighters, the premises of the HQ was badly damaged, along with the gate.

But what remains is Jagannath's enduring trauma of the events. "To this day, I cannot visit the WAPDA area. As soon as I come near it, all the wailings of the prisoners come knocking in my ears," he said.

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Meanwhile, protesting the death of HSC examinee Sadraz, fellow students and friends staged a demonstration demanding justice. Agitated students of Pahartali Degree College, where Sadraz studied, brought out a procession from the college and later formed a human chain near the crossing around noon.

Speaking at the rally, Sadraz's friend Rashedul Hasan Bappi alleged, "There is no discipline on the roads, where thousands of people like Sadraz lose their lives due to mismanagement."

Gatekeeper, driver on the run

FROM PAGE 3

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