



A crimson sunset appears marking the end of the day, but not everyone has the luxury to enjoy the view. Just like these workers in the photo who are seen to be loading and unloading food products at Karnaphuli ghat in Chattogram. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Elephant calf found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Cox's Bazar

Forest Department in Cox's Bazar yesterday recovered body of an elephant calf from a foothill adjacent to Uchirprang Rohingya refugee camp in Whykong union of Teknaf upazila.

"Some shepherds saw the calf lying on ground in the morning. They informed the forest officials, who rushed to the spot and found the calf dead," said Md Tareq Rahman, assistant forest conservator at Whykong range office of the Forest Department.

Contacted, Sarwar Alam, divisional forest officer at Cox's South Forest Division, said, "The calf might have died moment after it was born or the mother elephant might have given birth to a dead calf."

"Some people saw two elephants a few yards away from the spot where the calf's body was lying," he said.

The forest officer also informed that sample from the calf's body has been collected for autopsy.

'Anchal' saving lives

Parents await reopening of community-based initiative to protect children from drowning

NILIMA JAHAN

In low and middle-income countries, many children die every year by drowning, usually when the parents are occupied with household chores or wage-earning activities.

According to World Health Organization (WHO), 43 percent of children die due to drowning. Every day, at least 30 children aged under five die by drowning.

According to a 2017 WHO report, interventions like community-based institutional supervision during the parents' busiest hours have proved to be useful.

Anchal, a community-based daycare centre in Bangladesh, operated by Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh (CIPRB), has been helping prevent such incidents by providing institutional supervision for vulnerable age groups (under five) from 9:00am to 1:00pm through trained caregivers.

CIPRB's study also found that death by drowning has dropped by 86 percent in areas where Anchal's free of cost interventions are at play.

"Anchal is a symbol of safety, security and mother's love. It's a day-care centre where parents drop their children at



PHOTO: COLLECTED

the start of the day and pick them up later, after they are done with the day's work," said Dr Aminur Rahman, deputy executive director of CIPRB.

The project is currently supported by Royal National Lifeboat Institution and Bloomberg Philanthropies. Since its inception in 2012, Anchal has been serving around 75,000 children in 3,084 centres.

However, following the government's decision to close educational institutions

for containing the spread of Covid-19 in March 2020, all Anchal centres remained closed.

According to CIPRB data, at least 36 children between March 2020 and November 2021, all beneficiaries of the project, died in Barishal alone due to drowning.

One of those kids was four-year-old Arifa of Kalapara upazila in Patuakhali. Arifa, the youngest of four siblings, drowned in a pond nearby her uncle's home in May 2020. She went there without informing her mother.

According to Arifa's mother Rebeka, Arifa started going to the nearby Anchal centre some eight months before her death, during Rebeka's busy hours of maintaining the household.

"If the centre was open, my daughter's fate could be different," said Rebeka.

According to Nazmin Nahar Jhuma, locally known as "Anchal Ma" (child-caregiver), of Baitali centre of Kalapara, all the parents are now eagerly waiting for the centres to reopen.

"We are waiting for government orders to start all in-person activities at pre-schools," said Rehana Parveen, ECD specialist of the International Drowning Prevention and Research Division of CIPRB.

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The Daily Star

5

Dating apps new way to extort money

Say law enforcers after arresting 3

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Using dating apps like Tinder, Tantan and Mamba, criminals are extorting money from people by ensnaring and abducting them.

Cyber and Special Crime Division of Detective Branch (DB) revealed the information to The Daily Star after conducting drives at different areas of the capital and arresting three people on Wednesday.

The arrestees are Sonia Meher (18), her father Abdul Jalil Howlader (56), and their associate Yousuf Molla (43).

Investigators said Sonia would first target men through the apps and develop a relationship. After some days, she would invite them to a location, where her father Jalil and Yousuf would be present. Once the target reached the location, Jalil and Yousuf would abduct and confine the man to a flat in Jatrabari, and take compromising photos.

The cybercrime division arrested the three, after a victim on December 28 filed a case with

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Suspension of cops raises questions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattogram Metropolitan Police (CMP) has suspended two police officials for their alleged involvement in drug peddling after arresting two drug peddlers with yaba pills and hemp.

CMP officials didn't reveal this information in the last 10 days and said they were suspended for violating discipline.

The suspended officials are SI Fakhrul Islam of Bakalia Police Station and ASI Md Kamal of Akbarshah Police Station, said sources.

Police filed a case accusing two drug peddlers with Akbarshah Police Station -- who are allegedly linked with the suspended cops.

However, their names have not appeared with the two accused of the case due to lack of "proper" and "concrete" evidence, said several police officials. The accused are Senowara Begum Sharu (38) and her son Md Abdul Khalek Khokon (25).

During investigation, Lawful Interception Cell of police confirmed the link, said a top CMP official. The suspended SI and ASI were also questioned by the senior police officials along with the drug peddlers.

CMP Commissioner Saleh Mohammed Tanvir said the two officers were suspended on charges of violating departmental rules and discipline. "If anyone is found to be involved with the accused, they will be brought to book," said the CMP boss.

Cop among three killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Three people were killed and another was injured in road accidents during the last two days, according to reports from our correspondent and a news agency.

Our Patuakhali correspondent reports, a policeman was killed and his cousin injured in a road accident in the district yesterday.

The accident took place when a truck without a number plate rammed a motorcycle they were on around 1:00pm at the Payra Bridge toll plaza on Patuakhali-Barishal highway, said police.

The deceased -- Shawkat Hossain (45) from Hijlata village, Barishal -- was a constable posted at Patuakhali Police Lines, they said.

He was riding the motorbike towards Patuakhali from Barishal with his cousin Rafiqul Islam sitting on the pillion seat, said Dumki Police Station Officer in Charge Md Abdus Salam.

Rafiqul was admitted to Barishal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital, said the OC, adding that the truck was seized.

UNB from Faridpur adds, two motorcyclists were killed on Dhaka-Khulna highway in Gajaria area of Nagarkanda as their bike was hit by a bus on Friday night.



A TREAT INDEED

The squirrels race and hurry to find their winter meals, but not this one. This little fellow was seen treating itself to a star fruit, complementing the greenery around it and serving as a treat to spectators' eyes as well.

The photo was taken from Cumilla on Wednesday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

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e-Tender Notice No. 17/2021-22

Memo No. PD/Dhaka Project/21

Date: 28/12/2021

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

Tender ID	Name of works	Tender document last selling date & time	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
631210	Repair/renovation work of basement (1 & 2) of Jamuna Bhaban, Dhaka.	18/01/2022 15:00 hrs	19/01/2022 15:00 hrs	19/01/2022 15:00 hrs

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

GD-03

Md. Mahidur Rahman
Project Director