



HOME FOR ONE, PLAYTHING FOR ANOTHER... Home. A concept that applies differently to everyone. While this nest was built with tremendous effort as a shelter for a bird family, a little boy crosses its boundaries in child-like innocence, without much awareness of his action's impacts. This photo was taken in the capital's Shyampur area recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

6-year-old dies in ‘wrong treatment’ 3 doctors, nurse of private hospital arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In October 2020, the hospital was sealed off on charges of wrong treatment, medical malpractice and unhygienic atmosphere. Its owner and two staffers were jailed by the executive magistrate of Rab.

Two years later, they are back at it again. A child who had gangrene on her thigh died early yesterday following a “wrong” operation at Makkah-Madina General Hospital in the capital’s Mohammadpur.

Police yesterday arrested three doctors and a nurse in this connection. The deceased, Atika Akter Ayesha (6), was a first-grader. Ayesha’s father Md Azim filed a case with Mohammadpur Police Station against eight people, including the owner of the hospital, who is currently on the run. “We arrested four, including three doctors and a nurse,” said Farukul Islam, sub-inspector at Mohammadpur Police Station. The arrestees are – Dr Dewan Mohammad Anisur Rahman, Dr Mustakin Billah Maruf, Dr AKM Nizamul Islam and nurse Mukta Bhowmick.

Talking to The Daily Star, the deceased’s father Azim said Ayesha had a fracture on her right thigh on April 3. The family took her to a private hospital but could not continue the treatment due to the expenses being high. On Tuesday, the family took Ayesha to National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR). An on-duty doctor suggested that she should be admitted to the hospital.

However, a broker outside persuaded them to go to Makkah-Madina General Hospital by promising them treatment at an affordable cost, the father said. “Going to the Makkah-Madina Hospital in the afternoon, they said the patient needed an emergency operation. They took Tk 32,000 for the operation and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Two years ago, Rab conducted drives at three private hospitals in Mohammadpur on the grounds of a lack of valid documents for operations, sufficient staff, doctors, nurses and surgical instruments. Makkah-Madina General Hospital was one of them.

Bangladesh-India train service likely from May 29

Mitali Express may begin journey on June 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The rail service between Bangladesh and India is likely to resume from May 29 after the operation remained suspended for more than two years due to pandemic.

Moreover, Mitali Express, the third passenger train to be operated between the two countries, is likely to start operation from June 1.

The train would be operated between Dhaka and West Bengal’s New Jalpaiguri (NJP) for four days in a week.

Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan, who is expected to visit India late this month, and Indian Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw will jointly inaugurate the new train from Rail Bhavan in New Delhi virtually, railway sources said.

Railways of both the countries agreed about the dates, Sardar Shahadat Ali, additional director general (operations) of Bangladesh Railway (BR) said.

However, they will be able to give formal announcement about the dates after holding an inter-ministerial meeting likely on Sunday or Monday, he told The Daily Star yesterday.

Before the suspension of service in March 2020, Maitree Express was being operated on Dhaka-Kolkata route for five days in a week while Bandhan Express on Khulna-Kolkata route twice weekly.

Mitali Express, which was inaugurated by prime ministers of Bangladesh and India on March 26 last year, would use Chilahati-Haldibari rail link.

After 55 years, rail communication between the countries via Chilahati-Haldibari route resumed in December 2020. A move was taken in March to resume the service in that month this year but

could not be re-started over some visa related and Covid protocol related issues.

But, both BR and the Indian High Commission in Dhaka recently wrote to Indian railway ministry to resume cross border passenger train services. Following that the dates were fixed, BR sources said.

Maitree Express will resume operation from Dhaka with BR rack (train) while operation of Bandhan Express will resume from Kolkata with Indian Railway’s rack, they said.

NEW TRAIN

New Jalpaiguri has the biggest railway station in the northern part of West Bengal and is just six km away from Siliguri. It is a key junction between mainland India and north-eastern India.

The 10-coach all-AC train would be operated twice from Dhaka and twice from NJG every week, railway officials said.

The train will leave Dhaka at 9:50pm Monday and Thursday and will reach NJP at 7:15am on Tuesday and Friday. On the other hand, the train will leave NJP at 11:45am on Sunday and Wednesday and will reach Dhaka at 10:30pm on the same day, he said.

BR will sell three categories’ tickets for passengers. Each ticket of berth would be \$44. Fifteen percent VAT and Tk 500 as travel tax would be added for each ticket, meaning the one-way travel on berth will cost Tk 4,905.

Each ticket of cabin seat would be \$33 meaning total cost of the ticket would be Tk 3,805 while chair seat would be \$22 meaning the cost would be Tk 2,705.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



No unplanned construction in Cox’s Bazar

Says PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the authorities concerned to integrate the development of Cox’s Bazar with nature.

Hasina said this while inaugurating the newly constructed multi-storey building of Cox’s Bazar Development Authority. The PM joined virtually from her official residence Gono Bhaban.

Hasina put emphasis on protecting people from the natural calamities through preserving nature.

The PM said she has directed the authorities to make a master plan for Cox’s Bazar for a planned development. She called for expanding the maritime boundary as the area of tourism for attracting domestic and international tourists.

“As Cox’s Bazar is under the international air route, the works are ongoing to upgrade Cox’s Bazar Airport as an international airport.” She mentioned that after completing this airport, the east bound planes from the west would refuel their aircraft from Cox’s Bazar.

“The marine drive from Teknaf to Cox’s Bazar will be expanded up to Chattogram” she said.

She also said the government is setting up an economic zone in Teknaf and upgrade the beach there to international standard.



Appoint more teachers urgently

Speakers tell meeting on indigenous children’s education in mother tongues

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indigenous leaders and researchers have demanded urgent appointment of teachers to teach indigenous children in their mother tongues.

They made the demands at a consultation meeting arranged by Kapaeng Foundation at YWCA auditorium in the capital yesterday.

Though textbooks are available in five indigenous languages, there is a shortage of teachers who can be appointed under special arrangements and relaxed policies.

AKM Reazul Hasan, NCTB (primary) member, said, “We are now providing NCTB books in Chakma, Marmar, Garo, Tripura and Sadri languages. But we don’t provide books in the Santal language due to the alphabet debate. We are trying to solve the issue.”

“We gave the plan to make books in all 39 indigenous languages...” he added.

Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary of Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples’ Forum, said, “The government should urgently appoint at least 100 teachers per language to teach indigenous

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



PRAYER
TIMING
MAY 19



	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
Azan	4:10	12:45	5:00	6:36	8:00
Jamaat	4:45	1:15	5:15	6:40	8:30
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION					

DSHE QUESTION LEAK

More names surface

5 including govt college teacher, DSHE staff held so far

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

As investigation into the reported question leak of a Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) recruitment exam progresses, more names are coming out.

The list of those allegedly involved include education cadre officials, teachers, college staff and DSHE officials.

Detectives have arrested three people from the capital’s Wari and Moghbazar areas on Tuesday and early yesterday.

The arrestees are Md Rashedul Islam (34), teacher of Patuakhali Government College, as well as Md Nowsadul Islam (37) and Ahsanul Habib (45), both office assistants at DSHE.

Earlier, detectives arrested Md Sumon Jomadder from Eden College during the recruitment test, and Saiful Islam, an assistant teacher of mathematics at Khepupara Girls

Secondary School.

Investigators said they have found involvement of another BCS education cadre official and two staffers of two different colleges in Dhaka.

The syndicate worked in three to four layers. First, DSHE staff and officials took photos of the question paper on the way to the exam centre and sent them to Saiful on WhatsApp. Saiful then solved it with help from a group of experts and finally distributed it to examinees.

But the names have not been disclosed for investigation purposes.

Confirming the development, Shahadat Hossain Sumon, additional

deputy commissioner of DB, told The Daily Star yesterday that the gang has around four to five more members.

“We are conducting a drive to arrest them,” he said. ADC Shahadat said they have so far found proof that at least 14 examinees received the test answers from the syndicate via WhatsApp. But the number could increase, as the investigation is still ongoing.

Asked about Saiful’s role, Shahadat said he was the ringleader for supplying the answers. “We have come to know that he was involved in previous incidents of question leak, but we will be able to talk about it after the investigation ends.”

On May 13, Sumon was arrested during the recruitment test for the post of “office assistant/computer operator”, which was held at 61 centres in Dhaka, aiming to fill 513 vacancies.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



With no safety gear on and just hanging onto a rope, a worker was seen going down a manhole to unclog a drain -- an initiative under the jurisdiction of Dhaka Wasa. For years now, these workers have been risking their lives, by being exposed to harmful toxins and often falling victims to accidents during their work. The question still remains as to why alternatives to human resources haven’t been used to clean these drains. This photo was taken in the capital’s Saat Masjid Road recently.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS