

RAIL ACCIDENTS
Petition seeks
judicial probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A writ petition was filed with the High Court yesterday seeking its directive on the government to form an inquiry committee led by a retired Supreme Court judge in order to conduct judicial inquiry into all recent rail accidents in the country.

Dhaka University student Mohiuddin Hawlader Roni, who has alone waged a movement in protest against the mismanagement in railway services, submitted the petition.

He requested the HC to order the government to pay adequate compensations to the families of the victims who were killed and injured in the recent rail accidents in Mirsarai of Chattogram and Kashiani of Gopalganj.

He said there is clear negligence of the railway, government institutions and local authorities to prevent railway accidents. So, a judicial inquiry committee should be set up to ascertain the responsibilities of the government bodies.



WHY THE HURRY? With the footbridge right there, waiting to serve pedestrians, is it really necessary for someone to stop lines of vehicles and walk across the busy road? Not only does this save a miniscule amount of time, the practice also increases the risk of accidents. This photo was taken on Tuesday near Science Lab.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

80 vehicles to move Indian
oil thru Bangladesh daily

MoU signed; may take some time to start transportation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) will be allowed to ply 80 vehicles daily for transporting fuel from Meghalaya to Tripura through Bangladesh – including entrance and exit.

The Indian state-run company has to pay a charge of Tk 1.85 per tonne per kilometre of Bangladesh's roads. This arrangement started yesterday, and the company will get this facility till November 30 this year.

These are the major provisions of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) signed with IOCL yesterday, to transport fuel through Bangladesh, said participants of the MoU's signing ceremony.

Abdullah Al Mamun, additional chief engineer (technical services wing) of RHD, and IOCL Country Director Mazher Alam signed the

AT A GLANCE

- Indian Oil to pay Tk 1.85 per tonne a km
- Facility given till Nov 30
- Bangladesh agreed as India's local rail network snapped after landslides in Assam
- Vehicles to be operated at daytime
- They will pay fees following existing rules

MoU at the Road Transport and Highways Division (RTHD).

Asked when transportation will start, ABM Amin Ullah Nuri, secretary of the division, who was at the ceremony, said it may take some more time, as they will have to complete some procedures centring vehicles and drivers.

Representatives from Indian High Commission in Dhaka, foreign ministry, commerce ministry, home ministry, police and National Board of Revenue were present at the time.

Bangladesh agreed to give the facility following the request of its neighbouring country, as the local rail network has been snapped due to massive landslides in Assam, officials said.

As per the plan, IOCL will send its convoys of fuel to Bangladesh via Dawki (in Meghalaya)-Tamabil (in Sylhet) border, said an RHD official. Then the vehicles will enter Kailashahar in Tripura via Chatlapur check-post in Moulvibazar.

Indian High Commission in Dhaka requested Bangladesh for allowing a part of its road network to transport fuel to Tripura after floods severed India's relevant network.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Focus on
small farming
community
Speakers tell
researchers at
BIDS seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Social researchers should focus on how large-scale commercialisation of agriculture has been impacting the small farming community in rural areas to get a holistic picture to understand the social changing trend, said speakers at a seminar yesterday.

Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) organised the seminar – Disappearing of the Bengal Family Farm – at Agargaon in the capital yesterday.

Geof Wood, emeritus professor of International Development at University of Bath, UK, delivered the keynote presentation.

He explained how large-

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

Rickshaws to
get QR codes!

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) mayor Md Atiqul Islam yesterday said they will not allow any rickshaw in their areas without a QR code.

"We will phase out all the old rickshaws and provide digital registrations to two lakh rickshaws, which will run using the QR codes, and help bring discipline in the city streets," he said.

He was talking to reporters at an event at the Nagar Bhaban.

He said there were 28,000 licensed rickshaws in their areas but now around 10 lakh rickshaws are running in Dhaka. The city corporation do not have any database for them.

"So, we have decided to introduce the QR code-based system for the rickshaws," he said.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8



REPRESENTATIONAL PHOTO

AAG relieved
from duty over
'misconduct'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has removed Supreme Court lawyer Marufa Akter from the post of assistant attorney general (AAG) over "misconduct".

Marufa was appointed as AAG on October 19, 2017.



The solicitor wing of the law ministry on August 2 issued a notification saying that the appointment of Marufa as an AAG has been cancelled and she has been relieved from the office under the directive from the president.

The notification, however, did not mention any reason behind it.

Contacted, Law Minister Anisul

Huq told The Daily Star that Marufa met the wife of the chief of army staff in her designation without permission from the authorities concerned, which is a "gross misconduct".

Therefore, Marufa has been dismissed from the service, he added.

However, Marufa told this correspondent that she tried to meet the wife of chief of army staff on June 26 as "a lawyer for the prime minister just out of curiosity" but she was not allowed to do so at her office in the cantonment area.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Death toll 12
Total number of patients 2,889
333 still undergoing treatment
Number of recovered patients 2,544
77 more hospitalised yesterday
SOURCE: DGHS

PRAYER
TIMING
AUGUST 4
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:20 12:45 5:00 6:47 8:15
JAMAAT 4:55 1:15 5:15 6:50 8:45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Dhaka South City Corporation has recently taken a project to recover the Adi Buriganga channel. DSCC, in its latest effort, conducted a dredging and waste removal operation in Kamrangirchar area yesterday.

CHOLERA VACCINATION
2nd round campaign
begins in 5 Dhaka areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The second round of the oral vaccination campaign against cholera began yesterday in five selected Dhaka areas.

The campaign will continue till August 10, from 8:00am to 4:00pm every day, except Friday and Tuesday.

Those who have received their first dose during the first round, held from June 26 to July 2, are eligible for the second dose. They have to show the vaccination card at the 700 vaccination

centres in the selected Dhaka areas.

Around 2.36 million – aged above one and living in Jatrabari, Dakshin Khan, Sabujbagh, Mohammadpur and Mirpur areas – received the first dose of the vaccine during the first round.

"The response was good on the first day, but many had to return as they came without the vaccination card, which is a must," Dr Ashrafur Islam Khan, who is coordinating the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

5.80 lakh kids
registered for
Covid jobs

MOUDUD AHMED SUJAN

Around 5.8 lakh schoolchildren aged 5-11 years were registered for taking the Pfizer's specially prepared Covid-19 vaccines as of yesterday afternoon.

Dr Touliq Hassan Shawon, medical officer at the management information system unit of the health directorate, confirmed this to The Daily Star.

The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) has so far received a total of 15,02,400 doses of specially prepared Pfizer vaccine for children under the global vaccine distribution arrangement called COVAX.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Condolences

Mohammad Aminul Haque
(1940-2022)
Founder & Group Chairman- Bangla Trac Group

Board of Directors, Management, & Staff of Bangla Trac Group deeply mourn the passing of our beloved Founder and Group Chairman, Mr. Aminul Haque.

INNA LILLAHI WAH INNA ILAIHI RAZIUN.

An eminent entrepreneur, social worker and former chairman of Prime Bank Limited, he passed away peacefully on 3rd August 2022.

Mr. Aminul Haque's immeasurable contribution and support towards the nation and our community will always be remembered. We express profound grief and extend heartfelt condolences to Mohammad Aminul Haque's family and friends, may his soul rest in the highest place in Jannah.

BANGLA TRAC

Bangla CAT, BANGLA TRAC COMMUNICATIONS, BTRAC TECHNOLOGIES, BTRAC FMCG, b-Trac SOLUTIONS, Quitel, THANE, BURGER KING, GANESHA