

Attack on journalist protested in Dinaipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Dinaipur

Journalists and locals in Dinaipur yesterday protested the attack on a journalist of a private television channel in Dhaka's Kamrangirchar area on August 9.

They formed a human chain in front of Nawabganj Upazila Parishad.

Hasan Mizbah, a senior journalist of the Independent Television who is from Nawabganj, came under attack when he went to Kamrangirchar for covering a report of SPA Riverside Medical Centre.

At the human chain, the speakers said journalism is becoming a risky profession and the state must ensure security of journalists.

They also demanded that the government ensure stern punishment for the attackers and sought a proper investigation.



Seeing the storm clouds gather in the distance, a young boy, refusing to miss the opportunity, set out with his kite to see it soar high in the sky against the gusty winds. This photo was taken in the port city's Fishery Ghat area recently.

PHOTO: RAJIB RATHAN

Two brothers killed over Tk 2,000 loan

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
M'singh

Two brothers were killed and 10 injured in a clash between two groups following a dispute over borrowed money in Dewanganj upazila of Jamalpur yesterday morning.

The deceased are Solaiman Haque (45) and his younger brother Habibur Rahman (40).

Quoting locals, OC Shyamal Chandra Dhar of Dewanganj Police Station said one Fakhrul along with his cousins went to Imran's house to take back Tk 2,000, which Imran had borrowed from him six months ago.

When Imran refused to return the money, an altercation ensued between the two, said the OC.

To settle the matter, Fakhrul's uncles Habibur and Solaiman went to the spot. At one stage, Imran and his associates attacked them with sharp weapons, killing Habibur and Solaiman at the spot. On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies. Law enforcers also detained 10 persons. They were being interrogated at the police station, said the OC.

PRAYER TIMING					
AUGUST 15					
Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
AZAN 4:25	12:45	4:45	6:38	8:00	
JAMAAT 5:00	1:15	5:00	6:41	8:30	
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION					

Influential people, illegal structures

Brahmaputra embankment held hostage to repeated encroachment



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Several establishments have been constructed on the Town Protection Dam alongside the Brahmaputra in Mymensingh city.

Even though it has been years, the authorities haven't stepped up to remove them, alleged locals.

Influential people of the area are building houses and shops on the embankment in the city's Kalibari area, adjacent to Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge (popularly known as Shambhuganj Bridge), they added.

During a recent visit to the area, this correspondent found some labourers building a new house with corrugated iron sheets and wood on the area's embankment. When asked, they pointed toward a woman who was overseeing the work.

She left the scene immediately when this correspondent approached her.

"The embankment's walkway has also been blocked by scrap shops, disrupting pedestrian movement," said Dr Monjurul Karim Habib, a local.

In the last couple of years, a good portion of the walkway has been blocked in Kalibari area and many pillars of the walkway have been broken down for easy entrance to the illegally constructed houses, said Habib.

If the embankment is used for building houses and shops for people's personal gain, it will surely affect the embankment when the river swells up during monsoon, said advocate Md Nazrul Islam Channu, convener of Jonouddogh, a civil society forum.

"If this trend continues, many

more houses and shops would be made on the embankment, creating a serious nuisance for city residents and the environment. Contacted, Faruq Hasan, commissioner of the city's Ward 8, said some "poor" people have built makeshift houses on the embankment and there's no vested group behind this act.

"We'll take initiatives to evict the illegal structures," he said.

Contacted, town planner Manas Biswas said some illegal structures were evicted from the area a year ago. "We will visit the area soon to find out if such structures are still on the embankment," he added.

Arafat Ahmed, sub divisional engineer of Water Development Board in Mymensingh, said they have started to make a list of the grabbers to take necessary steps against them.

MONEY LAUNDERING

Ex-manager of Teletalk gets 12 years' jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced a former manager of Teletalk Bangladesh Limited to 12 years' rigorous imprisonment in a case filed over laundering Tk 5.74 crore.

Judge Md Badrul Alam Bhuiyan of the Special Judge's Court-8 of Dhaka handed down the sentence in absence of the accused Shah Md Zubayer.

The judge fined him Tk 11.50 crore, which would be confiscated in favour of the state.

The judge also issued an arrest warrant against him as he went into hiding after getting bail from the court.

The punishment of the convict will be effective from the day of his arrest or surrender, the judge said.

According to the case statements, during his service at Teletalk, Zubayer misappropriated Tk 5,74,70,687 through illegal means and laundered the money from 2005 to 2015.

Following the incident, ACC Deputy director Md Nasir Uddin filed a case against Zubayer on October 3 of 2017.

After an investigation, ACC Assistant Director Mujibur Rahman submitted a charge sheet against Zubayer on June 18 of 2018.

The court framed charges against the accused on June 13, 2019.

6 killed, 25 hurt in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Six people were killed and 25 injured in road accidents in four districts yesterday, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Munshiganj, two people were killed and 25 injured in a three-bus pile-up on Dhaka-Mawa expressway in Sreenagar upazila.

Jahid Hasan (43) from Sirajdikhan upazila and Tahsin Sheikh (6), son of Arif Hossain from Madaripur, died on the spot.

The accident took place around 3:45pm at Sholohgar, said Sub-inspector Azizul Islam of Hashara Highway Police Station.

He said a Dhaka-bound bus stopped on the highway after hitting a road divider. Its passengers got down to board another bus.

At that time, a bus of Mollah Paribahan hit it from behind and soon after, a bus of Sakura Paribahan collided with Mollah Paribahan.

Police seized the three buses.

In Pabna, two bikers were killed when a truck hit their motorbike on Pabna-Pakshey road at Nazirpur.

The deceased were identified as Iqbal Khan, 52, and Abdul Mazid Sheikh, 54.

In Chapainawabganj, a boy was killed as a human hauler hit him at Elaipur village in Nachole upazila.

The deceased is Tamim Iqbal, 5, son of Jahir Uddin.

Mintu Rahman, officer in charge of Nachole Police Station, said the accident occurred around 9:00am while Tamim was crossing a road.

Meanwhile in Jhenidah, farmer Ayub Sheikh (50) died after a bus hit his bicycle on Jhenidah-Kushtia road near Ashannagar bus stand area in Shoilkapupa upazila, said police.

116 more hospitalised with dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 116 dengue patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country yesterday, which is the highest in a single day this year.

With the new cases, 46 from outside Dhaka, the total number of patients rose to 3,769. Among the patients, 387 are still undergoing treatment.

The death toll from the mosquito-borne disease this year rose to 16, with one more death reported in Dhaka on Thursday. Meanwhile, 3,356 patients have been released from hospitals so far, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

A tree in exchange for plastic

Voluntary org hosts unique collection drive



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

With the slogan "Deposit empty plastic bottle and receive tree sapling", voluntary environment organisation "Setubandhan Jubo Unnayan Sangstha" in Saidpur upazila launched a campaign among high school students yesterday to save the environment and create safe shelter for birds in an innovative way.

The event was held on Saidpur Pilot High School premises. It was attended by several hundred students and teachers.

They were able to collect 350 empty plastic bottles and distributed the same number of saplings in return, said Alamgir Hossain, president of Setubandhan.

He said Setubandhan also make artificial nests for birds in earthen pots by hanging them on tree branches during breeding period.



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