

'We want safe roads, we want justice'

Students take to streets again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students of different schools took to the streets yesterday, demanding justice for their peer Ali Hossain, who died in a road accident on Sunday morning.

They blocked several points including Farmgate and Bijoy Sarani on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, shouting slogans for safe roads.

The areas were once again reverberated with the slogan: "We want safe roads, we want justice", the same that were used during the mass student protests in 2018.

The fresh protest for safe roads ensued yesterday, a day after Ali (17), a class ten student of Government Science High School died after being hit by a car in Dhaka's Tejgaon Industrial area.

Witnesses said the students first gathered at Farmgate area around 11:30am. Later, student of some nearby schools joined them.

Braving the rain, they continued their protest, halting vehicular movement in the area. They also checked license of drivers of many vehicles. Meanwhile, police arrested car driver Ziaul Huq (50) and seized the vehicle from Dhaka's Ashulia area yesterday morning.

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People from all walks of life pay homage to Sajeda Chowdhury at the capital's Central Shaheed Minar yesterday afternoon. Later, she was buried at Banani graveyard with state honour after Asr prayers. The veteran leader passed away at Dhaka Combined Military Hospital on Sunday night.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Sajeda Chowdhury laid to rest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Sangsad Deputy Leader and Awami League presidium member Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury was laid to rest at Banani graveyard with state honours yesterday.

One of the country's political doyen, Sajeda, who played a crucial role in organising the AL following assassination of Bangabandhu, died on Sunday at Dhaka Combined Military Hospital. She was 87.

Her first namaz e-janaza was held in Nagarkanda upazila of Faridpur yesterday.

Later her body was brought back to the capital by a helicopter and taken to AL central office on the city's Bangabandhu Avenue.

The body was there for some time to let the party leaders and activists as well as other political leaders to pay homage to the veteran politician.

Later, her body was taken to the Central Shaheed Minar where Speaker, deputy speaker, cabinet members, lawmakers, top leaders of political parties and people from all walks of life paid their tribute to the veteran leader, one of the organisers of the Liberation War.

Besides, homage was paid to her on behalf of President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Earlier, she was also given a state honour there.

Her second janaza was held at the south gate of Baitul

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Dengue claims four more lives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least four dengue patients died while 345 were admitted to different hospitals across the country in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

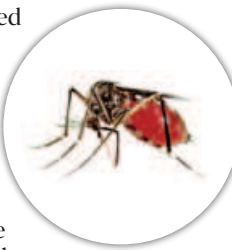
With the new death cases, all are in Dhaka, the total number of dengue deaths rose to 37.

Among the death cases, 16 are in Cox's Bazar, three in Barishal, one in Chattogram and 17 are in Dhaka, according to the DGHS.

The total number of dengue cases this year rose to 9,095. A total of 1,112 dengue patients are still undergoing treatment while 7,946 have been released from hospitals.

A DGHS monsoon survey, conducted between August 11 and 23, found the presence of Aedes mosquitoes in 13.4 percent of houses under DNCC and 11.75 percent of homes under DSCC.

"The density [of Aedes mosquitoes] found in monsoon is more than double of the density found in the pre-monsoon survey," said Dr Md Ekramul Haque, deputy programme manager of malaria and ATD control programme at DGHS, recently.



Media's role irreplaceable on mental health

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In Bangladesh, nine out of every 10 people with mental health issues do not receive treatment, according to the most recent National Mental Health Survey of Bangladesh.

Data collected from the survey show that the current treatment gap for adults is 92.3 percent and for children is 94.5 percent.

The government spends less than one percent of its total health budget on mental healthcare. Of the total expenditure, two third is dedicated to mental hospitals only, while around 90 percent of the population does not have access to free essential psychotropic medications.

The findings were revealed at a roundtable, titled "Mental Health: Role of Media", jointly organised by



AT A GLANCE

- Treatment gap for adults 92.3pc
- Treatment gap for children 94.5pc
- Less than 1pc of health budget for mental healthcare
- 90pc of population without access to free psychotropic medications

Life Spring and The Daily Star, in the capital's The Daily Star Centre yesterday.

Dr Sayedul Ashraf, lead psychiatrist of Life Spring, during his keynote speech, said, "Addressing mental health in Bangladesh requires a coordinated effort from all stakeholders, with

media being an irreplaceable one."

"People have huge expectations from journalists. But the level of stress journalists are under while dealing with negative news remains mostly unaddressed," said Syed Ashfaqul Haque, executive editor of The Daily Star.

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Third terminal by next year

Says state minister while visiting Dhaka airport; 44.15pc work completed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 44.15 percent work of the third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport has been completed so far.

"This progress has exceeded our expectations," said State Minister for Civil Aviation Mahbub Ali yesterday. He also said the third terminal could be inaugurated in October 2023.

The junior minister said this while talking to reporters after inspecting the progress of the third terminal at Dhaka airport.

The airport will be able to serve 22 million passengers annually once the third terminal gets up and running, he added.

In response to a question, Mahbub Ali said, the ministry is taking measures to stop passenger harassment at the airport.

He also said luggage delivery takes much

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Carrying a child, a man crosses a divider on Dhaka-Chattogram highway that was installed there for the sole purpose of preventing them from taking up this risk in the first place. A woman too was seen doing the same. Risking lives, many choose to cross the highway in this manner just to save some time. This photo was taken in Jatrabari's Donia area.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

On-campus job for DU students

DU CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Dhaka University have taken an initiative to give on-campus job opportunities to students.

A "Student Promotion and Support Unit" has been established at Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) in this regard, said a press release yesterday.

The aim is to increase the work skill and real-life experience of the students, it said.

Through this initiative, students can be groomed up in order to compete in national and international job markets, the authorities hoped.

Insolvent students will get priority to get jobs from this scheme. Besides, training programmes will be arranged to convert them into skilled manpower.

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'Fabricated, fictitious'

Man to be relieved from false drug case

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

Police have cleared Mohammad Khalil from charges of a narcotics case a few days after he was framed in the capital's cantonment area by an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) of Pallabi Police Station and two informants.

Investigation Officer Khalid Hasan Tomtoy, also a sub-inspector of Pallabi Police Station, on September 11 submitted a probe report to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka, praying to relieve Mohammad Khalil from the charges.

On September 6, ASI Mahbub Alam arrested Khalil from the Cantonment Railway Station area in Dhaka after he put yaba pills into his [Khalil] pocket with the help of two informants - Md Rubel and Sohel Rana.

The next day, SI Kamrul Islam of Pallabi Police Station filed the case against Khalil, saying 100 pills were recovered from his possession.

In the probe report, the investigator

said ASI Mahbub provided false information to complainant SI Kamrul and fabricated the incident of recovering yaba from Khalil to establish the seizure list, against which the case was filed.

No evidence was found against Khalil during his investigation, mentions the report.

Khalil will be exempted from the charges of the drug case if the court accepts the probe report, said legal experts.

SI Khalil also filed the case against his colleague Mahbub and two informants with Cantonment Police Station that day.

The three were arrested on September 7 and are currently behind bars.

In the case statement, SI Khalil stated that the ASI and his informants implicated Khalil falsely due to previous enmity.

The incident of framing Khalil

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Heartfelt Condolence



Nasir Uddin Biswas
(1950 - 2022)

We express our deepest compassion on the demise of Mr. Nasir Uddin Biswas, Chairman and Managing Director of Nasir Group of Industries.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the members of his family and hope they will overcome this irreparable loss with time. May his departed soul rest in peace.



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