

4 including 3 of a family sustain burns in explosion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Three members of a family and another man suffered burns in an explosion from a gas line at their home in Manikganj early yesterday.

The doors, windows and walls were also damaged during the incident in the town's Narangai area.

The explosion occurred while someone was lighting a fire with a match stick in the kitchen, said locals.

The injured -- Rashedul Islam (45), his wife Sonia Akhter (30), and their two-and-a-half-year-old son Rifat Hossain -- were taken to Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute in Dhaka.

Another victim -- Faruk Hossain (38), an employee of their business -- was taken to Manikganj 250-bed General Hospital.

According to the family and police, Rashedul Islam runs a meat business beside

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The critically endangered Gangetic goonch (Bagarius yarrelli), locally known as "Baghair" fish, is being displayed for sale at Lalbazar in Sylhet city. Even though buying and selling the fish is a punishable offence, due to lack of monitoring, it is being sold unabatedly. This photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Two-third of Khulna goes underwater

Citizens blame poor drainage for unending sufferings

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Residents of low-lying areas of Khulna city had to traverse submerged roads yesterday due to the waterlogging caused by rainfall, which was induced by cyclone Sitrang.

There are 1,215 roads under Khulna City Corporation (KCC). Due to lack of a proper drainage system, two-thirds of these roads were submerged following Monday's downpour.

Amirul Azad, senior meteorologist of Khulna Meteorological Office, told The Daily Star that 217 millimetres of rainfall was recorded in the city in the last 24 hours till 6:00am yesterday.

Dolly Kundu, a resident of Sabuj Sangh Math area of Daulatpur, said, "Our area remains submerged though water has receded in many places."

Blaming poor drainage for the waterlogging, she called for cleaning the drains regularly and increasing their width.

Echoing the same, Rahul Sheikh, a resident of Khalishpur Notunrasta, said, "Roads and drains of our area have not been repaired and cleaned for years. So when it rains, the locality goes underwater in a short time, with stagnant water even entering our households."

"BIDC Road in Khalishpur has been in a dilapidated state for two years. Our sufferings are unending," he added.

According to KCC sources, a project named "Development of Drainage System to Eliminate Waterlogging in Khulna City" was approved by Ecne

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GRAFT CASE

No bar to resume trial against Mirza Abbas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday cleared the way for a lower court concerned to resume trial proceedings of a corruption case filed against BNP leader Mirza Abbas in 2007.

The apex court lifted its earlier stay order on the trial proceedings and also upheld a High Court verdict that had cleared the way for the lower court to run proceedings.

A five-member bench of the Appellate Division, headed by Chief Justice Hasan Foez Siddique, dismissed a leave to appeal petition filed by Mirza Abbas challenging the HC judgement.

Other four judges of the bench are Justice Md Nuruzzaman, Justice Obaidul Hassan, Justice Borhanuddin and Justice M Enayetur Rahim.

On November 11, 2019, the HC rejected a petition filed by Mirza Abbas for scrapping the case proceedings.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case with Ramna Police Station in 2007, accusing Abbas of amassing illegal wealth

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Celebrations beyond the barbed wires

Thousands reunite with family across the border for Kali Puja in Lalmonirhat

S DILIP ROY

Dipali Rani (55), from Lalmonirhat's Patgram upazila, came to Nabinagar Meserghat border yesterday noon to meet her daughter Sheuli Rani, who has been residing at Cooch Behar of West Bengal for the last 15 years.

After searching for her daughter amid a crowd of thousands, Dipali finally got a glance of her, who was standing across the barbed wire fence, which divides the two countries.

Tears of joy started rolling from the eyes of the mother-daughter duo, as they were seeing each other after years.

"I came to the border this time last year, but was unable to see my daughter as there were restrictions in place for the pandemic," said Dipali.

Reunion was the recurring theme of the day, as thousands of Bangla-speaking people gathered at the no man's land of the border, to meet their relatives on the other side. The border was



left open for three hours on the occasion of Kali Puja.

Standing on both sides of the barbed wire fence, relatives exchanged greetings and gifts with their near and dear ones from 1:00pm yesterday.

Locals said after the 1947 partition, meeting relatives living in the two countries became

very hard, especially for those who can't get passports or visas, or don't have the expenses for official procedures.

So, such fairs are held once a year on the occasion of Kali Puja to provide these people the opportunity to celebrate with their relatives living on the other side, locals added.

Sirajul Islam (65) from Lalmonirhat came to the border to meet his younger sister Sakhina Bibi (50), who lives in Cooch Behar.

"After searching for an hour, I found my sister on the other side of the barbed fence around 2:30pm. We started crying immediately as we were seeing each other after four years," he said.

"My sister brought some winter clothes, and I took some Bangladeshi fabrics to exchange," he added. But they could not do so due to security reasons.

Echoing the same, Shibendu Chandra Barmon (64) from Lalmonirhat, saying that he was overjoyed seeing his relatives after years, but couldn't even hug them as officials had restrictions in place.

Patgram upazila's Bawra Union Parishad Chairman Rabiul Islam, said people from different villages in Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, Nilphamari, Kurigram and Gaibandha came to reunite with their loved ones on this day, even

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Bus owners launch strike after alleged attack on leader

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Owners went for a bus strike in Dinajpur's Parbatipur yesterday morning, hours after one of their leaders came under an attack with sharp weapons by unidentified criminals.

Md Foyzar Rahman, general secretary of Parbatipur Upazila Bus Owners' Association, was stabbed in different parts of his body on Monday night while he was walking to his Rahmatnagar residence in Parbatipur, said AZM Menhazul Haq, president of the association.

The bus service on all routes from the upazila remained suspended since 6:00am yesterday in protest against the attack on Foyzar, also vice president of Parbatipur Poura Awami League, he said.

Talking to The Daily Star, Menhaz said when Foyzar went close to his residence around 11:30pm, a gang wearing helmets started stabbing him indiscriminately and fled the scene of the crime soon after.

Hearing screams, locals rushed to the spot and took him to M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital.

The suspension of bus operations caused suffering to commuters trying to reach their destinations.

The bus strike continued till the filing of this report at 9:00pm yesterday as no arrest was made in this connection, said Menhazul.

Contacted, Parbatipur Police Station Officer-in-Charge Imam Zafar said they were yet to get any complaint over the incident. "However, we are trying to identify and arrest the attackers," he added.

“After searching for an hour, I found my sister on the other side of the barbed fence around 2:30pm. We started crying immediately as we were seeing each other after four years.”

Sirajul Islam from Lalmonirhat

750 new dengue cases in 24 hours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the new 750 dengue patients admitted to different hospitals across the country in the last 24 hours till yesterday, the total number of cases this year has crossed the 32,000 mark.

According to Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), total cases rose to 32,716 till yesterday, of which, 9,634 are from outside Dhaka. This year's death toll so far stands at 118.

Among the deaths, 69 were in Dhaka, 22 in Cox's Bazar, 13 in Chattogram, five in Barishal, three each in Khulna and Mymensingh, and one each in Narsingdi, Narail and Feni.

A total of 29,466 patients have already been released, of which 8,677 are from outside Dhaka.

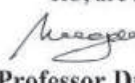
Some 3,416 dengue patients are still undergoing treatment, of whom 1,192 are from outside Dhaka.

Entomologist GM Saifur Rahman of National University suggested the authorities take effective measures after the rain

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BANGLADESH ELECTION COMMISSION					
Election Commission Secretariat					
Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka					
www.ecs.gov.bd					
Tender for Goods (Single Lot)					
Ref. No: 17.00.0000.057.71.005.22-257			Dated: 25/10/2022		
1	Procurement Method/ Document	Open Tender Method (OTM), National			
2	Source of Funds	Revenue Budget (Government)			
3	Tender Package No.	ICT GR4			
4	Tender Package Name	Internet Connectivity for ECS			
5	Tender Publication Date	25/10/2022			
6	Tender Last Selling Date	12/11/2022			
7	Tender Closing Date and Time	13/11/2022 at 02:00 PM			
8	Tender Opening Date and Time	13/11/2022 at 02:15 PM			
9	Name and Address of the Office(s)				
	Selling Tender Document	Maintenance Engineer, Room- 607, Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka			
	Receiving Tender Document & Opening Tender Document	System Manager, Room- 601, Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka			
10	Eligibility of Tender	Tenderer Fulfilling the conditions lying in the tender document.			
11	Brief Description of Goods	Internet Connectivity for ECS			
12	Brief Description of Related Services	Internet Connectivity for ECS			
13	Tender Document Price	Taka 1000/- (One thousand only)			
14	Lot No	Identification	Location	Tender Security	Completion Time in weeks
	1	Internet Connectivity for ECS	Dhaka	10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Taka only)	2 (two) weeks from the deed of Agreement
	Name of Official Inviting Tender and Designation	Md. Ikbal Zavid Maintenance Engineer			
15	Address of Official Inviting Tender with Contact Details	Room- 607, Election Commission Secretariat, Nirbachan Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka, Tel. 55007603, E-mail: ikbal@ecs.gov.bd			
17	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings				

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