



Two trucks collided with each other in the break of dawn yesterday at Asad Gate area. As an aftermath of the collision, one of the stone-carrying trucks lost control and went over the divider, while the other one sped away. Locals claimed that the two vehicles were trying to overtake one another. Authorities went there to move the damaged truck, whose driver fled, from the premises around 11:00am.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Law enforcers must stick to the law

Says Ain o Salish Kendra

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcement agencies must adhere to the law when detaining and interrogating people, said Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK). "During recent times, there have been news of law enforcement agencies allegedly picking up different people in plainclothes," said the organisation in a statement yesterday.

News reports pointed out that several days after claims of being picked up surface, the people are being shown arrested under different allegations. Authorities say that the ones picked up were kept in custody for interrogation, said the statement.

"There are allegations that in many of these cases, there have been violations of, and deviations from the law, constitution and the directives of the High Court," said the statement.

Mentionable, when arresting any individual, law enforcement agencies must wear their uniform, provide their identity, show a warrant, must produce the arrestee in front of a magistrate and alert the family and legal representative, said the statement.

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Winter brings risk of PNEUMONIA FOR CHILDREN

MOUDUD AHMED SUJAN

With winter's arrival, physicians have urged parents to stay extra cautious to keep their children safe from pneumonia.

They advised the parents to ensure proper and timely treatment if their children get infected with pneumonia to avoid fatalities.

Pneumonia, which is caused by bacteria, viruses or fungi, leaves children to fight for their lives, as their lungs fill with pus and fluid caused by the disease. "Falling sick with cold and cough sees a rise in winter. But there are differences between normal flu and pneumonia. We have to be extra cautious for children, especially those under the age of five," said Prof Iflat Ara Shamsad, head of the paediatric department at Dhaka Medical College.

As pneumonia is an infection of the lungs, its most common symptoms are coughing, trouble breathing and fever, she said.

"Children with pneumonia usually experience fast breathing, or their lower chest may draw in or retract when they inhale. In case of normal cough or fever, there's no breathing issue."

If parents observe pneumonia symptoms among their children, they should visit a doctor or hospital immediately, she suggested.

At Dhaka Medical College Hospital, the number of children suffering from pneumonia have already started rising.

"We've been receiving some eight to 10 childhood pneumonia patients every day recently. It will continue rising as November and December is the peak season for pneumonia cases in our country," Iflat said.

Pneumonia is still the main cause of deaths for children under five in Bangladesh. But if intervened timely, pneumonia can be cured, according to the experts.



- Children under 5 most vulnerable to pneumonia
- Bacteria, viruses, fungi common causes for infection
- Common symptoms coughing, breathing problems, fever Over 24,000 children die of pneumonia in country per year
- Most deaths prevented with vaccines, low-cost antibiotics
- Medical access not sufficient to tackle disease

Surveys have found that parents often take their children to the hospital at the last moment, especially when they need critical interventions like oxygen support.

As a result, more than 24,000 children still die of pneumonia in the country every year, which is around 18 percent of all child deaths under the age of five.

Most pneumonia deaths can be prevented with vaccines, and easily treated with low-cost antibiotics. But a small percentage of one-year-olds in Bangladesh still remain unvaccinated for viral pneumonia, and more than half of children suffering from pneumonia symptoms cannot avail effective medical treatment.

Prisoners must get proper treatment: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday said prisoners across the country must be provided with proper treatment if they feel sick, as they have the legal right to medical treatment.

"Prisoners are usually kept detained in jails. It is not acceptable if they are not provided with proper treatment in times of sickness," the HC bench of Justice KM Kamrul Kader and Justice Mohammad Ali said during hearing a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Md JR Khan Robin on February 18, 2019, seeking necessary directives on this issue.

The bench also asked the government bodies concerned to appoint doctors on deputation to vacant posts at the prisons and submit a report after complying with the order by December 11.

Petitioner JR Khan Robin told The Daily Star that there are reportedly only four doctors in 68 prisons across the country, where around 87,000 prisoners currently stay detained.

A total of 137 posts of doctors in the prisons reportedly are vacant, he added.

Deputy Attorney General Abdullah Al Mahmud Bashar

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

CEPA can boost Bangladesh-India trade, investment

Says Indian high commissioner

UNB, Dhaka

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pranay Verma at a session said the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has the potential to enhance bilateral trade and investment between Bangladesh and India.

Both countries have agreed to negotiate the details of CEPA.

The high commissioner said the agreement will facilitate a new institutional framework and supply chain links.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi directed trade officials on both sides to complete the CEPA negotiations soon and in time for Bangladesh's graduation from LDC status.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

PRESIDENT'S FLIGHT 'How did they fly without clearance?' State minister for civil aviation calls for probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Civil Aviation M Mahub Ali yesterday said a probe will be launched to find out how the Biman security head and three cabin crews got permission to fly to London to operate a VVIP flight without any security clearance.

The minister made the remarks while talking to reporters after the inauguration of the newest private airline, Air Astra, at Dhaka airport.

The local authorities concerned did not give clearance to Maj Taiz Ibne Anwar, head of security of Biman, and three cabin crew members -- Sufia Akhter Shupti (flight purser), Apon Kumar Singha Sinha (flight steward), and Mariyan Fatema Sheheli (flight stewardess) -- for operating the VVIP flight of President Abdul Hamid on grounds of security.

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Doctor joined militancy: CTTC

Law enforcers looking for his associates

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The doctor from Kishoreganj joined militancy while he was an HSC student in 2013.

To indoctrinate him, Zulfikar, who was his senior, targeted Mirza Kawsar (28), a lecturer at President Abdul Hamid Medical College and Hospital, using the internet.

After Kawsar passed his HSC, he started meeting Zulfikar in person and discussing different religious issues. Kawsar then got involved with the banned militant outfit Ansar Al Islam with the pseudonym Abdul Kader alias Sobhan.

Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit claimed to have found the information after Kawsar gave a confessional statement before a Dhaka court yesterday.

CTTC produced him before a Dhaka court after a two-day remand, following which, the court sent him to jail.

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Bangladeshi students in the US reach an all-time high

UNB, Dhaka

A total of 10,597 Bangladeshi students chose to study in the United States during the 2021-2022 academic year, according to the 2022 Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange.

"We are excited to see that more and more Bangladeshi students are choosing the United States," said US Ambassador to Bangladesh Peter Haas.

From engaging in groundbreaking research to enriching campus life through cultural programmes, Bangladeshis

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First-ever hajj conference from Nov 17

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first-ever national level conference and fair on hajj and umrah management will be held in the capital from November 17.

The three-day conference will be held at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Center.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the conference virtually at 10:00am on Thursday.

Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh (HAAB) President M Shahadat Hossain Taslim disclosed this information at a press conference in a city hotel yesterday.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal; State Minister for Religious Affairs Faridul Haque Khan; State Minister for Civil Aviation M Mahub Ali; and Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Bangladesh, among others, will also remain present at the inaugural ceremony of the conference.

Addressing the press conference, the HAAB president said Bangladesh is the 4th largest pilgrim-sending country in the world. The country also sends the highest number of pilgrims who perform hajj under private hajj management.

"About 96 percent of Bangladeshi hajj pilgrims and 100 percent umrah pilgrims go to Saudi Arabia under private management," he said.

"One of the main objectives of this conference is to provide hajj pilgrims with a proper understanding and awareness of the current technology-based hajj management and information about middlemen and

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A woman pulls a van carrying water in steel pitchers to disburse among road-side vendors and stores. As most of these vendors and stores don't have direct waterline access, she sells them each pitcher for Tk 10-15, saving them the trouble of getting the water themselves. This photo was taken in Old Dhaka's Banglabazar area recently.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

PRAYER TIMING
NOVEMBER 16

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------|------|---------|------|
| Fajr | Zohr | Asr | Maghrib | Esha |
| AZAN 5-05 | 12-45 | 3-45 | 5-21 | 7-00 |
| JAMAAT 5-40 | 1-15 | 4-00 | 5-24 | 7-30 |

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION