

School student, woman killed in road crashes

STAR REPORT

Two people were killed and two injured in road accidents in two districts yesterday, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Joypurhat, an elderly woman was killed when a speeding bike hit her in Akkelpur upazila.

Rahima Begum (60), a resident of the district, died on the way to a hospital, said police.

In Faridpur, a school student was killed and two people were injured as a three-wheeler and motorbike collided in Kosbagoti area of Saltha upazila.

The deceased — Md Zahid Mollah (17) of Sadar upazila — was a tenth grader at a local school.

The victims were on the three-wheeler. One of the injured was taken to Dhaka and another to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical College Hospital, said police.



A group of children race towards Kirtankhola river with their spirits high, excited to have a bit of fun while taking a dip. This photo was taken in Barishal's Palashpur area yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Murder to fund pleasure trip  
Victim's grandchildren planned Nov 17 Chawkbazar killing, say police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The killing of an elderly man in his Chawkbazar flat in Dhaka on November 17 was not a simple case of robbery. Rather, it was a murder planned by two grandchildren of the victim, Mansur Ahmed (78), according to a top DMP official.

The development came following the arrest of five people, including the two siblings, from different areas yesterday.

They admitted to their involvement in the murder, Biplob Bijoy Talukder, joint commissioner (crime) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, told reporters yesterday.

Of the arrestees, Anika Tabassum (23), a private dental college student, and her brother Shahadat Mubin Alvi (20) are the victim's grandchildren.

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COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES ACT  
Govt should reform law immediately: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should take immediate measures to reform the Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Act-2013 to restrict the power of bureaucrats and make it suitable for farmers, discussants said at a programme yesterday.

Economists, teachers, and politicians came up with the demand at a discussion organised by Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) in the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

Cooperative societies, which are under the social welfare ministry, are associations that work toward

“The current Cooperative Societies Act only safeguards bureaucrats and other members with power. They have been enjoying the benefits of this law.

RASHED KHAN MENON  
President of Workers Party

mutual, social, cultural and economic benefit. Speakers said only officials of cooperatives have the power to control formation, registration,

and management of cooperative societies. As a result, cooperative societies see more irregularities and corruption, depriving farmers of facilities.

Referring to section 43 of the act, ALRD Director Shamsul Huda said, “Officials of cooperatives have the power to dismiss any member without any consent of other members if they want to, which is unacceptable.”

“Farmers have been leaving farming because the Cooperative Societies Act is not friendly anymore,” he added.

Addressing as chief guest,

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Prices of medicines unreasonable, unfair: CAB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) has requested the government to control the prices of medicines by subsidising them.

The prices of more than 50 essential medicines have increased in the last six months. CAB, in a press release yesterday, termed this as “unreasonable and unfair” and urged the government to reduce the marked up prices.

CAB also said the government issued a notification revising the maximum retail price of 53 medicines on July 20.

Analysing the data of retail drugs in pharmacies, it was found that the prices of these drugs have increased by 13 to 75 percent in the last six months, said CAB.

The price of paracetamol syrup alone has increased by 75 percent in the last six months. Apart from this, the prices of medicines for gastric diseases, high blood pressure and diabetes, and antibiotics have increased by 13 to 33 percent.

CAB said the Department of Drug Administration has taken steps to increase the price of medicines such as IV fluids, including cholera saline and insulin.

It said saline should be manufactured and marketed through government agencies such as public health institutes.

Such a one-sided increase in prices amid the overall price hike of daily commodities is against consumer rights and interests, CAB said.

“The companies are now increasing prices of listed medicines on the pretext of rising dollar value. If the markup is reduced, the cost of medicines will come down,” read the release.

Raushan Ershad to return home November 27

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opposition Leader Raushan Ershad will return home on November 27, after receiving treatment at Bumrungrad Hospital in Bangkok for around five months.

She will depart from Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok, Thailand at 10:35am (local time) and land at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 12:10pm, said the opposition leader's personal secretary yesterday.

Raushan's son and lawmaker Rahgir Al Mahi Ershad and daughter-in-law Mahima Ershad, who has been staying with the opposition leader during her long treatment, will accompany Raushan.

After attending the budget session of the 2022-2023 fiscal, the opposition leader travelled to the hospital for treatment on July 5.

FIRE IN THAKURGAON SADAR  
14 families now with no shelter

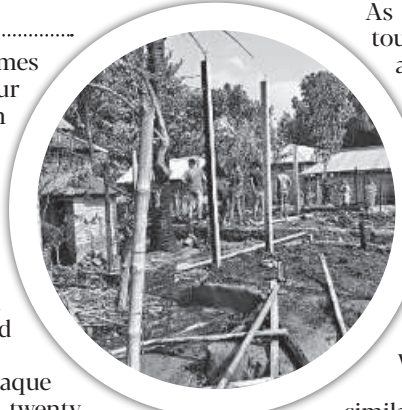
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Fourteen families that lost their homes in last week's blaze at Ruhea Madhupur Gudampara village of Thakurgaon Sadar upazila now have no shelter to take refuge amid the chilly nights.

These families of labourers are living under the open sky, erecting sheets of polythene, as they are yet to rebuild their thatched houses due to financial constraints. Although the upazila administration provided them support, that was inadequate.

Local UP Chairman Mominul Haque told The Daily Star that about twenty houses belonging to the 14 families were gutted in a devastating fire on November 14, which originated from a home's earthen oven. The fire soon engulfed the adjacent houses of the village.

After being informed, the upazila administration gave each family Tk 5,000 cash and corrugated iron sheets.



As they all depend on daily wages, it is tough to rebuild the houses even with the assistance, the chairman said.

Shudhu Ram Barman (50), one of the victims, said, “I've lost my two thatched homes in the fire. I'm yet to rebuild them because I don't have the means to. The assistance that we got is not enough.”

Ratan Barman said his wife gave birth in the ill-fated morning of that day.

Now, they are living in misery — with the infant under the open sky.

The condition of other victims are similar, said the villagers.

Contacted, Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Thakurgaon Sadar Abu Taher Mohammad Samsuzzaman told this newspaper that they have written for more assistance to the disaster management directorate. After getting allocation, it will be provided to the victims.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD  
Road Division, Rangpur.  
Tel No. 0521-63655, Fax: 0521-63430  
E-mail: eeran@rhd.gov.bd

Memo no: 35.01.8549.467.07.000.22-2439(25) Date -23.11.22

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SL. No	Tender ID No	Tender Ref. No	Description of Works	Tender/Proposal Document Last selling Date & Time	Last Date & time for Tender / Proposal Security Submission	Tender/P proposal Opening Date & Time
1	756047	e-GP-18/EE/RHD/RA NG/2022-2023	Repair & Single Bituminous Surface Treatment (SBST) work at Ch. 1st (P), 3rd (P) & 4th (P) km of Rangpur-Gangachara Road (Z-5023) under Road Division, Rangpur during the year of 2022-2023.	07-Dec-2022 within 17:00	08-Dec-2022 within 13:00	08-Dec-2022 at 14:00

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(Mohammad Mahub Alam)  
ID no- 602242  
Executive Engineer (C.C.), RHD  
Road Division, Rangpur

GD- 2182

NOVOAIR  
Jashore-Cox's Bazar flights from Nov 30

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Private airline Novoair will operate direct flights between Jashore and Cox's Bazar from November 30.

The flights will leave Jashore every Wednesday at 11:45am and arrive in Cox's Bazar at 12:55pm. Similarly, they will depart from Cox's Bazar every Saturday at 9:55am and arrive in Jashore at 11:00am.

One-way fare will start from Tk 5,900.

Novoair has announced an offer for free hotel accommodation for three nights in Cox's Bazar. To enjoy this offer, passengers have to buy a pair of Jashore-Cox's Bazar-Jashore couple tickets. Tourists will stay at Seagull Hotel, Long Beach Hotel, Neeshorgo Hotel and Resort, Windy Terrace Hotel, and other hotels.

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