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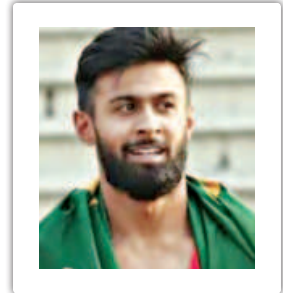


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Imranur wins historic gold in Asian athletics



SPORTS REPORTER

England-based Bangladeshi sprinter Imranur Rahman created history on Saturday by becoming the first Bangladeshi to win a gold medal at the Asian Indoor Athletics Championship.

The 29-year-old sprinter clocked his best timing, of 6.59 seconds, in the 60-metre event to win the gold medal in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan last night.

Imranur, the two-time fastest sprinter of Bangladesh, had clocked

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PHOTO: REUTERS

A man stands on debris of a fallen apartment block in the aftermath of a deadly earthquake, in Kahramanmaraş, Turkey, yesterday.

RETURNEE MIGRANT WORKERS
Maimed, many are left in the lurch

Govt provides only Tk 1 lakh each for treatment, ambulance service

JAMIL MAHMUD

Jahangir Sheikh of Faridpur's Madhukhali migrated to the UAE as a construction worker in 2008 with the hope of turning things around for his poor family.

Everything was going well until in November 2020 a workplace accident in Dubai changed the course of the 32-year-old's life.

While Jahangir and another Bangladeshi were painting an under-construction building from the outside, he fell from the second floor and fractured several bones, including in his hands and waist.

"It was after lunch. I was on a tin-made platform outside the building. Suddenly, I felt dizzy," Jahangir said, adding that he had no safety gear on at the time.

He underwent treatment at a Dubai hospital for nearly three months, after which his employer sent him home in February 2021.

"I can't lift heavy objects now and I'm still on medication," said Jahangir, a father of one, while talking to The Daily Star recently.

He now makes ends meet by selling vegetables.

As Bangladesh sends tens of thousands of migrant workers abroad each year, scores return home prematurely after suffering various injuries or illnesses in the host countries.

Although the Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB), under the expatriates' welfare ministry, provides several services to the workers, services for the ailing or injured returnee migrant workers are scarce.

At present, the board only gives such migrant workers a maximum Tk 1 lakh for treatment and ambulance service from the country's airports.

Speaking to this correspondent, Jahangir said he was not even aware of the services.

Migrant rights activists said the services are not sufficient to address

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SAGAR-RUNI MURDER
No more delay, we want justice

Demand journalists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Journalists yesterday expressed dismay and anger over Rab's failure to complete the investigation into the murders of journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi.

The government is not willing to solve the case, they told a rally on Dhaka Reporters Unity premises in the morning.

DRU President Mursalin Nomani said journalists met the home minister on Wednesday and told him that they wanted justice without further delay as the deadline for submitting the probe report had been extended 95 times.

"We saw many sensational murder cases get solved, but the mysteries remain unsolved when the victim is a journalist. We hope Rab will finally submit the investigation report in March. If they fail again, we will continue our demonstration for justice," he said.

DRU Joint Secretary Moinul Ahasan said, "If Rab can't do it, the Police Bureau of Investigation should take charge of the probe."

Former DRU president Rafiqul Islam Azad urged journalists to unite and fight for justice.

Attending the rally, Sohel Haider Chowdhury, president of a faction of Dhaka Union of Journalists, said, "We will not accept any cooked-up stories in the probe report. If the investigation officers do that, we will protest. We want to know the motive behind the killings. We also want to know why the probe is being delayed."

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Mahir Sarowar Megh looking at photos of his slain parents at his uncle's flat on Indira Road where the family held an exhibition yesterday. Journalists Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi were murdered in their apartment on February 11, 2012.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

TEESTA WATER SHARING

NRCC chairman's remarks go against country's interest
Say Bangladeshi experts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts have slammed the chairman of National River Conservation Commission for commenting that West Bengal will not be able to give Teesta water to Bangladesh in the lean season.

In an interview with Indian newspaper The Telegraph, NRCC Chairman Manjur Ahmed Chowdhury, an entomologist, said, "[West] Bengal will not be able to divert water to Bangladesh during the lean season, as it has diverted almost all water through Mahananda link channel at Gajoldoba to support agriculture and cater for drinking water needs..."

The Telegraph published the interview on Friday with the headline "Dam mooted to break Teesta logjam: Bangladesh policy maker doesn't see a chance to get more river water from Bengal."

"From the political point of view, the Trinamul Congress is weak in northern districts (in Bengal) and hence, will not be ready to share any water at the cost of

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"[West] Bengal will not be able to divert water to Bangladesh during the lean season, as it has diverted almost all water through Mahananda link channel at Gajoldoba..."

Manjur Ahmed Chowdhury
NRCC Chairman

Scientists find at what age people sleep least

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

People are likely to get less sleep during mid-adulthood compared to early and late adulthood, according to a new study.



The research, published recently in the journal Nature Communications, found that sleep duration decreases during early adulthood until age 33, before it increases again at age 53.

In the study, scientists, including those from the University of Lyon in France, assessed 730,187 participants from 63 countries, to uncover how sleep patterns change throughout the human lifespan and how they vary across different countries.

Participants in the study played the citizen science game Sea Hero Quest mobile game that was designed for neuroscience research.

Those playing the game were surveyed about demographic characteristics as well as questions on their sleep patterns.

The data suggest that people across the study sample sleep an average of about seven hours per night, with women sleeping 7.5 minutes longer than men on average.

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Biden to mark Ukraine war anniv with Poland trip

AFP, Washington

President Joe Biden will mark this month's anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine with a visit to NATO ally Poland, the White House said.

Biden will travel February 20-22, meeting with Polish President Andrzej Duda and also members of the Bucharest Nine, a group of Nato members in eastern Europe, said Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre.

He will "discuss our bilateral cooperation as well as our collective efforts to support Ukraine and bolster Nato's deterrence," she said.

Biden will give a speech to mark the February 24 "one year anniversary of Russia's brutal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, addressing how the United States has rallied the world to support the people of Ukraine as

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