

## 4 held for ‘mugging in guise of cops’

### Two are BCL activists

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Four current and former activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League were arrested while they were reportedly trying to snatch cash, identifying themselves as police in Narsingdi yesterday.

The arrestees include Rehanul Islam Bhuiyan Lelin, 36, former joint convener of Narsingdi district unit BCL, and Shoyeb Raihan, 29, former member of BCL's central committee.

The two others are Tanvir Ahmed, 30, and Kamrul Hasan Muhiit, 29. Both of them are BCL activists, said a prominent member of the district unit BCL, seeking anonymity.

The victim, Akkas Ali, member of a local union parishad and resident of Sahebprotab area of Narsingdi Sadar upazila, said he along with his son were going to their village home at Bashgari area in Raipura upazila.

“We were travelling on an auto-rickshaw. We were scheduled to buy land at our village home. That is why, we were carrying Tk 16 lakh cash,” he said.

“When we reached Bowakur area around 11:30am, four people riding two motorbikes intercepted us. They were in plainclothes and identified themselves as police officers, showing ID cards. They started searching our bodies and bag,” he told The Daily Star.

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This 5.25-kilometre-long Indurhat-Binna Bazaar-Jilbari road in Pirojpur's Nesarabad upazila remains in an awful condition for long, much to the sufferings of local residents.

PHOTO: STAR

## Man attacked for ‘accusing BSCIC official of bribery’

### Criminals break his leg after ACC detains accused with bribe

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Shariatpur

A man who filed a bribery complaint against an official of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) had his leg broken by a group of criminals on Thursday afternoon.

The victim, Eskandar Dhali, claimed that BSCIC's deputy manager Mohammad Monir Hossain demanded Tk 1.25 lakh bribe for completing an official task required for his business institution. Eskandar then filed a complaint with the local Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) office.

“They [ACC officials] made a plan and asked me to go

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## Important Pirojpur road in dire straits

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

An important road in Pirojpur that connects Baldia union of Nesarabad upazila and two unions of Nazirpur upazila is crumbling away, as it has not been renovated for a long time.

As a result, several thousand residents of at least 20 villages under the three unions have been suffering immensely, as they have no other alternative to reach their destinations.

Locals said around 4-kilometre portion of the 5.25 kilometre Indurhat-Binna Bazar-Jilbari road, stretching from Baldia Bridge to



Jilbari village, has remained badly damaged for over a decade. But no step has been taken to fix it.

The most concerning part is that parts of the road that connect to a small bridge are falling apart.

According to Pirojpur Local

Government Engineer Department (LGED), authorities have taken necessary steps to reconstruct the road soon. Tender process to fix 2.7 kilometres of the 3.61-kilometre damaged portion has already been completed.

The tender was called to complete renovation work of the dilapidated part and 13 culverts at a cost of around Tk 5 crore, LGED sources said.

“We have no word to express our sufferings as it is very difficult for us to carry our agricultural goods to the market,” said Mohammad

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## Schoolgirl hurt in Ctg road crash dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A schoolgirl succumbed to her injuries yesterday morning, three days after she was hit by a truck in Sitakunda upazila of Chattogram.

The deceased – Sanjida Akter, 15 – was a ninth-grader at CCC High School, said police.

On Tuesday, two students – including Sanjida – were severely injured as a truck hit them while they were crossing Dhaka-Chattogram highway in SKM gate area. Locals took them to Chattogram Medical College Hospital.

After 66 hours, Sanjida passed away early yesterday. The injured student was still undergoing treatment at CMCH, said Shahadat Hossain, inspector of Kumira Highway Police Outpost.

The body was handed over to the family without a post-mortem following their request.

The inspector said they seized the truck. Legal action will be taken in consultation with the family, he added.

## ‘Bring AL leader to book’

### Tangail women demand punishment for ‘raping teenager’

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Local women held a demonstration in Tangail yesterday demanding severe punishment for Golam Kibria Boro Moni, vice president of the town unit of Awami League, for “raping a teenager”.

The protest was organised by a group called “Socheton Nari Somaj”, and the women marched through various streets before forming a human chain at Shaheed Minar premises.

According to the protesters, Boro Moni allegedly raped and tortured the girl. They demanded that the case be thoroughly investigated and Moni be given exemplary punishment through trial.

They warned that if this does not happen, they would initiate a stronger movement.

On Wednesday night, the 17-year-old pregnant girl filed a case against Moni on charges of rape and torture with Tangail Sadar Police Station.

Moni's wife, Nigar Aftab, was also named as an accused in the case.

## TRAFFIC SNARL IN MYMENSINGH

# Courier companies take over footpaths

MD AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

In urban areas, traffic jam is generally triggered by some common factors, which general people sometimes tolerate for their own interest.

The government takes some positive steps such as widening the roads, expansion of footpaths and building flyovers and overpasses that cause



traffic congestion up to a certain period.

However, in a city like Mymensingh, no such development works have so far been taken in recent times. As a consequence, dwellers have to face acute traffic jams, and they blame a section of courier service companies for the situation.

They have grabbed the whole of footpaths in the entire city, and, in many cases, large parts of the roads in front of their establishments. According to locals, this has become their tradition for years.

This trend has been hampering the movement of pedestrians as well as vehicles, worsening the traffic situation.

This correspondent came across this situation when he went on a walk in the city's Dhopakhola, CK Ghosh Road and Boro Bazar areas during busy hours recently.

The roads lead to important Charpara and Shambhuganj Bridge areas, which naturally see the huge pressure of various vehicles.

Courier service companies left their

goods to smack on the pavements beside these roads. They load and unload their stuff during busy hours, causing public nuisance.

Locals said the authorities concerned have turned a blind eye to the issue.

Ramzan Ali from Dhopakhola said blocking of footpaths by these roads gives passers-by no scope to use those at all.

They have to jump or go down to the road to cross the area.

The worst sufferers are patients and their attendants, who have to face traffic snarl to reach Mymensingh Medical College Hospital every day, said

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## Free health camp in honour of Mita Haque

STAR REPORT

As a tribute to Rabindra Sangeet exponent Mita Haque, a free health camp was arranged by her organisation Shurotirtho.

The service was provided at Mita Haque's residence in Keraniganj's Boro Monoharia yesterday.

Incepta Pharmaceuticals Limited provided full cooperation to Shurotirtho in the programme, titled “Mita Juboraj Free Health Camp”. Mita Haque and noted actor Khaleel Khan Juboraj tied the knot in 1985. The actor passed away on December 20, 2013.

A press release informed that the camp commenced at 10:00am and provided locals with free medical advice and treatment. It continued till 1:00pm.

Mita Haque was awarded Ekushey Padak in 2020 for her outstanding contribution to music. Earlier in 2016, she received Shilpakala Padak.

The artist was born in 1962. As a child, she took lessons from her uncle Wahidul Haque and later Ustad Mohammad Hossain Khan and musicologist Sanjida Khatun. Since 1977, she performed regularly on Bangladesh Television and Radio.

She passed away on April 11, 2021.

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\* BDS stands for Bangladesh Development Studies, which is a quarterly journal published by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

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