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KERANIGANJ CLASH

Nipun Roy among 108 BNP leaders, activists sued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 108 leaders and activists of BNP, including its central executive committee member Nipun Roy Chowdhury, were sued yesterday in connection with an Awami League-BNP clash in Keraniganj two days ago.

Sumon Miah, a local AL activist, filed the case with Keraniganj Model Police Station, Inspector (operation) Ashiqur Rahman told The Daily Star.

The clash that took place on Friday left around 50 people injured.

In the first information report, Sumon claimed that BNP men attacked the AL activists and its office.

"We have already arrested nine people for their involvement in the attack. We have sent them

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Opposing the decision to lease out six baors (waterbodies) to a hatchery, a group of people, whose livelihoods solely depend on fishing in the waterbodies, staged a demonstration in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday. They said at least 40,000 fisher families will be affected by this fish farming in Kotchandpur of Jhenidah. They also urged the government to take steps to preserve local fish. The six baors include Baluahr, Jayadia, Marjad, Bergobindapur, Kathgara and Khoter Pal.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

DHAKA-CTG CORRIDOR

‘Build expressway for seamless communication’ Experts, business leaders tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Business leaders and experts yesterday called for constructing an elevated expressway on the Dhaka-Chattogram Road corridor to establish seamless connectivity between the capital and the Chattogram port.

Only widening the Dhaka-Chattogram Highway -- which is considered the economic lifeline of the country -- will not be enough to facilitate the smooth movement of vehicles. They said elevated expressway will help in reducing the cost and time for both import and export.

They made the remarks during a roundtable

A Dhaka-Chattogram expressway can create effective and smooth connectivity across the country as well with Nepal, Bhutan, the northeastern region of India and the Asian Highway.

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN
ICCB President

on Investment for Infrastructure Development, organised by International Chamber of Commerce-Bangladesh (ICCB) at a city hotel.

Their demand came at a time when the Roads and Highways Department (RHID) has started working to determine whether the four-lane Dhaka-Chattogram Highway will have six lanes or eight.

Two separate plans -- one for an elevated expressway and another for an expressway with some elevated parts on the Dhaka Chattogram Highway -- were dropped in 2016 and 2019 respectively.

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THALASSEMIA PREVENTION

‘Blood screening prior to marriage vital’

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two Thalassemia carriers should not start a family to prevent the spread of this fatal disease, said physicians yesterday at an event.


Given that the treatment of this disease is expensive and causes the patients great distress, the best course of action is prevention,

He also stressed the importance of blood screening prior to marriage.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, thalassemia is an inherited blood disorder that is passed on from parents to children via DNA. The blood disorder is incurable, and its management is difficult and expensive because it requires


chance that a mother will give birth to a child with thalassemia if none or only one of the partners carries the gene.

"However, there is a 25 percent chance that a newborn will suffer from lifelong thalassemia if both parents have the gene. In 50 percent of cases, the newborn will be a carrier of the gene like the parents



Thalassemia can only be prevented if two carriers don't start a family together. And detecting the carriers would be easier if screening can be done among all school children.

Prof Md Selimuzzaman
Secretary general of BSHI Thalassemia Centre



Thalassemia is an inherited blood disorder that is passed on from parents to children via DNA. The blood disorder is incurable, and its management is difficult and expensive because it requires perpetual blood transfusions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Screening for carrier status before marriage
Checking for thalassemia during first trimester
Raising awareness regarding the issue

they said at the Bangladesh Shishu Hospital and Institute premises, marking World Thalassemia Day.

"All parents of patients who came to us for treatment said they were unaware they were thalassemia gene carriers," said Prof Belayet Hossain of BSHI's paediatric haematology department at the event.

perpetual blood transfusions.

According to the Health Bulletin published by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), over 5,000 thalassemia affected children are born every year, and it is estimated that six out of every 100 Bangladeshis carry the gene.

Prof Belayet said there is no

but will not suffer from thalassemia. Meanwhile, in 25 percent of cases, the newborn will neither be a carrier nor a sufferer," he added.

Dr Md Abdul Wohab, a paediatric haematology oncologist at the BSHI, shared the latest updates on the treatment of thalassemia.

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Honouring the stellar women

bti, Star award 2 in architecture, education categories

STAR REPORT

To recognise the special contributions of emerging, young and promising women from different walks of life, bti and The Daily Star honoured two women at an event yesterday.

The event -- "Stellar Women Awards" -- was held at bti Celebration Point, Gulshan-2 in Dhaka.

This initiative will award 12 women in 12 categories.

Previously, promising women from the "Development" and "Technology" sectors have been awarded with the same fervour. In continuation of that spirit, in this event two extraordinary women have been recognised as "Stellar Women".

Nazli Hussain in the "Architecture" category and Sadia Jafarin in the "Education" category were presented with the awards.

Nazli Hussain was presented with



The stellar duo -- Sadia Jafarin (left) and Nazli Hussain (right). PHOTO: COLLECTED

the award for her extraordinary contributions in ensuring sustainable architectural practices throughout the country for the past 15 years through her firm, Praxis Architects.

Her company is the first

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EX-RHD ENGINEER Committee formed to probe graft allegations

RASHIDUL HASAN

A parliamentary body yesterday formed a three-member committee to investigate alleged corruption and irregularities of former additional chief engineer of Roads and Highways Department Tushar Kanti Saha.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Roads, Transport and Bridges Ministry formed the probe body at its meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan with Jatiya Party MP and chief of the House watchdog Rowshan Ara Mannan in the chair.

Ruling Awami League MP Abu Jahir was made

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