



Off to Turkey to see lifts!

6 PUST officials, including pro-VC, treasurer, to fly next month

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU

A six-member team of Pabna University of Science and Technology will visit Turkey next month to inspect the quality of lifts that would be purchased for the university.

Two of them are teachers and the rest are engineers, according to an official document.

The "pre-shipment inspection team" is scheduled to start its 10-day tour on June 6. A construction company, which got the work to install the lifts, will carry the expenses of the trip, said officials concerned.

The tour has been arranged under the "Development of Pabna University of Science and Technology" project.

PUST Pro-VC Prof SM Mostafa Kamal Khan will lead team that include university's treasurer KM Salah Uddin, Project Director Eng Lt Col (ret'd) GM Azizur Rahman and three other engineers of the

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Leaders of the BNP and its associate bodies place floral wreaths at the grave of party founder Ziaur Rahman at Chandrima Udyan in the capital yesterday to mark his death anniversary. Story on page 5.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

BOY'S DEATH IN MOHAKHALI

Expressway worker arrested

Site manager sued him for negligence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested a worker of the Dhaka elevated expressway project after a site manager sued him for negligence that led to the death of a 12-year-old boy near Mohakhali level-crossing on Monday.

Hasib Hasan, site manager (Banani and Mohakhali), filed the case with Dhaka Railway Police Station, accusing Muhammad Hasan, 32.

The victim, who is yet to be identified, was near the railway lines when the five to six feet long rod held by the accused fell and landed on the boy's head, according to the complaint.

Hasib mentioned that the accused was taking the rod from one place to another on the elevated expressway at the time.

However, several witnesses and shopkeepers in the area said the authorities were negligent in securing their construction site.

During a visit to the site, this correspondent also saw that no measures were taken to keep objects from accidentally falling to the ground.

Hours after the rod fell on the boy around 9:30am, people were seen walking under the expressway while construction work was in progress overhead.

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EMBEZZLING FUNDS

ACC sues Prof Yunus, 12 others

STAR REPORT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday filed a case against Grameen Telecom Chairman Prof Muhammad Yunus and 12 others for misappropriating about Tk 25 crore of the company's Workers' Profit Participation Fund.

ACC Deputy Director Gulshan Anwar Prodhon lodged the case with its integrated district office.

The other accused in the case are Grameen Telecom Managing Director Nazmul Islam, directors Ashrafur Hasan, Naznin Sultana, Parvin Mahmud, Md Shahjahan, Nurjahan Begum and SM Huzzatul Islam Latifce, Sramik Karmachari Union President Kamruzzaman and General Secretary Firoz Mahmud Hasan, lawyers Zafrul Hasan Sharif and Yusuf Ali.

According to the case statement, the company's 108th board meeting, presided over by Prof Yunus on May 9 last year, decided that a bank account would be opened to distribute Tk 437 crore

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Power cuts may worsen in June

ASIFUR RAHMAN and SAJJAD HOSSAIN

Power cuts are likely to increase in June as the dollar crisis, fuel shortage and maintenance work leave around 45 percent of the country's power generation capacity utilised at a time when the mercury is rising again.

The current capacity of power generation is 23,370MW. From May 24 to May 29, the country on average produced around 11,200MW electricity by day and around 13,300MW during peak hours in the evening, according to data from the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB).

Against a demand for 13,250MW, the country's production was 11,700MW in the evening yesterday, said PGCB sources.

In the first week of May, people experienced severe power cuts when the country endured mild and moderate heat waves. Rainfall brought temporary relief for a couple of weeks, temperature increase has led to rising demand for electricity.

"Till today (yesterday) we are shedding load at a tolerable rate, but we don't know what the situation will be like from next week," a top official of a power distribution company told The Daily Star, wishing anonymity. The country's largest power plant Payra will be shut from next week due to coal crisis, he pointed out.

In the capital, Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC) and Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd (Desco) faced around a shortage of 450 MW against a demand for 2,800

MW at 4:00pm yesterday, sources said. The two distribution companies are having to shed load mostly during the daytime, they added.

State minister for power Nasrul Hamid at a programme on Monday said the power cuts were caused by fuel shortage. The price hike of fuels in the international market has led to fuel shortages, he said.

Residents of the capital are faced with power cuts for around three to four hours a day for at least four to five times.

A shopkeeper at Farmgate said he faced power cuts thrice since 9:00am yesterday and the outages last at least one hour each time.

Ferdous Hasan Pranto, who lives at Banglamotor, said several power cuts forced him to stay up all night.

"It was indeed painful to go to the office in the morning after staying up all night. We had no water in the morning due to the power cuts. Over the past 10 days, power cuts occurred three to four times every night."

Adabor resident Shafiqul Islam faced cuts four times between 7:00am and 1:00pm yesterday. "Over the last three days, power cuts are occurring frequently. My one-year-old baby became very sick due to extreme heat."

Residents from Uttara, Mohammadpur, Badda and Jatrabari areas reported frequent power cuts.

"We are trying to keep the cuts proportionate in all areas. But it is

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SPORT

MSC clinch first Fed Cup in 14 years

The Dhirendranath Dutta Stadium in Cumilla on Tuesday was buzzing as fans witnessed Mohammedan Sporting Club clinch their first Federation Cup title in 14 years with a 4-2 win on penalties against archrivals Abahani after the pulsating contest ended 4-4 following regulation time and extra-time. Mohammedan captain Souleymane Diabate netted all four goals and substitute goalkeeper Ahsan Habib Bipu denied shots from Abahani skipper Raphael Augusto, and Daniel Colindres as the Black and Whites, despite Shahriar Emon's miss, ensured their first trophy in nine years.

STORY ON PAGE 11

Ukraine war comes to Moscow

2 hurt in Moscow, 1 dead in Kyiv as both capitals hit by drones

REUTERS, Moscow/Kyiv

Ukrainian drones struck wealthy districts of Moscow yesterday, Russia said in what one politician called the most dangerous attack since World War Two, while Kyiv was also hit by air for the third time in 24 hours.

Since Russia sent troops into its neighbour in February last year, the war has largely been fought inside Ukraine, though Moscow has reported some attacks on its territory and said one was an assassination attempt against President Vladimir Putin.

Yesterday's early morning raid targeted some of Moscow's wealthiest areas including where Putin and the elite have residences. He was later in the Kremlin and received a briefing on the attack, a spokesman said.

Russia's defence ministry said eight drones sent by Kyiv and targeting civilians were shot down or diverted, though Baza, a Telegram channel with links to the security services, said more than 25 were involved.

Two people were injured while some apartment blocks were briefly evacuated, according to Moscow's mayor. Residents said they heard loud bangs followed by the smell of petrol. Some filmed a drone being shot down and a plume of smoke.

Lawmaker Maxim Ivanov called it the most serious assault on Moscow since the Nazis, saying no Russian could now avoid "the new reality".

Earlier this month, two drones exploded over the Kremlin in an attack Russia also blamed on Kyiv and said was aimed at Putin.

"The sabotage and terrorist attacks of Ukraine will only increase," said another Russian lawmaker, Alexander Khinshstein, who called for a radical strengthening of defences.

Ukrainian presidential aide Mykhailo Podolyak denied Kyiv was directly involved in yesterday's attacks, though he said "we are pleased to watch" and forecast more.



Pyari Begum of Mukh O Mukhosh no more

STAR REPORT

Pyari Begum, renowned actress and the female lead of the first ever Bangla feature film produced here, "Mukh O Mukhosh", breathed her last yesterday at her Uttara residence.

She was 87 years old at the time of her passing.

The news of her death was confirmed to the media by her son, Robiul Amin.

Pyari Begum was married to actor Aminul Haque.

Funeral prayers were held at a mosque in Uttara after Esha prayers, followed by her burial at the Sector 12 cemetery.

Directed by Abdul Jabbar Khan, "Mukh O Mukhosh" was released on August 3, 1956, merely four years after the historic Language Movement of 1952.

Growing discontent

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স্মরণ

এনসিসি ব্যাংক লিঃ এর অন্যতম উদ্যোক্তা পরিচালক, আবদুল মোনেম লিঃ এর সাবেক চেয়ারম্যান মরহুম আবদুল মোনেম-এর ৩য় মৃত্যুবার্ষিকী আজ।

আমরা তাঁকে গভীর শ্রদ্ধায় স্মরণ করছি এবং তাঁর বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনা করছি।

পরিচালনা পর্ষদ এক বাবুদপত্র কর্তৃপক্ষ

এনসিসি ব্যাংক

Sleeping woman, daughter killed as lorry crushes home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A woman and her 13-year-old daughter were killed when a lorry crashed into the verandah of their home adjacent to the Tangail-Jamalpur highway in Dhanbari upazila of Tangail early yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Phool Rani, 35, and her daughter Radhika Rani Das, a student of class-V, said M Jasim Uddin, officer-in-charge of Dhanbari Police Station.

They, along with Phool Rani's husband Ganesh Chandra Ravidas, 45, were trapped under the lorry, which had overturned onto the balcony.

Ganesh was undergoing treatment at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. His condition was critical, the OC added.

According to family members, the victims were sleeping on the verandah due to the hot and humid weather.

The accident took place around 3:45am in Nalya Bazar area, said Mohammad Khademuzzaman, leader of Dhanbari Fire Service.

Fire service rescued the trio from under the lorry and took them to the hospital where the mother and daughter were declared dead, he added.

Police seized the vehicle.

However, the driver and his helper fled, said OC Jasim Uddin.

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