



ELECTRICITY BILLS Social welfare minister pays his dues

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The outstanding electricity bills of Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed, his son Rakibuzzaman Ahmed and his father late Karim Uddin Ahmed for four years have been paid.

The bills were paid after arrears of the minister and his family were reported by several newspapers.

Their arrears were paid through online on Thursday night, the authorities of Northern Electricity Supply Company (Nesco), which supplies electricity in the area, told The Daily Star yesterday afternoon.

However, the outstanding power bill of Nuruzzaman's younger brother Shamsuzzaman Ahmed Bhutto for four years is yet to be paid.

According to Nesco officials, Bhutto's unpaid power bill is Tk 7,25,124.

The dues of Tk 72,962 of the minister, Tk 79,995 of his son and Tk 18,577 of his late father were paid.

Nuruzzaman, of Kashiram

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Putting their lives at risk, people travel on the locomotive and rooftop of a train. Ten people, including four Chittagong University students, were hit by tree branches and injured while travelling on the roof of a university shuttle train on Thursday night. The photo was taken near Karwan Bazar level crossing on Thursday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

CU SHUTTLE TRAIN TRAGEDY Three fighting for life at ICU

2 of them university students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chattogram

Amzad Hossain's family was all set to celebrate baby shower yesterday as his wife Nazma Begum entered the seventh month of her pregnancy.

But the family's happiness was short-lived as Amjad was fighting for life at the ICU of Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

The 23-year-old sales representative at a private firm is among the three who are now undergoing treatment at the intensive care unit of the hospital.

The three were injured after being hit by tree branches while traveling on the roof of a Chittagong University shuttle train on Thursday night.

At least 16 people, mostly CU students, were injured in the accident around 9:00pm on Thursday. The accident prompted protests by students on the CU campus. They vandalised several vehicles, including buses.

The two others are Khalilur Rahman, 22, a student of Bangla at CU, and Aung Swe Nu Marma, 21, a student of public administration.

Speaking to The Daily Star outside the ICU, Nazma said, "I don't know what will happen to my husband."

"He sustained a head injury after falling from the roof of the train. He has been unconscious since then," she said with tears rolling down her cheeks.

Sarwar Kashem, a physician at the ICU, said Amzad had to undergo a surgery as his nasal bone was broken.

Hailing from Bahaddathat area in the port city, Amzad is a college dropout. Many of his friends are CU students.

At least 16 people, mostly students of the university, were injured in the accident around 9:00pm on Thursday. The accident prompted protests by students on the CU campus. They vandalised several vehicles, including buses.

Six other injured were undergoing treatment at the neuro surgery ward of the CMCH yesterday while the rest took primary treatment.

Like Amzad, the condition of Aung Swe Nu Marma, who hailed from Chhaoa Para in Bandarban, is also critical.

Aung climbed onto the train's roof as its coaches were already filled with passengers, said his friend Parsh Chakma.

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G20 'almost ready' with leaders' declaration

Says host India as members gather in
New Delhi with Xi, Putin absent

REUTERS, New Delhi

G20 countries have almost finalised a declaration for the weekend summit of its leaders, host India said yesterday, suggesting that negotiators had made progress in bridging differences in the group over the war in Ukraine.

The streets of the usually bustling capital New Delhi were deserted ahead of the summit with businesses, offices and schools closed as part of security measures to ensure the smooth running of the meeting, the most high-powered to be hosted by the country.

Slums, monkeys and stray dogs have been removed from the streets.

India's G20 sherpa, or negotiator, Amitabh Kant said the summit's concluding statement, the Leaders' Declaration, will be a "voice" of the global south and developing countries.



"New Delhi Leaders' Declaration is almost ready, I would not like to dwell on it," Kant told a news conference. "This declaration will be recommended to the leaders." Negotiators of the Group of

20 major economies have been struggling for days to agree on the language in the document because of differences over the war, hoping to get Moscow and Beijing on board to produce a communique that will also address pressing global problems like debt and climate change.

The weekend summit in New Delhi is expected to be dominated by the West and its allies. Chinese President Xi Jinping is skipping the meeting and sending Premier Li Qiang instead, while Russia's Vladimir Putin will also be absent.

US President Joe Biden, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, French President Emmanuel Macron, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, Saudi Arabia's Mohammed Bin Salman and Japan's Fumio Kishida, among others, will attend.

China said yesterday it is willing

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Injured monkey that sought medical attention dies

UNB, Dhaka

An injured monkey, which made news by visiting an upazila health complex in Chattogram for treatment, died yesterday in medical care.

Dipanwita Bhattacharya, an official of Chattogram Wildlife and Biodiversity Reservation Department, confirmed the matter.

She said the monkey could not be saved despite frantic efforts.

It died in the afternoon while undergoing treatment under the supervision of vets at Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU).

Earlier, the monkey was shifted to the CVASU when its condition worsened, she said.



SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

IN MEMORIAM



DR. NUMAIR ATIF CHOUDHURY, Director, BITL
(November 4, 1974 – September 9, 2018)

MAY ALLAH GRANT HIM ETERNAL REST

MS. LUBNA CHOUDHURY, Mother (Founder Principal & Chairperson, BITL)
MS. ANIKA RAHMAN, Sister (Director, BITL)
MS. TALITA CHOUDHURY, Sister (Director, BITL)

After studying creative writing at Oberlin College and the University of East Anglia, Numair Atif Choudhury did a PhD from the University of Texas, Dallas. He had been working on Babu Bangladesh!, his epic first novel, for nearly fifteen years. Soon after completing the final draft, he passed away in an accident in 2018.

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