

Death anniv of Sabrina Islam Chowdhury

STAR REPORT

Today is the third death anniversary of Sabrina Islam Chowdhury, wife of Md Quamrul Islam Chowdhury, managing director & CEO of Mercantile Bank PLC, said a press release.

A doa and milad mahfil followed by launch for orprans has been arranged at an orphanage of Dhaka.

Similar programme will be held at her residence in Gulshan. The relatives and well-wishers of Sabrina Islam Chowdhury requested all to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Expat stabbed to death in Dhaka

UNB, Dhaka

A 45-year-old expatriate was stabbed to death over a land dispute in Sylhet's Dakshin Surma upazila on Thursday night.

The deceased is Abdul Qaiyum, son of Abdul Majeed of Rustampur area of the upazila.

The incident took place around 10:30 pm in Rustampur Talpara area under Moglabazar police station, Moglabazar Police Station OC (Investigation) Harun Or Rashid said.

He said that Qaiyum had a loggerhead with his rivals over a piece of land. The crime might have occurred following the land dispute.

Several injury marks were found in different parts of the body of Qaiyum, he added.

Efforts are underway to identify those involved in the killing," said the OC.

The body was sent to Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital morgue for an autopsy, he added.

Covid claims one more life, 49 new cases recorded

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh reported one more Covid-19 linked death and 49 fresh cases in 24 hours till yesterday morning.

With the new numbers, the country's total fatalities rose to 29,492 and caseload to 2,048,847 according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The daily case test positivity rate stood at 6.46 percent as 758 samples were tested, said the DGHS.

The recovery and death rates remained unchanged at 98.39 percent and 1.44 per cent, respectively.

Due to a sudden rise in infection rate from the beginning of the year, the government decided to administer Covid-19 vaccines again.

ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয়
২০৫ বর্গফুটের ৪ বেড
রুমের ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয়
(চলমান প্রকল্প)
ত্রিকানাঃ বসুন্ধরা, ব্লক-আই।
০১৯৩৯৯১৯০১, ০১৯৩৯৯১৯০২

A sweet affair

Five-day Mishti Mela ongoing at Shilpakala Academy

DIPAN NANDY

Dhaka dwellers with a sweet tooth currently have an exciting opportunity to taste numerous distinctive and popular sweets from across the country, as Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy is hosting a five-day sweet fair on its premises.

The fair started on Wednesday and will continue till Sunday. It is open from 3:00pm to 9:00pm.

This event presents a great opportunity for city dwellers to learn about the rich diversity of traditional sweets from across the nation.

Sadman Iqbal, a resident of Segun Bagicha, said, "I had no idea Bangladesh had so many types of sweets. Our traditional sweets are lost due to modernisation. I am really glad I came here and got to sample various sweets I never had before."

According to the organisers, there are 64 sweet stalls from the country's 64 districts. Most of the stalls saw large crowds yesterday evening due to it being the weekend.

The biggest gathering was observed at the Cumilla stall.

Shampa, a representative of the stall, said, "Our sales are through the roof as we are selling the original matribhandar roshmalai. Roshgolla, chamcham, chhanamukhi, and chhana angoori are also selling well."

Ashrafal Alam, the representative of the Kushtia stall, had a smile similar to Shampa's on his face, owing to the stall's



PHOTO: STAR

success. He is selling tiler khaja, para sandesh, motka, and roshkodom.

"People from across the country love to take a bite of Kushtia's tiler khaja," he remarked.

Hasibul Hasan, a man with a sweet tooth, came to the fair from the capital's Shankar. He shared that he really loved the taste of Gopalganj's Dutta Mistanno Vandar's roshgolla, a GI product of the district.

"Two years ago, I visited Tungipara and had the roshgolla. So, when I saw it here, I couldn't control myself and bought five of them. They do taste a little different, though," he said.

Ferdouse Daria, the representative of the stall, said, "When you go to the original shop, you taste the roshgolla fresh from the kitchen. Since we made our batch in the morning, it tastes slightly different."



BRTA statement

FROM PAGE 3

The report aimed to assess the integrity of the private bus transportation sector, which holds significant importance in the country, said TIB.

TIB strongly criticised BRTA's characterisation of their research report as "unrealistic, fictitious, assumption-based, fabricated, and motivated."

Regarding BRTA's claims about conducting interviews with key individuals, TIB said, "BRTA Chairman Nur Mohammad Mazumder had lied."

TIB said they had requested an interview with the chairman or his representative on September 25. However, despite an invitation from the chairman on October 23, the interview did not take place as the chairman was absent from the office.

"On November 12, the chairman granted only five minutes for the interview and refused to provide any information. He also declined to nominate another official for the interview. As a result, TIB conducted interviews with several officials from BRTA offices in Dhaka and other districts using their own sources," said TIB in the statement.

BRTA also refuted TIB's allegations of bribery, corruption, and harassment in obtaining services from the authority, labelling them as false and imaginary.

In response, TIB said information on delays and irregularities in vehicle registration was obtained by collecting and analysing data from 168 bus owners.

"There is no reason to call this information false or imaginary," the statement said.

on-duty doctor declared him dead.

The OC said, "After receiving a complaint we will take legal steps against the offenders who were cutting tree branches illegally." The body was sent to Thakurgaon Hospital morgue for autopsy.

On information, firefighters took him to Ranishankoil Upazila Health Complex where the

Hill vanishes

FROM PAGE 5

any environmental clearance for the project yet.

But visiting the site this month, this correspondent observed the hill was fenced. Also, a huge portion of it was leveled.

Contacted, CDA spokesperson Kazi Hasan Bin Shams said, "We will take a decision on the matter very soon following meetings with relevant stakeholders."

Hillol Biswas, the director of the DoE Chattogram, said they cannot pursue legal actions because the area is not categorised as a hill.

When asked about how the former director managed to take punitive actions against landowners if it was not feasible, he evaded the question.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, said a hill is being destroyed due to the negligence of the DoE. The state agency is still not taking any initiative to change the classification of this land.

THE WAY OUT
But there is hope. Land Record and Survey Department officials said the district administration can re-classify the land type.

The administration has already started working on it.

The local land office has prepared a report on the suggestion of Chattogram deputy commissioner stating that this land looks like a hill.

However, when contacted, DC Abdul Bashar Mohammed Fakhruzzaman of Chattogram said, "We could not make a decision on this matter just yet."

PRAYER
TIMING
MARCH 9

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-15 12-45 4-30 6-05 7-30
JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

JP braces for fifth

FROM PAGE 3

Ahead of today's council, Raushan told journalists, "The council scheduled for March 9 will mark a historic event, initiating a significant shift in the country's politics, aiming to rejuvenate and safeguard Jatiyo Party."

However, Chunu on Wednesday told reporters, "Those who are conducting the so-called conference have already written to the Election Commission that JP Chairman GM Quader and the Secretary General have been dismissed. EC has rejected their letter."

"Those who are holding council are no one in JP. We have nothing to say if someone outside the party holds a council."

REASON BEHIND SPLIT

In the recent national election, JP contested a record 265 seats after a tough negotiation with the ruling Awami League, which agreed to concede 26 seats by withdrawing its candidates.

However, JP only secured victory in 11 seats, marking the party's poorest performance since 1991, with 90 percent of

its candidates, including several prominent ones, losing their security deposit.

Many JP leaders blamed GM Quader and Chunu for the party's downfall.

They alleged two JP high-ups received huge money from the government for participating in the election but didn't spend a single penny to help party grassroots during campaigning.

In response, GM Quader has so far expelled at least 30 leaders including several heavyweights like Kazi Firoz Rashid, Abu Hossain Babla and Shunil Suvo Roy.

FIVE EXISTING FACTIONS OF JP

Since its formation in 1986, JP had split five times. In the latest case, JP leader Kazi Zafar Ahmed quit JP and formed another faction of Jatiya Party (Zafar).

The four other factions of JP are registered with the Election Commission. They are the GM Quader-led Jatiya Party (JaPa) Jatiya Party (JP-Monju), Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) and Bangladesh Jatiya Party (Matin).

Development

FROM PAGE 3

here for the past 400 years. Now the city corporation says it would make this place a business hub, evicting us from our homestead."

"Where will we go if the city corporation evicts us from our birthplace?" he asked.

Another resident, Shah Alam, said the area houses at least 50,000 small and medium industries, which provide livelihoods of several lakh people.

"Where would those people go? How will their employment be arranged?" he asked, demanding the city corporation set up the

project anywhere other than Kamrangirchar.

Mehedi Ahsan, general secretary of the Bangladesh Institute of Planners, said planning any development project should involve a prior assessment of suitability for the specific structures.

"Additionally, we cannot evict anyone from their homes for a development project without properly resettling the people as per their demand," he said.

DSCC Chief Town Planner, Md Sirajul Islam, could not be contacted over the phone despite repeated phone calls and a text message.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার		তারিখ- ০৭ মার্চ ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ	
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ		১৫ মার্চ ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ	
অধিনায়কের কার্যালয়		১৫ মার্চ ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ	
৭ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন		১৫ মার্চ ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ	
সিলেট।		১৫ মার্চ ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ	
“উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (OTM)”		১৫ মার্চ ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ	
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৫. দরপত্রের স্থান	৬. তারিখ	৭. দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	৮. আবেদনকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা
৯. মন্ত্রালয়/ বিভাগ	১০. সন্থা	১১. দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	১২. আবেদনকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা
১৩. মন্ত্রালয়/ বিভাগ	১৪. সন্থা	১৫. দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	১৬. আবেদনকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা
১৭. মন্ত্রালয়/ বিভাগ	১৮. সন্থা	১৯. দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	২০. আবেদনকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা
২১. মন্ত্রালয়/ বিভাগ	২২. সন্থা	২৩. দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	২৪. আবেদনকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা
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World Health Organization Bangladesh

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

The World Health Organization in Bangladesh invites proposals/bids from the interested Companies in Bangladesh for the following service:

- RFP/BAN/2024/007:** Development of Online Platform for IRB processes
Deadline for the submission of RFP: 14:00hrs, 25 March 2024 (Dhaka time).
- RFP/BAN/2024/008:** Situation Assessment on Prescription Audit at Public and Private Health Facilities in Bangladesh
Deadline for the submission of RFP: 14:00hrs, 25 March 2024 (Dhaka time).

Interested Companies can view and download the relevant RFP documents from: <https://www.who.int/bangladesh/about-us/procurement-notice>.

Interested bidders are requested to submit their financial and technical proposals in two separate sealed envelopes as per the instructions provided in the RFP documents at the Reception of WHO Bangladesh, House-SW(I)/A, Road-8, Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

PRAYER TIMING MARCH 9

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
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