

কর্মজীবনের শেষে অবসরকালীন আর্থিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করতে
সিনিয়র সিটিজেন পূবালী ডিপোজিট স্কিম (এসসিপিডিএস)
✓ ৫৯ বছর বা তার বেশি বয়সের যেকোনো বাংলাদেশি নাগরিক এই ডিপোজিট স্কিমে হিসাব খুলতে পারবেন
✓ আকর্ষণীয় সুদহার
(৬ মাসের এফডিআরের চেয়ে ১% বেশী হারে মুনাফা)

পূবালী ব্যাংক পাবলিসি
PUBALI BANK PLC.

ঘরে বসেই ব্যাংক অ্যাকাউন্ট খুলুন
পাই ব্যাংকিং (PI Banking) - একটি পূবালী ব্যাংক অ্যাপস

● বিস্তারিত জানতে নিকটস্থ শাখা/উপশাখা/ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং উইডোতে যোগাযোগ করুন | ● পূবালী ব্যাংকে সক্ষম করুন, নিরাপদে থাকুন

ONGOING HEATWAVE
Water crisis grips Khulna

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

The water crisis in Khulna city has deepened amidst the relentless heatwave, due to plummeting groundwater levels and the inability of the Water Supply and Sewerage Authority to meet the residents' water needs adequately.

Around 500 families residing near Sonadanga Solar Park and Harijan Pally areas in ward 17 of the Khulna City Corporation are facing the worst of this crisis.

Kabita Begum, a mother of three, said the public tube-wells in her locality have stopped producing any water for a week now.

"I've had to trek to a distant pump to fetch water. Additionally, I must purchase two jars of water daily at Tk 80 each to fulfill my family's needs," she said.

Similar distress echoed across Mirzapur Road, Baitipara, Ahsan Ahmed Road, Tutpara, Basupara, West Baniakhmar, Babu Khan Road, Gobarchaka, Basupara, Farajipara, and Daulatpur areas.

Saifullah Mamun from Karimnagar, under ward 17, highlighted the recurrent water crises plaguing the region for the past six years, particularly during the summer.

According to Wasa sources, approximately 90 percent of the city areas cannot utilise Wasa water for drinking purposes, so they rely on tube-wells and submersible pumps.

However, as groundwater plummets during summer, many of these tube-wells get dysfunctional, leaving its users with no pure drinking water.

Meanwhile, due to its costly nature, many residents cannot afford to set up a submersible pump to begin with.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



People are forced to fetch water from distant pumps or tube-wells as Khulna Wasa currently supplies only five crore litres of water per day against a demand of 24 crore litres. The photo was taken from the city's Mujgunni area recently.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

3 of a family die from electrocution

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

A woman, her son and daughter died from electrocution yesterday after they came in contact with a torn yet live electric cable of Rural Electrification Board's supply line.

The incident took place in Dhalmaria village under Neamoti union in Barishal's Bakerganj upazila around 12:15pm.

The deceased were identified as Sonia Begum, 31, her son Salman Molla, 5, and daughter Rezeena Akter, 12.

Afzal Hossain, officer-in-charge of Bakerganj Police Station, confirmed the matter.

"On information, police went to the spot and recovered the bodies. The incident will be investigated and legal action will be taken to this end," the OC said.

Contacted, Mohammad Saifur Rahman, UNO of Barishal.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

Three held for stock market manipulation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police on Friday arrested three individuals allegedly involved in manipulating stock prices and spreading rumours online to destabilise the share market.

Speaking at a press briefing at DMP Media Centre yesterday, DB chief Harun Or Rashid said the arrestees often shared supposed price-sensitive information (insider information) before its official release, on various social media groups, which was mostly fabricated and false. As a result, investors suffered losses.

Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission filed a case under the Cyber Security Act in this regard with Ramna Police Station.

The arrestees are -- Amir Hossain alias Nurnurani, 37, admin and moderator of 8-10 social media groups, Nurul Haque Harun, 52, vice chairman of Bangladesh Capital Market Investors Union Council, and Abdul Qaiyum, 39, involved with a brokerage house.

Of the arrestees, Amir is accused in 11 cases.

The DB said that Amir operated 8 to 10 groups on Facebook, WhatsApp, and Telegram, where he engaged in spreading rumours and manipulating market prices.

Members of these groups had to pay a specific fee to join.

Nurul allegedly demanded bribes from various companies in the name of the investor's association and Qaiyum provided information about various shares in exchange for money. The syndicate members even defamed listed companies on online platforms if they

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Govt failed to save rivers

Speakers tell dialogue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has failed to take strong initiatives to protect the country's rivers, speakers said at a programme yesterday.

Despite repeated pledges by political parties in their electoral manifestos to save the rivers, the country's rivers remain under threat with no visible effort to preserve them, they also said.

The remarks came at a dialogue titled "Citizen Recommendations: Importance of Political Commitment in River Protection", organised by Waterkeepers Bangladesh in the capital.

Awami League lawmaker Qamrul Islam, rights activists, teachers, and local representatives spoke at the dialogue.

"Sadly, 54 years since independence, we have not been able to take any significant steps to protect our environment," said Qamrul Islam.

"Those who encroached upon rivers did so with the government's assistance," he added.

Qamrul, however, said the current

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

JOURNO NADIM MURDER
UP chairman's son still at large

Nadim's family says they're being threatened

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

One of the main accused in the case filed over the killing of journalist Golam Rabbani Nadim in Jamalpur is yet to be arrested even after 10 months since the murder.

The accused, Fahim Faisal Rifat, son of Mahmudul Alam Babu, still remains absconding, according to police.

Nadim was Jamalpur district correspondent of banglanews24.com and Bakshiganj upazila correspondent of Ekattor TV.

On June 14 last year, he was attacked by supporters of Mahmudul Alam Babu, chairman of Sadhurpara Union Parishad in Bakshiganj, and died a day later.

Journalists and Nadim's family members yesterday formed a human chain and staged a protest rally on Press Club Road in Jamalpur Sadar demanding immediate arrest of Faisal.

Jamalpur Online Journalists Association organised the programme.

Addressing the event, Nadim's wife Monira Begum alleged that although law enforcers are saying that Faisal is on the run, he is actually roaming around in the area freely and even joining different programmes.

Besides, some other accused, who are now on bail, have been

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Golam Rabbani Nadim

3 HELD FOR ARSON ON BUS
Jubo Dal, Chhatra Dal men behind the attack: CTTC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime Division (CTTC) arrested three men, including two leaders of Jubo Dal and Chhatra Dal, in connection with the arson attack on a bus in the capital's Demra area last October, resulting in the death of a bus helper.

The arrestees are -- Nurul Islam Monir alias Monir Munshi, 37, former vice president of Dhaka City South Chhatra Dal, Shahed Ahmed, 38, member secretary of Narayanganj City Jubo Dal and Mahabubur Rahman Sohag, 33, Monir Munsif's driver, also a BNP activist, according to the CTTC.

The helper of a bus of Achim Paribahan -- Nayem, 22 -- was killed and its driver Rabiul Islam, 25, was injured after arsonists set fire to the bus in the Demra area on early October 29, 2023, while they were asleep.

At a press briefing at DMP Media Centre yesterday, CTTC Chief Md Asaduzzaman said they collected the CCTV footage around the spot. By analysing those, they identified a vehicle used for arson that day.

Based on that, they conducted raids in different parts of the capital and arrested the main arsonist and his accomplices. They also seized the vehicle.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Man held with 1kg crystal meth in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police claimed to have arrested a musician with one kilogramme of crystal meth, known as "ice", in the capital's Rampura area.

The arrestee is -- Enamul Kabir Rebel, 47, a member of the rock band "Uccharon", which was formed by legendary singer Azam Khan.

He was placed on a two-day remand yesterday.

Talking to journalists, Rashedul Islam, additional deputy commissioner (Khilgaon Zone) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said Rampura police conducted a raid in Malibagh's Chowdhury Para area on Friday and arrested Enamul where he went to sell "ice".

"He put 'ice' into the bag of cat food and moved around," he said. The contraband is worth Tk 1 crore, he added.

Rashedul said Rebel is an accomplice of drug dealer Liton alias Litu Bhaijan.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Dust clouds have become regular on the dilapidated Rayerbazar section of the Sadarghat-Gabtolli-Beribadh road, making commute difficult for people in the area. Meanwhile, the road work continues at a snail's pace. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

RAPE OF TEEN
Accused Chinese national 'fled the country'

Police press charges against 2

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

A Chinese national raped a teenager in the capital's Uttara area in August last year, police have found in investigation.

Ji Chen, 58, was abetted by Hira Chakma, 25, in raping the 19-year-old indigenous girl, said police.

On March 31, investigation officer Nurul Haque, also a sub-inspector of Uttara Paschim Police Station, submitted a charge sheet in the case to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka, accusing Chinese citizen Ji Chen, and Hira Chakma, a court staffer told The Daily Star.

According to the charge sheet, Dr Anika Ibnat, a lecturer of the forensic medicine department at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College, stated in her report that the teenager had "signs of recent and forceful sexual intercourse".

"The girl got acquainted with Hira Chakma through Facebook 15 days before the incident. At one stage, Hira introduced Ji Chen to the teen as her friend, adding Ji Chen wanted to marry a Chakma girl; if she agreed to marry him, she had to come to Dhaka. The teen accepted Hira's offer and met her in Dhaka," said the charge sheet.

"Around 10:30pm on August 25 last year, Hira first took the girl to Ji Chen's residence in Uttara's Sector-14 where Ji Chen raped the teenager," it added.

A day after the incident, the victim filed a case with Uttara Paschim Police Station under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act against the two.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4