



A man carries bricks after taking them out of the furnace at a brick kiln in Diamond Ghat area of Chattogram. These workers work eight hours a day without any weekly holiday or other leaves and make around Tk 800 daily. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

HANIF FLYOVER Hit by auto-rickshaw, Indian national dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An Indian national, who was visiting relatives in Dhaka, died after a CNG-run auto-rickshaw hit him on the Mayor Hanif Flyover in Tikatuli area yesterday afternoon.

The deceased was identified as Dwijendra Lal Chowdhury, 60, a resident of Nadia district in West Bengal, said his nephew Pradip Roy Chowdhury.

Pradip said Dwijendra left his ancestral Chandpur residence many years ago and settled in India.

He arrived in Bangladesh a month ago to visit relatives here and was supposed to return to India today, he said.

The man got down from a bus on the flyover and was crossing the road around 2:30pm when an auto-rickshaw hit him, leaving him injured, Kawshik Roy, a passerby, said.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, said Kawshik who took him to the DMCH.

Inspector Bachchu Mia, in charge of the DMCH Police Outpost, said the body was kept at the hospital morgue for autopsy.

RENOVATION OF OSMANI UDIYAN

DSCC extends deadline once again

Mayor says work to complete by next month

HELEMUL ALAM

Despite extending the deadline four times in last five years, Dhaka South City Corporation has fixed yet another new deadline to complete the renovation work of the capital's Osmani Udyan.

DSCC Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, at a programme recently, announced to complete the work by next month, as new contractors

were appointed in September last year with a new work order and they have already started working. The deadline has been fixed July 2024 in the new work order.

Before that, the renovation work, which was supposed to be completed in 2018, remained halted for around two years due to the contractor, Builders Limited's, work order getting cancelled in 2022, with the allegation of breaching contract.



D S C C was initially fixed at Tk 58 crore, was later increased to Tk 86 crore, according to DSCC. After the new work order, the new cost to complete the remaining work has been fixed at around Tk 61 crore.

Saleh Ahmed, then chief engineer of DSCC, said they fined the previous contractor around Tk 3.5 crore for their failure to complete the project.

Renovation of the park — named after General Muhammad Ataul Goni Osmani, commander-in-chief during the Liberation War — is taking place under a Tk

200 crore "Jol Sobujey Dhaka Project" for modernisation of 19 parks and 12 playgrounds by DSCC, most of which have been completed.

In the park, there are walkways, a library, a food court, drainage system to control two lakes, direct walkways to come from the side of secretariat to Nagar Bhaban, a stairway to the lake, an indoor games zone, and parking facilities.

The 29-acre green sanctuary has a number of rare trees and plants, alongside sculptures and an auditorium.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw workers busy with the construction work.

Three firms — PF Corporation, NDE SBN (JV), and PFC and SI (JV) — got the work order to complete the work in five packages.

Md Nadim Bhuiyan, project manager of NDE SBN (JV), said 50 percent of the work on their portions has been completed.

He said they started their work on September 28 last year and are scheduled to complete their work by June 25.

Meanwhile, according to new design, there will be boundary

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FLOODS IN NORTHEAST 772,000 children affected: Unicef

UNB, Dhaka

Over 20,00,000 people, including over 772,000 children, are already affected by flash floods in the north-eastern region and in urgent need of assistance, said Unicef Representative in Bangladesh Sheldon Yett yesterday.

Yett said Unicef is "deeply concerned" about the devastating flood situation unfolding in Bangladesh.

"The rivers are flowing dangerously high, and the situation is expected to worsen over the next 24 to 48 hours," he said.

"As waters rise, children are the most vulnerable, facing heightened risks of drowning, malnutrition, deadly waterborne diseases, the trauma of displacement, and potential abuse in overcrowded shelters," Yett said in a statement.

He said their priority is to ensure the safety and well-being of children and adolescents.

In coordination and partnership with the government of Bangladesh and local stakeholders in the field, they have already distributed safe water to reach more than 100,000 people for over 5 days, and while these efforts continue.

"We have also distributed more than 3,000 ten-liter water containers. We are urgently bringing in additional emergency supplies to the affected communities in case the situation worsens," he said.

Over 810 government schools in the Sylhet division have been flooded and almost 500 are being used as flood shelters. In addition, almost 140 community clinics are also affected by flood waters.

"Child Protection Social Workers are offering support to mitigate potential violence and counseling to help children overcome trauma during this difficult time," Yett said.

419 hajj pilgrims return home

UNB, Dhaka

The first return hajj flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines carrying 419 pilgrims landed in Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia early yesterday.

The flight landed at the airport around 5:40am, said a media release signed by Boshra Islam, general manager of Public Relations of the Biman Bangladesh Airlines.



The return hajj flights will continue till July 22. Biman Bangladesh Airlines took 40,967 hajj pilgrims to the KSA by 107 flights.

For the post-hajj period, the airlines will operate 125 flights to bring the pilgrims back to Bangladesh.

The first hajj flight departed on May 9. The flights to Saudi Arabia continued until June 12. A total of 218 flights were operated for hajj pilgrims. They included 106 flights operated by Biman, 75 by Saudi Arabian Airlines, and 37 by Flynas.

A total of 21 Bangladeshi pilgrims have died so far. Of them 18 were men and three women. Sixteen died in Makkah, four in Madinah and one in Jeddah.

Waiting to see what PM brings from Delhi

Says BNP leader
Farroque

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Chairperson's Advisory Council member Zainul Abedin Farroque yesterday said the country's people are waiting to see what Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina brings from Delhi this time.

"But if she returns empty-handed, the people won't forgive her. There will be political resistance against her," he said while speaking at a protest rally.

Jatiyatabadi Nagorik Parishad organised the programme in front of Jatiya Press Club to protest a move "to build railway tracks over Bangladeshi soil by the Indian government".

Hasina went to India on Friday on a two-day state

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Conspiracy on to make AL look corrupt

Quader tells rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday alleged that a conspiracy is being hatched to portray AL as a corrupt party to the people of the country.

"Stay alert; Fakhruhs are spreading rumours. Allegations of corruption are being brought against Awami League. The police force is being attacked in a generalised way, and they have the intention to do the same against the army," said Quader.

He was addressing a brief rally prior to a procession brought out marking AL's 75th founding anniversary, starting from in front of the Institution of Engineers in the capital's Ramna.

He also alleged that some media outlets are also involved in anti-AL propaganda.

The AL second-in-command also stated that they should think about whether the plot to label the party as corrupt is part of a conspiracy to oust it from the government.

"If a person commits a crime, in that case, the Anti-Corruption Commission is independent and the judiciary is independent. Sheikh Hasina has the

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Awami League and its associate bodies bring out a procession from in front of the Institution of Engineers in the capital's Ramna marking the party's 75th founding anniversary.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN