



EID JOY STILL IN THE AIR

People from all walks of life across the country celebrated Eid-ul-Azha over the last four days, spending time with their loved ones. People in the capital flocked to locations like the National Zoo in Mirpur, Zia Udyana and DNCC Wonderland in Agargaon to spend their holidays. The photos were taken recently.

PHOTO: ORCHID CHAKMA, PRABIR DAS



Supreme Court scraps JS power to remove judges. Releases full text of a verdict on 16th amendment
ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in the full text of a verdict has observed that the sixteenth amendment to the constitution, which had empowered the parliament to remove the SC judges for incapacity or misbehavior, is a colourable legislation and is violative of separation of powers among the three organs of the state -- executive, legislature and judiciary, and independence of the judiciary.

In the 50-page full text of judgement, which was uploaded on the SC website on June 3, a six-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed unanimously restored the constitutional provision (Article 96) of the Supreme Judicial Council to deal with the allegations against the SC judges over incapacity or misconduct.

"What was the essence of the sixteenth amendment case? In my view, it was an

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Sufia Begum, a 55-year-old woman from Munshiganj's Sreenagar, suffered severe injuries to her right hand when a motorcycle struck her on the day of Eid-ul-Azha (Saturday) when she was crossing a road near her home.

EID EVENING AT PONGU HOSPITAL Of overflowing emergency and lingering waits

She was rushed to a local hospital, but no doctors were available there due to the Eid holiday. The staffers there asked Sufia's family to take her to Pongu Hospital, formally known as the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR), in Dhaka.

When our correspondent found her at NITOR around 7:30pm on the day, she was lying on a stretcher in an overcrowded emergency room.

There are nine beds in the room, but the number of patients was more than double, with many lying on stretchers or sitting on chairs. A few were even seen standing with bandaged limbs.

"We submitted our token about half an hour ago, but still no doctor has visited her," said Sufia's son-in-law Md Hasan.

After some time, a doctor visited and examined her. The doctor then checked several other patients, apparently following the tokens.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1

HOLIDAYS
Dhaka's air remains 'unhealthy'

UNB, Dhaka

Dhaka ranked eighth on the list of cities with the worst air quality yesterday morning, recording an Air Quality Index (AQI) score of 135 at 9:40am.

Yesterday's air was classified as "unhealthy", indicating potential health risks, according to the AQI index.

Despite reduced traffic and public movement in the capital due to the Eid-ul-Azha holidays, the air quality remained unhealthy over the past few days, raising concerns about public health.

According to the AQI scale, when the value for particle pollution ranges from 50 to 100, the air quality is considered "moderate", where sensitive individuals are advised to limit prolonged outdoor exertions. A score between 101 and 150 is considered "unhealthy for sensitive

SEE PAGE 9 COL 4

52,000 tonnes of sacrificial waste cleared
Say officials of city corporations following Eid-ul-Azha
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka's city corporations, in collaboration with residents, cleared sacrificial animal waste within three days of Eid-ul-Azha.

Thanks to efforts and community participation, the city remained relatively clean during and after the festival. Residents were encouraged to disinfect their surroundings with bleach, and many complied.

"After sacrificing our cattle, we cleaned the area and left the waste by the roadside. Conservancy workers cleared it quickly," said Ziauddin Alam, a resident of Gondaria.

Muzahidul Islam of Mirpur-12 shared a similar experience: "We cleaned the place ourselves, and the city corporation helped with waste removal."

Before Eid, the administrators Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) promised to clean the city within 72 hours.

According to official statements, a total of 52,115 tonnes of waste were removed during the post-Eid operation -- 31,226 tonnes from DSCC and 20,889 tonnes from DNCC.

The waste management drive began on Eid day (Saturday) and continued until 2:00pm on Monday. A total of 632,834 animals were sacrificed in Dhaka -- 466,755 in DNCC and 166,754 in DSCC areas.

In his briefing, DNCC administrator Mohammad

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Low rawhide prices frustrate traders

SUKANTA HALDER

Rawhide prices during Eid-ul-Azha have once again dropped below government-set rates across the country, frustrating traders and raising concerns about the effectiveness of recent policy steps, including the temporary lifting of the export ban on raw and wet blue leather.

On May 26, the Ministry of Commerce set the price of salted cowhide at Tk 60-65 per square foot in Dhaka and Tk 55-60 outside the capital, an increase of Tk 5 from last year.

The minimum price of cowhide in Dhaka was set at Tk 1,350 and Tk 1,150 outside the city, while salted goat hides were priced at Tk 20 to Tk 22 per square foot.

However, actual transactions mostly took place at lower rates, with many buyers offering prices similar to last year's.

In some cases, raw unsalted cowhides were sold at Tk 700-900 for large and medium sizes, while lower-quality hides fetched only Tk 600-650.

Prices were reportedly even lower in districts outside Dhaka, and demand for goat hides remained weak.

Despite this, wholesalers and tannery owners said they aimed to collect 80-85 lakh pieces of rawhide this year and claimed they were offering slightly better prices than last year.

However, many seasonal traders said they failed to get fair prices, with some reporting lower rates than last Eid.

Typically, large cowhides range from 31-40 square feet, medium from 21-30 square feet, and small from 16-20 square feet. According to fixed rates, a 25 square-foot salted cowhide in Dhaka should sell for Tk 1,500-1,625.

Tipu Sultan, general secretary of the Bangladesh Hide and Skin Merchants' Association, said rawhide was not bought or sold at government fixed prices. "We bought medium and large-sized hides at Tk 750-800," he said, adding that traders do not have enough funds.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 6

Biman pilot, Team Group MD, drown in Canada

STAR REPORT

A Bangladeshi entrepreneur and a pilot of Biman Bangladesh Airlines died after the canoe they were on flipped over in a lake in Canada's Ontario on Sunday.

The deceased are Abdullah Hil Rakib, managing director of Team Group and also a former vice-president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), and Captain Md Saifuzzaman, who flew Boeing 787 for Biman.

According to a report by local outlet CTV News, the incident occurred on Sturgeon Lake in



the Kawartha Lakes region of Ontario, about 155 kilometres northeast of Toronto.

Rakib's first namaz-e-janaza will be held on Wednesday at Sunnat Jamaat Mosque in the Danforth area of Toronto, Canada, at 7:00pm local time, reports UNB.

According to family sources, the body of Rakib will depart from Canada on June 12, and is scheduled to arrive at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 9:30pm on June 13, said Mohiuddin Rubel, former BGMEA director and additional managing director of Denim Expert Limited.

His second namaz-e-janaza will be held at BGMEA Bhaban on June 14. He will be buried at Banani Graveyard following the 3rd namaz-e-

SEE PAGE 9 COL 3



The Mayor Hanif Flyover in the capital remained largely empty yesterday, the fourth day of Eid-ul-Azha, as many residents had yet to return from their hometowns and villages. Earlier in May, the interim government had declared a ten-day holiday for the Eid celebrations, from June 5 to June 14.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN