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5 killed in two road crashes in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five people were killed in two separate road accidents in the capital's Uttara and Bijoy Sarani areas early yesterday.

The victims of the Uttara crash were identified as Fahim Uddin Bin Ahmed, a student of Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology; Khaja Naimul Haque, 34, an employee of a travel agency; and Javed Alam Khan, 61, a trader.

In the other accident, two motorcyclists – Sajjadur Rahman, 18, a class X student in Narayanganj, and Md Fahim, 20, an expatriate – died after being hit by a microbus in the Bijoy Sarani area.

Golam Mostafa, officer-in-charge of Uttara East Police Station, said a Dhaka-bound truck carrying stones rammed into pedestrians around 2:30am. Two of the victims died on the spot, while the third succumbed to his injuries at a local hospital.

Police seized the truck and detained its driver.

Investigation Officer SI Mustafizur

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A boy holds onto the back of a CNG-run auto-rickshaw while skating through traffic on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the capital yesterday. Such stunts are unsafe and endanger both the rider and others on the road.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

No special celebration on Aug 8

Says CA's press secy; govt to observe July 16 as 'July Martyrs' Day', Aug 5 as 'Mass Uprising Day'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Council of Advisers has decided to observe July 16 as July Shaheed Dibosh (July Martyrs' Day) and August 5 as "Gono-ovvutthan Dibosh" (Mass Uprising Day), commemorating key events during last year's student-led movement.

There will be no special celebration for August 8, previously declared New Bangladesh Day, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam confirmed in a Facebook post yesterday.

On June 25, the interim government had declared August 5 as "July Mass Uprising Day" to commemorate the student-led protests that toppled the Sheikh Hasina regime that day last year.

It had also declared August 8 as "New Bangladesh Day", marking the formation of the interim government led by Prof Muhammad

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3 of a family found dead in city hotel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three members of a family were found dead at a hotel in Dhaka's Moghbazar area yesterday morning.

The deceased were identified as Monir Hossain, an expatriate; his wife Swapna; and their son Arifat Hossain Nayeem, said Masud Alam, deputy commissioner of Ramna Division Police.

"We suspect it might be a case of food poisoning. The bodies will be sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy to determine the exact cause of death," the DC said.

According to police, the family had travelled from Lakshmipur to Dhaka on Saturday to see a doctor. As they could not

SEE PAGE 9 COL 8

Education in remote areas still overlooked

Say experts, call for urgent reforms to primary edn

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education experts and teachers yesterday called for urgent reforms to the country's primary education system, which has long been plagued by a widening gap in access to education and its quality, alongside crises including teacher shortages, falling enrolment, and little support for children in remote and marginalised areas.

Educators, government officials, and NGO leaders spoke at a national seminar organised by NETZ Bangladesh in association with CAMPE at Parjatan Corporation Bhaban in Dhaka.

Saira Hossain, an associate professor at Dhaka University, delivered the keynote presentation.

Addressing the event, Professor Taposh Kumar Biswas of DU said, "Even after five years of schooling, many students can't comprehend a simple text in their mother tongue. How can we dream of building global citizens if our children can't read basic sentences?"

A headteacher from a government primary school in Jashore mentioned the ground reality in the context of their school, where only four teachers are working against nine sanctioned posts. Classes are being conducted in dilapidated structures, and student numbers have dropped by around half.

"We haven't received development funds for the past six years," she added.

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SC stays order on disciplinary rules for lower court judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court has stayed its 2018 order that accepted the disciplinary rules formulated by the Sheikh Hasina-led government for lower court judges.

A six-member bench headed by Chief Justice Syed Rellaat Ahmed passed the order yesterday after hearing a review petition filed by seven SC lawyers and a lower court lawyer challenging the earlier decision.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1

13 senior cops suspended for long absence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has suspended 13 senior police officers for prolonged absence without leave or permission, following a breakdown in the police chain of command after the fall of the Awami League government on August 5 last year.

One official left for Thailand on medical leave and never returned. Some disappeared just days after joining duty, while others went on approved leave and did not come back. A few did not apply for leave at all.

The Public Security Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs issued 13 separate suspension notices on its website yesterday. Signed by Senior Secretary Nasimul Ghani on June 26, the orders

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Law enforcers stand guard as protesting National Board of Revenue (NBR) officials and employees continue their demonstration in front of the NBR Headquarters in the capital's Agargaon on the second day of their indefinite strike yesterday. The protesters called off the strike last night.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

JCD LEADER KILLING ICT complaint filed against 62

Saber Hossain, ex-DMP chief among the accused

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A complaint was filed yesterday with the ICT chief prosecutor's office against 62 individuals, including former Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia and former lawmaker Saber Hossain Chowdhury, over the death of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader Nuruzzaman Jonny in 2015.

Jonny, who was general secretary of the JCD Khilgaon Thana unit, was killed in what police described as a "shootout" with detectives in Dhaka – just a day after his arrest in an arson case.

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Indict 8 cops for crimes against humanity

Prosecution appeals to ICT over July killings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday appealed to the International Crimes Tribunal-1 to indict eight police officials, including former Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner Habibur Rahman, for crimes against humanity committed during the July uprising.

Reading out the charges before a three-member tribunal, Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam alleged that the killing of six protesters in the capital's Chankharpul area on August 5 last year took place under the direct supervision and orders of senior police officials.

This marks the first indictment hearing related to crimes against humanity during the July uprising. Four of the accused are

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