

2 die in Meghna trawler capsiz

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

The bodies of two men, who went missing after a trawler sank in the Meghna river in Narayanganj's Sonargaon upazila on Thursday night, have been recovered.

Roni Sardar, 20, and Md Shubho, 35, were from Barishal.

Their bodies were recovered yesterday through a joint effort by the Fire Service divers and the River Police from the Sonamoi area under Baidyabazar union, said Inspector Mahbubur Rahman, in-charge of Baidyabazar River Police Outpost.

He said the trawler had loaded cement from a factory in Sonargaon and was headed towards Barishal with three workers on board.

"The trawler was anchored a short distance from the riverbank, and the three workers went to sleep. Around 3:30am, while they were asleep, the vessel capsized..." he added.

However, the trawler itself has not yet been located, the inspector said.

IUB's business conference begins

CITY DESK

The two-day conference on economics, business and technology management -- organised by the School of Business and Entrepreneurship of Independent University, Bangladesh -- kicked off yesterday at The Westin Dhaka, said a press release.

Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive chairman of the Power and Participation Research Centre, opened the event as chief guest.

He was joined by IUB Board of Trustees Chairman Didar A Husain, Vice Chancellor Prof M Tamim, Pro-VC Prof Daniel W Lund, Acting Dean of SBE Prof Raisul Awal Mahmood, and Conference General Chair Prof Md Mamun Habib. Syed Nasim Manzur, managing director of Apex Footwear, was guest of honour.

Keynote papers were presented by Hossain Zillur Rahman; Prof Jonathan Liu of Manchester Business School, UK; and Prof Maniam Kalianan of the University of Nottingham Malaysia. Sessions were chaired by Prof M Tamim; Prof Farid A Sobhani, VC of Eastern University; and Dr Derek Westfall of Oregon State University, USA.



PHOTO: STAR

Barnoi turns toxic as untreated waste pours in

SHOHANUR RAHMAN RAFI, Rajshahi

Once a lifeline for locals, the Barnoi river has turned into a narrow channel overwhelmed by pollution from toxic, untreated wastes flowing into it from drains across Rajshahi city.

Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) has allegedly been disposing of the city's waste from its 488.59 kilometre drainage network into the river through two canals near Duari and Nowhata points.

"British engineers designed a system in which, during monsoon, floodgates would release water from the Padma to flush the city's drains into the Barnoi, keeping the drainage system clean," said river expert Mahbub Siddiki.

"Now drains require cleaning at least four times a month, but due to negligence, much of the waste ends up in the river," he said.

Rakhi Das from Nowhata under Paba upazila said, "I heard that our ancestors once used the river's water for bathing and cooking. Now we avoid it entirely because of health risks."

Her neighbour, Sudhir Chandra Sarkar, added, "During the dry season, the water

emits an unbearable stench. Those of us who live on the riverbank cannot live normally. The indiscriminate pollution has left the river almost devoid of fish."

Saifur Rahman, who relies on the Barnoi's water for irrigation, said, "Even though we know this water can cause skin problems and damage soil and crops, we have no alternative."

A study by Rajshahi University's Geography and Environmental Science department, in collaboration with the Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, found alarming levels of pollution in the river.

Samples from South Nowdapara showed dissolved oxygen levels as low as 1.2 mg per litre, far below the 4-5 mg required to sustain aquatic life. Conductivity and alkalinity were also abnormally high, indicating excessive dissolved solids and chemical contamination.

Prof Mizanor Rahman of RU said wastewater should be treated and reused instead of being discharged untreated, both to reduce pressure on groundwater and to protect rivers.

"The BSCIC industrial area alone has around 200 factories but lacks an effluent

treatment plant. A dedicated treatment facility is essential to prevent industrial waste being released untreated," he said.

Sheikh Md Mamun, chief conservancy officer of RCC, said sewage management is technically the mandate of Wasa.

"Since they have done nothing, we are monitoring the situation ourselves. We already have a wastewater treatment plant and have submitted a comprehensive project proposal to the government. Once implemented, wastewater will be properly treated before being released into the Barnoi or Padma."

Parvez Mamud, chief engineer of Rajshahi Wasa, said the city would be connected to pipelines feeding a treatment plant near the Barnoi.

"Liquid waste will be treated before being released into the river. RCC's safety tanks will collect residual waste. We are progressing collectively through a structured discussion and planning process."

"Once a donor is selected, preliminary project development will begin, followed by implementation. Fieldwork may take another 1.5-2 years, and full project completion could take 3-4 years," he said.

'Sramik Dal leader' shot dead in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man was shot dead by unidentified miscreants in Chattogram's Rangunia upazila on Thursday night.

Police said the victim -- Abdul Mannan, 40 -- was an upazila level leader of the Jatiyatbadi Sramik Dal, although they could not confirm his exact position in the pro-BNP organisation.

Witnesses said Mannan was attacked in Sarabkhata union around 9:00pm, when the armed men opened fire and fled the scene immediately afterward.

Balayat Hossain, assistant superintendent of police (ASP) of Rangunia Circle, told The Daily Star that Mannan had recently returned to Bangladesh after working in Saudi Arabia, following the fall of the Awami League government.

"Last night [Thursday night] he went there to attend a wedding ceremony with his wife. Later, locals found his bullet-riddled body beside the road, around 3km from the wedding venue," Hossain said.

Police said Mannan was shot in the chest and on the left side of his forehead. His mobile phone was missing from the scene.

Two held after man beaten to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police have arrested two accused after a man was beaten to death in Chattogram's Fatikchhari upazila.

Abdullah Al Masud, 32, was found critically injured near his home in Fatikchhari municipality on Thursday. Masud was an electrician and a resident of the Uttar Dhurung area under the municipality.

He succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Chattogram city around 10:30pm.

The arrestees, Md Osman, 27, and Md Afaz Uddin, 31, were named as accused in the murder case filed by the victim's brother, Abdullah Al Rashed, with Fatikchhari Police Station on Friday night.

In addition to Osman and Afaz, four to five unidentified individuals were also named as accused in the case.

Nur Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Fatikchhari Police Station, said, "Efforts are underway to apprehend the others."

Citing the case statement, he said Osman had called Masud out of his home that night and taken him to the rooftop of a nearby house. There, several men allegedly beat him indiscriminately with iron rods, bamboo sticks, and wooden bars, striking his head, eyes, and limbs. After the assault, the attackers dumped him in front of his home and fled.

FLAT FOR SALE
Six storied building (Land Area 10 Katha). Apt.- 1st Floor, 8 Dutabash Road, Baridhara, Dhaka-1212. 4000 sq. ft. with Land Area Ratio -1.69 Katha. 04 Bedroom, Contract: 01552647937

NOTICE : THE 23RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)



Cadet College Club Limited

CCCL/SECT/MEETING/GB/00104A/99 13th November 2025

The 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Cadet College Club Limited will be held as per Article 49 of the Articles of Association of the Club.

Date : Saturday, 13th December 2025

Time : 1100 hours

Venue : Cadet College Club Limited, Purbachal. (Plot # 002, Road # 203A, Sector-12, Purbachal New Town)

Agenda :

- Confirmation of the minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 14th December 2024.
- Consideration of the Annual Report of the Board of Directors for the year 2025.
- Adoption of the Audited Statement of the Accounts for the Financial Year (FY) ended on 30th June 2025.
- Adoption of the Annual Budget for the Financial Year (FY) ended on 30th June 2026.
- Appointment of the Auditor(s) and fixation of the remuneration for the Auditor(s).
- Discussion and Adoption of Resolution(s), if any (proposed by members to the Board and placed as per Article).
- Refurbishment of Multipurpose Shed with Air Conditioning facilities.
- Discussion on the beautification of the green belt around the lake site.
- Any other business allowed by the chair.
- Electon of the Office Bearers for the year 2026.

Primary Members who have cleared their respective Club dues by Thursday, 27th November 2025, are eligible to attend and vote in the 23rd Annual General Meeting of Cadet College Club Limited as per Article 49 (f) of the Articles of Association of the Club.

Sd/
(Ashraf Hussain)
Director of Administration and Services

Disability inclusion must move beyond box-ticking

FROM PAGE 3

He emphasised that while laws matter, implementation is key. "Laws are good on paper, but what's happening with implementation? Everybody has to push. We have to hold the government accountable for what they ratified," he said.

Menze pointed to the UN CRPD Committee's 2022 concluding observations as a key guide for Bangladesh. Ratifying ILO Convention 159 on employment and vocational rehabilitation could further strengthen social dialogue and help build more inclusive labour markets.

Real progress, he stressed, depends on collective action. "It's not only one labour market actor working alone. It involves companies, government, trade unions,

or organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), but they must learn from each other. An inclusive ecosystem where partners contribute their complementary strengths is essential," he said.

"People with disabilities know best what they need at work. Companies must innovate and change to be truly inclusive. It's not an add on; it changes how companies operate," he said.

National Business and Disability Networks, active in over 45 countries including Bangladesh, play a central role by providing a collaborative space for private companies, government agencies, trade unions, and OPDs to share learning and adopt practical solutions.

Employment challenges are especially severe in the

private sector, where many people with disabilities struggle to secure formal jobs, Menze said.

"Companies can take proactive steps rather than waiting for policy reforms. Globally, leading firms have introduced on-the-job learning programmes for employees lacking formal education or vocational skills due to discrimination.

Affirmative action can support specific groups, such as women with disabilities or people with intellectual disabilities," Menze said.

He also stressed the importance of involving women's rights groups and OPDs to address gender-specific barriers.

"One of the biggest obstacles for women, with or without disabilities, to enter and stay in the labour market is care

responsibilities, which still fall disproportionately on women," he said.

"Companies must incorporate this reality into programmes for women with disabilities."

"Sometimes we work on women, sometimes on people with disabilities, sometimes on youth or the elderly. Ultimately, we need labour markets that work for all, with workplaces that are accessible, accommodating, and responsive to individual needs," Menze said.

Accessibility -- both physical and digital -- remains a major barrier, Menze said, stressing that accessibility alone does not guarantee inclusion.

He highlighted the "three A's" -- accessibility, accommodation, and awareness.

Mental accessibility

-- awareness and understanding of disability needs -- is equally vital, he added.

He noted that neither governments nor companies can rely on goodwill alone.

"OPDs play an essential

role in advocating and holding

authorities

accountable.

Companies

can use structured tools,

such as the Global Business

and Disability Network's

self-assessment tool,

to evaluate HR practices,

facilities,

accessibility,

and procurement," he said.

Senior leadership

involvement

and employee feedback ensure

initiatives lead to systemic,

measurable change.

Building disability-inclusive economies is a long-term process, he said.

"Creating fully inclusive economies is a marathon, not a sprint. It starts with

access to education, skills development, employment, transport, and support networks."

For companies unsure where to begin, Menze recommended joining the Bangladesh Business and Disability Network. Involving persons with disabilities in policy design, conducting audits, and using self-assessment tools can help craft actionable plans.

Menze's message was clear: disability inclusion must go beyond formality or box-ticking. True inclusion requires collaboration, accountability, and sustained action.

With the right systems, employers can move from good intentions to real results -- recognising persons with disabilities as equal contributors to national progress, Menze concluded.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD

Road Division, Shariatpur.

02-89661285

e-mail: cesar@rhd.gov.bd

তারিখ: ১১-১১-২০২৫

স্মারক নং: ৩৫, ১, ৮৬৬৯, ৮৬৮, ০৭, ০০২, ১২-১২১৮

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the below works.

Tender ID No	Package No.	Name of Work/Package Description	Last Selling date & time	Opening date & time	Remarks
1172508	e-GP-13/EE/SRD/2025-2026.	Pavement Maintenance work by Base Type-I & DBS Wearing Course of Mostafapur-Madaripur-Shariatpur (Monohar bazaar)-Ibrahimpur-Horin-Chandpur (Bhatialpur) Road (R-860) at 30th km (P) & 31st Km (P) under Shariatpur Road Division, during the year-2025-2026.	23-11-2024 17:00 AM	24-11-2025 13:00 PM	Only online tender.

</div