

Two cops, bus helper killed in road crashes

STAR REPORT

Two policemen and a bus helper were killed in separate road accidents yesterday in Shariatpur and Kushtia, according to the reports from our correspondents.

A bus helper was killed and several passengers were injured when a bus rear-ended another that had suddenly stopped on the Padma Bridge in Shariatpur's Zajira upazila.

The accident occurred last night near Pillar No 29 on the south side of the bridge. Injured passengers were rescued by bridge authorities and fellow commuters and taken to nearby hospitals.

Police later recovered the body of the deceased helper and sent it to the morgue of Shariatpur Sadar Hospital for post-mortem examination. SI Kabir Ahmed of Padma Bridge South Police Station told The Daily Star.

The deceased was identified as Md Tofayel Mia, 27, son of Selim Mia of Dakshin Para in Madaripur Sadar. He was living as a tenant in Fakir Mahmud Akand Kandi area of Jajira upazila.

According to police, the Dhaka-Kuakata-bound Padma Special Paribahan bus came to a sudden halt on the bridge when a Bhanga-bound Basumat Paribahan bus rammed it from behind, killing the helper on the spot.

SI Kabir Ahmed said legal proceedings in connection with the incident are under way.

Abu Sad Niloy, executive engineer of the Bangladesh Bridge Authority, said the buses were removed using a wrecker without causing traffic congestion. "We repeatedly caution drivers against stopping on the bridge," he said.

Meanwhile, two policemen were killed in another road accident in Kushtia's Bheramara upazila when a covered-van rammed their motorbike near the Lalor Shah Bridge.

The deceased were identified as Inspector Mozaharul Islam, 48, and Assistant Sub Inspector Koyed Uddin, 47, both of the Special Branch in Ishwardi upazila of Pabna.

Police said the two were travelling from Ishwardi to Kushtia around noon when the covered-van hit their motorbike from behind, said Abu Obayed, officer-in-charge of Chourash Highway Police Station.

They were thrown onto the road, and the van ran them over before fleeing the scene, he said.

The bodies were later handed over to the victims' families.



PHOTO: STAR

CARMICHAEL COLLEGE IN RANGPUR

Teacher shortage, infrastructure crises hamper academic activities

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

The Carmichael College in Rangpur, a historic educational institution in northern Bangladesh, has been facing a myriad of crises, including a shortage of teachers, classrooms, dilapidated infrastructure, and poor accommodation facilities for students.

Established in 1916 by JN Gupta, the then magistrate collector of Rangpur town, on 321 acres and named after Lord Baron Carmichael, the then governor of undivided Bengal, the institution has nurtured generations of students – shaping leaders in knowledge, politics, literature, and culture – over the past 109 years.

At present, 18 of the 183 approved teaching posts across 18 departments of the college are vacant. With nearly 25,000 students enrolled, the college has a teacher-student ratio of roughly 1:151. Students say the lack of teachers often causes class cancellations, while forcing them to rely on private coaching.

According to National University regulations, 60 percent of classes are mandatory, but the existing

teacher shortage prevents it.

College sources say academic activities are being severely disrupted due to a shortage of classrooms and laboratories, a lack of an auditorium, and poor transportation. The eight dormitories of the college can barely accommodate only around five percent of students, while the rest live in numerous private hostels in the surrounding areas at much higher costs.

"My monthly costs at a private hostel exceed Tk 5,000, including accommodation and food, which is a heavy burden for me. If I had a seat in a college dormitory, it would have cost much less," said Sujon Islam, a student living in a nearby hostel.

"Almost all the hostels that students stay in lack healthy living conditions. There is also no guarantee of hygienic food and safety," he added.

Recently, a delegation of students and college representatives held discussion with the Ministry of Education

to resolve the teacher shortage and other issues.

Earlier in June this year, students of the college carried out a three-day 'complete shutdown' protest to press home their demands, including recruitment of teachers, expanding dormitories, renovating academic buildings, and improving transportation facilities. They later submitted a 25-point demand to the college administration and a 12-point memorandum to the education adviser and vice-chancellor of the National University.

Sazzad Hossain, a student of the Bangla Department, said, "Although there has been some progress, the teacher recruitment process remains slow. Only five teachers have joined recently, which is insufficient."

"Three of the college's five academic buildings are in poor condition. Most classrooms lack adequate benches, fans, and lighting. Due to overcrowding, many students are forced to

attend classes while standing," he added.

Shafiqul Islam, an English Department student, said, "If the existing crises are resolved, Carmichael College will be able to play an even greater role in educating the youth across the region."

Professor Dhiren Chandra Sarker, a former teacher and alumnus, said, "The college lacks proper supervision and planned development. This historic institution now lies in neglect. Steps are needed to restore its dignity."

Professor Mostafizur Rahman, principal of the college, said, "Letters have been sent to the education ministry to address the teacher shortage, and the process is ongoing. We are also working on other infrastructural issues. Hopefully, some of those will be resolved soon."

In the current fiscal year, Carmichael College has received a government allocation of Tk 2.5 crore, which is insufficient for modernisation and long-term development. A special project-based allocation is urgently needed to this end," he added.



Preparations on

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Party leaders said that supporters coming from outside Dhaka have been assigned specific locations in Dhaka and nearby areas.

Digital screens will be set up at each location, allowing people to watch Tarique live.

He has been living in London with his wife Zubaida Rahman and daughter Zaima Rahman. Zubaida arrived in Dhaka on December 5 to attend to the medical treatment of her mother-in-law, Khaleda Zia.

At the meeting, Standing Committee members discussed maintaining organisational discipline and ensuring security during and after Tarique's arrival.

District- and unit-level leaders have been instructed to take positions at designated points to welcome him in an orderly manner, sources said.

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said party leaders and activists would stand along both sides of the roads in a disciplined way to welcome Tarique.

"Leaders and activists at all levels will stand in an orderly manner on both sides of the road to welcome our leader. We are preparing for that," he told this newspaper yesterday.

Party leaders identified crowd management as a key challenge, as supporters from different parts of the country are expected to converge in Dhaka on the day of his arrival.

Ensuring Tarique's security was another major issue discussed at the meeting, sources said, adding that party leaders would remain vigilant and take positions along the route to assist law enforcers. Senior leaders said December 25 was chosen as it coincides with Christmas Day and is followed by a weekend, which they believe will reduce public

Ensure justice

FROM PAGE 3

inconvenience and allow supporters to participate more easily.

SECURITY MEASURES

BNP is considering requesting the government to provide Special Security Force (SSF) protection, giving top priority to Tarique's security.

Party sources said a letter seeking enhanced security arrangements may be sent within the next few days.

He also criticised Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "viewing Bangladesh's December 16 as India's victory day," on a post on X (formerly Twitter), urging the interim government to issue a statement against this distortion of history.

NCP Chief Coordinator Nasiruddin Patwary demanded accountability from the Election Commission over its response to the shooting. "The Chief Election Commissioner should be brought before the Supreme Judicial Council for such remarks," he said.

NCP Convener Nahid Islam said it is now their responsibility to carry on Hadi's fight, alleging that an attempt is being made to deceive people in the name of elections. "But the polls cannot be prevented..." he said.

Party leaders said he will move into house number 196 on Gulshan Avenue. Khaleda Zia currently resides at a rented house, "Firoza", next to the property.

Separate chambers have been prepared for Tarique at the BNP chairperson's office in Gulshan and at the party's central office in Nayapaltan.

BNP has also rented another house in Gulshan to coordinate election-related activities.

Meanwhile, a group of NCP leaders, led by Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, held a meeting at the chairperson's office yesterday evening to discuss arrangements for welcoming Tarique.

February 12 polls

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after the polls schedule was announced, cannot be described as an isolated incident. "We demand a fair investigation..." she added.

NCP Member Secretary Akhter Hossen said, "This election is not just symbolic. It is an election for reform to rebuild Bangladesh."

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alongside a national referendum. Existing initiatives by the Election Commission, civil society, and political parties remain fragmented, the report added.

The media environment has become more open compared to the previous regime, though pressures on journalists – especially at the local level – continue to affect the breadth and consistency of coverage.

With about two months remaining before polling day, the election monitoring group urged national institutions to strengthen election administration, ensure effective complaint handling and enforcement, curb money and coercion in politics, and improve inclusion, voter information, and referendum education.

The organisation added that early field observations suggest the need for further refinement in several operational areas, including the quality of indelible ink, accessibility of some polling centres, and clearer instructions, and training for polling staff, particularly in managing dual-ballot voting.

It conducted a pre-election assessment mission from November 21 to December 5, 2025, reviewing institutional readiness and risks to electoral integrity through desk research, field visits to Dhaka, Chattogram, and Rajshahi, and consultations with election officials, security agencies, political parties, civil society, media, and community representatives.

Persistent challenges related to gender equality, inclusion and accessibility were also highlighted. Women, ethnic, and religious minorities, gender diverse persons and people with disabilities continue to face structural barriers to participation as voters, candidates, and election stakeholders.

Voter education efforts are still evolving and do not yet fully reflect the complexity of holding parliamentary elections



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তারিখ: ৩০ অক্টোবর, ১৪৩২ বঙ্গাব্দ

১৫ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৫ খ্রি

শিক্ষকগণের আইসিটি বিষয়ক উচ্চতর প্রশিক্ষণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের কারিগরি ও মানবিক শিক্ষা বিভাগের আওতামে নেকটার এর "ভৌত অবকাঠামো উন্নয়ন ও প্রশিক্ষণ কার্যক্রম শক্তিশালীকরণ" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের আওতায় ২০২৫-২০২৬ অর্থবছরে সরকারি ও এমপিওভুক্ত মানবিক কারিগরি ও মানবিক/উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক পর্যায়ে প্রতিষ্ঠানের শিক্ষকগণের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নোক্ত শর্ত সাপ্লাই ও ৩০ দিন মেয়াদী আইসিটি বিষয়ক উচ্চতর প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্রে অন্তর্ভুক্ত আবেদন অন্তর্ভুক্ত করা যাবে।

প্রাপ্ত আবেদনের প্রক্রিয়াতে প্রত্যুক্ত প্রয়োগ হতে নিম্নোক্ত শর্ত সাপ্লাই ও সুপারিশ/অনুমোদন গ্রহণপ্রকৰণ অন্তর্ভুক্ত আবেদন অন্তর্ভুক্ত করা যাবে।

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