

## Cop stabbed at Jatrabari checkpoint

### Crude bombs recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A police constable was stabbed by miscreants during a search at a checkpoint in Dhaka's Jatrabari area yesterday.

Police also recovered an abandoned bag with five crude bombs and another explosive device from the scene.

The injured, Md Shah Alam, 33, a constable of Jatrabari Police Station, is currently undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

SI Md Sahidur Rahman of the police station said a team of four to five policemen was on mobile duty near the Kutubkhali Pocket Gate area. Around noon, they intercepted four youths carrying two bags due to suspicious movements.

As Shah Alam attempted to search the bags, one of the youths suddenly pulled out a knife from his waist and stabbed him on his forehead.

When the police team chased the attackers, the miscreants exploded a crude bomb and managed to flee the scene, the SI added.

The abandoned bag containing the explosives was later handed over to the Bomb Disposal Unit.



Mango trees are in full bloom, blanketing gardens and roadsides and filling the air with their sweet scent. This year's soothing spring weather has brought abundant blossoms, raising hopes of a good harvest. The photo was taken in the Boyra area of Khalishpur, Khulna recently.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

## Edn system must align with job market: Milon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon yesterday said the country's conventional education system is to blame for rising unemployment, as it fails to align with employment needs.

"Education is not meant to increase unemployment. It should reduce unemployment and create skilled human resources," he said.

He made the remarks while speaking as chief guest at a discussion marking Language Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day at the Primary Teachers' Training Institute in Mirpur.

The programme was organised by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education.

Milon said employment-oriented education remains insufficient compared to demand. The system must be reorganised so that students become skilled, capable and productive.

Although there are demands for opening new colleges, subjects and institutions, priority must be given to actual employment needs and market relevance, he said.

The education system will be restructured to make it employment-focused, skill based and time-appropriate, he added.

Effective steps will be taken to preserve and develop the languages of the country's ethnic minority communities, he said.

Speaking as special guest, State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Bobby Hajaj said building a strong educational foundation is essential for the country's future.

He said a strict "zero tolerance" policy against corruption would be enforced across all departments under the education ministry.

## Ten killed in road crashes in 5 districts

STAR REPORT

At least 10 people, including three members of a family, were killed and four injured in separate road crashes in five districts over the last two days.

Of them, five were killed after a CNG-run auto-rickshaw collided head-on with a gas-laden lorry on the Kushtia bypass road yesterday.

The deceased were identified as the auto-rickshaw driver Zakaria, 40; his mothers-in-law Amena, 65, and their relative Komela, 62; auto-rickshaw passenger Ashrafal, 45; and his wife Shirina, 30.

All of them were residents of Khajanagar village under Kushtia's Sadar upazila, and they were travelling from Rajshahi's Bagha upazila to their village.

The auto-rickshaw collided head-on with the lorry that was coming from the opposite direction near the Kushtia Stores petrol pump area around 2:00pm, said Chourhash Highway Police Station Officer-in-Charge Abu Obayed.

Three people died on the spot, while two others succumbed to their injuries on the way to Kushtia General Hospital, added the OC.

Eyewitness Mithun said the auto-rickshaw fell in front of the lorry while attempting to overtake another truck, leading to the fatal crash.

Meanwhile, in Jhenaidah town, two people were killed in a head-on collision between a motorbike and a truck on Friday night.

The deceased, Shahriar Zaman Shanto, 25, and Toton Miah, 22, were residents of the town's Arappur and Beparipara areas, respectively.

The victims were travelling from the town's bus terminal to Arappur on a motorbike. When they reached Pabohati Kolahat on the Jhenaidah-Kushtia highway around 10:30pm, their motorbike collided head-on with the truck coming from the opposite direction, said police.

Locals rescued them in critical condition and took them to Jhenaidah Sadar Hospital, where doctors declared Shanto dead, said Mrityunjoy Biswas, OC of Arappur Highway Police Station.

As Toton's physical condition was critical, he was referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Toton later succumbed to his injuries at DMCH while undergoing treatment yesterday

morning, added the OC.

In Narsingdi, an elderly man was killed after being hit by an unidentified vehicle at Shibpur upazila early in the morning yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Nasir Uddin Nasu Munshi, 75, of the Bajrab Chatolpara area. He used to work as a caretaker of a local mosque.

Police and his family members said Nasir Uddin had his Sehri early in the morning and was heading to the mosque for Fajr prayers. While crossing the Itakhola-Monohardi regional road at around 5:30am, a vehicle hit him.

Shibpur Model Police Station OC Kohinur Mia said the vehicle could not be traced as it quickly fled the scene.

In Cox's Bazar, a man was killed and his young son critically injured in a collision between a dump truck and a motorcycle in the Nalbila check post area of Chakaria upazila on Friday night.

The deceased was identified as Nurul Hossain, 45, a resident of Baraitali in Chakaria. His 11-year-old son, Shamim Hossain, was seriously injured and was admitted to Chattogram Medical College Hospital.

Nurul was driving his motorbike from Baraitali to Chakaria upazila headquarters, and his son was riding pillion. When they reached the Nalbila area on the Chattogram-Cox's Bazar highway at around 8:15pm, it collided head-on with the truck, said Chiringa Highway Police OC Ariful Amin.

In Jashore, a garment trader was killed, and his wife and two daughters were injured in a road crash in Keshabpur upazila on Friday night.

The deceased was identified as Abdus Salam, 35, of Bidiyandakati village.

Police said Salam and his family members were travelling on a motorbike that collided head-on with a brick-laden trolley at around 8:30pm at Mirzapur area.

Salam died on the spot, and the injured people are receiving treatment at Keshabpur Upazila Health Complex, said Keshabpur Police Station's Sub-Inspector Saimun Hossain.

[Our correspondents from Kushtia, Jhenaidah, Narsingdi, Cox's Bazar and Benapole contributed to the report.]

## Absence

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to place wreaths since sunrise – surprised and angered.

In a spontaneous response to the situation, members of the Conscious Citizens Committee (SANAK), cultural activists and students sang in chorus "Amar Bhai-er Rokte Rangano Ekushey February...", creating an emotional ambience.

Captain (Retd) Azizul Haque, Bir Protik, president of the Lalmonirhat district unit of SANAK, said, "I am deeply saddened that no patriotic song was played at the district administration's programme at the Shaheed Minar. Such indifference casts a dark shadow over our history, struggle, and culture."

"The songs are not merely cultural performances; they awaken the history of our Language Movement, inspire the new generation, and instil respect for the country and the mother tongue," he added.

SANAK member Supen Dutta said, "Playing patriotic songs at the Shaheed Minar in memory of those who sacrificed their lives for the mother tongue is a minimum cultural responsibility."

Sufi Mohammad, general secretary of the Lalmonirhat Sammilita Cultural Forum, held the Lalmonirhat deputy commissioner responsible for the incident.

Contacted, Lalmonirhat DC HM Raqib Hayder said, "I am looking into the matter."

## Sramik Dal leader shot in Raozan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An upazila-level Sramik Dal leader was shot and injured by armed miscreants in Raozan upazila of Chattogram on Friday night.

The incident took place around 7:30pm at Chowdhury Market in Ward no-9 of Raozan municipality.

The injured, Mehedi Hasan, 32, was admitted to a private hospital after the incident.

Local sources said Mehedi is the organising secretary of Upazila Sramik Dal, although the information could not be independently verified.

According to local sources, Mehedi was returning from Shah Awlia Mosque after offering prayers when a group of armed criminals opened fire and fled the scene.

He sustained bullet injuries to his chest and leg. Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) of Rangunia Circle, Balayat Hossain, told The Daily Star, "After hearing about the incident, police went to the spot but found nothing. We are collecting information and trying to identify the attackers. Action will be taken after receiving a complaint."



Mehedi Hasan

## Brinda's fight to save

FROM PAGE 3

As a result, Meitei Mayek has gradually faded from everyday use.

Determined to preserve the language, Brinda Rani founded a language training centre – Meitei Mayek Tambibagi School – on her veranda in 2019.

"I felt our language was on the verge of extinction, with no opportunity to learn how to read and write it," she said. "I thought I would give it a try, at least to help it survive."

Brinda began the initiative after consulting village guardians and seeking support from her family.

"When I started, I had only one Manipuri book," she recalled. "Later, poet AK Sheram gave me 15 books. My husband bought a blackboard and a duster. Others donated money for a sound box. Many people came forward to help."

Lakshmikanta Singh of the Ethnic Community Development Organization provided additional books and materials. Brinda herself supplies notebooks and pens.

Since its inception, more than 100 Meitei (Hindu Manipuri) and Panghal (Muslim Manipuri) students from Kewalighat, Katabil and Haktiarkhola villages have learned to read and write in their mother tongue at the centre.

Classes for children are held every Friday from 10:00am to 11:30am.

Since February 2022,

housewives from the community have also been attending lessons on alternate Fridays, despite occasional irregular attendance due to household responsibilities.

"Earlier, I could speak the language but could not read it," said Bimala Sinha, a learner at the centre. "Now I can read Manipuri books. Our children are learning too. This will help our language survive."

Although primary-level education in ethnic minority languages is permitted, community members say implementation remains weak due to limited institutional support.

"We speak Manipuri at home, but outside we mostly use Bangla," said cultural organiser Sanatan Hamom. "Many are now more comfortable in Bangla, even with family. Gradually, our mother tongue is fading."

Sajjadul Haque, president of the Panghal Research and Publication Organization, said such grassroots initiatives are vital for preserving minority languages.

Brinda – a mother of two, one a doctor and the other a banker – has published two poetry books in Manipuri. Yet she considers the language centre her most meaningful work.

"As long as I am physically capable, I will continue this language training centre," she said.

## INVITATION FOR TENDER

**Pubali Bank PLC.**, the largest private commercial Bank in Bangladesh, is hereby inviting sealed Tender from the eligible Tenderers who can participate in any of the following tender as defined in the tender documents of the under mentioned works as per terms & conditions stated below:

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Please visit our web site, <https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.aspx> for details. Interested Parties may purchase the Tender document by **05 March 2026** duly filled up all requirements and submit their offer by **08 March 2026** at 11:00 AM. Tenders will be opened on **08 March 2026** at 11:30AM.

**Md. Kamruzzaman**

General Manager & Division Head  
**ESTT. & GENERAL SERVICES DIVISION**  
 Head office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.

**পুলালী ব্যাংক পাবলিক লিমিটেড**  
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## মহান শহিদ দিবস ও আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবস ২০২৬

### কবিকণ্ঠে কবিতা পাঠ ও আবৃত্তি অনুষ্ঠান



২২শে ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৬, বিকেল ৩.০০টা  
 জাতীয় চিত্রশালা মিলনায়তন

প্রধান অতিথি:  
 জনাব নিতাই রায় চৌধুরী, এমপি  
 মাননীয় মন্ত্রী, সংস্কৃতি বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়  
 বিশেষ অতিথি:  
 জনাব আলী নেওয়াজ মাহমুদ খৈয়াম, এমপি  
 মাননীয় প্রতিমন্ত্রী, সংস্কৃতি বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়  
 সভাপতি:  
 শেখ রেজাউদ্দিন আহমেদ  
 মহাপরিচালক, বাংলাদেশ শিল্পকলা একাডেমি  
 স্বাগত বক্তব্য:  
 জনাব মোহাম্মদ জাকির হোসেন  
 সচিব, বাংলাদেশ শিল্পকলা একাডেমি  
 বাংলাদেশ শিল্পকলা একাডেমি

## Nation pays homage

FROM PAGE 3

In Rajshahi, people paid tribute at the city's newly constructed permanent Shaheed Minar at Sonadighi Mor. The monument was opened to the public after Land Minister Mizanur Rahman Minu and local officials placed wreaths at 12:01am.

In Chattogram, after a ceremonial police salute, City Corporation Mayor Shahadat Hossain and others laid wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar late at night, followed by the general public.

In Sylhet, crowds paid homage at the Central Shaheed Minar in Chauhatta area from midnight onwards. Minister of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment and Labour and Employment, Arifur Rahman Chowdhury, paid homage along with government officials and leaders of different organisations.

In Barishal, Chuadanga, Khulna, Rangpur, Jhalakathi, Joypurhat, Shariatpur, Khagrachhari and Mymensingh, the divisional commissioner, DIG, police commissioner and deputy commissioner placed wreaths at the day's

first hour.

Campuses of Dhaka University, Rajshahi University, Jahangirnagar University, Chittagong University, Khulna University, Islamic University in Kushtia, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, North South University and Daffodil International University observed the day with wreath-laying ceremonies and cultural programmes.

On this day, 74 years back – February 21 in 1952 – martyrs Rafiq, Salam, Jabbar, Barkat, among others, laid their lives so that Bangla could be recognised as the state language.

Unesco recognised February 21 as the International Mother Language Day on November 17, 1999. Since then, the day has been observed worldwide to promote linguistic diversity and cultural heritage.

National dailies published special supplements, while Bangladesh Betar, Bangladesh Television and private channels aired special programmes marking the occasion.

[Our correspondents from respective districts contributed to this report]

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Directorate of Primary Education  
 Office of the District Primary Education  
 District: Thakurgaon  
[www.dpe.thakurgaon.gov.bd](http://www.dpe.thakurgaon.gov.bd)

Reference No. dpeo/thak/e-Gp/2026/205

Date: 19-02-2026

### e-Tender Notice-01/2025-26

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

Sl No.	Name of work	Package No.	Tender ID No.	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
01	Furniture supply of 112 set low-high benches, 54 Nos. chairs, 81 Nos. tables, 07 Nos. rake at different primary schools of all Upazila in Thakurgaon district under PEDP-4-FY-2025-2026	GD 808.21	1198958	04 March 2026 at 17:00	05 March 2026 at 15:00	05 March 2026 at 15:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to 04 March 2026 17:00. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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GD-357