



40 lives lost on roads during Eid holidays

STAR REPORT

At least 40 people were killed and 69 others were injured in road accidents in 14 districts during the Eid holidays, between Thursday and yesterday.

In Cumilla, at least 12 people were killed and 18 injured after a Chattogram-Dhaka mail train hit a bus at a level crossing in

Sadar; Md Jowad Hossain Biswas, 25, son of Moktar Hossain Biswas of Jhenaidah Sadar; Fosiar Rahman, 25, son of Wahab Sheikh of Magura's Mohammadpur; and Mohammad Tajul Islam, 70, of Chandpur's Kachua.

The incident occurred around 2:45am at the Paduar Bazar level crossing, said Md Abdul Momin, OC of Moynamoti Crossing

69 injured in road accidents across 14 districts

Accidents involved buses, trains, trucks, pickups, auto-rickshaws and motorcycles

Additional deaths reported from multiple districts and DMCH

Sadar Dakshin upazila early Sunday.

The deceased are: Md Babul Chowdhury, 53, of Noakhali's Sonaimuri and a resident of Tejturi Bazar, Dhaka; Laiju Akter, 29, wife of Pintu Mia of Jhenaidah's Maheshpur, along with their two daughters Khadija Akter, 9, and Mariam Akter, 3; Sohel Rana, 48, of Chuadanga's Jibannagar; Khandakar Sirajul Alam, 60, of Jashore's Chaugachha, and his wife Kohinur Begum, 55; Nazrul Islam Raihan, 28, of Sudharam in Noakhali Sadar; Sayeda, 9, daughter of Sirajul Doula of Lakshimpur

Highway Police Station.

The train dragged the bus, travelling from Chuadanga to Lakshimpur, for nearly a kilometre, according to witness accounts and police.

Authorities said no gateman was found on duty at the time of the accident. After the accident, two gatemen were suspended for negligence.

In Natore's Lalpur upazila, three people were killed and four others injured when a sand-carrying truck hit a battery-run auto-

SEE PAGE 9 COL 2



Onlookers gather around the wreckage of a bus after it collided with a Dhaka-bound mail train from Chattogram at the Paduar Bazar rail crossing in Cumilla Sadar Dakshin, leaving 12 bus passengers dead and 18 injured early Sunday.

PHOTO: KHALID NAZRUL

UPRISING PARTICIPANTS Special JS committee endorses indemnity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary special committee yesterday agreed to recommend placing the July Mass Uprising (Protection and Liability Determination) Ordinance before parliament as a bill.

The ordinance was issued to provide legal protection to the people who took part in the July mass uprising.

The decision came at the committee's first meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. It also decided to complete scrutiny of 133 ordinances promulgated by the interim government and submit its report by April 2, officials said.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said the committee was fully in agreement with the indemnity ordinance.

He said ensuring legal protection for the brave fighters of the uprising is a moral and state responsibility. He also said the government could amend the law after its passage if necessary.

Meanwhile, Law Minister Asaduzzaman said the committee had begun reviewing the 133 ordinances.

On how many issues consensus had been reached, he said it was too early to disclose details and that the findings would be made public once the report is finalised. He said the committee would prepare the report by April 2.

When asked whether the constitution

SEE PAGE 9 COL 6

DGHS cracks down on errant clinics, diagnostic centres

Finds no doctors in ICUs; closes one hospital

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Muktijoddha Tower-1, a residential-slash-commercial building in Mohammadpur's College Gate area, houses five private hospitals and two blood banks on its first to fifth floors, along with a residential hotel.

One of the establishments is Jamuna General Hospital, occupying 10 very small rooms in a portion of the building's fourth floor.

However, it has been operating with an expired licence since June 2024 and is running

the hospital's ICU services yesterday, the first day of its drive against anomalies at private medical facilities.

Four children admitted there were transferred to other hospitals. The hospital authority was asked to show cause within three days about the anomalies.

The DGHS found TG Multispecialty Hospital and Diagnostic Centre in such a horrendous situation that it shut it down.

Two DGHS teams also found various irregularities at three other hospitals and

Its intensive care unit (ICU) facilities have no dedicated doctors and are run by nurses with support from an on-call physician. No ICU protocols are being followed. The operating theatre (OT) is also in a highly unhygienic condition. Patients are being managed through illegal practices.

The DGHS said about Jamuna General Hospital

29 beds, exceeding its sanctioned capacity of 20.

Its intensive care unit (ICU) facilities have no dedicated doctors and are run by nurses with support from an on-call physician. No ICU protocols are being followed. The operating theatre (OT) is also in a highly unhygienic condition. Patients are being managed through illegal practices.

Finding these irregularities, the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) shut down

SEE PAGE 9 COL 2

Bangladesh air 2nd worst in the world

Says IQAir's 2025 survey

REUTERS, Singapore

Bangladesh was ranked the world's smoggiest country in 2025, with concentrations of hazardous small particles known as PM2.5 up to 13 times higher than the recommended World Health Organization level, research showed yesterday. Pakistan topped the list, while Tajikistan ranked third among the most polluted countries.

Swiss air quality monitoring firm IQAir said in its annual report that 13 countries and territories kept average PM2.5 levels at the WHO standard of less than 5 microgrammes per cubic metre last year, up from seven in 2024.

However, 130 out of 143 monitored countries and territories failed to meet the WHO guideline.

India's Loni was the world's most polluted city in 2025, with average PM2.5 levels of 112.5 micrograms, followed by Hotan in the northwestern Chinese region of Xinjiang at 109.6 microgrammes.

The world's top 25 most polluted cities were all in India, Pakistan and China.

Only 14 percent of the world's cities met the WHO standard in 2025, down from 17 percent a year earlier, with Canadian wildfires driving up PM2.5 across the United States and as far as Europe.

Among the countries that met the standard in 2025 were Australia, Iceland, Estonia and Panama.

Laos, Cambodia and Indonesia all reported significant PM2.5 reductions compared to the previous year, thanks mainly to wetter and windier La Nina weather. Mongolia saw average concentrations fall 31% to 17.8 microgrammes per cubic metre.

In all, 75 countries reported lower PM2.5 levels in 2025 compared to a year earlier, with 54 recording higher average concentrations, IQAir said.

Parliament to discuss US trade deal Says Shama Obaed

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The reciprocal trade deal with the US will be discussed in and outside parliament and will be implemented by maintaining national interest, said Shama Obaed Islam, the state minister for foreign affairs.

She, however, did not specify whether the deal, signed by the interim government three days before the 13th national election, would be reviewed or not.

"Bangladesh's economy, the people, the private sector, all are impacted by the deal - we will ensure national interest as we implement the deal," she told reporters at the foreign ministry yesterday.

Before that, it will be discussed in and outside the parliament. "If needed, we will also discuss it with the US," she added.

The US lowered the tariff for Bangladesh's

SEE PAGE 9 COL 2



2 dead in clashes over polls rivalry

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Two people, including the imam of a mosque, were killed and over 100 others injured in violent clashes in Nasirnagar upazila of Brahmanbaria district yesterday.

Inspector Abul Kalam Azad, in charge of Chatalpar Investigation Centre, confirmed the deaths and described the situation as "still volatile." He added that police have yet to reach the site in full force and stop the violence, as it is in a very remote area.

Brahmanbaria Superintendent of Police Shah Md Abdur Rauf said during the clash, Habibullah, the local mosque's imam, was injured by a spear and later died at the Ashtagram Upazila Health Complex in nearby Kishoreganj district. Akhtar Mia, the other deceased, was also injured by a spear and died on the spot; his body remains at the scene.

The clashes are linked to a longstanding dispute between supporters of BNP leader and newly elected MP Rahim Talukdar and those of defeated independent candidate Kamruzzaman Mamun.

While Akhtar Mia was a supporter of Rahim Talukdar, Habibullah was a supporter of Kamruzzaman Mamun.

According to police and locals, the violence erupted last morning in Goalnagar union, a remote area surrounded by rivers, when rival groups attacked each other with local weapons, including spears, bows and arrows.

Witnesses said the clash appeared premeditated, with both sides reportedly mobilising supporters from nearby villages. The fighting quickly spread across multiple villages in the union.

Doctors at Nasirnagar Upazila Health Complex said

SEE PAGE 9 COL 6



People wielding sticks and spears gathered on a farmland during a clash that left two people, including a mosque imam, dead and at least a hundred injured in Goalnagar village of Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar upazila yesterday.

PHOTO: MASHUK HRIDOV

Dragged from home, beaten to death

Brahmanbaria anti-narcotics activist slain

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

An admin of an anti-narcotics Facebook page was forcibly taken out of his home and then beaten to death yesterday afternoon in Brahmanbaria's Kasba upazila.

Deen Islam, 30, was the son of Shafiqul Islam, of Shimrail village under Mehari union, said police.

He ran the page and a YouTube channel called, "Talash Crime Dristi", where he regularly published video reports on drug trafficking, drug trade, and drug abuse.

According to police and locals, a group of 20 to 30 people forcibly took him from his house around noon and severely beat him. They later left him in the Gangerkut area under

SEE PAGE 9 COL 6