

# Portray true picture of Bangladesh abroad

## Prime minister tells expatriates

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday said all Bangladeshis living abroad should portray the true picture of the country.  
She said the government believes in transparency and expects expatriate Bangladeshis to work for building the image of the country abroad.  
Khaleda Zia asked the Bangladeshis abroad to stand against any conspiracy to tarnish the country's image. "Wrong projection and propaganda adversely affect the country and the common people," she said.  
The prime minister was talking to the members of the New York-based

International Farakka Committee (IFC) when they called on her at the Prime Minister's Office in the afternoon.  
Led by IFC Chairman Atiqur RK Eusufzai, the delegation includes its Secretary General Sayed Tipu Sultan, Dr Jasim Uddin Ahmad, Sadek Khan, Dr SI Khan, Dr Sayed Saifullah, Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury, Nazma Ahmad, Harun-Ar-Rashid, Mohammad Zaman, Golam Mehraj, Kazi Mustafa Kamal, H Zaman, Emdad Khan and Abul Kashem Laskar.  
The delegation presented the prime minister a compilation work entitled "National Documentation on the Problems of Arsenic and Farakka". The book consists of papers of different seminars, workshops and other



A delegation of the New York-based International Farakka Committee presented a book titled 'National Documentation on the Problems of Arsenic and Farakka' to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

# Young man shot dead in Mirpur

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
A young man was shot dead at West Kazipara in Mirpur on Sunday.  
Unidentified assailants shot Abdul Halim, 22, at point-blank range at least five times at about 9:30pm.  
However, police could not provide details about Halim. The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately.  
Injured Halim succumbed to his injuries on way to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

## Indian classical dance show in Ctg Aug 11

**BSS, Ctg**  
Eminent Indian dancer Tanusree Shankar and her troupe will perform classical dance on August 11 at 7pm in the Muslim Institute hall here.  
The Assistant High Commission of India in Chittagong will organise the show titled "Ahimsa," a ballet on non-violence which received high appreciation in the cultural arena worldwide, a press release said here yesterday.  
Tanusree, an artiste of excellent credentials, has handled her choreography for various international festivals.

# Reinstatement of 525 diploma engrs demanded

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation Diploma Engineers Association (BADCDEA) yesterday demanded reinstatement of its 525 diploma engineers.  
"The government terminated our 525 diploma engineers from BADC last month, it is illegal, irrational, inhuman and we demand to cancel their termination order," said BADC DEA President Ali Azam at a press conference.  
The BADCDEA announced a month long countrywide programmes, including a daylong symbolic hunger strike in the capital, to protest the government order of termination.  
Other programmes are a human chain in Dhaka on August 10, Barisal on 13, Khulna on 14, Sylhet on 17, Chittagong 18, Bagura 19 and again in Dhaka on 20.  
They will also hold the same programme on August 25, 26 and 27 in the districts.  
Azam said we hope the government will withdraw the illegal order in the national interest as well as the interest of the agriculture sector. "Otherwise we will launch vigorous movement in cooperation with farmers and other professionals", BADCDEA General Secretary Anwar Hossain said.  
BADCDEA leaders Mofazzal Hossain Montu, Sakawat Hossain, Mokarram Hossain and IDEA General Secretary AKMA Hamid were also present at the press conference.



The BADC Diploma Engineers' Association organised a press conference in the city yesterday demanding reinstatement of 525 diploma engineers.

## Norwegian envoy calls on Hasina

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Outgoing ambassador of Norway Ms Gerd Wahlstrom yesterday called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence in the city.  
They discussed bilateral and international matters of mutual interest during the meeting that lasted for more than an hour, a spokesman for Hasina said.  
Ms Gerd Wahlstrom thanked Hasina for her cooperation during her tenure.  
Hasina lauded Norwegian assistance for development in education sector, particularly technical education. She hoped that the friendly relations between the two countries would be further strengthened in the days ahead.

## DU examinations postponed

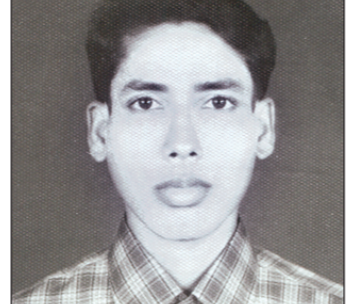
**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
All examinations under course and traditional system at Dhaka University, scheduled to be held today and tomorrow, have been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances.  
The fresh date for postponed examinations will be announced later on.

## Architecture competition

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka organises a futuristic living architecture competition for the students of architecture, says a press release.  
The subject of the competition is 'Imagine a living complex in Dhanmondi Residential Area in 2020 by the means of a model and drawing'.  
The first prize of the competition is Tk 10,000, the second Tk 6,000 and the third Tk 4,000.  
Interested students are requested to contact the Alliance Francaise before August 8 for registration (free but mandatory) and further details.  
The competition has been sponsored by Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd.

## FM goes to US Aug 14

**BSS, Dhaka**  
Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan will leave here for the United States of America on August 14 on a private visit, foreign ministry source said yesterday.  
During his week-long visit, Morshed Khan is expected to seize the opportunity to meet senior officials of the White House and State Department.



## Appeal for help

A SSC examinee who has been suffering from kidney cancer appeals to the generous people for financial assistance for his treatment.  
The boy, Jalal, is now undergoing treatment at the Cancer Hospital in Dhaka.  
He seeks help from the affluent section of the society as his father, a rickshawpuller, cannot afford his treatment.  
Contributions can be sent to the following account: Account No: 1544, Sonali Bank, Ajim Market Branch, Narayanganj.

# River erosion grabs 25,000 acres of land a year: Report

**BSS, Dhaka**  
Erosion by rivers grabs nearly 25,000 acres of land every year, rendering thousands homeless.  
Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Forum in a recent report, based on the studies of different organisations, said more than 25 lakh people were rendered homeless as the rivers devoured their homesteads along with the sources of livelihood.  
The report said the Brahmaputra (Jamuna) is the most furious river that entered Bangladesh through Kurigram and made its way up to Manikganj, eroding vast tracts on both sides of its bank.  
The Padma and the Meghna are two other major rivers, which appeared with their all devouring wrath, engulfing thousands of acres of lands in several northwestern and central parts of the country.  
Experts said although the very nature of the rivers, particularly those in the north and northwestern regions, are responsible for the erosion, unsustainable interventions on rivers, particularly for controlling flood, made them more furious.  
"Many of the flood control structures like embankments proved to be counterproductive in the past as rivers usually do not tolerate any intervention, even if it is a bridge," said leading water expert professor Ainun Nishat.  
A number of people who lost everything to the wrath of the Jamuna in Bogra blame the Brahmaputra Right Embankment for their miseries though a structure was erected to protect the western bank line of the river from erosion.  
Unplanned extraction of sands from river might trigger the erosion as experts referred to the case of Louhajang of Munshiganj. The massive erosion there is blamed on sand extraction from northern side of the Padma.  
The experts, however, said that yet the country had little option other than embankments to protect the important places and establishments. But they cautioned against unplanned structural measures without environmental and social impact assessments.  
Voluntary disaster management agencies and officials acknowledged that so far, no extensive studies were carried out on the river erosions or their impacts but different statistics showed that Kurigram, Gaibandha, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Bogra, Rajshahi, Pabna and Sirajganj are the worst flood-affected districts.  
According to experts, Chandpur is another crucial example of erosion which lost a vast tract in the past one decade to the river. They fear a piece of land between Meghna and Dakatia rivers is exposed to impending danger of erosion.



Awami Jubo League stages a demonstration at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city yesterday protesting filing of chargesheet against Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina in frigate purchase case.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Thundershowers likely

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Sylhet, Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions till 6pm today.  
Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.  
Highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sayedpur and the lowest 25.0 degree at Cox's Bazar.  
The sun sets in the capital at 6:40pm today and rises at 5:30am tomorrow.  
Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.6	26.7	75	66
Chittagong	33.5	26.2	77	83
Rajshahi	34.7	26.5	77	72
Khulna	34.1	26.6	81	73
Barisal	33.0	26.6	85	66
Sylhet	34.4	27.4	73	68
Cox's Bazar	32.6	25.0	71	85

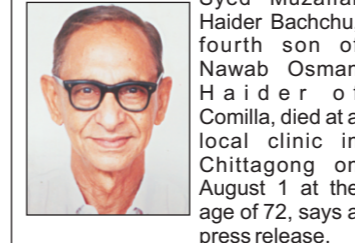
## President condoles death of Suraiya

**UNB, Dhaka**  
President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday expressed his profound shock at the death of Suraiya Begum, Associate Professor of Information Science and Library Management Department of Dhaka University.  
In a message of condolence, Iajuddin recalled the contribution of late Suraiya Begum in the development of library sector.  
He prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and conveyed heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

## Obituary

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Sara Wazeda, wife of late Dr Wazed Ali, former vice principal of the then East Pakistan Veterinary College, and mother-in-law of Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruque, died of old-age-complications at a city clinic yesterday morning at the age of 78.  
She is survived by four sons, four daughters and a host of relatives to mourn her death.  
She was laid to rest at Uttara graveyard after her namaj-e-janaza at Sobhanbag Mosque.  
A doa mahfil will be held at her residence at House-8, Road-12, Dhanmondi, after Asr prayers on Friday.

## Syed Muzaffar Haider



Syed Muzaffar Haider Bachchu, fourth son of Nawab Osman Haider of Comilla, died at a local clinic in Chittagong on August 1 at the age of 72, says a press release.  
He was the principal of Memon Grammar School at Nandan Kanan. He left behind his wife, two daughters, three sons and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

## Death anniversary

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The death anniversary of Prof Lutful Kabir, former dean of the law faculty of Dhaka University, will be observed today, says a press release.  
Qurankhwani, milad mahfil and feeding of the destitute have been arranged on this occasion at the residence of his eldest son at Baridhara and Banani graveyard.

**Film show**  
Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'The Crime of Padre Amaro'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

**Symposium**  
A symposium on 'Update on Tuberculosis management: Role of FDC in TB control', organised by the Chest and Heart Association of Bangladesh in collaboration with Novartis (Bangladesh) Limited, will be held. Venue: Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10.00am.

**Discussion**  
World Peace Organisation will hold a discussion to commemorate the 58th anniversary of Hiroshima-Nagasaki destruction. Venue: Dhaka Bar Association auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.

**Human chain**  
Bangladesher Communist Party will form a human chain to protest the slashing of employees in nationalised establishments. Venue: Muktangan. Time: 3.30pm.

**Blood grouping**  
Orca blood for life organises a free blood grouping programme. Venue: Bangladesh Computer Institute, Kalabagan. Time: 1.00pm.

**Memorial discussion**  
In observance of the 28th death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Amra Suryamukhi organises discussion and recitation. Venue: Seminar hall of Central Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 5.00pm.

**Film show**  
Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'Phone Booth'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

**Tagore song**  
Bangla Academy organises a session of Tagore song to mark the 62nd death anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore. Prof Anisur Rahman, a singer and researcher on Tagore, will perform on the occasion. Venue: Academy seminar room. Time: 11.00am.

**Cultural function**  
In observance of the 62nd death anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy organises a discussion and cultural function with eminent educationist Dr Ashraf Siddiqui as chief guest. Venue: Academy premises, Segun Bagicha. Time: 5.30pm.

# 'Resist move to export gas'

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Gonosanghati Andolon (GA), a civil society pressure group, yesterday urged the people from all walks of life to resist any government's move to export gas.  
In a statement, the GA leaders expressed their grave concern over the reports published in a section of newspapers that the



Bangladesh Newspaper Employees Federation leaders presented a bouquet to Land Reform Board Chairman Golam Mowla Majumder when they called on him at his office on Sunday and submitted an application urging steps to solve the housing problem facing the employees of newspaper industry.