

### Special National Immunisation Day today

2.10 crore children to be administered polio vaccines

UNB, Dhaka

A special nationwide immunisation drive begins today to feed polio vaccines to some 2.10 crore children aged zero to five, as the deadly disease appears to have relapsed.

The 13th Special National Immunisation Day was inaugurated at Mohakhali EPI Bhaban in the city yesterday.

On Sunday, the first round of the 13th special National Immunisation Day (NID) will take place. Two other rounds are scheduled for May 13 and June 11.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandoker Mosharraf Hossain inaugurated the programme as chief guest through feeding polio vaccine to several children.

Dr Mosharraf mentioned that Bangladesh was made "polio-free" through observing 12 national immunisation days and a sub-NID drive.

"This immunisation day has been necessitated by the fact that Rahima of Chandpur district has been affected with polio virus after Bangladesh has enjoyed polio-free status for five years and 8 months," he said.

He urged all to make the special NID a success so that no more children get infected with polio after the Rahima case.

He sought cooperation and direct participation in the programme of all sections of society "to protect our children from polio disease".

Health Secretary ALM Jafar Ullah Khan, Director General of Family Planning Department MA Akmal Hossain Azad, Japanese Ambassador Matshuhiro Hariguchi, WHO Representative in Bangladesh Dr Duangvadee Subghobol, UNICEF Representative Louis Geores Arsenault and ex-president of Rotary International MK Bangduranga Setty also spoke at the function with Director General of Health Department Prof Dr Md Shahadat Hossain in the chair.

Bangladesh has been polio-free since August 2000 following extensive vaccination operation against the child-killer.

### Kansat killings condemned

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Jatiya Sramik League (JSL) strongly condemned the brutal killing of Kansat people agitating for smooth supply of electricity and attack on JSL General Secretary Roy Ramesh Chandra.

The JSL held a protest rally in front of its central office at Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday with Vice President Habibur Rahman Akanda in the chair.

AL Organising Secretary Akhtaruzzaman spoke at the rally as chief guest while AL central leader and city unit General Secretary Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya was the special guest.

The rally was addressed by Habibur Rahman Siraj, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Roy Ramesh, Tofail Ahmed and Rawshan Jahan Sathi.

The JSL will hold a rally and demonstration today protesting the attack on Ramesh across the country.

Akhtaruzzaman in his speech condemned the brutal murders of Kansat people and demanded immediate arrest of the people responsible for the murders and compensation for the family members of the victims.

He also demanded that the government arrest those who had killed Sutrapur AL leader and former commissioner Abdul Alim on Friday.

Ramesh came under attack of BNP terrorists on Friday and received serious injury.

Besides, Jatiya Sramik League President Abdul Matin Master, Motijheel thana Sramik League, Dhaka City Sramik League President Habibur Rahman Akanda and General Secretary Md Israfil Alam, Bangladesh Railway Sramik League President Md Humayan Kabir, General Secretary Sheikh Md Lokman Hossain, Bangladesh T&T Sramik Karmochari Federal Union, Titas Gas Sramik League and Bangladesh Nirman Sramik League in separate statements condemned the attack on Ramesh and demanded punishment to those responsible for the attack.



Three voluntary organisations take out a procession at Shahbagh in the city yesterday demanding formulation of a policy to curb noise pollution. Sahik, Shundar Jiban and WBB Trust organised the event.

## BNP-Jamaat cadres out to foil April 18 grand rally

Say Jubo League leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami Jubo League yesterday accused BNP-Jamaat alliance government and their party cadres of harassing its activists at different parts of the country in a bid to foil its grand rally on April 18 at Paltan Maidan in the city.

Addressing a press conference at its central office on Bangabandhu Avenue, Jubo League leaders said they have taken up massive preparations to bring in around five lakh people to make the grand rally a success, just one day before the 14-party opposition combine's sit-in programme in front of the Prime Minister Office (PMO).

Leader of the Opposition and Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina will address the rally, Jubo League General Secretary Mirza Azam MP told newsmen at the press conference.

Azam alleged that their workers and leaders were facing obstacles from the government and its cadres during the publicity for the rally and organisational activities.

He also accused the BNP cadres of snatching and vandalising loud speakers from their party workers in different parts of the city when they had been mobilising people to participate the rally.

Azam warned the government

that the country would witness a Kansat like situation if it creates any obstacle centring the grand rally or repress the leaders and workers.

Jubo League Chairman Jahangir Kabir Nanak expressed fear that the government might create obstacle on the day of the grand rally due to the 14-party's sit-in programme on April 19.

Jubo League leaders including Dr Mizanur Rahman, Omar Faruk Chowdhury, Mujibor Rahman Hiron, Fazlul Haque Atiq and Ataur Rahman were present at the press conference.

### Hasina protests killing of 2 city AL leaders

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday condemned the killings of Dhaka City 76 ward AL president and former commissioner Alim Ullah and another AL ward leader Abdur Rauf Sarder.

Hasina, also Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, also protested the attack on Jatiya Sramik General Secretary Roy Ramesh Chandra.

In a statement, she said the ruling alliance is killing popular leaders of AL one after another in a planned way.

She demanded exemplary punishment of those responsible for the murders and attack on Sramik League leader.

She also expressed her deep shock for the bereaved family members of those AL leaders and prayed for the salvation of their departed souls.