



Tagore's 65th anniversary of death today

UNB, Dhaka
The 65th anniversary of death of Rabindranath Tagore will be observed across the country today, paying due tribute to the Nobel laureate poet for his contribution to Bengali literature and culture.

Moyeen Khan flings PRSP book to floor, calls it a trash

UNB, Dhaka
A cabinet minister threw away the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) at a seminar here yesterday, terming it a worthless document. "There is no focus on the use of technology or exercising local knowledge in the 300-page PRSP book. It is worthless and carries no importance to me," said Science and ICT Minister Moyeen Khan at the seminar, attended by donors and other stakeholders.

Donors should be accountable too

Dr Wahiduddin says at seminar on monitoring donor support

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Economist Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud yesterday said the donors should also practise accountability in giving loans to the developing countries. "Every government has the right to know about effectiveness of the projects funded by the donors. So our government should devise a mechanism to examine whether the donors' strategies match the local perspective," Wahiduddin said.

operation and Development (OECD), he said, "Donors too have the responsibility to measure the effectiveness of their projects." He was speaking at a seminar titled Monitoring Donor Support to Poverty Strategy in Bangladesh: Rethinking the Rules of Engagement in Dhaka. Economic Research Group, Dhaka and Commonwealth Secretariat, London jointly organised the seminar. Abdul Moyeen Khan, minister for ICT, spoke as the chief guest at the

discussion addressed among others by Planning [ministry] Secretary Akhtar Hussain Khan, World Bank Country Director Christine I Wallich, Asian Development Bank Country Director Hua Du, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) Chairman Rehman Sobhan, DFID Country Representative David Wood and economist Hossain Zillur Rahman. The Paris Declaration of the OECD has given the aid recipient

BNP focuses on firming up party line-up

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN
The ruling BNP is now poised to gear up organisational activities across the country as its tenure nears the end. To face the crucial period after handover of power to a caretaker government in October, the party high command is focusing on further strengthening the party from grassroots to central level, party sources said.

grassroots level leaders and workers to finalise the strategy for facing the challenges during the caretaker government's tenure. Leaders of the party's other wings like Juba Dal and Krishak Dal are also preparing to organise such meetings with the grassroots level leaders. Side by side with organisational activities, the BNP also wants to have a dominant position in street programmes. The party has announced a series of programmes including procession and rally for the next two weeks. It plans to hold a grand rally that the prime minister will address before handover of

power. "Prime minister will go to the Bangabhaban to hand over power after addressing a rally of 2.5 million people in Dhaka," Mayor and city BNP President Sadeque Hossain Khoka said at a recent party rally. Meanwhile, after more than 12 years, the party has decided to hold a national executive committee (NEC) meeting on August 26. The NEC last met in 1993. Even before the 2001 general election, it did not hold any meeting. But this time the party high-ups are serious about an



Sunao Tsuboi, a survivor of the 1945 atom bomb attack on Hiroshima, showing a photograph including himself, which was snapped soon after the explosion. The hulk of a bombed-out building stands as a testimony to the massacre.



REMEMBERING HIROSHIMA

A survivor's crusade for ban on WMD

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK, back from Hiroshima

What did the human race learn from the American atomic explosions in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6, 1945? To respect and fear bully states or to hate war? Sixty one years later, men around the world still do not have a clear answer. However, for 81-year old Sunao Tsuboi, who survived the atom bomb attack on Hiroshima, the answer is clear. "No country should possess any kind of

nuclear warhead, because violence never resolves any kind of crisis," Tsuboi said sitting in the office room of Hiroshima A-bomb Survivors Association in Hiroshima. When the A-bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Tsuboi was a 20-year-old university student. "I encountered the A-bomb near the city hall about a kilometre away from the hypocentre. My face, hands, back, waist, and legs were burnt by the heat rays. My burns extended almost from head to toe. Both

sleeves of my shirt and half of my pants were burnt off, and the clothes that were left on me were tattered," he said. "I was blown 10 metres away by the bomb's blast and I lost consciousness... When I regained consciousness, the surrounding area was pitch-dark and I could not see even 100 metres ahead. Within two or three hours, the entire city of about four kilometres in diameter turned into a sheet of fire. I ran around trying to escape the fire."

Many charred bodies were lying on the ground and the dead bodies of people who jumped into the river seeking water were still floating there. There were survivors whose eyeballs had popped out and were dangling and whose skins were hanging loose as well. Others were crying and groaning with blood all over them. I was also one of them and felt that I saw a living hell on earth. The city of Hiroshima died then."



Women domestic helps form a human chain at Muktangon in the capital protesting price hike of essentials yesterday.

No charge sheet 2yrs into Sylhet grenade attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Two years into the grenade attack near the Awami League's (AL) meeting venue in Sylhet city, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) is yet to file charge sheet in the case. City AL Publicity Secretary Md Ibrahim Ali was killed in the attack

3RD KARNAPHULI BRIDGE Rallies for and against held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
Ruling BNP backed Third Karnaphuli Bridge Execution Committee and 14-party opposition alliance backed Nagorik Committee held separate rallies and processions on the Karnaphuli Third Bridge issue yesterday. Bridge Execution Committee

PM says opposition uncooperative in voter list update

UNB, Lalmonirhat
Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday accused the opposition of non-cooperating with the Election Commission (EC) in preparing a flawless voter list. "A flawless voter list is important for free and fair elections, and the Election Commission is working to that end. But our opposition is not cooperating with the commission, as they want to create chaos and vacuum in the country," she told a public meeting at Collectorate Maidan here in the afternoon. Criticising the Awami League (AL), Khaleda said fearing election debacle, this party is conspiring against development and peace to make Bangladesh a "dysfunctional state" and "bottomless basket" at the instruction of its "foreign masters". About the opposition's demand

Transport workers go on indefinite strike in Bogra from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra
A section of transport workers of Bogra have called an indefinite strike on the routes through Bogra from today to protest filing of a criminal case against 12 workers by their rivals. The strike call came following a clash between two groups of transport workers in the town. Witnesses said members of Bogra Transport Workers Union stopped a coach of Pabna-Shantahar route when it reached

Prayer Timing		
August 6		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-20	4-55
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-47	6-50
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Lanka to declare truce if rebels halt offensive

Colombo accuses LTTE of killing 100 Muslims

REUTERS, AFP, Colombo
Sri Lanka will declare a ceasefire if the island's Tamil Tigers made good on a pledge to halt offensive operations in a town in the island's east and pull back, the military said yesterday. "If the pull out is true, we will reciprocate very positively," military spokesman Maj. Upali Rajapakse told Reuters. "If that is the move of the Tigers, all the guns would become silent. That would be a ceasefire." Tamil Tigers said on Saturday they had halted an offensive on a government-held town in east Sri Lanka and were pulling back to their positions -- which the military said would bring a ceasefire if true. A Tiger source earlier told Reuters the rebels were withdrawing to their own territory and halting their offensive, saying it was a humanitarian gesture to enable thousands of displaced Muslims who fled on Friday to return home. The pull-back comes after days of shelling and mortar bomb and artillery duels around the eastern town of Mutur, which was infiltrated by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels. "The offensive operation in Mutur has stopped and the LTTE is going back to its former positions in our own territory," a Tiger source told Reuters on condition of anonymity. "There is no ceasefire yet."