# METROPOLITAN/NEWS

# Alliance govt wants to grab power thru' conspiracy

#### Alleges Awami League

**UNB**, Dhaka

Awami League(AL) leader Amir Hossain Amu yesterday alleged that the BNP-Jamaat alliance government wants to grab power again through conspiracy

The alliance government knows it will not return to power if a free and fair election is held. So, it is hatching conspiracy" he said at a discussion.

Awami Jubo League, the youth front of opposition AL, organised the discussion at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city marking the 'National Mourning Day'. Jubo League Vicechairman Prof Mizanur Rahman presided over the meeting.

Amu, senior presidium member of AL, further alleged that the alliance government had politicised the administration and the Election Commission to rig the next national

said: "The BNP-Jamaat

alliance will spend Tk 4,000 crore, which it earned illegally, to win the upcoming election

The All leader demanded reconstitution of the Election Commission with its independent character. removing the present Chief Election Commissioners and two other commissioners.

Another AL Presidium Member Tofail Ahmed alleged that the BNPled coalition government would hand over power to another BNP administration during the period of caretaker government. "No free, fair and credible election will be possible under such a caretaker administration," he said.

Tofail was highly critical of the Jamaat leaders, saying that "the hands of Nizami and Mujahid are tainted with the blood of the freedom fighters, but it is our misfortune that they are now in state power. We didn't want this Bangladesh.

He added: "It's our pledge to free the country after compelling this government to step down through mass movement

AL presidium member Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim accused late president Ziaur Rahman of having link with the assassination of four national leaders. "Zia rehabilitated the war criminals in the country's politics and revived communalism in politics." he said

Bangladesh Bar Council Vicepresident Barrister Rokanuddin . Mahmud, economist Prof Abul Barakat and Jubo League leaders Mahbubur Rahman Hiron, Abdus Sattar Masud, Ataur Rahman Ata, Advocate Mamunur Rashid and Mohiuddin Ahmed Mohi also spoke at the discussion



Proma Abritty Sangathan takes out a mourning procession in Chittagong yesterday condoling the death of poet Shamsur Rahman.

#### 40 per cent people facing silent famine: B Chowdhury

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) vesterday said 40 per cent people in the country have been facing a silent famine while ruling party men are making huge properties through corruption.

Badruddoza bitterly criticised the BNP-Jamaat-led coalition and alleged that ministers and lawmakers of the coalition invested their illegal money in different sectors including banks and private television channels.

The BDB chief was addressing at its central office in the city when a group of leaders and workers of Kushtia unit of Jatiya Party (JP)

Badruddoza urged people to defeat the BNP-led coalition in the next election as a protest to their bad rules, which is marked by corruption, violence and price hike of

Central leaders of the party were present at the joining programme.

#### Injured AL leader came under attack at health complex in Rangamati

**UNB**, Rangamati

A local Awami League leader who was undergoing treatment at a health complex again came under attack allegedly by BNP activists on Thursday night

AL leader Mohammad Milon Talukder along with four others was injured when BNP cadres reportedly attacked a National Mourning Day procession at Naniachar upazila on August 15.

The cadres again beat up Milon on the night of August 16. Injured Milon was admitted to Naniachar Thana Health Complex.

At about 11:00pm on Thursday, the BNP cadres stormed into the health complex and hit Milon with sharp weapons, leaving him seriously injured.

Receiving information, the police arrested three people --Faruk Hawlader, his father Latif

Hawlader and Tajul Islam. Police have been put on alert in Naniachar where an uneasy calm is prevailing following the inci-

## Thalassemia can be prevented through premarital blood test

Speakers tell seminar

Bss, Rajshahi

Specialists at a scientific seminar have said thalassemia could be prevented through premarital blood test and creating mass awareness.

Raishahi Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (RCHRC) in collaboration with the Acme Laboratories organised the seminar on thalassemia in the hospital conference hall here on Thursday.

Dr Belal Uddin and Dr Imdadul Hague, assistant professors of Pediatrics of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH), presented two separate keynote papers elaborating definition, class and causes of the disease along with its prevention and treatment.

With Professor HM Haidary of the Pediatrics Department of RMCH in the chair, the seminar was addressed by Vice-President of RCHRC Dr Shamsul Alam, Medical Officer of Acme Laboratories Dr Masum Azad and

Training Coordinator of ICDDRB

Dr Samina Sultana General Secretary of RCHRC Dr Patric Bipul Bishwas described the activities of the hospital along with the objectives of the seminar in his welcome address.

The speakers said thalassemia can be prevented through awareness buildup among general masses.

Terming the disease as inheriting, the discussants said premarital blood test is essential to prevent the disease. Blood counseling is also essential to create

awareness in this regard. They also said thalassemia patients can be recovered pro-

vided they get the right treatment. More than 70 doctors, including medical practitioners and cancer specialists, attended the seminar.



#### Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Sylhet, Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions during the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places during the period, Met Office said, predicting that day temperature may remain nearly

Yesterday's highest temperature of 34.4 degree Celsius was recorded at Sayedpur and the lowest of 25 degrees at Teknaf. The sun sets in the capital at 6:29pm today and rises at

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

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City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.0	27.0	80	69
Chittagong	32.5	25.2	76	83
Rajshahi	32.5	26.2	88	89
Khulna	32.6	26.8	83	93
Barisal	31.6	26.0		83
Sylhet	33.5	25.2	83	88
Cox's Bazar	31.5	26.2	87	83

#### Meeting of **BNP** joint secretaries general held

**UNB**, Dhaka

A meeting of the joint secretaries general of BNP yesterday adopted some decisions about National Executive Committee meeting of the ruling party on August 26, seen as important as the leaders are sitting at the fag-end of the government's tenure.

The meeting also discussed preparation and took decisions for observing the 28th founding anniver-

The BNP leaders expressed Shamsur Rahman

The meeting expressed their

"Tarique Rahman has been appointed no. 1 or senior joint secretary general of BNP as per party constitution. There is no scope for creating confusion over this matter,"

Tarique Rahman, Abdullah Al Noman, Selima Rahman, Mirza Abbas, Harris Chowdhury, Nazrul Islam Khan and Gaveswar Chandra

## Injured Jubo dies in city

the city yesterday.

He was first admitted to

killing of Sayeed.

Minar premises in Tangail today.

In a joint statement. Jubo League Chairman Jahangir Kabir Nanak and General Secretary Mirza Azam have condemned the killing of Saveed and demanded immediate

#### DU students appeal for Lina's treatment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Students of the

requires around Tk 35-40 lakh. Her family is unable to bear the too high Lina, a college student, is the

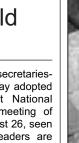
only sister of Shahed, a student of English department at DU.

National Press Club in the city yesterday appealing people to come forward to save Lina.

occasion. Two leading mobile companies

People are requested to send their SMS from any Aktel number at

Motilheel. Dhaka. or Savings A/C No. - 10810130447, Dutch-Bangla Bank, Shantinagar Branch, Dhaka.



sary of the party on September 1.

Presided over by BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuivan. the meeting, held at his residence, directed "all leaders, workers, supporters and sympathisers of the party to help all eligible adults in their respective areas enlist as

deep shock at the death of poet

surprise over some newspaper reports about the position of BNP senior Joint Secretary General Tarique Rahman

says a party release.

Roy were present at the meeting.

# League leader

Abu Sayeed, convener of Dopakandi union Jubo League under Gopalpur upazila of Tangail, who was injured in an alleged attack by BNP cadres, died at Ayesha Memorial Hospital at Mohakhali in

Jubo League sources said Sayeed was critically injured when attacked by some BNP cadres on his way home at Dopakandi union after attending a programme marking the 'National Mourning Day' on

Mymensingh Medical College Hospital, and then shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated and later was taken to Ayesha Memorial Hospital.

Local Jubo League has called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in Gopalpur upazila tomorrow to protest the

Tangail district Jubo League will hold a protest rally at the Shaheed

arrest and trial of the killers.



Department of English of Dhaka University (DU) at a press conference appealed to people from

all walks of life to extend their helping hand for treatment of Ferdousi Binte Juned Lina, 20, who is suffering from Leukaemia She needs to undergo a bone

marrow transplantation that

DU English department organised the press conference at the

Students and teachers of English department including Dr Syed Manzoorul Islam, Dr Kaiser Hamidul Hug and Golam Gaws-Al-Quaderi were also present on the

of the country Aktel and Citycell have agreed to help Lina by arranging special numbers. The money saved from all the SMS sent to these special numbers will be spent for Lina's treatment.

8243. Citycell will announce its number soon. Contributions can also be sent to A/C No. - 9191, Uttara Bank Limited, Dilkusha branch,

channel will be threatened if pillarbased bridge is constructed. He said the government should make the design of the bridge as per the recommendations of the experts

of Bangladesh University of

river will be hampered and the port

'Pillar bridge to hamper

Awami League (AL) President and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina consoles the wife of poet Shamsur Rahman at her residence at Shyamoli in the

Engineering and Technology. Water Engineers Association President Engineer Inamul Haque said the construction of the bridge on a faulty design would create shoals threatening the existence of

the port in the long run. "Such a construction will also be a wastage of huge public funds," he

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) General Secretary Mahidul Haque Khan said a pillar-based bridge is not suitable for 132-milelong Karnaphuli river.

"Chittagong Port Authority and

Board Mashrur Haque Siddiqui, the press conference was also attended Engineers Kamrul Haque, Abdul Hakim. Maniur Ali and Kabir

the decision should be taken considering environment and river flow, and not the political interest of vested quarters," he said. Sharifuzzaman Sharif, general secretary of Nagarik Sanghati, said normal flow of the river should not

Ministry of Shipping have recom-

mended for a suspension bridge. So

be disturbed in the name of bridge or "Views of experts should be taken into consideration while making the design of any bridge," he

Presided over by former director eneral of Water Development Hossain. Dr Mustak Hossain and Bhashkar Rasa.

# Govt trying to ensure supply of arsenic-free water

Aminul Islam and thana BNP presi-

dent Hajir Uddin Sarkar, among

others, also addressed the function

with local union BNP president

Mohammad Jalal Uddin Master in

Fazlur Rahman said the govern-

ment will continue to implement

various development programmes

to ensure civic amenities

Bss. Natore

city yesterday.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Third Karnaphuli Bridge should be

constructed on the basis of the

recommendations of experts so that

the navigability of the river is not

hampered in future, said the engi-

neers and environmentalists at a

They said a taskforce like

Buriganga Save Taskforce should

be formed to safeguard the

Karnaphuli river from illegal

organised by Nagarik Sanghati at

Presenting a keynote paper

the Dhaka Reporters' Unity audito-

Engineer Sardar Amin said,

"Karnaphuli river carries huge

amount of sediment from the

upstream. The navigability of the

The press conference was

press conference yesterday.

encroachment and pollution.

THIRD KARNAPHULI BRIDGE

navigability'

State Minister for Youth and Sports Mohammad Fazlur Rahman yesterday said the present government has been working relentlessly to make arsenic-free water available

throughout the country. "This is a part of the government's scores of epoch-making programmes for the speedy progress and prosperity in national economy to bring about a positive change in rural life," he said.

The state minister said this while inaugurating the supply of pure drinking water from a deep-well at Keshabariya under Arbab union of

Lalpur upazila in the district. Project Director Mohammad

#### 'Implement RMG agreement'

UNB, Dhaka

National Garment Workers' Federation yesterday formed a human chain at Muktangan in the city to press their demand for immediate implementation of the June 22 bilateral agreement and announcement of new wages for all garment workers.

Carrying red flags, garment workers from different parts of the city participated in the human chain that began at 5:30pm. Speaking on the occasion, Federation leaders alleged that the

garment owners have resorted to dilly-

dallying in implementing the agreement

signed with the organisations of garment workers on June 22. They demanded full implementation of the bilateral agreement, and fixation and announcement of wages for all garment workers considering

Two houses also burned down in

the blaze that started at the kitchen

#### 3-yr-old boy burnt alive

**UNB**, Gaibandha

Mahfuzur.

skill and seniority.

A three-year-old boy was burnt alive in a fire that broke out at Tarapur village in Sundarganj upazila on Thursday night. The boy was identified as

The regular meeting of Rotary Club of

Saarc aspiration'. Venue: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh. Time: 10:30am. Regular meeting

"The Barind Multipurpose Development Authorities will install 9 deep-wells in Lalpur and 4 deepwells in Baghatipara for supply of pure drinking water," he said.

Rahman also said that the Keshabariya project would benefit at least 400 families by supplying



#### Seminar

Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) will organise a seminar on 'Practice of democracy: Importance of free and fair elections in Bangladesh'. Venue: Hotel Lake Shore. Time: 8:00am.

#### **Discussion**

Roundtable

Bangladesh Muktijoddha Nou-Commando Association will hold a discussion titled 'Operation Jackpot in the War of Liberation'. Venue: Liberation War Museum. Time: 4:00pm.

#### A roundtable on 'Power sector reforms Holding company concept and related issues' will be held. Venue: Engineers' Institution seminar room. Time: 10:30am.

International

seminar Novartis (Bangladesh) Limited will hold an international seminar on 'Management of CNV'. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. Time: 12:00noon.

#### Founding anniversary

Shiri Shishu Sahitya Kendra will hold a discussion to mark its 14th founding anniversary. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4:30pm.

#### Seminar

International Studies Association Bangladesh organises a seminar on 'The South Asian Centre for excellence: A

Furniture Fair will be held. Venue: Design Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka and Technology Centre, Banani. Time: Club. Time: 1:30pm.

# pure drinking water.

#### Workshop

Brac Advocacy and Human Rights Unit will organise a workshop on 'The role of livestock in developing the life of marginal poor in Brac's project'. Venue: Hotel Abakash conference room Time:

### Conference

The inaugural session of an international conference on 'Breastfeeding and complementary feeding', organised by Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation (BBF) will be held. Venue: Institute of Child and Mother Health auditorium. Time: 10:00am.

#### Entrepreneurs' event

British Council (BC) Young Learners'

Centre will organise an event titled Young entrepreneurs'. Venue: BC. Time: Launching

#### ceremony Brac University and Brac will organise the launching ceremony of the regional research programme on 'Pathways of

women's empowerment'. Venue: Brac Centre Inn. Time: 10:00am **Discussion** A two-day regional discussion on 'Security and law: South Asian

perspective', jointly organised by

Odhikar, South Asia Network against Torture and Impunity (SANTI) and Academy for Educational Development (AED), will begin. Venue: Spectra nvention Centre. Time: 9:30am. Closing ceremony The closing ceremony of 3rd National

#### Three die in separate incidents in Ctg Bss, Chittagong

Three people died in separate incidents in Chittagong yesterday,

police and hospital sources said.

son of Mohammad Shahnewaz, a car driver hailed from Chunati village under Lohagara upazila and Yousuf Ali, 65, son of late Reazuddin of Nowapara under Raozan upazila in the district, were killed in separate road accidents

Awal died on the spot as two passenger buses, one of which he was on board, collided head-on at Chunati on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway under Lohagara upazila at about 1:00pm

He was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where on-duty doctors declared him dead at 3:00pm. Yousuf Ali sustained serious head injuries as a human-hauler

knocked him from behind at Oxygen Crossing in the port city at about 7:00pm on Thursday night He was rushed to CMCH where

he died at about 10:30am yesterday. The third victim, Jasmine Akter, 21. wife of Abdul Sobhan of New Shaheed Lane under Khulshi thana in the city, committed suicide, the sources said.

hanging herself from a ceiling fan at her residence at about 8:00am yesterday following a feud with her husband, the sources said. She was rushed to the CMCH for

treatment where attending doctors

Jasmine committed suicide by

### Correction

In the caption of a photo of sixth expert group consultation meeting of the Nagorik Committee 2006 published in The Daily Star on page 2 on August 17, the name of a participant of the meeting was inadvertently mentioned as former BGMEA president Kutubuddin instead of Syed Abul Hossain MP. We regret

## Obituary



press release

pathic physician and former chairman of Homeopathic board, Prof Badrul Alam passed away on Thursday at his own residence due to old age complications, says a

son and one daughter along with a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death. He was buried at his village home at Noakhali district.

He is survived by his wife, one

Different socio cultural and doctors' organisations have expressed deep shock at the death of this eminent physician.

His qulkhwani will be held at his residence at Mohammadpur on Monday after Magrib prayers. Friends, relatives and admirers are requested to attend the milad

mahfil to pray for salvation of the

## Death anniversary



martyred sons -freedom figh-ter Engineer Md Fazlul Rahman

Today is the

On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at his home at Kazi Kandi village in Narsingdi after Zohr prayers.