



# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

Plus 32-page Star Campus

PHILIPS



Real Flat 100Hz TV (20" PT 7322)

TRANS.COM Customer Inquiry # 01713-865483 Corporate Sales # 01713-041243

COMMITTED TO People's Right to Know

REGD. NO. DA 781

VOL. XVI NO. 249

DHAKA SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2006

www.thedailystar.net

ASHWIN 9, 1413 BS

SABAN 30, 1427 HIJRI

24 PAGES PLUS STAR CAMPUS PRICE: Tk 12.00

## Caretaker govt to act against agitation

### PM warns against 'chaos' during interim govt period

UNB, Barura, Comilla

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia has said the caretaker government will be forced to take tough action if any party tries to launch agitation or create chaos during the interim period.

Addressing a public meeting at Barura College ground yesterday, she criticised the opposition for its plan to stage agitation against the next caretaker government.

"Caretaker government is a constitutional government... It will be compelled to take stern action against any agitation or indiscipline," said Khaleda, also the chairperson of the BNP.

In response to the opposition leader's call for people to come to Dhaka wielding stick and oar against the caretaker government, Khaleda said, "At that time we will not be in the government, but we

will remain in the country...we want peace and we will not remain silent."

She said those who want to foil the elections will be identified as the enemies of the country and democracy.

The prime minister reiterated that the next elections would be held in time in accordance with the constitution and people are ready to take part in it.

She reminded that the provision of a nonparty caretaker government has been incorporated in the constitution according to the opposition's demand, as they did not want elections under a party government.

"Now the opposition neither accepts elections under a caretaker government nor a party government," Khaleda said, adding that people will thwart any move to create constitutional vacuum

through chaos and indiscipline.

The BNP chief said the late president Ziaur Rahman had restored democracy and her government restored parliamentary democracy that would be continuing in the country.

She said the Awami League (AL) government had deprived the country of having development for five years as they introduced "the reign of terror".

"People do not vote for them (AL) as they are to face plights whenever they (AL) come to power. On the contrary, people time and again voted for the BNP as it ensured development and welfare of the people," Khaleda told her audience.

In 2001 elections, she said, people took a correct decision by electing the BNP-led alliance by two-thirds majority and claimed

## Rahman, Bangla Bhai get death warrants

### Seven days given to 4 condemned JMB militants for decision to appeal

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

Jail authorities yesterday informed four militant leaders including Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) Chief Abdur Rahman and his deputy Siddiqui Islam alias Bangla Bhai of the death warrants against them.

In the death reference case of Jhalakathi judges killing, the High Court (HC) has confirmed the trial court's verdict condemning seven JMB leaders to death. Of them, six

are behind bars while one is still at large.

Meanwhile, two convicts--Abdul Awal and Khaled Saifullah--are preparing to appeal against the death penalty. The latter has already submitted a mercy petition.

The jail authorities told four of the six convicts about the death warrants immediately after receipt of the HC verdict copy. Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Downpour leaves city streets waterlogged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many parts of the capital went under ankle-to-knee-deep water as continuous downpour during the last four days, caused by the depression in the Bay, is disrupting city life, economic activities and road communications.

Met office sources said they recorded 63mm of rainfall in the capital in 12 hours from 6:00am to 6:00pm yesterday.

Heavy rain across the country is also likely today, and the situation would start to improve tomorrow, they forecast.

Traffic movement was affected due to water-logging on many city

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

## Search on as toll reaches 85

### More than a thousand still missing in Bay

STAR REPORT

Death toll of the violent storm in the Bay of Bengal reached 85 yesterday after the recovery of 20 more bodies while more than a thousand other fishermen are also feared dead as they have been missing for the last four days.

Coast guard sources and local people of the coast said the hope of finding more floating bodies in the sea is dissipating as the sea fishes would have devoured them. But

the relatives of missing fishermen and the local administration are still searching for bodies in the sea. Relatives of the missing ones were still waiting on beaches for their dear ones in different coastal areas including Cox's Bazar and Kuakata.

Navy officer, Lt Commander Firoz Kabir, who has been missing since Tuesday night's storm, could not be traced till yesterday evening. The navy ship also could not be salvaged.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Ex-VC Aftab shot, critically wounded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified assailants yesterday shot Prof Aftab Ahmad, former vice-chancellor (VC) of National University and a senior professor of political science at Dhaka University (DU), leaving him critically injured.

Three unidentified assailants shot Prof Aftab entering into his third-floor residence on Fuller Road beside the British Council on the DU campus.

Prof Aftab was rushed to Samorita Hospital with two bullet hits--one in the chest and one in the hip.

Doctors stated his condition as critical.

Later, Aftab was shifted to Combined Military Hospital (CMH) as his condition deteriorated.

"Prof Aftab needs immediate surgery in the chest," Dr Prof ABM Haroon of Samorita Hospital told The Daily Star, adding that he was shot from a "very short range".

"We are not sure whether the bullet pierced his heart or not. But if the heart was pierced, he would not have survived so long," Prof Haroon said.

Prof Aftab's wife Noorjahan Aftab told newsmen that three persons wearing hats entered her residence at about 8:45pm and shot her husband from a very close range.

"I heard knocks on the door when I was working. As our domestic help asked who it was, one of the three identified himself as one Sagir. He said the Dhaka University VC has sent him to Prof Aftab," Noorjahan said.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2



PHOTO: STAR

Former vice-chancellor of National University, Aftab Ahmed, is being shifted to Combined Military Hospital from Samorita Hospital in the capital after unknown assailants shot him.

## 'Grenade' hurled at Gulshan building

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unknown criminals hurled a grenade at the gate of a multi-storied building, owned by a BNP legislator, in Gulshan-2 in the city last evening but it failed to explode.

"They heard something fall near

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

## Ramadan begins tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The holy month of Ramadan begins tomorrow, as the new moon was not sighted anywhere in the country yesterday, according to the National Moon Sighting Committee.

The committee announced this

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Heartiest Congratulations

to

### Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission

and it's

### Chairman

For Initiative to Issue VOIP Licenses

and

Allowing RUIM for PSTN Operators

### Bangladesh Telecom Operators Association (BTOA)

**Buildtrade Engineering Limited**

Buildtrade Engineering Ltd. is the first and only export oriented Pre-Fabricated Steel Building manufacturing industry in Bangladesh. Buildtrade has already completed approximately 400 industrial & commercial building successfully.

**ISO 9001 : 2000 Certified**

Orion Registrar, Inc., USA Certificate of Registration

Buildtrade Engineering Ltd. Head Office: Iqbal Centre (14th Floor) 42, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka - 1213, Bangladesh. Factory: Villi Post, Kalamapur, P.S., Dhamrai, Dist. Dhaka, Bangladesh.

ISO 9001:2000

Manufacturing and Erection of Pre-Fabricated Steel Structures

Recently Buildtrade has achieved the US based Quality Management System ISO 9001 : 2000. The certificate awarded by Orion Registrar Inc., USA.

Head Office: Iqbal Centre (14th Floor) 42, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh. Phone: 9895044, 9861516-7. E-mail: info@buildtradegroup.com, buildts@yahoo.com, buildts@hotmail.com. Website: www.buildtradegroup.com

Factory: Villi Post, Kalamapur, Dhamrai, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Tel/Fax: +880651-89121.

রমজানের  
আহ্বানে  
সংযমে-সঞ্চয়ে  
পরিপূর্ণ হয়

রমজানুল মুবারক

**DHAKABANK**  
LIMITED  
EXCELLENCE IN BANKING

www.dhakabankltd.com