



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina speaks at a discussion organised by Bangabandhu Parishad at the Engineers' Institute auditorium in the city yesterday to mark the Victory Day.

## Eight killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least eight people were killed and 34 others were injured in separate road accidents in different parts of the country yesterday. Our correspondent in Khagrachhari reports: Three people, including a ten-year-old girl, were killed and a man was injured critically in a road accident at Rashidnagar under Dighinala upazila in the morning. The dead were identified as Amena Khatun and her daughter Shahana Khatun and Mohammad Waliulla Mian, 35. Police said a Dighinala-bound timber-laden truck fell into a roadside ditch after hitting the girl and her mother as the driver lost control over the steering. Both mother and daughter died on the spot while truck driver Waliulla Mian died at Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital. The condition of injured truck helper Mohammad Kabil Mia, 30,

was said to be critical. Our correspondent in Sirajganj reports: Two people were killed and 12 others injured when a cement-laden truck skidded off the road and plunged into a roadside ditch in the morning. The identity of the dead could not be known immediately. Police and witnesses said the Bogra-bound truck fell into the ditch at Sholamile in Raiganj at about 6:30am as the driver lost control over the steering. Our correspondent in Gaibandha adds: One person was killed and seven others were injured when a passenger bus of Manik Paribahan rammed a rickshaw van at Palashbari bus stand on Bogra-Rangpur highway. The Rajshahi-bound bus from Rangpur smashed the three-wheelers, killing Shaharul Islam, 44, on the spot. Seriously injured persons -- van driver Abdul Quddus, Abdul Jalil and Sobhan -- were rushed to

Palashbari Health Complex. The driver of the bus fled soon after the accident. Our correspondent in Magura adds: A head-on collision between a bus and a truck left one person dead and 10 others injured on Magura-Jhenidah road in Shaitrish area in the morning. Police and witnesses said the Dhaka-bound bus of Eagle Paribahan collided with the truck at about 8:00am, killing passenger Golam Sarwar, 65, on the spot. The critically injured passengers -- Jhantu, 25, Nazrul, 28, Milon, 25, and Abdur Rahim, 26, -- were admitted to Magura Sadar Hospital. A correspondent in Jhenidah reports: A person was killed when a speeding truck rammed a human hauler 'Nasimon' on Kaliganj-Kotchandpur Road in Jhenidah at around noon. Motiur Rahman, 30, was killed on the spot and four others were injured seriously.

## 'Build common platform to fight HIV/AIDS'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers in a dialogue in the city yesterday called for a concerted effort through building a common platform to fight HIV/AIDS. The participants of the session underscored the need for stronger cooperation and collaboration amongst partner agencies, youth associations, media professionals and celebrities to create wider awareness on HIV/AIDS, specially for the youths. While inaugurating the dialogue, Officer-in Charge of UNFPA Bangladesh Carolyn Benbow-Ross termed the youths as the 'most promising generation' of the country. She said that UNFPA wants to work with young people and media personalities to eliminate HIV/AIDS from the country.

AIDS from the country. "All actors are valued equally; hence regular interaction amongst partners should take place in a regular frequency," said Carolyn. Md Nurul Ameen, assistant representative of UNFPA, Dr Noor Mohammad, national programme officer of UNFPA and M Emamul Haque, head of advocacy, WFP, also addressed the meeting. Leading youth expert Dr Noor Mohammad initiated the dialogue through presenting a theme paper. The media personalities stressed upon creating a forum for more discussion to fight HIV together.

The participants of the dialogue recommended a number of ideas, approaches and strategies that can be instrumental in improving better understanding about the facts related to HIV/AIDS. They also stressed the need for a comprehensive communication campaign to disseminate all relevant information on HIV/AIDS to mass people, specially to the youths. Chaired by one of the youngest people present Antora, the dialogue was conducted by Syed Mizanur Rahman Raju.

## Court dismisses defamation suit by Moudud

UNB, Dhaka

A court here yesterday dismissed the defamation suit filed by former law minister Moudud Ahmed against M Enayetur Rahim, former secretary of Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA). Metropolitan Magistrate MA Salam dismissed the case as the complainant failed to appear time and again before the court for hearing of framing charges against the accused. Earlier, on July 26, Moudud filed the defamation suit with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka, alleging that Enayetur Rahim had tarnished his reputation and undermined his dignity by making a false statement about him on the presidential clemency to a BNP man convicted in a double murder case. After hearing the complainant, the magistrate had issued a warrant of arrest against Enayetur Rahim. Later, Enayet secured ad interim anticipatory bail from the High Court.

Enayet issued a statement on July 25 alleging that Moudud Ahmed had managed presidential pardon for former leader of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal Mohiuddin Ahmed Jhantu, who was sentenced to death in a double murder case.

In the statement, he claimed that when Moudud was in Sweden as a guest of Jhantu, they had come to an understanding about the pardon.

## Fake captain held in Narayanganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N' Garj

A fake captain was arrested by the members of army from Deovogh area in the district on Tuesday night. Police said Sunni Al-bin Mahub Islam alias Anik used to deceive people by posing himself as a captain of the force's intelligence branch. Second Lieutenant Adnan Nabin filed a case with Fatullah Police Station in this regard.



Several Awami League, Jubo League and Gono Forum leaders from Dhamrai present a bouquet to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at Hawa Bhaban in the city while joining her party yesterday.

## 'Launch food for edn for indigenous children'

RU CORRESPONDENT

Indigenous children of Rajshahi demanded launching of food for education programme for them. They also demanded free education and similar education facilities as like other mainstream Bangladeshi nationals. The demands were placed at a daylong open dialogue organised by Adivashi Unnayan Sangstha at Godagari upazila parishad auditorium on Tuesday to mark child rights day. Godagari upazila education officer Sabrina Anam, Godagari UP chairman Jalal Uddin, National Adivashi Parishad President Anil Marandi, Adivashi Bikash Kendra Director Benamin Hasda, Adivashi leader Ganash Mazhi, Adivashi Sangskritik Unnayan Sangstha Director Rajkumar Sau with Adivashi Unnayan Sangstha Director Bhagbat Tudu in the chair.

Hundreds of Adivashi teachers, students and guardians participated in the dialogue. The indigenous leaders also called upon the government to provide Adivashi students scholarships, stipends and other government facilities as it provides for mainstream non-Adivashi students.

## DU exams postponed

DU CORRESPONDENT

All examinations under course and traditional system of Dhaka University (DU) have been postponed till January 10, 2007 due to unavoidable circumstances, a DU press release said here yesterday. Fresh schedule for the deferred examinations will be announced later.

## Boy killed in Sylhet clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A 15-year-old boy was killed and at least 50 people injured in a clash between two rival business groups over the possession of a hillock at Gowainghat yesterday afternoon. The boy was identified as Liton, son of late Abdul Khaleque. Police and local sources said there had been a longstanding dispute between two leading businessmen -- Delwar Hossain and Nuruzzaman, who had long been claiming their rights over a 15-acre hillock known as Suparibagan near Kandibosti, close to Jafflong picnic spot areas. An armed group of about 100 people, allegedly loyal to Nuruzzaman, went to the hillock at about 3:00pm yesterday and swooped on the men loyal to Delwar Hossain, who had already been staying there. Both the groups used lethal weapons during the one and half an hour clash.



Maklub Al Mostafa, a student of Bangladesh College of Leather Technology, was beaten up by JCD activists yesterday.

## JCD activists beat up college student

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists beat up a student of Bangladesh College of Leather Technology (BCLT) over a seat at a dormitory in the city yesterday. Maklub Al Mostafa, a first year student of the college at Hazaribagh, was beaten up severely by the cadres in the hall area. Maklub, a resident student of Quadrat-e-Khuda Hall, was called out of his room at around 1:45pm and asked about the source that helped him manage a seat in the dormitory, said a source. At one stage, the JCD activists suddenly started hitting him with cricket bats and stumps, leaving him critically injured. On information, the victim's brother rushed him to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital.