Death anniversary

From Page 1 Col gated an ordinance indeninify ing those responsible for the coup and the killings.

The Awami League, its front organisations and various socio-cultural bodies have taken up elaborate programmes to mark the 'national mourning

The day's programmes begin with the hoisting of the national and party flags at halfmast and flying of black flags at the Bangabandhu Bhaban and the offices of the AL and its branches all over the country. Other programmes of the day include placing of wreath on the portrait of Bangabandhu at one minute past noon, placing of wreaths at the graves of the August 15 victims at the Banani graveyard and holding of milad mahfil.

In the evening, food will be distributed among the poor at different parts of the city and elsewhere in the country.

AL chief and the eldest daughter of Mujib. Sheikh Hasina and other central leaders of the party will garland the portrait of Mujib at the Bangabandhu Bhaban in Dhanmondi which was turned into a museum vesterday.

Museum

From Page 1 Col 8 chalked out many programmes and launched many movements from here. He used to direct the non-cooperation movement in the last days of Pakistan from this house and declared the independence of the country on March 25, 1971.

The AL chief recalled that "during his three and half years rule, Bangabandhu staved back in this house. We were abroad when the killers claimed the lives of my father, mother, brothers, their wives and others. They also looted and damaged many things in this house.

"I returned to Dhaka in early 1981. At that time Ziaur Rahman was in power. I was not allowed to enter the house. Later, when Justice Sattar came to power I was allowed to enter the house on June 11 that year. Hasina recalled.

"I still remember the house was then full of blood stains Dust had settled deeply over the years, and the walls were full of cobwebs. It had turned into a house of insects. Its beautiful lawn had turned into a jungle. It was horrible," the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament added

Afterwards. Bangabandhu Trust and different committees were set up to preserve the memories of Mujib. The museum committee was set up on August 31, 1993 and a competition was held early this year to select the design of a museum building to be set up in future.

"My father sacrificed his life for the people of the country. I hereby declare his house property of the people," Hasina

Sheikh Rehana expressed her hope that the museum would inspire the young generation to follow the ideals of

Sheikh Mujib. "We believe this house is the symbol of the independence of the country," said Rehana, who seldom appears in public.

"Nineteen years ago, this house was vibrant with life. My father, mother, three brothers and the newly-wed wives of two of them were here. We lived the life of a typical middle class family. But in early morning of August 15, 1975. all of them were killed," she recalled.

Presently, two rooms in the ground floor and three rooms on the first floor of the newly set up museum will remain open to the public everyday from 10 am to 6 pm.

Ershad From Page 1 Col 3

M A Razzaq, Public Prosecutor, lawvers involved in the case

All the accused were present at the court yesterday. The case related to 18 Town Development (Electrification) Project as well as the

tender floated for implementation of the project. According to the allegation,

the finalisation of the project and awarding its contract were not legally processed. The Additional Sessions

Judge, Dhaka, Zeenat Ara, who is also the Judge of the Special Tribunal, was the presiding

This was the first case withdrawn by the government among a number of cases instituted against H M Ershad and, or his ministers.

In addition to Moudud Ahmed. Khondker Mahbub Hossain and Mahbubur Rahman appeared for Ershad and Anwar Hossain Manju. Rafiqur Rahman Bar at-Law appeared for Prof Matin.

include discussion meetings, visit of his mazar and offering of munajat, holding of milad mahfil and feeding of the des-Sheikh Hasina opened a week-long programmes in ob-

servance of Mujib's death anniversary at Tungipara on August 10 last. The Bangabandhu Parishad

The programmes of the day

at Tungipara, the village home of Mujib where he was buried.

will hold a gathering at the Suhrawardy Uddyan from where it will bring a condolence procession at 4 pm today. The procession will march upto the Bangabandhu Museum where the parishad leaders will lay wreaths at the portrait of Mujib. The parishad on August 13 organised a seminar at the Engineers' Institution which was participated by leading intellectuals.

On this occasion, the Ganatantri Party has organised a discussion meeting at its Siddig Bazar office in the city at six in the evening.

Bangladesh Islamic Revolutionary Movement, a pro-AL organisation, will hold Quran khawani, milad mahfit and special prayers for the peace of the departed souls of Bangabandhu and others killed on August 15 in front of the Jatiya Press Club today. The organisations has called upon. all pious Muslims to observe the day as a 'national disgrace

The Gano-Forum will also observe the death anniversary of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The observance programmes include placing of wreath at the portrait of Sheikh Mujib in the morning and a discussion meeting at the central office of the organisation at 5 pm.

Export earnings up by 6 pc

Country's export earnings totalled nearly 2534 million US dollar last fiscal year (1993-94), an increase of more than 6 per cent over the previous year (1992-93), reports UNB.

This was disclosed at the 74th Board meeting of the EPB with Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam in the chair yesterday.

Dark justice

From Page 1 Col 4 Karmakar was found guilty of violating village norms and gave a verdict driving her out of the village.

Her father Nitai Chandra Karmakar, a goldsmith, had to do seven push-ups in public. holding his ears, for not being able to control his 'shameless'

After the arbitration, the girl was sent to the home of her relation in another village.

The arbitration took place in the office of the local Union Parishad Chairman in Bagha Sadar thana, near the border with India, on June 11.

However, when the Higher Secondary Examinations approached, the girl, a student of Shah Daula Degree College, was allowed to re-enter the village on August 1 on condition that she would leave as soon as the exams ended.

The CCHRB statement said that the officer-in-charge of the local police station admitted that he was aware of the incident but could not take any action since nobody had filed any complaint.

The Thana Nirbahi Officer also said he was aware of the incident but that the conflict was resolved after negotiations among the parties.

Case against BBC

From Page | Col 4 had referred the petition of Amena Khatoon, General Secretary of the Swadesh Party, to the Chief Justice for his decision on August 8.

Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed has referred the petition to a new bench comprising Justice Mohammad Ismailuddin Sarkar and Justice Mohammad Hamidul Huq for hearing.

The new bench did not take up the matter on priority basis yesterday, a lawyer dealing the case said. The hearing is expected to begin today.

The petitioner has filed a writ against the BBC for telecasting a news programme on controversial writer Taslima Nasreen on June 30. The petitioner also made the Home Ministry responsible for its little efforts to arrest the writer and the Information Ministry for having allowed the BBC to telecast its programme through Bangladesh Television.

Swadesh Party leader Amena Khatoon filed the case after failing to got any satisfactory answers to her legal notices served on the four defendants.

The petition was moved by ABM Shamsud Doulah.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHARA.



Police were deployed on the BUET campus yesterday apprehending violence over the forthcoming EUCSU polls, due Aug 18.

Dhaka regrets, demands probe

UN avoids blaming Iraqis for murder of peacekeeper

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 14: The UN force on the Kuwait-Iraq border is investigating the murder of one of its Bangladeshi soldiers but has no plan to increase the number of observers in the Demilitarised Zone, a spokesman said, report AFP, BSS, AP.

Gunmen in civilian clothes shot dead Lieutenant Harunor-Rashid and wounded two other Bangladeshi members of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) in an ambush late Friday

The Government of Bangladesh earlier today deeply regretted the killing and wounding of the soldiers and asked the UN authorities to conduct an enquiry into the incident to identify the cul-

It also called for taking appropriate security measures to avoid recurrence of such inci-

One of two wounded Bangladeshi soldiers meanwhile has been discharged from hospital. The other, still recuperat-

ing in a Kuwaiti hospital, told a local newspaper that about four gunmen took part in Friday's ambush. It was not clear if the

attackers were Iraqi soldiers or smugglers, as Baghdad's official media claimed.

carried out by smugglers seeking revenge for the confiscation of a consignment of alco-"We are evaluating the

practical procedures to provide the personnel ... but we have no plan to take any additional measures to secure our people," said a UNIKOM spokesman, asking not to be "We will not decrease or in-

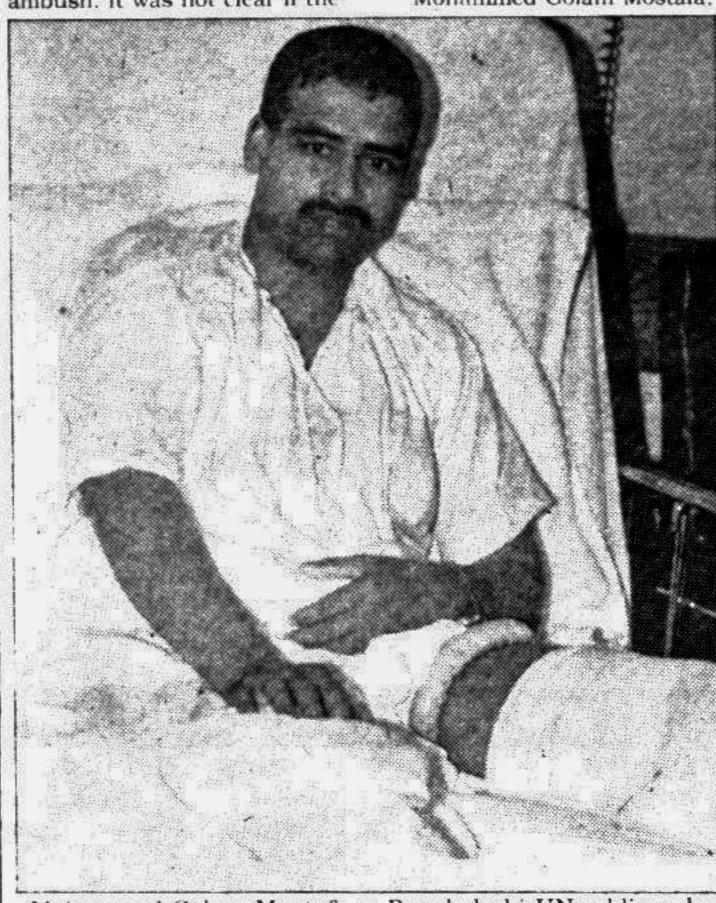
crease the number of UN peacekeepers," he said. "We are investigating as well as the Iraqis, and the results will appear within a few days." He said: "The situation is very quiet at the borders.

as a surprise. Rashid was the first member of the 1.150-man mission to be killed since it was deployed along the 200-kilome-

That's why the incident came

tre border in April 1991 following the Gulf War. The daily Al-Qabas identified the wounded men as Mohammed Golam Mostafa and

Rafigul Alam. Mohammed Golam Mostafa.



Mohammad Golam Mustafa, a Bangladeshi UN soldier who was shot on the Iraqi side of the demilitarised zone with Kuwait Friday, rests in a hospital in Kuwait yesterday. - AFP photo

DUTA threatens agitation

Regarding expulsion of

Dr.Ershadul Bari from the

DUTA, Dr.Siddique explained

that the action was taken by

the DUTA executive body

unanimously after 'he took a

stand against the national an-

them and challenged DUTA's

DUTA President Prof. Shahadat

Ali termed 'untrue' the reports

of attack on Dr. Bari and ran-

sacking his chamber." In fact

a group of youths on August 2

kicked the doors of his office

and the police on duty re-

strained them from the ac-

tion. Dr Bari was not in his

"These youths later gath-

Responding to another

question Prof. Ali said the

its decision fregarding Dr.

DUTA affairs, he added.

ered in front of the VC's resi-

dence and abused the DUTA

chamber at the time."

chief," he added.

Replying to questions.

authority.'

From Page 1 Col 5

National University (NU)

Rajshahi University and

Jahangirnagar University and

also removal of the NU VC

Abdul Bari. The DUTA accused

both of showing 'disrespect' to

fresh agitation at a press con-

ference after the association's

deadline given to the authori-

ties to accept its demands ex-

Addressing the press con-

ference at the DU Club, DUTA

General Secretary Dr. AAMS

Arefin Siddique said the fresh

programme would be decided

soon at a general meeting of

two-day token strike protest-

ing the August 4 incidents. We

cannot take up stronger pro-

grammes considering the stu-

dents' wellbeing. But what

else can we do when our lives

are threatened?" Dr. Siddique

one teacher was shot and in-

jured and two others including

the DUTA GS was assaulted.

In the August 4 incident.

"We have already observed a

The DUTA warned of a

the national anthem.

pired yesterday.

the association.

who was shot in the left leg. told Al-Qabas that the soldiers were driving in a clearly Iraq said the attack was marked white UN patrol car when they came across an unmanned road block.

He said they flashed their floodlights, but saw no one. When the officer got out of the car to remove the barrier, he was sprayed with gunfire. which killed him instantly.

The two soldiers then came under fir inside the car. Fafigul Alam, who has been discharged from hospital, suffered cuts in the face and left

UNIKOM sent a message of protest to Baghdad on Saturday to denounce this barbaric slaughter. But the United Nations has avoided blaming the Iragis "We cannot identify the as-

sailants, if they are Iraqis or not. It was late and the injured observers could not see the people who shot them," the spokesman said. fraqi authorities have de-

nied any of their soldiers were involved, saying no military units were based in the Zone and blaming the attack on bandits. 'A band of bandits and traf-

fickers attacked the UN post

at Safwan," in southeastern Iraq "in revenge for it having confiscated alcoholic drinks they were trying to bring into Iraq," the official Iraqi news agency INA said. Reuters add: The UN

strongly protested to Baghdad but stopped short of accusing Iraqi government forces of involvement.

The Iraqi government is required to inform UNIKOM about the entry of any armed people entering the zone. None of the unidentified as-

sailants was captured. Harun-or-Rashid hailed from village-Char Hogal Patia, PO-Thakur Mallick. PS-Babuganj in the district of Barisal.

Lance Naike Md Golam Mostafa hails from village-Narayanpur, PO-Hat Gurudashpur, PS-Gurudashpur, Dist Natore while Lance Naike Md Rafiqul Alam from village-Phulbaria, PO-Khankhanapur

PS and District-Rajbari. Meanwhile, Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina today expressed shock at the death of the Bangladeshi sol-

In a condolence message, Hasina prayed for the peace of the departed soul and sympathy for the injured military personnel.

Azam murder From Page 1 Col 5

ceased, accused of the murder by Alamgir in a case filed with Ramna police.

According to police, Mamun was absconding along with his wife and child after the murder at the gate of Azam's Noorabad Colony apartment at Dilu Road just before dawn Saturday.

Witnesses said both Mamun and Azam were in a highly intoxicated state after a nightlong drinking binge at a friend's house in New DOHS. When Azam got down in front of his house, he had an altercation with Mamun who then reportedly shot him three times. Azam, 35, was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he died soon after admission at around five am. Doctors said Azam's death was caused by excessive bleeding from a wound received on

the thigh. DUTA could always reconsider Police yesterday said they had been interrogating several Baril and even the victim could people, but were yet to asceralso ask for its withdrawal. But tain the motive for the murder it was never expected that the After autopsy Azam was students 'would be involved in

yard.

buried at the Azimpur gravespokesman said.

BUET reinforces police presence on campus

Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

The BUET authorities reinforced police presence on the campus yesterday apprehend ing violence over the forthcoming EUCSU polls scheduled for August 18.

Th BCL (M-I) yesterday held rallies on the campus in protest against, what they said uneasy situation on the cam-

The JSD Chhatra League also held a rally on the campus calling for congenial atmosphere.

Sangskritik Jote programme ends

By Staff Correspondent Sammilita Sangskritik Jote

yesterday called for resisting the fundamentalists and the collaborators of the occupation forces. At a rally marking the end

of the fortnight-long programme of the jote yesterday evening, its leaders said, the killers of '71 were inciting the fundamentalists in the country to divert the people's attention from the demand of their trial. The rally held in front of

the Jatiya Press Club was addressed by Poet Shamsur Rahman, Kamal Lohani Atiqullah Khan Masud, Aly Zaker, Mafidul Haq, Mamunur Rashid and Golam Kuddus. It was presided over by Favez Ahmed. Favez Ahmed alleged that

the present anti-people government, the killers of '71 and the 'fatwabaz' elements have compelled us to resort to street agitation, he added.

The speakers accused police of demolishing the dias of the rally and said, "it proved the government has sided with the fundamentalists."

Urs of Shah Paran concludes

From Our Correspondent SYLHET, Aug 14: The Annual Urs of great saint, Hairat Shah Paran (RA) concluded today at the shrine of

the saint at Khadimnagar, ten

kilometres from Sylhet town.

Thousands of devotees attended the three day programme which included Khatme Quran, placing of Gilaf, special prayers, and distribution of alms. The Urs ended this morning through Akheri Munajat and distribution of

Minerals

From Page 1 Col 5

Barapukuria and Madhyapara with foreign assistance. BHP Minerals, a foreign company, is also expected to go for coal exploration and mining in the northern region for which an agreement is under process. Meanwhile, another Australian company is also interested to extract heavy minerals from the beach sand at Cox's Bazar. Under the circumstances

the authorities concerned believe the royalty rates should be fixed, at par with international standards, to make the foreign companies interested in mining activities in Bangladesh. Official sources said the de-

cision to reduce the royalty rates was taken under the Mines and Mineral Resources (Control and Development) Act, 1992.

Violence claims 7 in Karachi

KARACHI, Aug 14: At least seven people were killed and 15 wounded today in violence here, government sources said, reports Reuter.

Three members of a militant Muslim group died and 12 were wounded in a gun battle with security forces in the central district, an army

The Midnight File

2000 Rwandan refugees arrive in Burundi every day

NGOZI, Burundi, Aug 14: Some 2.000 Rwandan refugees, mostly Hutus, arrive in Burundi every day, fleeing feared violence in Rwanda, and at least 200 have been killed since arrivings aid officials said today. Refugees in three camps set up in the Ngozi, Kirundo and Muyinga provinces said soldiers of the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front, which seized control of most of Rwanda in July, had followed them over the border from Rwanda and extorted money and possessions from them, reports AFP.

Rocket attack on Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Aug 14: Afghan factions fighting President Burhanuddin Rabbani fired rockets into the capital Kabul today, killing three people and wounding seven, the official Kabul radio said. Presidential forces shot down a helicopter belonging to opposition forces over the northern town of Puli-Khumri on Saturday, said the broadcast menitored in Islamabad, reports Reuter.

Draft labour law

From Page 1 Col 5

"Most of the unions do not

function as true union, mean ing they do not engage in collective bargaining and do not participate in any formalised dispute resolution process Instead, they serve as a workers' wing of the unions' associ ated political parties. Their importance is exaggerated in that the unions often claim widely inflated numbers and. even accepting their own numbers, represent less than seven per cent of the total workforce in Bangladesh.

In its analysis, made available in Dhaka the Institute ob served that legitimate trade unions are essential to any long-term strategy for sustainable economic development. Unless workers are able to ne gotiate for better terms and conditions of employment, that will allow them to improve their standard of living and contribute to consumer demand, they will continue to live at a subsistence level and will not assist in significant economic growth.

Further, it maintained workers who are labouring under exploitative conditions are unable to improve productivity to any significant economic degree.

"The drafters of the new labour code went to extreme measures to ensure that it will be virtually impossible for legitimate trade unions to form. the AAFLI analysis said and blamed pressure groups from the owners' side for leading the fight to include express union-prevention provisions in the labour code.

Citing the prevailing situation in the garment sector, the Institute said if the present draft is not modified, the owners would have virtually guar anteed that no unions will ever form in their industry and the

workers will have not an effective mechanism to improve their terms and conditions of employment

If it is not modified, the code would on its face subject Bangladesh to all possible enforcement mechanisms available under international law. cautioned the code analysers.

The main provisions at issues deal with legal registration of trade unions. Under the law, a trade union that is not registered with the government can not function in respect. Under the present provisions whoever takes part in or instigates others to take part in the activities of unregistered trade unions shall be punishable with imprisonment

In order to obtain registration, a trade union must have a membership of at least 30 per 74 cent of the total number of employees at the establishment where the union has been formed. But under the provisions, observed the analysers, it is difficult to form it because before registration gathering of employees is punishable.

Under the IL Conventions 87 and 89, only minimal administrative barriers may be set up to form a trade union.

The draft law was, however, praised for its improvement over the existing situation. "Its main accomplishment is to harmonise the existing 26 different labour-related laws into one comprehensive code," the analysis said.

The AAFLI has already raised these and some other minor problems with National Labour Law Commission members, government officials and trade union leaders and hopes the concerned will take necessary steps to modify the 'antiunion' provisions before its final approval.

Drought situation

From Page 1 Col 3 and a half lakh tons of imported rice was already in the pipeline. Agriculture experts the meeting informed that intensified steps taken by the Agricultural Extension Division would help increase

the future crop production. The meeting decided that seeds preserved by the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) for meeting emergencies be distributed among the farmers, if necessary. Steps will also be taken to run all inoperative pumps on emergency basis.

Officials informed the Prime Minister that following emergency steps transplantation of Aman was possible in 19.36 lakh hectares till August

A task force will be formed for coordination among the organisations involved with tackling the situation. Among other important

measures, the meeting decided that the Agricultural Extension Division would submit an investigative report on the damages wrought by the drought and its solutions within a week to the Agriculture Ministry.

Farmers will be advised to cultivate wheat in the areas not suitable for farming Aman

The decisions also include further activating the control rooms of the Agricultural' Ministry and AED and broadcast sowing of alternate jute processing which cannot be done due to lack of water.

Crop in 4 thanas of Sylhet go under water

From Our Correspondent SYLHET, Aug 14: Standing crop on a several thousand acres in Gowainghat, Jaintapur. Kanaighat and Companyganj thanas of Sylhet have gone under water during the last 24 hours due to incessant rains and onrush of waters from the hilly areas across the border.

Rivers in these areas were also flowing above the dangerlevel, official sources said this

afternoon. In Kanaighat thana, water was passing through the breaches on the Kushiyara dyke at Dalarchar and Gouripur points.

Meanwhile, reports reaching UNB from greater Dinajpur and Rangpur districts said a large number of pumps used in watering cropfields had become inoperative due to serious drop in ground water level.

Rice procurement in the coming winter might be hampered as a result of the drought-ridden monsoon, experts believe. Experts in Dhaka pointed

out that these measures were essential to face up to the situation. They remained that the two worst famines in this area over the past century were due to droughts in the rainy sea-

IU press corner inaugurated

From Our Correspondent KUSHTIA, Aug 14: The Vice Chancellor of the Islamic University (IU) M A Hamid today inaugurated the press corner in the administrative Registrar Md Ashraf Ali.

Dean of Theology and Islamic Studies Prof Akin Uddin, Development Officer Nazrul Islam, Student Adviser Dr Rezaul Karim and Proctor Md Mosharraf Hossain were present. The members of the University Journalists Association also attended the function

Hasina

From Page 1 Col 8 How long will the Bengalees bear this stigma on a civilised nation?"

The whole nation is frustrated today, she said alleging misrule, corruption, terrorism and unrest in different sectors for the last 19 years. The Awami League chief ac-

cused the present government of patronising the anti-liberation communal forces and trying to rehabilitate 'war criminal Golam Azam politically. "Let us take a renewed vow to try the killers of

Bangabandhu and resist the

revival of communal forces

under the government's pa-

tron age." Hasina also called for gearing up the current agitation for elections under a caretaker government to ensure people's right to food and voting as well as cradicating poverty and

improving the lot of the commonman