

Inside Today

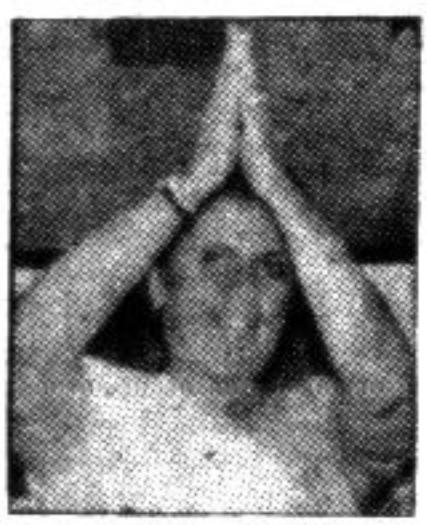
Article

Insensitivity  
Makes Light of  
Scam

Column: Between The  
Lines  
by Kulidip Nayar  
Page 4

International

Israel sets date for  
handing over powers to  
Palestinians in West  
Bank



Chandrika a veteran of  
political Mayhem  
Page 5

Business

Pakistan, UAE to  
speed up work on  
under-sea gas  
project

ROK rejects US  
suggestions to lower  
tariffs on car imports  
Pages 6, 7

Weekend  
Magazine

Building Democracy:  
Arenas of European  
Politics; The Statue of  
Liberty: A Beacon of  
Promise; In Search of a  
Kindly Light; Poets Go  
for Apartments Rather  
than Stadiums; For  
Adults Only; A Drama of  
Debates; Ravi Shankar:  
Genius Behind the  
Sitar; Analysing the  
Political Economy of  
Local Government;  
Seeking Social  
Justice via the  
Lens; Viewing  
Video  
Pages 9, 10, 11

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Birds of the Same  
Feather Flock Together  
Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Khaleda shocked

Prime Minister and BNP  
Chairperson Begum Khaleda  
Zia yesterday expressed her  
deep shock at the death of  
Gopalpur Pourashava Chairman  
and Gopalpur thana BNP pres-  
ident Khondoker Abdul  
Mannan, reports BSS.

Cassette on Hasina

"Bangkanya," an audio-cassette  
recorded on struggling  
life of Awami League chief  
Sheikh Hasina will be launched  
ceremonially here in  
September. Begum Sufia Kamal  
will inaugurate the cassette,  
the fourth venture of eminent  
reciter Kazi Khasru Iqbal, re-  
ports BSS.

One dies in Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET: Aug 18: An auto  
tempo driver was killed in a  
road accident that took place in  
the morning. The incident oc-  
curred near the Pathantola  
Government Primary School when  
the auto tempo had a  
head-on collision with a tractor.  
The auto tempo driver  
Ruhul Islam, 30, died on the  
spot. Police seized both the  
vehicles. A case had been filed  
with the Sylhet Kotwali police  
station.

# The Daily Star



12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 5.00

## Kumaratunga new Lankan PM

COLOMBO, Aug 18: Chandrika Kumaratunga, whose socialist party won the national election, has been appointed prime minister and is forming a government, sources said today, reports AP, AFP.

Outgoing Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe today vacated his office and residence.

Wickremesinghe told reporters shortly before he ceased to be Premier that Kumaratunga will be sworn in tomorrow.

Kumaratunga — who entered politics after both her parents served as prime minister and one of them was assassinated — has promised to begin negotiations with the Tamil rebels who have been

fighting for independence in Sri Lanka for 11 years.

She also has pledged to continue the nation's free-market reforms, educate more women and children, reduce corruption, and decentralise government by reducing the

**Editorial on Page 4**

**Profile on Page 5**

powers of the president and increasing those of the legislators and prime minister.

Hours after the 49-year-old leader was named prime minister designate, the powerful Tamil rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, welcomed her offer for talks.

"We are very happy that she

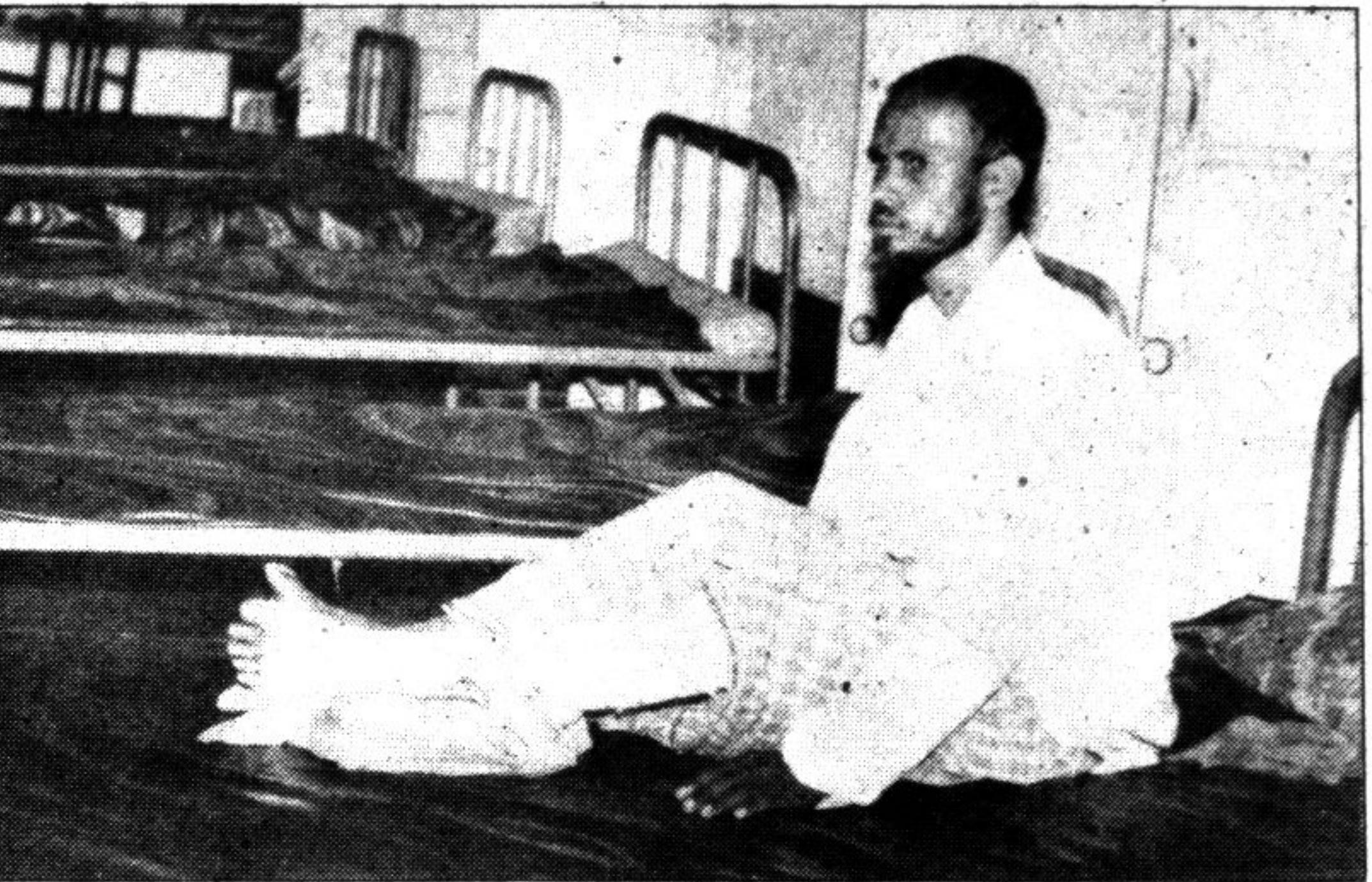
is willing to talk to us, we are also willing," said Tamil rebel spokesman Anton Raja. Raja was speaking in London.

On Wednesday, Kumaratunga's People's Alliance became the first opposition party in 17 years to defeat President D B Wijetunga's United National Party in a parliamentary election.

Although the coalition fell six seats short of a majority, other opposition parties promised to join its government.

As President, Wijetunga, has the power to choose anyone as prime minister, and there were fears he would pick someone from his own party, even though it finished second

See Page 12 Col 8



Perhaps this patient's inability to walk prevented him from joining the rest who left the Dhaka Medical College Hospital's casualty ward on the concluding day of the doctors' 48-hr strike yesterday.

— Star photo

## Earthquake kills 147 in Algeria

ALGIERS, Aug 18: An earthquake struck northwest Algeria early Thursday, killing at least 147 people and injuring 289, local rescue officials said, reports AP.

The quake, which hit about 400 kilometers west of Algiers, registered a preliminary magnitude of 5.6, according to the Algerian Centre for Astrophysical Research.

The people must have been killed by something — usually it's by falling masonry," said geologist John Lovell of the British organization.

This is nothing unusual for the area," Lovell said. "The whole of the Mediterranean is susceptible to quite large earthquakes from time to time because of the shifting tectonic plates.

Homes built of mud-and-straw brick collapsed with the first shake, and 8,000-10,000 people were left without shel-

ter, according to rescue officials, quoted on national radio.

Officials appealed for blood donations and warned that drinking water could soon be in short supply.

The British Geological Survey said the quake hit at 2:13 am local time (0113 GMT) and registered a 5.2 magnitude. Its epicenter was near the city of Sig.

Several aftershocks followed, the strongest of which had a preliminary magnitude of 5.1. Fear of aftershocks drove thousands of people from their homes and spend the night in the street.

Hardest hit were Bou-Hanilia, a hot springs resort.

See Page 12 Col 7

### Mystery over body found near JU persists

By Staff Correspondent

The mystery shrouding the death of a young man whose body was found near the Jahangirnagar University on the Dhaka-Aricha Highway Wednesday remained unsolved until yesterday.

The Islami Chhatra Shibir, student wing of the Jamaat-e-Islami, has claimed the victim Quamrul Islam as one of its supporters and alleged that Islam was murdered in a JU residential hall.

Announcement of the fresh agitation programme of the Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council, platform of the professionals, came at a rally in the capital yesterday during a day-long strike.

Prokrichi members struck work throughout the country in protest against, what they termed, "bureaucratic conspiracy and government repression."

Many government offices

### Prokrichi deadline

By Staff Correspondent

Some 70 thousand professionals and members of different functional cadres have threatened a continuous strike across the country from October 10 if the government fails to reform the existing bureaucracy by October 7.

They also plan a day-long strike on September 22 to press for their 17-point charter of demands.

A baby boy, born some weeks prematurely, died in the incubator yesterday at the Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital (SSMCH) only 27 hours after birth.

Relatives of the baby said it had died for want of treatment in the absence of the doctors.

The mother, Niarala, was admitted at the SSMCH on Wednesday.

At the SSMCH, four other patients died yesterday. However, the doctors on emergency duty claimed the patients had died despite their

## Several patients die, many leave hospitals

By Staff Correspondent

Thousands of patients who went to the government hospitals and clinics were denied of medicare for the second day yesterday by striking doctors.

Many patients were seen leaving the hospitals in view of the 48-hr strike, according to reports received from different hospitals.

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At the SSMCH, four other patients died yesterday. However, the doctors on emergency duty claimed the patients had died despite their

attention.

Our Dhaka Medical College Hospital Correspondent reported that nine patients died at the country's largest 1200-bed hospital while 23 others left due to the strike.

No tickets were sold at the outdoor booths of the DMCH, the reports said.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), the platform of the doctors, said their 48-hour strike passed off peacefully yesterday all over the country.

In a statement, the secretary general of the association regretted the inconvenience caused to the patients because of the strike and at the same time congratulated the doctors for joining it.

The doctors struck work to press for the realisation of their 21-point demand and re-

See Page 12 Col 2

### Hasina blasts critics of caretaker govt

Sheikh Hasina yesterday blasted the critics of caretaker government and said none but interested quarters believed that election can be impartial under the BNP government's supervision, reports UNB.

Our experiences from the past by-elections and city corporation elections suggest that without a neutral caretaker government, it is impossible to protect voters' rights and their security from torture and repression by the ruling party," said the Awami League President addressing a group of about 500 leaders and workers of the undivided CPB who joined her party at her official residence yesterday afternoon.

Hasina criticised those who are arguing that fair polls is possible under the BNP even after an "unprecedented rigging and torture" during the

See Page 12 Col 6

### Rival N'ganj AL factions hail high command decision

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Aug 18: Local Awami League (AL) leaders have hailed the central committee decision to ban all party activities here following the August 15 internece

AL Town Committee president Prof Najma Rahman said the group which clashed with her supporters was a vested quarter comprising activists from different political parties. She alleged that this quarter was trying to tarnish the image of the AL.

She also confirmed her fac-

tion's acceptance of the AL high command diktat.

Earlier, late Wednesday night, the General Secretary of the AL, Zillur Rahman, through a letter, ordered all activities of the town and district com-

See Page 12 Col 2

## Flood situation worsens in C'nawabganj, Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Aug 18: Flood situation worsened further in Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj as more areas have been engulfed by flood waters today, reports BSS.

Five more unions in Chapainawabganj and five unions in Rajshahi have been affected yesterday. With this, 25 unions in Chapainawabganj and 11 unions in Rajshahi have so far been inundated by wa-

ters.

Meanwhile, the river Padma and Mohaunda at Chapainawabganj were flowing 2.58 meter and 32 cm above the red mark today.

River Padma was also in spate and it was flowing over four cm above the danger mark.

Reports of diarrhoea patients being admitted to the Shibganj Health Complex daily are about 25. Medical teams

are yet to reach the areas.

UNB from Chapainawabganj adds: Some 1,500 families have been rendered homeless by the flood onslaught in two thanas — Shibganj and Nawabganj Sadar including part of the district headquarters.

About 80,000 people have been reported trapped in their inundated villages in the last seven days of flooding which submerged some 243 square km area in the two thanas.

Meanwhile, one person drowned in flood water in Shibganj, raising the death toll from the current floods to four.

Reports of diarrhoea patients being admitted to the Shibganj Health Complex daily are about 25. Medical teams

are yet to reach the areas.

Three villages — Jodhpura, Rehatkowila and Khasdhalai in Chowhali thana were under water.

### গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার সমরিত উপন্থুনিক শিক্ষা বিভাগ কার্যক্রম

প্রাথমিক ও মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা বিভাগ

ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা

৮-ইনক্ষেপ/অং-৮৪৬/মুদ্রণ/১৪/৩৭৫ তারিখ: ২-৮-১৪০১ বাঃ ১৯-৮-১৯৯৪ইং

### বিবিধ বই ও ফ্লিপ চার্ট মুদ্রণের জরুরী দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (২য়)

প্রাথমিক ও মাধ্যমিক বিভাগের অধীনস্থ সমরিত উপন্থুনিক শিক্ষা বিভাগ

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ক্লিপের বিভাগ এবং ক্লিপের বিভাগ এবং ক্লিপের বিভাগ