

## PACKAGES DOCUMENTS &amp; FREIGHT WORLDWIDE

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The World on Time



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia cutting the birthday cake at her Minto Road official residence on Friday.

—Star photo

## Khaleda's birthday celebrated

The 52nd birthday of former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was celebrated on Friday, reports UNB.

Begum Zia stayed at her cantonment residence till 8 pm and exchanged pleasantries with guests, mostly party leaders and workers.

The Leader of the Opposition arrived at her Minto Road official residence at 8.30 pm where a large number of people were waiting to greet her.

The entire premises of the official residence was overcrowded with party activists, well-wishers, professionals and a cross section of people.

They came with bouquets, sweetmeats and cakes wishing a very 'happy birthday' to their beloved leader, the BNP Chairperson and wife of late President Ziaur Rahman.

A smiling Begum Zia cut a huge birthday cake amidst clappings by the people gathered there.

Then everybody joined a special *munaajat* offered for the long life and good health of Begum Zia. Maulana Najibul Bashar Maizbhandari led the prayer.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, party MPs, leaders of front organisations and pro-BNP CBA leaders were present.

## Bangabandhu Mobile Hospital opens in city

A mobile hospital named Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Mobile Hospital was inaugurated at Mirpur in the city on Friday, reports UNB.

Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim inaugurated the air-conditioned hospital equipped with modern operation facilities.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is the patron of the hospital.

## Youngman beaten to death in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent  
SYLHET, Aug 16: A young man was beaten to death at village Bhitrikhol of Jaintapur thana yesterday.

Awam Hossain, 17, was beaten by some local people, the reason for which could not be known.

He was immediately taken to the Thana Health complex where he was declared dead. Autopsy on the body was done in the Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Morgue.

Jaintapur police arrested one Kutubuddin for his alleged complicity with the murder.

## PATC closed

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rected not to attend office for safety reason till further order.

The decision was taken in view of deteriorating law and order situation at the centre for agitation by some class 3 and 4 employees, said an official announcement yesterday.

Under the same order, 23 employees of same categories have been relieved of their jobs from today as per Section 50 (2) of the 1992 service rule of the BPATC.

Elaborating the situation, that forced 'temporary' closure of the BPATC the Director office said: "Due to the unruly activities of some class 3 and 4 employees, it became totally impossible for the officials and staff of the centre to attend office and discharge their duties."

## Lead pollution

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metropolis is high but the air contains less than the level which is considered dangerous.

But the low level of lead does not spare anyone. When there is less than 0.9 microgram of lead in the air, 50 per cent of people are susceptible to breathing it through the air. There is a 90 per cent possibility of intake when the lead level is 0.1 microgram, it said.

For example, the Farm Gate area of the city where the movement of vehicles are higher than Lalmitia, the concentration of lead is also high, the survey conducted between February 2, 1996 and March 24, 1997 showed.

The DOE survey conducted three metre above ground found that at the Lalmitia Housing Estate the amount of lead was 1.26 microgram (Ng) and at Farm Gate police box 6.03 Ng. But at one metre above ground the lead level at Mirpur Road (near Fire Service office) was 50.01 Ng, at Mahakhali Road crossing 44.01 Ng, at Bangladesh Beverage Industry, Tejgaon 75.73 Ng and Farm Gate Police Box 251.84 Ng.

Bangladesh is yet to set an acceptable level of lead in the air. The US Environmental Protection Agency level is 1.5 microgram or 1500 Ng. In India, it is one microgram or 1000 Ng.

## Two young men murdered in city

By DMC Correspondent

Two young men were killed and two others injured in separate incidents in the city in the last two days.

An unidentified man, aged about 23, was stabbed to death by a gang of about four persons in front of Hotel Nilima at Kakrail on Friday night.

Police said the attackers stabbed the man to death at about 9 pm.

The motive behind the killing could not be known immediately. Police suspected that the murder was sequel to a previous enmity. The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

Ramna thana police arrested two persons identified as Syed Hossain Ali, 25, and Raju Ahmed, 22, in connection with the murder. Yesterday, they were produced before the Chief

## Four commit suicide in city

By Staff Correspondent

Four persons including two women allegedly committed suicide in different parts of the city during last three days.

A housewife, Mamta Begum, 32, allegedly committed suicide by hanging from a ceiling fan hook in her rented house at west Dholaiapur under Demra thana yesterday.

In another incident under the same thana yesterday, Najma Begum, 22, also hanged herself from the ceiling fan at North Jatrahari at about 10.30 am.

Meanwhile, Mojibur Rahman, an asthma patient, allegedly killed himself by taking poison at Bosila under Mohammadpur thana on Friday night. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

An unidentified man, aged about 26, allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself from a beam on the ceiling of his house at West Dhanmondi Thursday night.

## Bodo rebels kill 13

GUWAHATI, India, Aug 16: Tribal militants attacked two villages in northeastern India killing 13 people and wounding eight, police said today, reports Reuters.

Bodo guerrillas shot the victims on Friday night in Nalbari district, about 50 km (30 miles) west of Guwahati.

## Glowing tributes

From page 1

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also placed wreaths and offered *fateha* at Banani Graveyard and then flew to Tungipara to attend the Mourning Day programmes at the mazar of Bangabandhu.

Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad, ministers, MPs, leaders of Awami League and its front organisations placed wreaths at the portrait of Mujib at Bangabandhu Museum. The government as well as various political and socio-cultural organisations observed the day with elaborate programmes commemorating the mid-August tragedy.

The day was a public holiday.

National flag flew at half-mast at all government and private buildings, educational institutions, autonomous bodies and at Bangladesh missions abroad.

Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television broadcast special programmes in last few days focussing on the struggling life of Sheikh Mujib and his unique leadership to the nation.

National dailies published special supplements highlighting the significance of the day. Thousands of people thronged Bangabandhu Bhaban, the historic residence of Bangabandhu on Dhanmondi Road No 32, to show their heartfelt respect to the father of the nation.

People from all walks of life and of all ages visited the resi-

dence-turned-museum, where the memorabilia of Bangabandhu family and the brutal killing were kept on display.

Various political and socio-cultural organisations organised blood donation programmes in front of the Bangabandhu Bhaban.

The day's programmes also included wearing of black badge, rally, milad mahfil, Gurankhwan, seminar, discussion, tribute feeding, cultural show and tree plantation.

Special prayers were offered after Juma prayers seeking divine blessings for the victims of mid-August killing as well as peace, progress and prosperity of the country.

At Tungipara, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offered *fateha* and placed wreaths at the mazar of Bangabandhu. Members of armed forces presented armed salute to the great leader.

The programmes at Tungipara also include a discussion on 'World History and Bangabandhu' and blood donation.

Awami League, as part of its day-long programme, brought out a mourning procession from the party's Bangabandhu Avenue office. Bangabandhu Parishad also brought out a rally from Russel Square.

The programme also included hoisting of national and party flags at half-mast, milad mahfil and tribute feeding at every ward, placing of wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu, and special prayers at mosques, temples and churches.

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## Fateh Ali Khan dead

LONDON, Aug 16: Renowned Pakistani singer Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan died in London of a heart attack, officials at Pakistan's embassy here said, reports AFP.

The 49-year-old musician died just before midday (1100 GMT) in Cromwell Hospital, where he had been admitted several days earlier for breathing problems, embassy spokeswoman Samina Parvez said.

Preparations were being made to fly his body back to Pakistan.

His death was a "great loss" for his home country, Parvez said.

The singer's obesity had caused him numerous health problems recently, she added. He had travelled to London for medical examinations and for professional reasons.

## Abul Hossain's resignation yet to be accepted

By Staff Correspondent

The resignation letter of Syed Abul Hossain, State Minister for LGED and Cooperatives, was not forwarded to President Shahabuddin Ahmed till yesterday.

Sources said last night that Hossain's resignation letter was lying with the Cabinet Division. It will be sent to the President when the Prime Minister desires, the sources said.

According to The Daily Star two ministers said the delay in sending the letter to the President was due to "formalities".

Syed Abul Hossain, tendered his resignation to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on August 10 following his controversial visit to Singapore with an ordinary passport instead of a diplomatic one.

## Judge found dead

From page 1

to visit friend in Magura town and stayed in the circuit house there after passing sometime with his friend.

The body of Biswas was sent to his village home at Bhadugram in Bagerhat district at 8 tonight.

Our Correspondent quoting police reported that Jayata Kumar Biswas lodged a General Diary (GD) with Jhenidah Thana on August 10 last alleging that he was threatened with death by the Additional District Judge, Jhenidah-1.

## Surcharge

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charge.

But the CFTC representatives declined to withdraw the decision about imposition of surcharge, port sources said. The delegation is expected to return tomorrow.

A senior port official said that the CFTC had imposed the congestion surcharge to recover the economic losses incurred by container vessels due to congestion at Chittagong Port caused by labour unrest and natural calamities in recent months.

CFTC will take the next decision about surcharge on reviewing the situation at Chittagong Port after one month, the official added.

He claimed that the congestion had now almost eased at Chittagong Port.

The vessels which in the last month had to overstay for 18 to 20 days on average, now might require to stay only six days, he claimed, adding that the port was kept open round the clock to overcome the congestion.

CFTC imposed the surcharge on Chittagong Port cargo at the rate of 150 US dollars for a 20-foot long container and 300 dollars for a 40-foot long container.

## 20 hurt as Shibir, JCD clash at M C college

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Aug 16: At least 20 people were injured in clashes between the activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir and Jatityatabadi Chhatra Dal on the Government MC College campus today.

Of the injured, Shibir activist Afjal Hossain was hospitalised with stab injuries while Abbas Ahmed, another Shibir activist, also sustained stab injuries.

The clash erupted over a dispute on admission into first-year classes at the college which began today.

Both the sides used lethal weapons and blasted crackers during the clash.

Both JCD and Shibir brought out processions and held rallies protesting the attack on each other.

## Kant elected Vice-President of India

NEW DELHI, Aug 16: The United Front-Congress nominee, Krishan Kant, was today elected the country's vice-president, defeating Akali Dal-BJP sponsored candidate, Surjit Singh Barnala, by a sizeable margin in a straight contest, reports PTI.

## Zilla Parishad chairman

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and Order, Public Works, Roads and Highways, Local Government Engineering Directorate and Facilities Department; Health and Family Planning, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Social Welfare and Women Affairs, Youth Development

and Sports; Agriculture, Irrigation, Cooperatives, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry; Education; Relief and Disaster Management, NGO activities, Self-employment Programmes. Each standing committee will be headed by a Zilla Parishad member.

The Zilla Parishad "will retain its present activities." Its activities will include chalking out a 'district level development plan' in the light of development prospects and necessities in thanas and implementing those through relevant departments. Its activities will also include monitoring the activities of Thana Parishads, supervising and monitoring schools, colleges and other educational institutions in the zilla, and preparing plans for link roads, bridges and culverts.

The Zilla Parishad will prepare its annual budget in line with the government approved guideline. The Parishad has to adopt development projects in

## JU employees' strike from today

By JU Correspondent

The officers and employees of Jahangirnagar University (JU) are scheduled to begin a 9-day non-stop strike from today to press their 4-point charter of demand.

## Khaleda

From page 1

all the killings...."

Insisted of speaking specifically on the current process of trial of Sheikh Mujib's killers, the BNP chief said, "If they mean justice and are sincere to try the killers, they should have initiated trial of the killings that had occurred earlier."

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Manzur Morshed Khan MP and BNP Chairperson's Press Advisor Anwar Zahid were present among other party leaders.

The editors who attended the function included Prof KMA Munim of Bangladesh Observer, Rahat Khan of Ittefaq, Akhterul Alam of Dinkal, Rezauddin Ahmed of Financial Express, Enayetullah Khan of Holiday, Iqbal Ahmed of Beximco Media Ltd, AMM Bahauddin of Dainik Inqilab, Alamgir Mohiuddin of New Nation, AM Mufazzel of Bangladesh Times, Motiur Rahman Chowdhury of Bangla Bazar, Mahfuz Anam of The Daily Star, Abul Asad of Sangram, KG Mustafa of Muk-takantha, Saiful Bari of Dainik Janata and Mizanur Rahman Mizan of Khabar.

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