

The exclusive address
at Gulshan
PROPERTY CROWN
2600 sq ft Luxury Apartment

THE NAME MOST TRUSTED
PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT LTD

PROPERTY HEIGHTS
12 RK MISSION ROAD
FAX 980-2-959941 SPHONE
9563117, 9563126, 9599412-3

VOL. VII NO. 217 REGD. NO. DA 781

The Daily Star

BHADRA 17 1404 BS.

DHAKA MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1997

RABIUS SAANI 27 1418 HIJRI

MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE
WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,
BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN,
MALAYSIAN ANQ PAKISTANI MARBLE
OF DIFFERENT TYPES.

NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.
199, TEJGAON I/A, DHAKA.
TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861925

12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 6.00

3 policemen to die for Yasmin murder

From Mozammel Haque

RANGPUR, Aug 31: Three former policemen were sentenced to death and six others acquitted today in the sensational Yasmin rape and murder case.

Those sentenced to death are Moinul Hoque, former ASI of Kotwali thana, Dinajpur; Abdus Sattar, former constable, and Amrit Lal Burman, former driver of police line, Dinajpur.

They were convicted under Section 6(4) of the Women and Child Repression Control Act 1995.

"These men had committed the worst possible crime and they deserve to die, especially because they being policemen were supposed to protect the helpless girl," District Judge and Sessions Judge Abdul Matin, who is also the Special Judge, Rangpur, said in the judgement in a court packed with women rights activists, local residents, lawyers and journalists.

The judge, however, allowed 60 days time for appeal against the judgement to the higher court.

The three convicted policemen were in the dock, handcuffed, while the judgement was pronounced.

Sharifa Begum, mother of Yasmin, burst into tears hearing the verdict. "Justice has prevailed," the 45-year-old woman said as she was helped by some women activists out of the courtroom. She said it was a partial victory of women's movement against repression on women.

Women's rights leaders present at the courtroom also expressed the same view.

The six acquitted are: Former police super of Dinajpur Abdul Mutalib, former officer-in-charge of Kotwali Thana (OC/SI) Mahtab Uddin, former officer-in-charge (watch) Matiar Rahman, former sub-inspector Sawapan Kumar Chakravarty, former assistant sub-inspector Jahangir Alam and Dr Mohsin Ali.

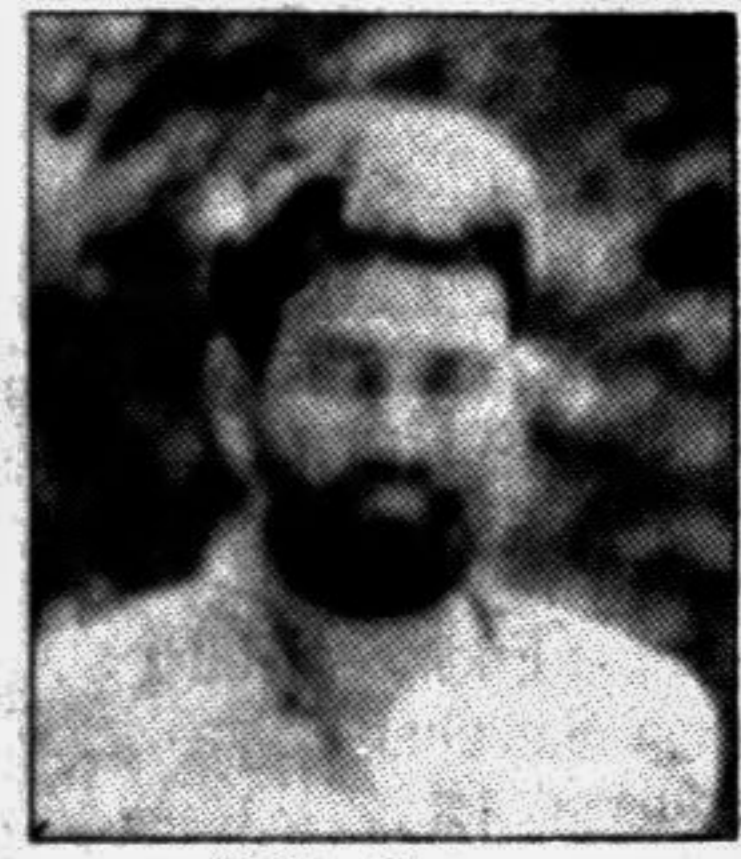
They were charged separately under the Panel Code.

The trial constituted two parts. In the first part, the trial

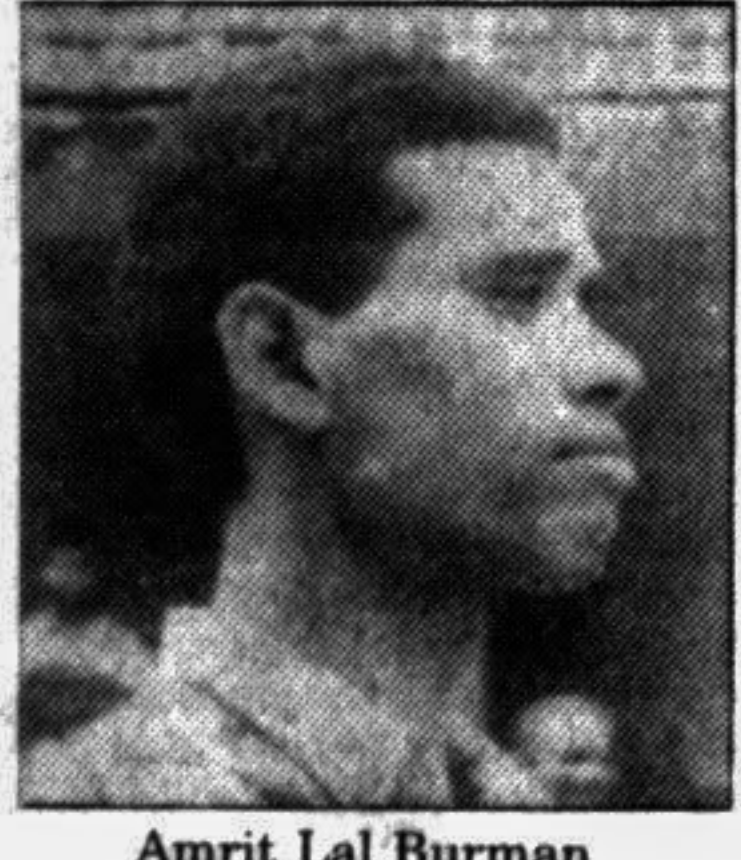
See Page 12 Col 7



Moinul Haque



Abdus Sattar



Amrit Lal Burman



Yasmin's body at Dinajpur Sadar thana on Aug 24, 1995.

Violent car crash in Paris kills Dodi, chauffeur

Diana is dead

PARIS, Aug 31: Britain's Princess Diana, who had been struggling to build a new life after her turbulent divorce, died today in a car crash after being pursued at high speed by paparazzi on motorcycles, reports AP.

Her wealthy companion, Dodi Fayed, and their chauffeur also died when their Mercedes crashed in a tunnel along the Seine River at the Pont de l'Alam bridge, just north of the Eiffel Tower.



Dodi Al Fayed

British press is ferocious, Diana said in last interview

PARIS, Aug 31: Princess Diana lashed out at the press as 'ferocious' in her last interview to a French newspaper days before she died in a Paris car crash, reports AFP.

The 36-year-old told the daily Le Monde last week that the British press were worse than others, and that she was normally hassled less when outside of Britain.

"The press (in Britain) is ferocious. They are merciless, they are only looking for mis-

See Page 12 Col 3

Related stories on Page 8

French police placed into formal custody seven photographers who had previously been detained, looking into whether any of them may have caused the tragedy. A special police unit that usually handles important cases such as terrorism investigations was put in charge of the probe.

The 36-year-old princess has often complained of being plagued by the paparazzi — the commercial photographers who have trailed her since she has been in the public eye.

She died at 4 am (0200 GMT) from internal bleeding stemming from major chest and lung injuries, doctors told a hospital news conference.

Despite extensive surgery, 'we could not revive her,' said Dr Bruno Riou, anesthesiologist at Paris' Hospital de la Pitie Salpêtrière.

He said Diana had quickly gone into cardiac arrest, and that doctors had tried to save her for at least two hours with internal and external cardiac massage. She never regained consciousness after the crash, French radio said.

Princess William and Harry

See Page 12 Col 1



Shock wave grips city

Like people elsewhere around the globe, Bangladeshis were shocked and stunned by the tragic death of Princess Diana, reports UNB.

As soon as the death news was broadcast in the morning, shock waves spread across the city. The city dwellers were glued to their TV sets as satellite channels telecast latest report about Diana's death.

As the news travelled, journalists, diplomats and intellectuals expressed their deep sorrow at the sad demise of the princess.

There was anger, as well as grief, following the death of the 36-year-old princess, together with her lover Dodi al-Fayed, in a midnight car crash in Paris as their Mercedes was pursued by paparazzi.

"We were dumbfounded at the death of beautiful Diana," said one of the office-goers.

A senior diplomat of

See Page 12 Col 1

Diana, Grace both met same fate in Paris

PARIS, Aug 31: Beautiful, beloved by millions, Diana and Grace each knew fairy-tale happiness and Greek tragedy. And in the end, both princesses met violent death on French roads, reports AP.

As word spread that the Princess of Wales was killed while evading photographers in Paris, memories resurfaced of that day in 1982 when Princess Grace's Rover plunged off a steep, cliffside road high above Monaco and landed in a ditch.

Pascal Tremblay, a tea salon waitress, seemed to echo a common feeling amid the Sunday morning shock.

"Diana was a truly magnificent woman, a super human being. She knew how to give something to everyone, and she was as good as she was beautiful," she said. "Her death reminds me of Princess Grace."

See Page 12 Col 3

78 women raped, 20 murdered in August

By Staff Correspondent

A total of 78 women were raped in the country in August. The Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) said yesterday.

Of the victims, 24, were below fifteen, it said.

BNWLA added that 36 women were murdered and 20 others became victims of acid throwing in last one month. The figures were compiled on the basis of press reports, BNWLA said.

Other incidents involving women were: kidnapping-10, murder for dowry-5, suicide-3, physical torture-3, fatwa-2, torture in other way-2 and unnatural death-2.

A total of 159 women and girls fell victim to repression in August, and 92 cases were lodged during the period.

US Open

Venus Williams in quarterfinals

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

NEW YORK, Aug 31: The tall American teenager Venus Williams reached the quarterfinals of the 1997 US Open championships this morning defeating Joannette Kruger of South Africa 6-2, 6-3 at the Arthur Ashe Stadium. Williams was the first among the women competitors to reach the last eight stage from the bottom half

See Page 12 Col 4

Inside Today

Article

More a Controversy than Goodwill

Column: On My Honour by ABM Musa

Paradoxes of Peace

Column: Perspectives by Brig (Rtd) M Abdul Hafiz

Page 4

Focus

Law and Our Rights

Right to water and sanitation: The harsh reality

Page 5

Bangladesh-Nepal transit accord takes effect today

By M Anwarul Haq

Container cargo trucks bound for Bangladesh will roll in from Nepal this morning marking the opening of transit between the two countries via India.

It will also open a new horizon in trade and economic co-operation between the two SAARC countries in the light of SAPTA.

The transit between Nepal and Bangladesh are finally opening up after India extended permission, paving the way to give effect to a transit agreement between Dhaka and Kathmandu signed in 1976.

Nepal had long insisted on getting the use of the transit route through Bangladesh upto Mongla Port for the transportation of its goods. The use of Mongla Port is expected to be

more cost-effective and enable Nepalese truckers to carry cargo for a longer stretch over their home territory than if it is transited through Calcutta Port.

However, the formal opening ceremonies that will take place today will see only the movement of token goods marking the opening of the route. The first transit cargo will contain goods for Bangladesh as part of Nepal-Bangladesh bilateral trade.

This was informed by Nepalese Ambassador to Bangladesh Lok Bahadur Srestha who has played a crucial role in getting the transit route operational.

Two formal opening ceremonies will be held today, marking the opening up of the

transit routes.

A brief ceremony will be held in the morning at the Paniranki-Kakarvitta point on the Indo-Nepal border. Paniranki is on the Indian side while Kakarvitta falls on the Nepalese side of the border. Foreign Minister of Nepal Kamal Thapa and Minister for Urban Development Ashoke Bhattacharjee of the Indian state of West Bengal are due to be present at the ceremony at this point.

On the Bangladesh side, an opening ceremony will be held at around 11:30 am at the Tetulia thana bordering the Bangladesh-Fulbari transit point. Bangladesh falls on the Bangladesh side while Fulbari is on the Indian side of the border.

See Page 12 Col 6



BNP's protest march towards Jatiya Sangsad was intercepted by police near Bangla Motor intersection in the city yesterday. — Star photo

BNP leads protest march towards JS, submits memo to Speaker

Main opposition BNP yesterday led a march towards the Jatiya Sangsad, staged demonstration and submitted a memorandum to the Speaker to press for its 14-point demand that includes withdrawal of fuel price-hike, reports UNB.

BNP leaders blamed the government for forcing them into the street and threatened to launch an 'oust-government' movement, if it continues its anti-people activities and repression on the Opposition.

The party held a huge rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club

before leading the march towards Parliament. It also staged demonstration in all metropolitan cities and district headquarters to protest the price-hike of gasoline.

A big procession of BNP was intercepted by security forces near Concord Tower at Bangla Motor at 6:10 pm. Huge contingent of security forces and platoons of police were deployed in the city as Opposition activists paraded in group processions.

Jamaat-e-Islami, Jatiya Party (Z-M), Jajpa, Democratic League, Janata Party, National

Democratic Party and Progressive Nationalist Party (PNP) also arranged separate protest marches towards the Sangsad and staged demonstration at the Bangla Motor intersection.

The BNP procession was intercepted by an unspecified number of helmeted police, armed police and paramilitary BDR who put three-stage barricade by barbed wire. Two BDR personnel carried red flags.

Thousands of BNP activists then staged a peaceful sit in chanting anti-government slogan.

See Page 12 Col 4

Fake medicine

Bill seeking RI for cheating people passed

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed an amendment bill seeking rigorous imprisonment up to three years and fine up to Tk two lakh or both for those involved in cheating people through medical malpractices and publishing exaggerated advertisements for medicine without securing licence.

The media that publishes exaggerated and obscene advertisements of 'fake' medicine will also be penalised under the amended law. Under it, the names of those cheating people in the name of treatment through obscene advertisements will also be published by the authorities concerned. The objective of the bill said it would help create public awareness about the unscrupulous traders.

The bill — the Drugs (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 1997 — was, however, passed with the opposition BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami refraining from attending the session.

The BNP legislators staged a walkout the day before in protest against the Speaker's refusal to allow the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to fin-

See Page 12 Col 7

Govt distributing book abroad on Bangabandhu Murder Case

By Staff Correspondent

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has published a book on the murder of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and trial of the killers for distribution outside the country to mobilise public opinion and help trace out the absconding accused.

Fourteen of the absconding accused are staying abroad.

The 48 page book is titled

See Page 12 Col 4

Seven sites for public meetings in city

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) has designated seven sites for holding of public meetings in the city, banning such meetings on the public thoroughfares from today.

The decision was taken at a meeting chaired by Mayor Mohammad Hanif and attended by representatives of different political parties yesterday at the

See Page 12 Col 5

Take fresh vow, foil all conspiracies: Khaleda

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia has called for resisting the overt and covert threats against the country's independence, democracy, social discipline, values, culture and self-confidence, reports UNB.

"Our quest for nation-building will go astray, if we do not stand against the present deadlock in the state mechanism, economic disaster, decay of social discipline and humiliation of our culture and tradition," she said.

The Leader of the Opposition

BNP founding day today

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will observe its 19th founding anniversary across the country today, reports UNB.

Party Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia in a message on the occasion felicitated her party leaders and workers as well as the people from all walks of life.

She called upon all to launch a united movement against all injustices, repression and falsehood, and to protect the country's independence and sovereignty.

See Page 12 Col 5

in the Jatiya Sangsad was addressing the plenary session of the Federation of Bangladesh Associations in North America (FOBANA) Conference at the Barbank Hilton Convention Centre in Los Angeles, USA on Saturday night, according to a message received here.

"We will be identified as a crippled nation in the 21st century... and that is the expectation of those who are against the rise of the nation. We have been pushed towards the final struggle to exist as a nation,"

See Page 12 Col 1

Date for 3-nation summit in Dhaka being worked out

By Staff Correspondent

The date for a summit of the prime ministers of Bangladesh, Pakistan and India in Dhaka sometime in the middle of November is being worked out, according to diplomatic sources.

The move for the tripartite summit was taken by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina which she announced on her return from Istanbul in June last.

A Businessmen's Conference

See Page 12 Col 8

ALPP meet held Energy minister under fire for fuel price hike

Energy Minister Noor Uddin Khan yesterday came under fierce criticism by the ruling party MPs for the sudden increased of fuel prices and frequent power disruption in the country, reports UNB.

The MPs expressed their anger at the meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party that resumed its discussion on the prevailing economic and political situation, and the government strategy to face its opponents during the current session of parliament.

Leader of the House Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina chaired the meeting, held at the Sangsad Bhaban yesterday afternoon.

Energy Minister Noor Uddin Khan explained at length the reasons behind the raise in petroleum prices as well as the government's efforts to meet the power shortage by setting up new power plants.

Meeting sources said the minister's explanation was not well-received by the ruling party MPs present in the meeting. K M Jahangir and Haji Mohammad Selim urged the minister to specify the time when the power shortage could be overcome.

The ruling party MPs were of

See Page 12 Col 6



East West University

45, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Tel: 872336 & 872335

ADMISSION is continuing to four-year semester system English medium bachelors honours programmes in BA (English), BBA (Accounting, Business, Finance, Management, Marketing & MIS), BSc (Computer Science) and BSS (Economics).

Government approved East West University is already an exciting educational institution. It is starting its fourth semester on 07 September. The university has a predominantly full-time faculty of international standard; many in the faculty have teaching experience in USA. Computer and English Departments have been significantly strengthened. HSC placeholders and top ten per cent result achievers at East West are entitled to full tuition scholarship. Strictly disciplined but humane environment, a state-of-the-art Computer Lab, rich library, counselling service and attachment/ apprenticeship for practical orientation are some characteristics of East West University. Also part-time campus jobs.

Under a collaboration agreement recently finalised, well-known Suffolk University of Boston, USA shall admit East West University students with credit transfer. Similar arrangements exist with other US institutions.

HSC (min 2nd Division) and two 'A' level passes are eligible to apply for admission. HSC '97 candidates and five 'O' level passes are also welcome to take admission test.

Last date for submission of application is 04 September. Admission Test in English, Mathematics and General Knowledge is at 10 AM on Friday, 05 September, 1997.

Dr Mohammed Farashuddin
Vice-Chancellor

Dr J W Nystrom
Registrar

D-925