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99 assistant judges appointed

Ninety-nine assistant judges, who qualified through the 18th BCS examination under Public Service Commission, have been appointed on recommendation by the Commission, reports UNB.

An official announcement last night said the government on Wednesday gave appointment to 99 persons to the post of assistant judge under the BCS (Judicial) cadre based on results of the 18th BCS examination (1996/97).

The newly appointed assistant judges have been asked to join their respective places of work, as directed by the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Ministry, on June 24.

Those who have not received any such directive are asked to join the ministry directly.

Appointment letters are being sent by registered post to the respective addresses of the candidates.

KS Nabi may be removed as Attorney-Gen

By Staff Correspondent
Barrister KS Nabi is likely to be removed from the post of Attorney General, according to official sources.

A proposal prepared by the Law Ministry regarding removal of KS Nabi from the post of Attorney General has already been sent to the Prime Minister's office, the sources said.

"Barrister Nabi attended office today," said Obaidur Rahman. See Page 12 Col 2

Pakistan matches India with 5 N-tests



Sharif addressing the nation on TV yesterday.

ISLAMABAD, May 28: Pakistan detonated five nuclear devices today, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said in an address to the nation, reports AP.

"We have matched India with five tests of our own," he said in his 30-minute speech to the nation. At a news conference afterward, Sharif said there was no release of radioactivity into the atmosphere as a result of the testing.

However, he did not offer any information about the type or strength of the devices Pakistan exploded near the border with Iran and Afghanistan. Originally it was believed that only two devices were exploded at a remote test site in the desolate Baluchistan province.

Sharif, who said India's recent test of five nuclear devices violently tilted the balance of power in the region, offered to renew talks with India "to address any outstanding issue including the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir."

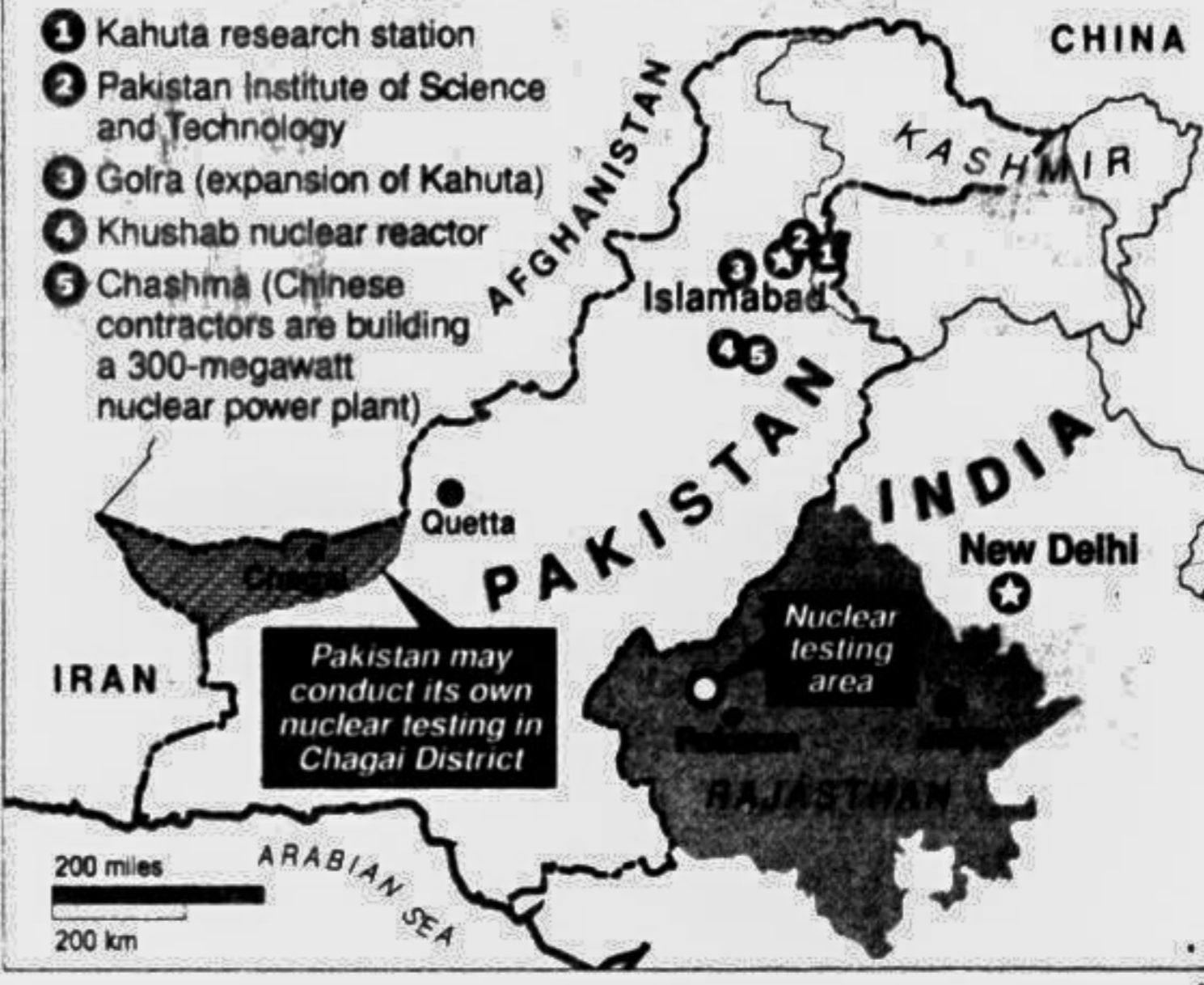
He also offered a non-aggression pact with India over Kashmir.

India's nuclear testing combined with the deployment of long-range Prithvi missiles against Pakistan, seriously threatened his country's security, said Sharif.

But Pakistan received no offer of assistance or security guarantees from the rest of the world.

See Page 12 Col 4

Pakistan's nuclear installations



Elections to 4 city corps may take place in Jan

The Election Commission is preparing to hold three local government elections — Paurasava, city corporation and upazila — between September this year and early 1999.

Pourasava (municipal) election is likely to be held in the first week of September, while election to four city corporations may take place in January 1999, Election Commission sources said.

According to an announcement by the Local Government Division, upazila election may be held in November this year.

But Chief Election Commissioner Muhammad Abu Hena said the Commission has not yet received any guideline for the upazila election.

"We can't say anything about upazila election until the Upazila Act is enacted. Still we are waiting." See Page 12 Col 3



The victims of trafficking who were brought back to Dhaka from Pakistan yesterday. — Star photo

Shazneen murder: Guard says he himself, 3 others were involved

By Staff Correspondent

In a dramatic new development, Humayun Kabir, a security guard at Latifur Rahman's Gulshan residence, confessed to a confession statement before a magistrate yesterday in connection with the Shazneen murder on April 23.

Humayun in his confession statement reportedly said that he himself, contractor Hasan's supervisor Badal, Parvin and carpenter Shouh Ram were involved in the brutal killing. But it could not be confirmed from the investigating CID officials.

Magistrate Abdus Salam took about four hours from 3:45 pm to record the statement of Humayun under Section 164 of the CrPC, court sources said. Later, he was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail. Humayun was produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court at the end of a two-day remand.

During CID interrogation, Humayun said that Hasan offered him money for committing the crime, sources said.

Besides, arrested contractor See Page 12 Col 8

6 victims of trafficking back home from Karachi

By Special Correspondent

Six women and a girl, all of them victims of trafficking, were brought back to Dhaka from Karachi, Pakistan yesterday by the Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA).

They were lodged at the Edhi Home for destitute women and children in Karachi where they found shelter for up to six years.

Seven years ago, Bilquis, a bright young woman from Shilpur, Eliotganj of Comilla, was a student of class eight at a school in Chittagong where her father was a trader.

She was kidnapped by an 'uncle' to Karachi in 1991. See Page 12 Col 8

6.3 pc growth rate envisaged Tk 13600 cr ADP for '98-99 approved

The National Economic Council (NEC) has approved the annual development plan for fiscal 1998-99 involving Tk 13,600 crore that envisages a growth rate of 6.3 per cent, reports UNB.

The approval was given at a meeting held at the NEC Bhaban yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

The meeting also approved the revised ADP of Tk 12,200 crore for 1997-98.

Briefing newsmen at the Planning Commission, State Minister for Planning Dr Mo-

hiuddin Khan Alamgir said more than 50 per cent of the proposed ADP will be funded from local resources.

Of the total ADP, Tk 7,257 crore will be mobilised from domestic resources while Tk 5,802 crore from project aid and Tk 541 crore from food aid, he said.

The state minister said the proposed ADP has given emphasis on education and social sectors as per political commitment of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

He said special thrust has been given on education sector

with an allocation of Tk 1,685 crore, of which Tk 1,494 crore will be spent for primary and mass education programme.

Dr Alamgir said Tk 4,655 crore has been earmarked for social sector, Tk 1,438 crore for power sector and Tk 1,206 crore for the transport sector.

There is a separate allocation of Tk 636 crore for oil, gas and mineral resources.

Dr Alamgir said that in the proposed ADP, Tk 2,726 crore were given to agriculture sector. A special allocation of Tk 75 crore was made for the development.

See Page 12 Col 6

France '98
COUNTDOWN
12 Days Away

Royals on road to France

LONDON, May 28: Prince Charles is to take his younger son, Prince Harry, to watch England play in this summer's World Cup soccer finals, St James's Palace said Wednesday night, reports AP.

The 13-year-old prince is a known soccer fan — a supporter of London's popular Arsenal team. He has seen his team play at home, but will be making his first away soccer trip.

See Page 12 Col 7

French Open: Muster, Kournikova win matches

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan
PARIS, May 28: Thomas Muster was on his favourite grounds today. The 1995 champion accounted for his young German opponent Nicolas Kiefer in straight sets of 6-2, 6-1, 6-3 in just 99 minutes at the Suzanne Lenglen court.

Muster is not a seed here and his world ranking has plummeted to 22 in the last few years. The 31-year-old Austrian is still a very popular figure with the crowd who adores him for his antics on court. Muster now awaits the winner of Draper-Van Garse match in the third round.

The 16-year-old Russian See Page 12 Col 7

DUCSU dissolved, polls in Oct-Nov Major changes in Constitution

By Staff Correspondent

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury has dissolved the eight-year-old DU Central Students' Union and the hall students' unions.

The VC, also President of DUCSU, announced the dissolution after the Syndicate amended some provisions in the DUCSU Constitution on Wednesday, said a DU press release last night.

He will announce the schedule for DUCSU and hall unions' elections, to be held in October-

2678 expelled on first day of HSC exams

Some 2,678 examinees were expelled across the country for cheating in the HSC examinations yesterday, official sources said, reports UNB.

A total of 5,86,712 candidates are appearing in the examination this year under the six education boards, including the Madrasha Board.

From Dhaka Board, 1009 students were expelled while 390 from Jessore Board, 556 from Rajshahi Board, 381 from Comilla Board and 342 from Chittagong Board.

The following is the area-wise break-up of expulsions under different boards:
Dhaka Board — Narsingdi- See Page 12 Col 3

Announcement

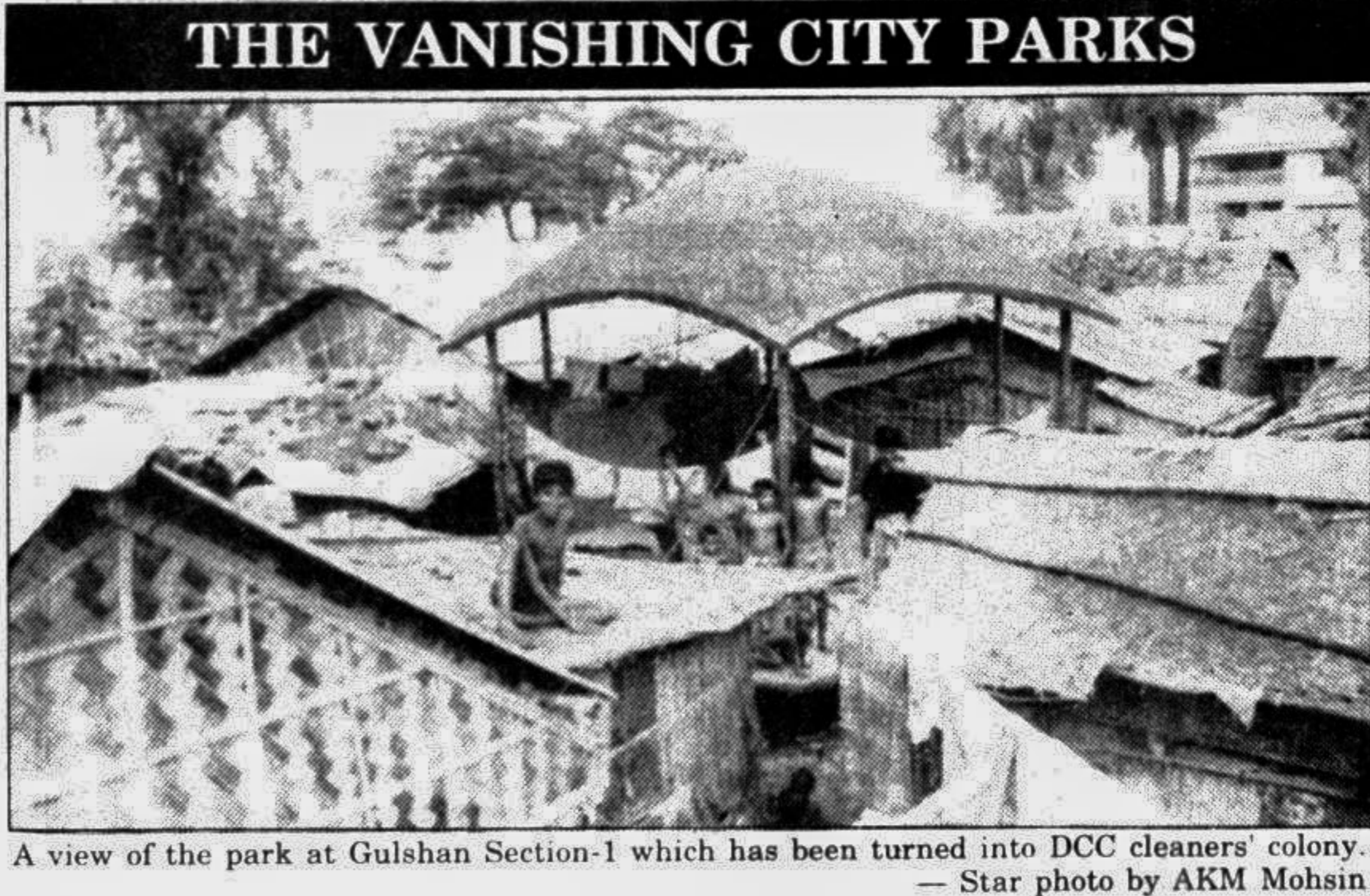
LAND GRABBING IN UTTARA: Following our investigative reports on land grabbing incidents in Gulshan, we will start an investigative series on Uttara. Read from Sunday how the official plan has been deliberately distorted by certain quarters.

Inside Today Article

Eyes on My Finger Tips
Column: Do I Dare!
By A Z M Obaidullah Khan
Page 4

Business

ICAB reprimands Ata Khan
DSE and CSE indices rise
Pages 8, 9



A view of the park at Gulshan Section-1 which has been turned into DCC cleaners' colony. — Star photo by AKM Mohsin

A Gulshan park turned into sweepers' colony

By Morshed Ali Khan

A public park at Gulshan Section-1 has been turned into a Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) sweepers' colony, housing around 300 families in makeshift dwellings.

Rajuk officials expressed their dismay at the conversion of the park and they felt that the DCC let them down. "We handed over the park to DCC for regular maintenance but they have been using it to house their conservancy staff," said a Rajuk official.

The park opposite the Gulshan Shooting Club, has been occupied by the sweepers for several years. Rajuk sources said numerous request letters to the DCC to return the park have gone unanswered over the years.

The park, situated over an area of about six acres, has rows of makeshift houses. Broken slates, saw-saws and other playing equipment can still be seen peeping out of the bamboo structures. Inside the rows of houses several signboards have been erected announcing the offices of labour unions. Workers were seen building several large tin-shed dwellings on the remaining space of the park.

A group of young men, hanging around the park, said that they worked in nearby garment factories and rented rooms in the park. They said about 300 DCC cleaners' families constructed their own dwellings and were renting out rooms for about Tk 700 a month. "They collect rents from us and act as if they were the landlords," said a young garment worker.

Gulshan residents around the park complained of all sorts of activities in the park. One alleged that it was the place in the area where 'drugs and liquor were sold'. Another resident al-

See Page 12 Col 1

CHEHLUM

The Chehlum of Shazneen Tasnim Rahman, daughter of Mr. Latifur Rahman and Mrs. Shahnaz Rahman will be observed today, 29th May 1998.

A Milad Mehfil will be held after ASR PRAYERS at their residence at House No. NE (J)-4, Road No. 83, Gulshan-2. Relatives, friends, well-wishers are requested to attend the Milad and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Family members

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আমরা মর্মান্বিত

গভীর দুঃখের সাথে জানাচ্ছি যে, আমাদের অন্যতম পরিচালক মিসেস সিলভানা সিকদারের স্বামী উদীয়মান তরুণ শিল্পপতি, "দি ঢাকা ডায়িং গার্মেন্টস লিমিটেড", "এম. কে. ডেসেস লিমিটেড" এবং "রোড বানার এক্সপ্রেস লিমিটেড" এর ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক; মঈনুল মালেক (মামুন) গত ২৬-০৫-১৯৯৮ তারিখে তার সহকর্মী মোঃ মহসিন (২২) সহ এক মর্মান্বিত সড়ক দুর্ঘটনায় নিহত হন। (ইন্টা লিটারে ওয়া ইন্টা ইলাইভে রাজেক্টন)। মৃত্যুকালে তার বয়স হয়েছিল ২৮ বৎসর। তিনি স্ত্রী, একমাত্র পুত্র, বাবা-মা, স্বতন্ত্র-স্বাতন্ত্রী ও আত্মীয়-স্বজন সহ অল্পসংখ্যক গৃহস্থীয় এবং গণস্বাক্ষরী রেখে গেছেন। মরহুম মঈনুল মালেক (মামুন) বিশিষ্ট সমাজ সেবক ও আল-আরাফাহ ইসলামী ব্যাংকের পরিচালক আবুলহাসান আব্দুল মালেক মোস্তাফা সাহেবের জ্যেষ্ঠ পুত্র এবং বিজিএমইএ'র দ্বিতীয় ভাইস প্রেসিডেন্ট, আইম ব্যাংকের চেয়ারম্যান ও পলম গ্রুপ অব ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লিমিটেড এর চেয়ারম্যান ও ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক ইঞ্জিনিয়ার নূরুল হক সিকদার সাহেবের জামাতা।

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