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Warning against writing on new 10-taka note

Bangladesh Bank has warned that punitive measures will be taken against those who will be found writing on the new 10-taka notes, reports UNB.

A Bangladesh Bank press release yesterday said a section of people are engaged in defacing the new 10-taka notes and thereby destroying its beauty and durability. Such notes become unusable within a short period.

The release said that such act of writing on the notes is an offence.

The people are requested to remain vigil against those who are engaged in such criminal acts. The law enforcing agencies have also been requested to take proper action against such offenders.

The bank also requested the people to collect fresh notes in exchange for distorted ones from any bank, including Bangladesh Bank.

PM calls on President

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called on President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday evening to apprise him of the outcome of the SAARC summit held in Colombo, reports UNB.

Hasina told the President that her proposals for economic development of the SAARC countries was accepted by the leaders and incorporated in the "Colombo Declaration".

Hasina also briefed the President about her separate bilateral talks with the SAARC leaders.

The Prime Minister discussed with the President the recent flood situation in the country and apprised him of the various measures taken by the government for mitigating the sufferings of the flood affected people.

She also discussed with him the law and order situation of the country.

'Most Bangalees in Maharashtra are from West Bengal'

NEW DELHI, Aug 4: A veteran CPI (M) member of the Lok Sabha, Somnath Chattarjee, today accused the Maharashtra government of adopting "uncivilised" methods in dealing with the cases of deportation of alleged Bangladeshis from Mumbai, reports BSS.

Resuming discussion in the Lok Sabha on the Home Minister L K Advani's statement on the issue of deportation of foreign nationals, Chattarjee said inhuman treatment was given to alleged Bangladeshi nationals while deporting them.

The CPI (M) member said in some cases the authorities even

Bodies to probe BR irregularities

Two separate inquiry committees have been formed to investigate the issue of illegally occupied railway land and any irregularity in the tender notice for purchasing ten locomotives, reports BSS.

The committees were formed at a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Communications Ministry with Committee president Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim in the chair.

The three-member committees will be headed by Whip S M

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PM tells seminar on 'good governance' Unhindered rule of law must for democracy

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government seeks to establish legal institutions and precedents that will safeguard life and liberty of the people, reports UNB.

Democracy flourishes in a society where freedom is regulated by laws, and where exists an unhindered rule of law, not rule of whims and caprices of the rulers, she told the inaugural session of an international seminar here in the morning.

The three-day seminar on "Good Governance" was organised jointly by Local Government Division of the LGRD and Cooperatives Ministry and the UNDP at Hotel Sonargaon.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, Finance Minister S A M S Kibria, UNDP Resident Representative David

E Lockwood and Local Government Division Secretary Hasnat Abdul Hye also addressed the inaugural session.

The seminar is being attended by political leaders, legislators, legal experts, government officials, NGO workers and delegates from UK, Nepal, India, USA, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand and Bangladesh.

The Prime Minister said establishment of good governance calls for cooperation from the opposition, press, intelligentsia and various social groups.

The government's responsibility, she said, is not merely to carry out the traditional activities sincerely and efficiently, but also to enable the citizens to make their contribution in the promotion of good governance.

"We are committed and determined to both, in the spirit of harnessing all actual and potential energies of the people to enable it to complement the efforts of the government."

The policies of the present government towards the people irrespective of their class, religion and gender are to treat them as partners, Hasina said.

"We want to promote and strengthen a plural society where people may hold different views on many matters but are united on the common cause of public interest."

That's why, she said, in spite of a clear majority in parliament, the ruling party has opted for a government of consensus to overcome divisiveness in the life of nation, now and in future.

Hartal protesting police action at Satkhira

From Our Correspondent SATKHIRA, Aug 4: A half-day hartal was observed at Satkhira town today in protest against the police action on demonstrators near the Collectorate building yesterday that left at least 100 people injured, some critically.

The hartal was called by the Landless People Eviction Resistance Committee yesterday after police thwarted its planned sit-in on the premises of the Collectorate building earlier in the day.

The hartal disrupted normal life in the town. Several processions were brought out in the town during the hartal hours.

The district bar association in a meeting today condemned the police action on the demonstrators and attack on advocate Mustafa Lutfullah, General Secretary of Satkhira district Workers Party and a leader of the Resistance Committee.



AC Akram, an accused in Rubel Murder Case, giving statement before the judicial probe body yesterday. — Star photo

All 5 DB men blame each other Judicial probe body records AC Akram's statement

By Staff Correspondent

The remanded five policemen accused of killing Rubel in the custody of Detective Branch on July 23 are accusing each other for torturing the young man.

During interrogation by CID yesterday, all of them acknowledged that they had picked up Shamim Reza Rubel, a BBA final year student of Independent University, to recover illegal arms, sources said.

However, the five accused DB policemen were refusing to give judicial statement in this regard before a magistrate.

DB Inspector Aminul Islam, another accused in the murder case, was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail after the end of four days' remand yesterday. CID produced Aminul before the CMM's court but did not pray for fresh remand.

While giving statements before the one-man judicial commission on Monday, the six accused DB men had also held each other responsible for torturing Rubel.

Amendments to Sec 54 of CrPC being considered

By Staff Correspondent

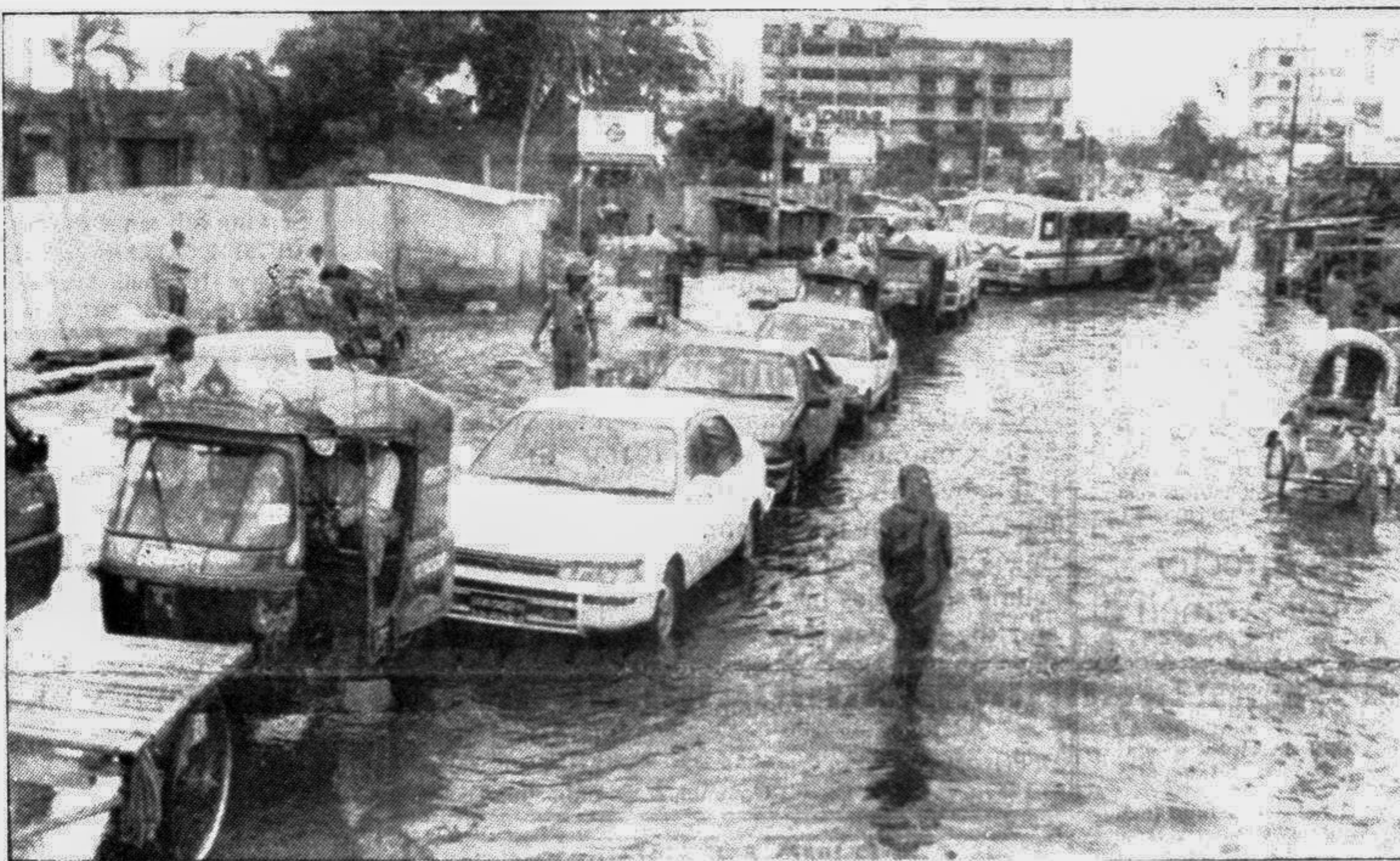
Suitable amendments to Section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure or introduction of some new provisions in the CrPC are being seriously considered for proper protection of persons in police custody, Member of the Law Commission Justice Naimuddin Ahmed said yesterday.

"It has been taken up on suo moto by us and no reference from any quarter has been received by the Law Commission," he told the Daily Star.

Section 54 of the CrPC empowers police to arrest any person on grounds that "reasonable suspicion exists of a person being concerned with any cognizable offence."

Justice Ahmed said "the Commission is thinking whether to suggest that an objective standard of reasonable suspicion should be introduced and set in the law."

"Reasonable suspicion should be related to actual commission of a cognizable offence and material to show that the arrested person has some



Flood water submerged Road No-1 in the city's Gulshan area. — Star photo

City flood situation to worsen as Buriganga, Turag swell

The flood situation around Dhaka city is likely to deteriorate further with the rise in water levels of the Buriganga and Turag, reports UNB.

Officials at the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre said the Buriganga at Dhaka is likely to rise by 2 cm and may flow 17 cm above the danger level in the next 48 hours till 6 am tomorrow.

The Turag at Mirpur is likely to rise further by one cm and may flow 89 cm above the danger mark during the period and at Tongi point it is likely to rise further by 1 cm and may flow 59 cm above the danger level, aggravating the flood situation around the capital city.

Although rivers in Brahmaputra and Ganges basin recorded fall at many places, flood situation in the upstream of Brahmaputra-Jamuna river is likely to deteriorate further with fresh downpour at many places today.

Significant rainfall was recorded at Sunamganj (325 mm), Lama (195 mm), Bandarban (97mm), Chittagong (66mm), Patuakhali (44.3 mm), Rajshahi (43mm), Mymensingh (32.9mm) and Bogra (32.9 mm).

Rivers in the Brahmaputra and Ganges basin recorded fall at many points, rivers in the Meghna basin registered rise at

Relief theft Showcuse on municipal administrator

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Aug 4: A showcase notice was issued on the Narayanganj Municipal Administrator in connection with the misappropriation of government sanctioned rice for the flood affected people.

Deputy Commissioner Abdur Rahman yesterday issued the showcase notice on Narayanganj Municipal Administrator Aminul Islam.

Talking to this correspondent, the DC said the municipal administrator has been asked to reply to the notice by Thursday.

Rubel murder: Plan to set up special court

By Mizan Ali

The government is contemplating setting up of a special court for trial of cases like the one relating to the Rubel murder.

This was disclosed by Minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khairul while talking to The Daily Star yesterday.

"The government may assign a particular judge of the level of district and sessions judge for speedy trial of cases of such nature," the minister said.

The particular case of Rubel murder may be placed in this special court once necessary investigation by the CID is completed," he said.

In reply to question, the minister said the special court may be set up as per Section 9 (4) of the CrPC.

Section 9 (4) says, "A sessions judge of one sessions division may be appointed by the government to be also an additional sessions judge of another division, and in such case he may sit for the disposal of cases at such place or places in either division as the government may direct."

A Law Ministry official said "Under this provision, if such an exclusive court is established by the CID is com-

2 get life-term for rape

By Court Correspondent

A special court yesterday sentenced two persons to life term for raping a maid.

The judge of the special court, Tapan Kumar Rudra, sentenced Abdul Matin and Amir Hossain for raping the maid at a house on Aga Sadek Lane in the city on February 16, 1996. They were sentenced under the Women and Child Repression Prevention Act.

The case in brief is that the two men kidnapped the girl from her residence at Aga Sadek Lane and raped her in a nearby abandoned building.

A case was filed with the Kotwali thana the following day accusing three persons. Another accused in the case, Saidur Rahman, was acquitted.

13 BUET teachers reinstated

By Staff Correspondent

The BUET Syndicate yesterday accepted the letter of withdrawal of resignation by the 13 teachers of the Architecture Department, official sources said.

In a meeting chaired by Vice Chancellor Prof Iqbal Mahmud, the Syndicate also asked the 13 teachers to join the Architecture Department within the next seven days, meeting sources said.

The adjourned meeting of the Syndicate which began at 7:30 pm yesterday lasted for more than an hour.

The issue of reinstatement of the 13 teachers was included in the agenda of the Syndicate meeting following a fresh move taken by the administration to resolve crisis, the sources said.

The resignation of the 13

13 state-owned textile mills 15000 not getting their salaries for months

By Rafiq Hasan

As many as 15,000 workers and employees in 13 state-owned textile mills are not getting their salaries for several months, according to Textile Ministry sources.

Managements of 13 out of the 19 government-owned textile mills have failed to pay salaries to their workers for the last four to five months due to fund crisis.

On the other hand, the Finance Ministry is reluctant to disburse funds from the public exchequer for payment of salaries to the employees of those loss-making mills.

When contacted, State Min-

Gold worth Tk 1 cr seized at Ctg airport

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 4: Customs officials today seized 1600 tolas of smuggled gold at Chittagong Airport after a Biman flight from Dubai landed.

The gold worth about Tk one crore was kept in four packets behind the driver's seat in a Biman bus which carried the passengers from the tarmac to customs check point.

On information from a passenger, customs officials searched the bus and recovered 160 gold bars of 10 tola each.

Two suspects — driver Abdul Halim and a passenger, Md Shahjahan of Fatkechhari thana, who came from Dubai, were rounded up and handed over to port police.

JS body on home ministry meets today to discuss law and order

By Staff Correspondent

The parliamentary standing committee on Home Ministry meets this morning to discuss ways of improving the country's law and order.

The seminar, organised jointly by the Local Government Division of the Ministry of LGRD and UNDP was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. LGRD and UNDP Resident Representative David E Lockwood also spoke at the inaugural session.

The two working sessions on

'Time for judiciary to change its outlook'

By Staff Correspondent

Mizan asked how to avert situations when the judiciary exercising its immense powers in controlling and regulating the acts of other organs, does not itself become 'uncontrollable' and usurp to a great extent executive and legislative powers that is dubbed by many as "judicial dictatorship".

Good governance necessarily requires a judiciary which is restrained in the exercise of its powers and is, at the same time, accountable, he said.

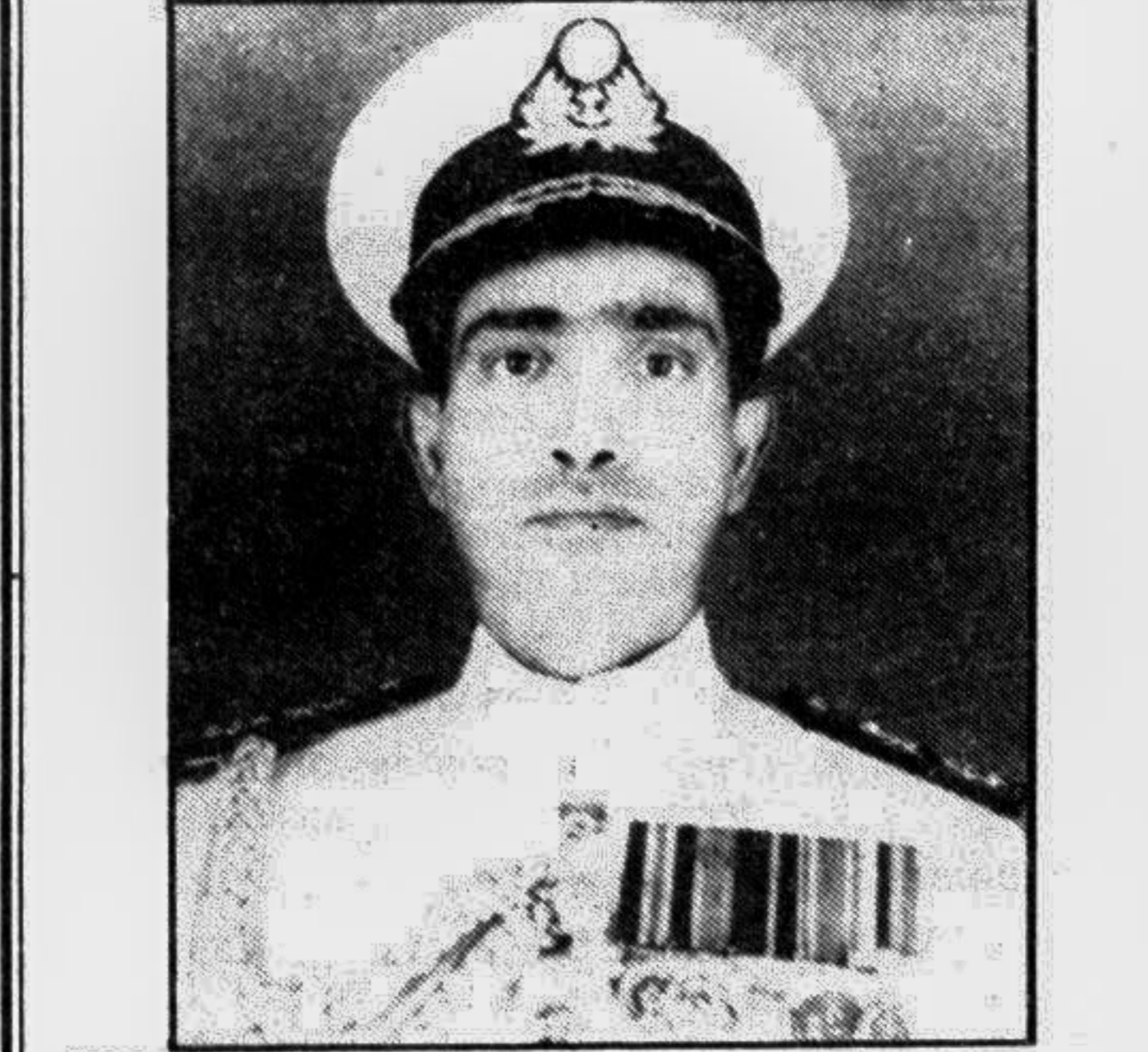
Emphasising on an independent judiciary, Dr Mizan said good governance necessarily demands and requires an independent judiciary. "It truly means that the judges are in a position to render justice in accordance with their oath of office and only in accordance with their own sense of justice without submitting to any kind of pressure or influence, be it from executive or legislative or from the parties themselves or from the superiors and colleagues."

Dr Mizan's paper prompted a lively discussion among participants from home and abroad in the second session.

The seminar, organised jointly by the Local Government Division of the Ministry of LGRD and UNDP was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. LGRD and UNDP Resident Representative David E Lockwood also spoke at the inaugural session.

The two working sessions on

Solemnly Remembering
REAR ADMIRAL MAHBUB ALI KHAN
On his 14th Death Anniversary Tomorrow August 6th 1998



"Salute thee!
The Noble Son of the Soil and Vanguard of the Sea,
Who breathed his last while serving
His distressed countrymen,
Milad Mahfil Tomorrow, August 6, 1998
After Asar Prayer at 5:30 P.M.
At MAHBUB BHAVAN
House No-40, Road No-5, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka
All are cordially Invited to attend.
BEGUM MAHBUB ALI KHAN