

Metropolitan

Minor girl dies by drowning

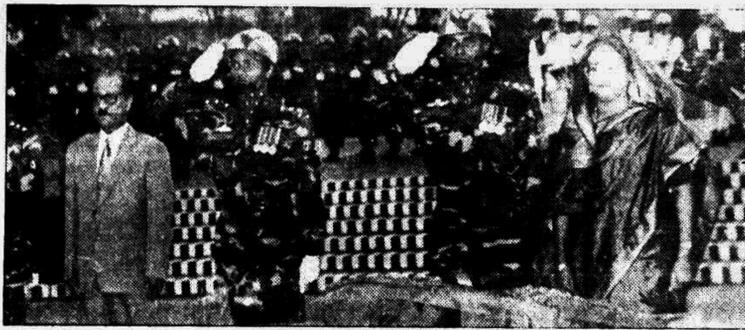
A minor girl student of a non-formal primary school run by a "Angikar Samaj Unnayan Sangstha" died by drowning into a pond at Palong under Palong thana of Shariatpur district on Thursday last, reports BSS.

The eight years old daughter of a local rickshaw puller, Selina Sikder was taking bath in the afternoon on the day.

World leaders greet president

On the occasion of the Holy Eid-ul-Azha, heads of state and government of Muslim countries have sent messages of warm felicitation and good wishes to President Shahabuddin Ahmed, reports UNB.

In their messages, they wished a happy Eid and prayed for prosperity and progress for the people of Bangladesh.



President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stand in solemn silence after placing wreaths at the National Memorial in Savar on Friday. — Star photo

**Grand rally at Central Shaheed Minar
Call for total ban on communal politics**

Speakers at a grand rally on Friday called for trial of the killers and collaborators during the War of Liberation by a special tribunal and a ban on the communal and fundamentalist politics in Bangladesh for ever, reports BSS.

They also called upon the people, including pro-liberation forces, socio-cultural and professional organisations to forge a greater unity to wage an all-out movement against the heinous forces who are now out to push the country towards a bloody conflict like that in 1971.

Sayed Hasan Imam, convenor of the National Coordination Committee on Implementation of the Spirit of War of Liberation and Annihilation of the Killers and Collaborators of 1971, presided over the rally at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city, a committee press release said yesterday.

The rally was addressed by Prof Abdul Mannan Choudhury, Barrister Shawkat Ali Khan, Maulana M A Awal, Shahriar Kabir, Morshed Ali and Abul Bashar. It was organised to mark the founding anniversary of the People's Court and the Independence and National Day.

The speakers said the country now faced a critical situation as the pro-Pakistani fundamentalists had consolidated their base in Bangladesh with the help of the post-1975 governments.

They said these forces had brought money and arms from abroad and were also trained outside the country. They are

now threatening to grab power through 'Taliban style' by the year 2000.

Meanwhile, 34 teachers of Islamic University of Kushtia in a statement demanded immediate trial of the killers and collaborators of 1971 under the international war crime convention, a press release said yesterday.

The signatories to the statement include Dr A K M Moniruzzaman, Prof M Shahjahan Ali, Dr M Shawkat Jahangir, Prof A K M Shamsuddin Chowdhury, Prof M Yasin Ali, Prof Moniruzzaman, Prof Nafisa Ferdous, Prof Habibur Rahman, Prof T M Lokman Hakim, Prof Abeda Sultana, Prof Mostafa Kamal, Prof M Sirajul Huq, Prof M Zakaria Rahman, Prof Swapan Kumar Saha, Prof Sheikh Rafiqul Islam, Dr Kazi Akhter Hussain and Prof Selina Nasreen.

President hosts reception

President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Begum Shahabuddin hosted a reception on the occasion of 29th Independence and National Day at Bangabhaban Friday afternoon, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the reception.

Chief Justice A T M Afzal, former president Mohammadullah, ministers, former ministers and advisers, diplomats, Chief Election Commissioner, judges of the Supreme Court Appellate and High Court Divisions, chiefs of the three services, members of parliament, political leaders, secretaries to the government, vice-chancellors of universities, educationists, editors and senior journalists, senior lawyers, freedom fighters and crippled freedom fighters with their family members, renowned artists and other high civil and military officials were present on the occasion.

President Shahabuddin welcomed the guests and exchanged greetings with them.

Annan greets Shahabuddin

Secretary general of the United Nations Kofi A Annan has congratulated President Shahabuddin Ahmed on the occasion of Independence day, reports BSS.

In a message to President Shahabuddin, Annan the UN Secretary General said most of the problems now facing the world have an international dimension and the nations must work together to combat these challenges and take advantage of the opportunities created by globalisation.

He said, "as we move ahead, I continue to draw strength from the strong commitment of Bangladesh to our global mission of peace in the fullest sense of that word."

Annan said the nations must take the great project of multilateral cooperation to a new level and the UN is in a unique position to help nations of the world address the challenges they face in a comprehensive and integrated way.

BRAC opens urban library

BRAC has opened the first ever 'Urban Library' at Uttara in the city to facilitate access to reading materials for the members of the public, reports APB.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Invitation of Tender

The following tenders are invited by the Department of Supply & Inspection. All the registered firms of this Department in the relevant group and other well established firm (with prior approval from this Department) are eligible to participate in the tender.

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