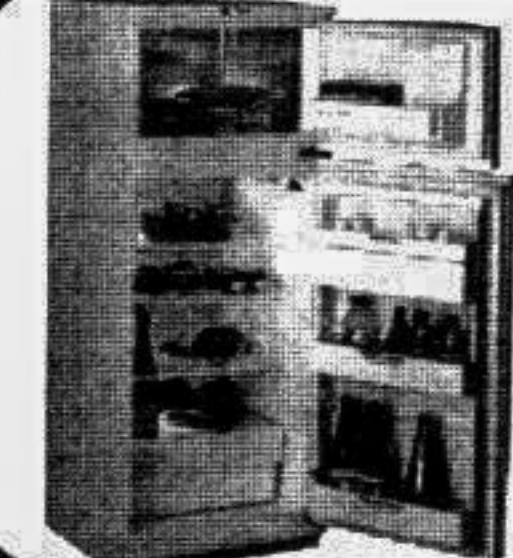


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## Baridhara plot: B Chy's reply

By Staff Correspondent

Deputy Leader of the Opposition A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday categorically said that he didn't get any plot during any government.

In a reply to the statement of State Minister for Information Abu Sayeed, Chowdhury said that the house at Road No 12, Plot No 19, Block-K, Baridhara was handed over to him by Jatiya Party leader Muhammad Saifur Rahman on June 27, 1984.

Abu Sayeed in his remark had questioned about the ownership of the said house at Baridhara.

The deputy leader said former Jatiya Party MP from Keraniganj Saifur Rahman got the plot from the then DIT or the Dhaka Improvement Trust. "The plot came to me through private ownership," he added.

He thanked a daily (Sangbad) that published the photo of the house with detail address and "To Let" signboard. "It would attract the probable tenants," Chowdhury said.

The BNP leader also sent to the press a copy of the document of the plot handover.



Katha, a recitation training centre at the Dhaka University, brought out a procession in the city yesterday marking its 15th founding anniversary. —Star photo

## Mass in memory of Kennedy

NEW YORK, July 23: At the stately 126-year-old church where Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis often found solace, friends and relatives gathered today for a quiet Mass Friday to remember her son John F. Kennedy Jr. and his wife, reports AP.

An invitation-only group of about 350 people, including President Bill Clinton and his family, was expected at the Church of St. Thomas More in Manhattan.

Dr Richard Freeman and his wife, Ann, the stepfather and mother of Carolyn Bessette Kennedy and Lauren Bessette, arrived about 90 minutes before the 11 am (15:00 GMT) memorial, walking quietly into the church. Earlier, a woman clutching a bouquet of white lilies went in. They were among the first mourners to arrive.

Ordinary people filled sidewalks nearby, some arriving as early as 4 am for the chance to be with the family in spirit.

Kathleen Sheehan, 51, who attended Robert F Kennedy's 1968 funeral in St. Patrick's Cathedral, came up from Philadelphia with her 24-year-old daughter, Heather. Although stuck behind a police barricade with the church out of view, they were happy about their trip.

## All set for road march

From Page 1

launch, has extended its programme for another day. While Jamaat will now start its march from Bogra instead of Dhaka, IOJ programme, however, will stretch for two days.

The second phase of the road march programme became uncertain due to unwillingness of JP and Jamaat on the plea of flood. But the alliance components finally agreed to go for the programme as BNP chief Khaleda Zia was determined to see the march roll off as per schedule.

Central leaders of the four parties will address a series of public rallies on their way to respective destinations. All the parties have decided to end their day's programme before the Magreb prayers. They will not address any rally apart from the scheduled ones.

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia will lead the main road march to Mymensingh from Azampur bus stand at Uttara at 9 am.

She will address a total of 27 public meetings in seven districts of greater Mymensingh and Gazipur. The districts are: Gazipur, Tangail, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Netrokona, Kishoreganj and Mymensingh.

JP leaders and workers led by its Chairman HM Ershad will begin the four-day 'launch march' to Barisal from Sadarghat at 9 am. The launch will proceed through Hasnabad, Munshiganj, Gazaria, Chandpur, Barisal, Nalchiti, Jhalakati, Hularhat, Morolganj, Inderhat, Banoripara, Uzipur and terminate at Muladi.

Jamaat leaders and activists led by its Ameer Golam Azam will start the march from Bogra on Sunday morning. The Jamaat march will go through Bogra, Sirajganj, Ullahpara, Bera, Pabna, Chapainawganj before concluding at Shibganj where the party will organise a public meeting.

The city unit of Jamaat will leave the capital for Bogra at 2 pm today.

IOJ will start its march to Chittagong from Purnia Paltan at 10 am. The marchers led by Moulana Azizul Haq will proceed through Sonargaon, Daudkandi, Comilla, Majdee Chowmuhoni, Feni and terminate at Laldighi maidan in Chittagong on Monday. It will hold a public meeting there.

A senior leader of BNP, who is a member of the coordination committee for the road march, said at least 500 motor vehicles are likely to form the caravan. However, another leader claimed that number of transports, including jeep, car, micro-bus and bus will not be less than 1000.

## Flood situation

From Page 1

The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre gave the latest monitoring report stating that overall flood situation in the Brahmaputra, Ganges, Meghna and Southeastern Hill basins would further improve in the next 24 hours to 6 am today.

However, Bhairab Bazar in the Meghna basin was an exception. The Meghna at Bhairab Bazar recorded further rise by 4 cm yesterday and was likely to swell 5 cm in the next 24 hours.

Rivers in the four basins recorded further fall except the Karatoa at Panchagarh, the Teesta at Dalia and the Old Brahmaputra at Mymensingh.

The Padma was flowing 3 cm above danger level at Bhagayakul while the Surma 55 cm at Kanaighat and 25 cm at Sunamganj and the Kushiara 53 cm at Amalshid.

## Hijacker

From Page 1

security at airports across Japan and launched an investigation into how the man got a knife aboard.

The pilot, Naoyuki Nagashima, 51, was pronounced dead by a doctor on board shortly after Flight 61 landed. Transportation Ministry official Satoshi Iwamura said.

Little was immediately known about the hijacker. He was very agitated during questioning and difficult to understand.

News reports said he wanted to fly under Tokyo's majestic Rainbow Bridge. They also said he suffered from depression.

## Kader Siddiqui

From Page 1

It resumed in the evening at the Gonabhaban and was continuing till the report was filed at 11 pm.

In the morning session, AL General Secretary Zillur Rahman presented party programmes for the National Mourning Day on August 15. The meeting decided to launch a drive for fresh membership to further strengthen the party at the grassroots level.

At the meeting, participants stood in solemn silence for one minute to show respect to late national leader Tajuddin Ahmed on the occasion of his 74th birth anniversary yesterday.

Party organizational matters including reported disputes in several district committees, difference of opinion between Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and State Minister Abul Hasan Chowdhury, party strategy for countering Opposition's anti-government agitation and some other issues were being discussed at the meeting, the sources said.

## Bullet-injured youngman dies at DMCH

By Staff Correspondent

A young man succumbed to his bullet injuries at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in the early hours of yesterday.

The dead was identified as Muktar Hossain, 20, son of Abul Bashar, a resident of Rajab Ali Sardar Road in east Jurain, police and hospital sources said.

According to police, Muktar was shot while sleeping inside a room at his relative Liton's house at Muradpur High School Road in the city's Shyampur area Thursday night.

About eight assailants, led by one Ansar, shot Muktar in his chest from outside the room through its window at about 10.15 pm.

Muktar was rushed to DMCH where he succumbed to his injuries at about 3.30 am.

The motive behind the murder could not be known immediately.

The body was handed over to Muktar's family after its autopsy at the DMCH Morgue. None, however, was arrested in connection with the incident till filing of this report last night.

Father of the dead lodged a murder case with Shyampur thana yesterday.

## 10 alleged extortionists arrested

By Staff Correspondent

Ten alleged extortionists were arrested from the city's Kawran Bazar area yesterday.

The arrested were identified as Badal alias Selim, Abdur Rahman, Jahangir, Kamal, Shafiqul, Harun, Sumon, Selim, Mintu and Shahidul, police said.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Tejgaon police arrested the ten from DIT Market No: 2 at about 2.30 pm.

Tejgaon police said the gang led by Badal was involved in collecting tolls and snatching in Kawran Bazar area.

A case was filed with Tejgaon thana in this regard yesterday.

## Two arrested with arms

By Staff Correspondent

Two persons were arrested with firearms and ammunition from the city's Maghbazar area Thursday night.

The arrested were identified as Rizwan Karim, 18, and Lalu, 22. Police said Lalu was wanted in a number of cases filed with Ramna thana.

A team of Ramna police arrested the two from New Circular Road at about 8.30 pm.

A gun, a revolver and eight bullets were recovered from their possession. A case was filed with Ramna thana in this regard.

## Abducted girl rescued, 2 held in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, July 23: Kotwali police rescued a girl and arrested two alleged abductors from a house at Bibirhat in Panchlaish thana today, reports UNB.

The arrested were identified as Kajal Budha, 25, of Suchia village in Chandanaisa thana and Kamal Hussain, 32, of Kadurkhal village in Boalkhal thana.

Police said some terrorists abducted Annie Akhter, 12, a class VI student of Kusumkumari Girls' High School, from Baubazar area in the town on July 18 when she was returning home.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided Uttarpara area in Bibirhat and rescued the girl. They also arrested two persons who locked Annie in a rented house there.

## Aftershock jolts Maheshkhali: Death toll 5

COX'S BAZAR, July 23: An aftershock jolted offshore island Maheshkhali in the district on midnight Thursday night within 10 hours of an earthquake in the coastal belt that left five dead and scores injured, reports UNB.

Panic spread to the entire coastal belt after the officially confirmed consecutive earthquakes in Chittagong and Cox's Bazar districts, which affected some 25000-30000 people in Maheshkhali.

The body of Jolekha Akter Baby, 6, daughter of Badsha Mia at Mayarapara, was recovered today from the debris of a betel plantation damaged by the first earthquake, raising the death toll to 5.

## Khaleda shocked at death of Kennedy

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed her profound grief and sorrow at the tragic and untimely demise of John F Kennedy Jr, son of assassinated US president John F Kennedy, reports UNB.

## Three killed in AJM bomb blasts?

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, July 23: Three people were killed and at least 15 injured in bomb explosions at the DIB Colony in Adamjee Jute Mills area at around 6:15 pm today, local people quoting witnesses said.

Names of the victims could not be known immediately.

Adamjee Jute Mills sources said roof of the tin-shed house where the explosions took place, was blown off.

The explosions occurred when some 20 people led by Mintoo, son of Awami League-backed workers' union leader and former CBA president Rehanuddin Rehan, were allegedly making bombs, the sources added.

President of Adamjee Jute Mills CBA Ruhul Amin Sardar told this correspondent over telephone that people backed by Rehan were involved in the incident.

"Police were intercepted while going to the spot. In the mean time, bodies were removed from the place of occurrence, the CBA president said. He claimed that four people were killed and many others injured in the incident.

Rehanuddin Rehan was not available for comment.

When contacted, Siddhirganj thana Officer-in-Charge Saiful Islam admitted that he had heard about the incident of bomb blast, but none was killed. Workers backed by the Jatiya Party workers' union spread the rumour that three people were killed and many injured in the incident, OC said.

## Chittagong Port Security inside protected areas tightened

From Staff Correspondent


CHITTAGONG, July 23: Authorities have tightened the security inside Chittagong port protected areas with the deployment of additional army, navy and police personnel and port's own securitymen, official sources said.

Besides, joint patrolling inside the port jetties began yesterday and entry was restricted to outsiders.

Unabated incidents of pilferage, looting of goods and illegal toll collection by some outsiders forced the authorities to tighten the security.

Army and police have been posted at all gates of port jetties for round-the-clock vigilance.


Army and navy personnel were deployed at Chittagong port on September 17 last year to supervise unloading of food items.



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