

Baby stolen from Munshiganj Sadar hospital

MUNSHIGANJ, July 24: An 11-day old baby girl was stolen by a woman child-lifter from the outdoor of the Sadar Hospital here on Thursday, reports BSS.

According to family and hospital sources, Nazma Begum, wife of Elias Bepari of Khaskandi under Sadar thana went to hospital for treatment of her ailment. When she was waiting at the outdoor compound with her baby girl, a burqa-clad woman sat by her and started conversing with her. Nazma, at one stage, went to toilet leaving her daughter in care of the unknown woman.

But after returning from toilet she found that the woman had left the place with her baby. Hospital authority was immediately informed of the matter which was also reported to the police.

The stolen baby could not be traced so far.

Use modern tech in fish farming, says Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed on massive campaign, training and motivational programmes to achieve self-sufficiency in fish production, reports UNB.

To acquire desired development in fisheries sector, direct peoples' participation in production and marketing is essential side by side with innovation of appropriate technologies and their proper application," the Prime Minister said in a message on the eve of the Fisheries Week '99 beginning today.

Hasina said fish is one of the major sources of animal protein. The sector has been contributing a lot in creating employment opportunities for the unemployed and poor people as well as in the advancement of country's socio-economic development.

Terming the fisheries sector a prospective one, Hasina said it is possible to export huge fish after meeting local demand through fish culture and farming by using modern technologies.

Govt urged to restore '72 constitution

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra Jubo Okiya Parishad (BCJOP) yesterday demanded of the government to restore the constitution of 1972 and cancel the Vested Property Law immediately.

The demand came from a discussion organised by BCJOP on the occasion of its 10th foundation anniversary at TSC of Dhaka University.

Chairman of the Mukti-judher Chetana Basjtabayon and National Coordination Committee Syed Hasan Imam was the chief guest at the function presided over by BCJOP president Advocate Sottendra Chandra Vokta.

Hasan Imam emphasised the restoration of the constitution and unity of the country. He also urged all to shun communal feelings and attitudes.

Demanding cancellation of the Vested Property Law immediately, Dr Nim Chandra Bhoomik of 'Hindu-Buddha and Christian Parishad' urged to stop religious discriminations for appointing government servants.

A colourful rally was also brought out on the DU campus in the morning on the occasion, said a press release.

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FFs urged to launch movement against govt

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a meeting yesterday called upon the freedom fighters to launch a movement against the government for what they said freedom fighters are not secure under the present regime.

They criticised the government for not trying the killers and collaborators of 71 after passing three years in power.

They were addressing a meeting organised by Bangladesh Mukti-judha Sangsad, Central Co-ordination Council at its office in the city. The meeting was addressed among others by Sadek Ahmed Khan, Secretary of the Council, Syed Ali Bashir, Saidur Rahman, Nasimuddin Ahmed, Badshah Miah, Nazmul Huq Tara, Mohammad Jalal Master and Motiur Rahman BP. The meeting was chaired by Ishiaq Aziz Ullah, Co-ordinator of the Council.

Brain diseases 'Gamma Knife can reduce risk of death'

By Staff Correspondent

Experts at a seminar yesterday said 'Gamma Knife' can reduce the risk of death of patients suffering from brain diseases, without cutting the skull.

They termed Gamma Knife as a sophisticated machine for treating brain diseases and said although it is named Gamma Knife, but it uses gamma rays instead of conventional surgical knife.

The gamma rays are used in such a way that the highest concentration of radiation is directed at the diseased part of the brain to heal," one expert said.

The seminar was organised by Neuro-science Institute (NI) and sponsored by Singapore Gamma Knife Centre (SGKC) at a local hotel. It was addressed by Dr Yeo Tseng Tsai, Medical Director of SGKC and Dr Lee Kim Shang, Consultant, Radiation Oncologist of SGKO, Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Chairman of Governing Body of NI and B Chowdhury Welfare Trust and Dr Md Golam Mohi-uddin.

A full course treatment of a brain tumour costs about 17,000 Singapore dollars.

"Usually patients need not to stay at the centre and they can even go for sight seeing after having the gamma ray treatment," Dr Lee Kim Shang said.

The Gamma Knife treatment method uses a very low radiation which is not injurious for patients," he said.

To install a gamma ray machine, it costs about 2.5 million US dollars. The latest version, however, costs more, experts said.

The experts said Bangladeshi patients suffering from brain diseases can avail the treatment facilities at SGKC. The centre would provide a handsome discount for Bangladeshi patients, an official of the Chowdhury Welfare Trust said.

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Officers Club apex body

By Staff Correspondent

Khandakar Rashidul Huq, Chairman, Bangladesh Hand Loom Board and Mohammad Nurul Alam, Additional Inspector General of Police have been elected vice-chairman of Officers Club Dhaka while M A Razzaq, joint secretary and project director of Primary and Mass Education Division was elected its new general secretary.

The result of the election was declared last night. The election was held on Friday after the 31st general meeting of the club.

Shahajahan Majumder and Ferdous Ara were elected as joint secretary and Prof Kabir Uddin Ahmed Majumder treasurer.

The other executive committee members are: M Akmal Hossain, Quamrul Islam Siddiqui, Monwar Hossain Chowdhury, M A Jalil, Dr Tofail Ahmed, Lutfur Rahman Talukdar, Dr Muhammad Nurul Nabi, Muhammad Nurul Alam, Abdur Razzaq and AFM Matur Rahman.

1st death anniversary observed Rubel's family still suffering in silence

By Shaikh Nazrul Islam

One year after Rubel's sad demise due to police torture, his family continues to suffer in silence.

Rubel's father Abdur Rob said, "I lost my piece of mind but I want to see no more torture by the police of any innocent."

Talking to The Daily Star, Rubel's father on the first anniversary of his son's death yesterday, Abdur Rob urged the conscious citizens to make attempts to further increase awareness against police repression on the innocent.

The family organised a *milad mahfil* and fed destitute after Juma in remembrance of Rubel.

Rubel's father expressed his gratitude to professional groups, the media and also thanked several non-governmental organisations including Manob Adhikar Sangstha and Amnesty International who came forward to highlight or assist his son's case. He felt that if lawyers community came forward to focus on the case, it would go a long way in curbing police repression.

He said those arrested in this connection have engaged renowned lawyers of the country while our case is being conducted by government Public Prosecutor.

Shamim Reza Rubel, a BBA student studying at the Independent University was beaten to death in custody of the Detective Branch police on July 23 last year after he was picked up from city's Siddheswari area.


The hearing of the case is scheduled to start from July 27.

Rubel's father said if it happened to an educated person what would happen to the common people of our country.

He further claimed "we are paying tax for running a police force to ensure peace in the society. How could they indulge in peace-breaking activities? This is unthinkable."

To effect a change we will have to fight against all odds and conscious people would have to come forward with all support.

Six-year old Irfana, a student of class one at Viquirnessa School, still believes that



BFUJ, DUJ condole death of Ahmed Humayun

Leaders of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) have expressed their deep sorrow at the death of eminent journalist Ahmed Humayun, reports BSS.

Abdul Kalam Azad and Akhter Ahmed Khan, President and Secretary General respectively of BFUJ and Altaf Mahmud and Rokeya Kamal, President and Acting General Secretary respectively of DUJ in a joint statement condoled the death of Humayun, a press release said. They also conveyed their sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the departed soul.

Meanwhile BFUJ and DUJ have jointly convened a meeting on July 31 to condole the death of Humayun.

Ahmed Humayun laid to rest

By Staff Correspondent

The mortal remains of Ahmed Humayun, a senior editor and columnist, were laid to rest at Uttara graveyard yesterday after Zohr prayers.

Earlier, his *namaj-e-janaza* was held at the Uttara mosque which was attended by a large number of his friends, colleagues and relatives.

The former editor of the now defunct Dainik Bangla who continued as a columnist writing his last piece a day before he was admitted to the BSMR University Hospital after suffering a massive heart attack on Wednesday.

Ahmed Humayun, who was 63, left behind his wife and two sons, one of whom Iraz Ahmed is a staff reporter of the daily *Dainik Bangla*.

Among those who attended the *namaj-e-janaza* included KG Mostafa, ABM Musa, Tawfiq Aziz Khan, Mahbub Alam, Gias Kamal Choudhury, Rezauddin Ahmed, Gofran Ahmed, Shahadat Choudhury, Anis Ahmed, Zahurul Huq, Ruhul Amin Gazi, MA Aziz and Shehab Ahmed.

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Kader Siddiqui (KS): The conduct clearly shows that the party leadership is afraid of my contentions. Contrary to the regular practice, they did not send me any notice of the meeting. Every member of the party's working committee is entitled to get notice of the meeting with its agenda.

DS: What is your next plan?

KS: I am least bothered about the show-case, as the committee that made the decision included some of those who were involved in the killing of Bangabandhu.

Due to sympathy of some top ranking leaders, thousands of party councillors did not get any scope for the last several years to give their opinions about many things, such as how the party should run and what the party should fight for and so on. I would go to them rather to ask whether the killers have any right to be in the party.

DS: Everybody knows that you call Sheikh Mujibur Rahman your father and her daughter your sister. Then what stopped you to settle whatever complaints you have against the party or its leadership between yourselves? Besides, taking a public stand against party politics does not go with the spirit of party discipline.

KS: I have nothing personal against her. My contention is purely political. I want to see that the party is working for the common people, the toiling masses. This is why the Awami League was created 50 years ago.

To reply to the second part of your question, I have not gone public before exhausting all other ways. I have told her personally. I have tried to discuss

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Road march today

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end their day's programme before the Maghreb prayers. The programmes would be peaceful, they announced.

As in the case of its Dhaka-Panchagarh road march on May 16-18, BNP has made it binding on more than 300 top leaders of the party and its front organisations to participate in the march beginning today.

Members of the party's national standing committee, council of advisors, national executive committee, MPs, presidents and general secretaries of all front organisations have been listed for the 3-day march.

Begum Zia will lead the march from Zampur bus stand at Uttara at 9 am. She will address 26 public meetings in seven districts of greater Mymensingh and Gazipur during the three-day programme. The districts are: Gazipur, Tangail, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Netrokona, Kishoreganj and Mymensingh.

Today, she will address the first public meeting at Mauna Chowrasita under Gazipur district and then address meetings at Valuka, Trishal and Mymensingh sadar, Muktagacha, Madhupur and Dhanbari under Tangail, Sharihabari and at Jamalpur. The convoy will return to Mymensingh town for overnight halt.

The participants in the march will stay two nights at Mymensingh and return to Dhaka on the third day.

JP leaders and workers led by Ershad will begin the launch march from Sadarghat terminal at 9 am. The launch will

Hasina

From Page 1

agro-based industries, fruit and vegetable processing units in North Bengal and mentioned government's special incentives offered for the agro based industries.

She said the government has also stopped the desertification process in North Bengal by realising the legitimate share of the Ganges water by signing a 30-year treaty with India.

Earlier in the morning the Prime Minister unveiled the plaque of 'RAJAN', a memorial of Liberation War, near Rangpur Cadet College.

Sheikh Hasina, who came here on a day's visit, went to the Modern Crossing and unveiled the plaque, built at a cost of Tk 15 lakh.

The memorial shows Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, making his thunderous speech on March 7.

Mysterious death

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As she refused to do so, jail guards were locked in a scuffle with the family members, injuring Angur's wife Jharna Begum and his sisters Helena and Hanufa.

After the incident, jail authorities contacted district administration and took initiative to perform autopsy of the body. But, due to non-availability of a magistrate, the body was kept in the jail till filing of this report.

Meanwhile, Angur's family members claimed that he was in sound health till Friday afternoon when his mother visited him in jail.

Jharna told the news agency that she would seek legal action against the jail authorities for negligence to treatment of her husband.

Techno Vista

From page 12

ously to take on the global IT market, so could Bangladesh.

Anisul Huq, Chairman of TechnoVista and Mohammadi Group, said the newly launched enterprise will offer state-of-the-art IT solutions to businesses to base them on a solid competitive edge.

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Tanbazar inmates

From page 12

The five-year old son and the three-year old daughter are living with Nasrin's parents in their village home.

Nasrin was living at Monir Khan's building in the Tanbazar brothel. There, she had rented a house depositing Tk 45,000.

Most of her clients are from Dhaka and Chittagong, and a few select ones from Narayan-ganj.

Besides being a sex worker, Nasrin is also an accomplished dancer and singer. "Latest Hindi, Urdu and Bangla songs are the favourites of my clients. My *Ustad* is a popular TV and radio artist. But I won't mention his name. I still take lessons from him."

At times, she also drinks liquor when her clients desired. Nasrin declined to be photographed. Because, she explained, publication of her picture in the newspapers might destroy her younger sister's marriage that is in the offing. "It would also reveal my secret life. Everybody in my home knows I work for a garment factory."

She regularly visits her family which is run with her earnings. "At home, I have two younger brothers, one studies in class three and another in class four, and a sister who studies in class eight. I'm the lone earning member of my family," she said, adding her father was crippled in a road accident. He was a baby-taxi driver.

Nasrin said her earnings vary from Tk 1,000 to Tk 5,000, a day. Her house rent is Tk 190, a day and her daily expenses Tk 600.

She was ran out of clients since the Jesmin killing on July 1. Now she is living on her savings.

Unwilling to be rehabilitated, she said, "It would not be possible for me to bear the expenses of my large family if I give up the sex trade. How much can I earn if the government engages me in another job? If I go for rehabilitation, my secret life will be exposed to my family, relatives and others."

"I wish no more woman comes to this profession. It's worse than hell. But we, who are already in the business, have reached a point of no return."

Quota forgery: 24 units

From Page 1

Sometimes it caused embargo on some categories affecting garments export, he noted.

Sikder said, "Those owners could forge export visas due to lack of an effective day to day computerised monitoring system. The government is now trying for an Electronic Visa Delivery System at US Customs and participating in some other countries. This would help monitor garments' export."

Export quota is distributed by EPB at the beginning of every calendar year and the forgery took place during 1997 and 98. The quota for the current year was distributed in January and February.

EPB has formed a committee to examine the export activities during the current year.

The garments factories export activities of which were suspended include Banita Garments at Mirpur, Harber Fabrics at East Testury Bazar, Shaon Associates at Kachukhet, Al Amin Apparels at Juraan, Bengal Apparels at Zigatala, Miaco Ltd at Uttara, EMI Knitting Industries at Shaymoli, Archadia Apparels at Khilgaon, Ariwears Ltd, at Malibagh, Texan Fashion Ltd, at West Rampura, US Garments Industries at Agrabad in Chit-

Body of young man recovered in city

By Staff Correspondent

The body of a young man was recovered near a bridge at city's Badda area Friday afternoon.

The deceased was identified as Atibur Rahman Bhuiyan, 26, son of Jahirul Huq Bhuiyan, a resident of Maradia in Badda area, hospital sources said.

Quoting relatives of the dead hospital sources said Atibur, who got married only a few days ago, left his residence in the evening of Wednesday and since then he did not return home.

Badda police recovered the body from nearby Merul bridge on Friday afternoon.

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ously to take on the global IT market, so could Bangladesh.

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