

## 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.

## 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 Muktiijudher Chetana Basitaboyon and National Coordination Committee Syed Hasan Imam was the chief guest at the function presided over by BCJOP president Advocate Sottendri Chandra Vokta.

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

Demanding cancellation of the Vested Property Law immediate, Dr. Nirmal Chandra Bhowmik of Hindu-Boudhia 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.

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 Muktiijuddah Sangsads, 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 Bashar, Saidur Rahman, Nasimuddin Ahmed, Badshah Miah, Nazmul Huq Tara, Mohammad Jalal Master and Motiur Rahman BP. The meeting was chaired by Ishtiaq Aziz Ulfat, 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, 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 SGKC, Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Chairman of Governing Body of NI and B Chowdhury Welfare Trust and Dr Md Golam Mohiuddin.

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 B Chowdhury Welfare Trust said.

## 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.

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.

## Memorial plaque unveiled at DU Jagannath Hall

By DU Correspondent

A memorial plaque constructed at the Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University after the name of Joyduip Datt Choudhury Bappi, a leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) was unveiled yesterday.

Bappi, a Masters degree student of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of the university was gunned down at Jagannath Hall on January 21, '95 following an intra-party feud in the ruling party backed student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League.

On the occasion, BCL organised a rally at the hall which was addressed among others by its president Bahadur Bepari and general secretary Ajay Kar Khoikon and leaders, Balaram Podder, Sujit Ray Nandi, Sajjad Hossain and AKM Ajim.

At the rally, the BCL leaders condemned for the murder and demanded exemplary punishment to those responsible for the killing.

## 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 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 relations.

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 Irah Ahmed is a staff reporter of the daily Manab Jamin.

Among those who attended the *namaj-e-Janaza* included KG Mostafa, ABBM Musa, Tawfiq Aziz Khan, Mahbub Alam, Gias Khan Choudhury, Reazuddin Ahmed, Gofran Ahmed, Shahadat Choudhury, Anis Ahmed, Zahirul Huq, Ruhul Amin Gazi, MA Aziz and Shehab Ahmed.

Officers Club apex body

By Staff Correspondent

Khandaker 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 Razek, 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.

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

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

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 B Chowdhury Welfare Trust said.

## 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 *mafil* and fed destitute after Jumma 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 Siddheshwari area.

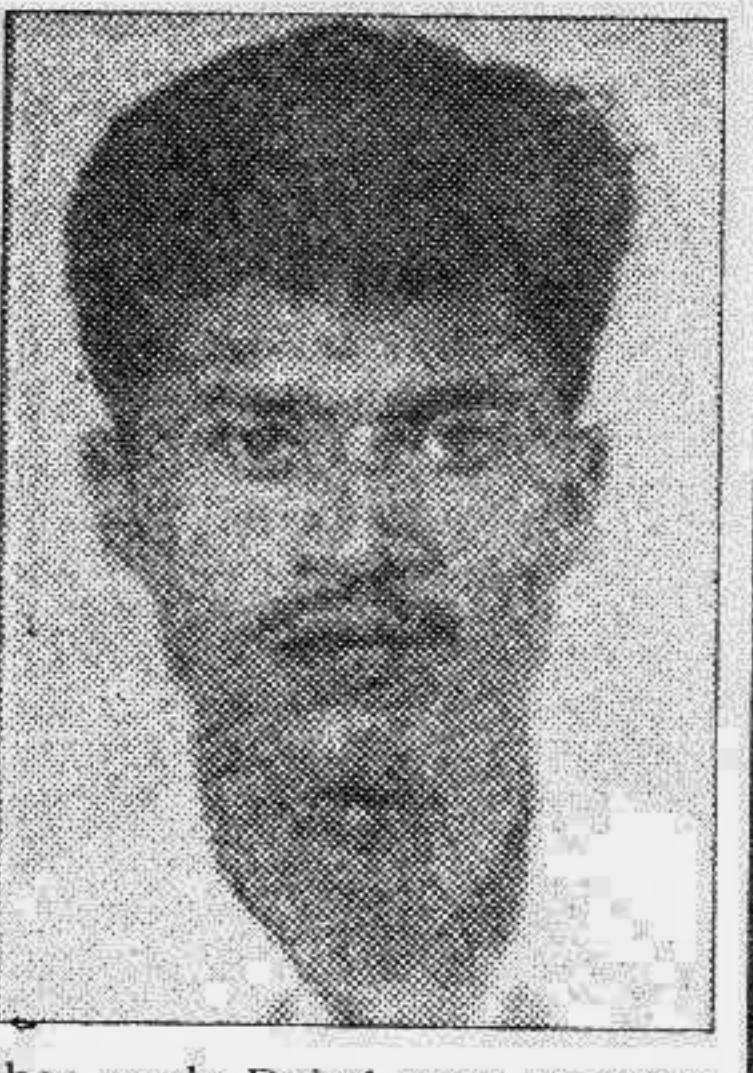
The hearing of the case is scheduled to start from July 27.

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 to 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 Vizqurunnisa School, still believes that



Shaikh Nazrul Islam

## 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 Azampur 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, Netrakona, Kishoreganj and Mymensingh.

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

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 Ersahad will begin the launch march from Sadarghat terminal 9 am. The launch will

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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.

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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.

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Mysterious death

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 Hanifa.

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.

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mate his desire."

A foreign ministry official said, "We have to work out the modalities of a Presidential visit and know about the practice and protocol after a decision is taken."

Seniors officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also felt that the President should travel abroad at least occasionally. This will give Bangladesh an image boosting opportunity.

Former President Abdur Rahman Biswas, during his five-year tenure, paid an official visit to Britain only to attend celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE). He also performed Umrah.

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

The garment 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 Jurain, Bengal Apparels at Zigmata, Miao Ltd at Uttara, Emi Knitting Industries at Shaymoli, Archedia Apparels at Khilgaon, Ariwari Ltd at Malibagh, Texan Fashion Ltd, at West Rampura, US Garments Industries at Agrabad in Chittagong.

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Techno Vista

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

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

He hoped that TechnoVista would earn fame as leading software exporter of the country.

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ment was formed.

As a result, certain very vital ministries such as Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Home Affairs have gone to outsiders. The Ministry of Communication, another very important ministry for a developing country, went to Jatiya party and the ministry of shipping to JSD.

Many of the said ministers had nothing to do with politics - let alone AL, while some of them even had served against AL at different historical junctures.

DS: The Prime Minister calls it a government of national consensus.

KS: Let her call it. I have no contention about that. But the voting patterns showed that the people did not want to see BNP or JP in power. Rather, they voted against those parties. So, by inducing BNP and JP men into cabinet, Hasina has violated people's mandate. If she sincerely believes in the government of national consensus, she should have made it clear to the electorate before the election.

DS: What makes you think so?

KS: The PM did not bother to make adequate queries before giving green signal to the Anti-Corruption Bureau to go ahead with the case.

DS: But the allegation, although very important, sounds personal. Do you have anything else to substantiate that the party has staged deviation?

KS: Well, the government of Sheikh Hasina is the spectre of the one which was in power in 1976. Prime Minister herself has proved this by giving her consent to the Anti-corruption Bureau to pursue a case against me which was framed in 1976.

Let me explain. I had protested the killing of Bangabandhu in 1975. For me it was not time for settling business with a Bank. As everybody knows, I left the country and tried to resist those who had seized power on Bangabandhu's body. However, the Bank went to the court and got verdict to adjust the money from the property mortgaged against the loan. Naturally, I was not represented at the hearing. After my return to the country in 1990, I contacted the Bank, reached a bilateral agreement to refund the money in some instalments. I had reached such a negotiated settlement with the bank long ago, before I contested in the parliamentary elections in 1991.

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