

## SC grants leave on hartal rule by HC

By SC Correspondent

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court Saturday granted leave to appeal against the High Court Division's judgement on the *suo moto* rule regarding pro-hartal and anti-hartal activities.

A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Md Gholam Rabbani and Justice Md Latifur Rahman in a judgement on May 13 declared that pro-hartal and anti-hartal activities done forcibly by any unlawful assembly are cognizable offence and directed the criminal courts and the police authorities to take action accordingly.

Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Secretary General of BNP, filed a civil petition before the Appellate Division for leave to appeal against the HC judgement. Barrister Maudud Ahmed moved for the appellant.

## Tania rape case

## Prayer for leave to appeal against HC judgement rejected

By SC Correspondent

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court Saturday rejected a government petition for leave to appeal against the High Court Division's judgement in a criminal miscellaneous case relating to Tania rape case.

A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Md Gholam Rabbani and Justice Md Latifur Rahman in a judgement on May 20 ordered judicial inquiry into Tania rape case.

Advocate Seema Zahur filed the criminal miscellaneous case as a public interest litigation.

The government filed the leave petition saying that Advocate Seema Zahur had no *locus standi* to file the case.

Tania, a minor girl, was raped allegedly by a police constable on the premises of the CMM's Court, Dhaka, last year.

## 3 robbers held in Hazaribagh

By Staff Correspondent

Three alleged robbers were caught red handed as they attempted to flee after robbing cash money and valuables worth about Tk 4 lakh from a residence at city's Hazaribagh area on Saturday night.

The arrested three were identified as Farooq, 20 son of Abul Kalam, Mokles Uddin alias Anny, 18, son of one Nasir Uddin and Ashkur Rahman alias Dadan, 18, son of Kalam Matabbar.

According to police a gang of 12 robbers entered the house of one Sobhan at Jhauchar in Hazaribagh at about 10:45 p.m. Saturday. The gang tied up the members of the family at gun point and looted Tk 13,500 in cash and other valuables including a T.V set and VCR worth about Tk 4.15,950.

The gang fled the spot by boat after the robbery. The family members then informed neighbours and other locals about the incident.

Local people with help of police chased the robbers with several boats and caught the robbers red-handed with the looted goods.

A case was lodged with Hazaribagh thana in this connection.

## Fish fair begins in Khulna

KHULNA, July 26: A week long 'Fish Fair '99' began yesterday under the auspices of Khulna District Fisheries Department, reports BSS.

A discussion on development of fish and shrimp culture in Khulna district was held at Shahid Haidi Park in the city with Deputy Commissioner Azhar Ali Talukder in the chair.

Vice-Chancellor of Khulna University SM Nazrul Islam was present in the discussion as the chief guest.

Officials of Fisheries Department and relevant organisations attended the discussion. The weeklong programme chalked out in this connection includes rally of fishermen and fish culturists, distributions of booklets on fish fair, training on mixed culture of fishes and seminar on prospect and problems of shrimp culture in Khulna region.

30 stalls have been set up in the fair including two stalls of Khulna University.

## Death anniversary

The 7th death anniversary of Salahuddin Farooque, MD of Mohumtaza Group and eldest son of late Md Sirajuddin, founder of the group, will be observed today, says a press release.

A Milad Mahfil will be held after Zohr prayers at his Dhanmondi residence to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

## Qulkhwan

Qulkhwan of Habibunnesa, 80, who died on July 24 at the Cardiovascular Institute Hospital due to respiratory failure, will be held today after Asr prayers at 6 Shiddeswari Lane (near Shiddeswari Girls School), says a press release.

Abul Fasih, wife of late Abul Fasih, headmaster of Mymensingh Zilla School, is survived by four sons, two daughters and large number of grand children.

She was earlier laid to rest at Banani graveyard.



Minister for Commerce and Industry Tofail Ahmed visiting a stall after inaugurating the Mid-Mix '99, a mixed fair, at Sheraton Hotel yesterday. Conference and Exhibition Management Services (CEMS) organised the fair. — Star photo

## Police intercepts BCU procession: 8 hurt

By DU Correspondent

At least eight activists of Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) were injured when its procession was came under police attack near Kadam Foara (Kadam Fountain) in the city yesterday noon.

The pre-scheduled procession, brought out from the Dhaka University campus was on way to the Home Ministry. Earlier, the left leaning BCU had announced to lay siege the ministry and submit a memorandum to the minister demanding immediate arrest and trial of the killers of Proton Kumar Dasgupta, a Jatiya Parishad member of BCU. He was allegedly killed by pro-Awami League armed men at Habiganj recently.

The procession was intercepted at a spot near National Press Club by police at around 1:00 am. Police swooped on the procession from behind when it turned back to its central office and the delegation was moving towards the ministry following an understanding with police, a number of BCU activists claimed.

Police also picked up nine BCU men including its president Monjur-e-Khoda Torik and general secretary Hasan Tariq Chowdhury Sohail from the spot. However, all the arrested were released in the afternoon.

The injured were identified as Sahin Hawlader, Saidur Rahman Rubel, Salauddin Rasel, Chowdhury Aju, Asaduzzaman Chowdhury Joy, Kamrul Ahsan Kamol, Shipan and Matabbar.

## 'Bangladeshi women active agents in development'

GENEVA, July 26: Women in Bangladesh are increasingly taking control of their own destinies as active agents of development and not merely as simple beneficiaries, a UN body was told today, reports BSS.

Taking part in the UN's ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council) session here, ambassador Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury said Bangladesh accords priority to empowerment and development of women in its plans and programs.

Ambassador Chowdhury is Bangladesh's permanent representative to the UN office in Geneva.

The ambassador informed the session that specific gender concerns have been incorporated in the National Development Plans. Comprehensive policies and programs for the advancement of women are clearly spelt out in all development sectors, he added. He referred to the close cooperation between the government and the non-formal civil society in this regard.

Chowdhury said that the last two decades have witnessed 'remarkable changes' in perceptions on the gender issue thanks to the commitment of women themselves and other dedicated people.

## New trust fund set up at DU

Dhaka University has instituted Prof Abdullah Faruque Trust Fund for giving stipend to teachers and students, reports UNB.

Sufia Faruque, wife of the late professor, handed over a cheque for Tk 2 lakh to DU Vice-Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury Monday as the fund money.

The trust will give a Gold Medal weighing one tola to a teacher of Business Studies Faculty every year from the proceeds of the fund for his or her highest contribution to research.

Besides, a student of Marketing Department who will obtain the highest marks in BBA honours examination will receive Tk 10,000 as stipend.

Pro-VC Prof M Shahadat Ali, Dean of the Business Studies Faculty and Chairman of Accounting Department Prof Abul Hashem, chairman of other departments of the faculty, the youngest daughter and brother of Prof Abdullah Faruque were also present on the occasion.

## Abu Sayeed opens pvt Bangla TV channel in London

LONDON, July 26: State Minister for Information Professor Abu Sayeed formally inaugurated the London-based Bangla Television Limited (BTL) services, a private satellite channel, at a colourful function held at Wembley Grand Hall here yesterday, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the BTL services, as the chief guest, the State Minister hoped that BTL would disseminate programmes which would uphold Bengali nationalism, spirit of Liberation War and its values by projecting the hopes and aspirations of the people.

Bangladesh has thousand-year old glorious tradition and enriched culture and a long experience of establishing people's rights through hard struggles, he said adding that despite being a private channel, BTL would play its role as a 'complementary and supplementary' to BTV and air BTV's news and programmes.

Prof Sayeed said the government believed in free flow of information but it would not be desirable that 'distorted' and 'misleading' information would be disseminated in the name of free flow of information through this new channel.

He also said the sky is open for healthy culture. 'But at the same time the government is determined to resist aggression of alien culture and promote our thousand-year-old tradition and civilisation.'

Speaking on the occasion the Deputy Commissioner said that the government has taken all out efforts for the development and welfare of children in the country. He urged all concerned to come forward with a view to ensuring education, nursing, food, medicare and child rights.

## Fish fries released at Crescent Lake

Presidium member of Bangladesh Awami League Amir Hossain Amu yesterday emphasised the need for undertaking massive fish cultivation programmes to solve the country's existing unemployment problem, reports BSS.

'We have come forward with massive programme of pisciculture to expedite economic development and solve unemployment problems in the country,' he said.

Amu was formally inaugurating 'fish fries release programme' at the city's Crescent Lake on the occasion of the 'Fisheries Week '99'. Fisheries and Livestock Minister ASM Abdur Rob, Secretary of the Ministry Ayub Kadri and director General (DG) of the Fisheries Directorate Abdul Matin spoke on the occasion.

The AL Presidium member said every body should come forward to build hunger, poverty and repression free 'Sonar Bangla' as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

'We have liberated the country from the Pakistani regime to build up a healthy, prosperous and self-reliant nation,' he said adding that the nation could not achieve its desired goal though 28 years had passed after the liberation.

He called upon all to come forward to build a happy, prosperous and self-reliant Bangladesh to meet the challenges of the coming millennium.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister ASM Abdur Rob laid emphasis on giving fish farming a shape of social movement. 'Fish farming can play an important role for poverty alleviation and creating job opportunity in the country,' he said.

The Minister called upon the field level officers of the Fish Directorate to educate people for using modern technology and smooth management system in fish cultivation.

## Khaleda: Gas sale

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hind her road-march programme across the country. Khaleda Zia told the rallies that she felt it important to inform the people the 'real state' of the country under AL governance and build public opinion against 'the political party which has breached its election pledges'.

'The party told people that it would ensure jute price at Tk 500 per maund. But it did not bother to keep its promise. The reality is that thousands of peasants who were denied fair prices of agricultural products have become unable to pay back agricultural loans in time and are facing certificate cases'.

She said that the AL had promised a better future for industrial workers, but it could not set up a single factory. 'Rather, the factories set up during BNP rule are gradually closing down due to government's pro-Indian policies. As the border has been opened up, Indian goods are capturing our market, pushing our factories to a state of destruction.'

Referring to newspaper reports, she said the government has been drawing crores of taka from banks to pay salaries. So, businessmen are being refused loans as the government has 'almost emptied the banks'.

The BNP chief said that the party had promised the nation a peaceful atmosphere in educational institutions. 'In a bid to counter our programme, the AL had announced that it would make female education free up to HSC. But it has turned the educational institutions into safe paradise for criminals.'

She also criticised the government for its 'failure' to include a single school under the Food for Education programme over the last three years. 'We brought 12,500 schools under the programme.'

She told the meetings that AL had promised peace and stability in every sphere of social life. 'But the law and order has deteriorated like anything. If you read newspapers you

would see four/five killings every day. Passenger buses are not safe even at day time. Besides, women are being harassed by law enforcing agency people.'

Khaleda Zia accused the government of planning to hand over country's natural resources to 'foreign powers' and criticised 'its plan to sell gas to India'. She said, 'Awami League is not the owner of whatever resources we have. As people are the owners of the natural resources, we won't allow the party to do whatever it wants to do with them.'

'If the government takes any step to sell gas, we would call upon you to paralyse all its activities,' she said amidst thunderous claps by those attending the rallies. 'It is a matter of shame that the government is planning to sell gas to outsiders when millions of farmers in the country do not get adequate electricity and fertiliser for agricultural production.'

She said that BNP if voted to power again, will utilise the gas for generating electricity and producing fertiliser.

Claiming that the present rulers are least bothered about the lot of the people, the Opposition leader said, they are 'Only interested in devaluing the Taka, imposing fresh taxes on people and making money by various illegal means.' So, there is no option for the patriotic citizens but to stand against the government and save the nation,' she said.

Others who addressed the rallies included BNP leaders M Saifur Rahman, Shamsul Islam, Anwar Zahid, MK Anwar, Dr Moeen Khan and Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah.

## ROK delegation visits BAU

MYMENSINGH, July 26: A 21-member delegation of the Pacific-Asia Society headed by Chon Wung Ju, professor at the Chonbuk University of the Republic of Korea visited Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) on July 22, reports BSS.



Institute of Business Studies (IBS) of Darul Ihsan University has recently signed an academic collaboration agreement with Tennessee State University of the US.

## Mujib Adarsha Parishad office-bearers

'Mujib Adarsha Mullayan Parishad' held an organisational meeting at its central office on Saturday G A Momin, the President of the association, was in the chair, says a press release.

In the meeting, the president has nominated Quazi Md Froz-zaman as the secretary general and Rafiqul Islam Mukta as joint secretary general of the organisation.

Members of the association have been requested to extend their sincere co-operation to the new office-bearers.

## Phulkoli Award '98 distributed

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Prof Zinatunnesa Talukder said yesterday that each child has to be made a 'complete man' and 'human resource' by providing him with proper education and congenial cultural atmosphere, reports BSS.

'The children have to be provided with facilities to move freely in the cultural arena alongside their academic education,' she said while speaking as the chief guest while distributing 'Phulkoli Award '98' at the National Museum in the city.

Organised by Phulkoli Shishu Kishore Sangathan (PKSKS), the function was addressed, among others, by Rahat Khan, acting editor, The Daily Ittefaq, Dr Shamsuzzaman Khan, Director General, Bangladesh National Museum and Rehana Khanom, Chief Advisor of PKSKS.

Prof Talukder laid emphasis on building children as worthy citizens imbued with the spirit of the liberation war.

The recipients of the Phulkoli Award '98 are Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury in Journalism, Abul Hayat and Dolly Zahoor in Drama, Dr Ayesha Khatun, Hamida Ali and Mohammad Ali Jinnah in Education, Dr A M Chowdhury in Science and Technology, A S M Abdul Halim in Business, Rafiqul Islam Khan in Banking, Jalaluddin Ahmed in Labour Organisation, M Hamid in TV programmes, Shakila Zafar and Hasina Mamotaz in Music and Ilias Kanchon and Diti in Film.

## Dhaka Shishu Hospital

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Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH).

The emergency medical officer said, 'We refer head injury patients to other hospitals. There is no end to tragic stories. I had to refer an infant today with bleeding skull after giving first aid.'

However, to everyone's wonder BSMMUH and Dhaka Medical College Hospital have limited facilities to treat head injury patients. In most cases, patients at BSMMUH are refused admission due to shortage of beds and the facilities at DMCH is even worse.

When contacted, the acting director of the hospital Dr A R Khan admitted going through tremendous difficulties. 'We are facing a lot of problems for not being able to admit acute cases. Of course, we admit priority cases.'

Referring to ultrasonogram machine, he said, 'Although we should have a second machine but due to limited funds we are unable to purchase another. In the meantime, we have floated tender to procure a new one while the old one is being repaired.'

About neurosurgery department, Dr Khan said, 'Since the neurosurgery consultant left DSH we do not admit head injury patients.'

He also said, 'We largely depend on donations for equipment.'

## Negligence

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pilot Mafidul's skill that the wide-body jet safely landed at ZIL.

But the episode has left many questions unanswered, including the state of maintenance and care abroad for which the national airlines pay huge amount of money.

KLM is under contract to service Biman aircraft at the hub of Aertalia, the Italian national airlines, something which remains a big puzzle.

If KLM engineers had checked the landing gear, they could have noticed the wheel's condition, Biman sources pointed out.

However, the one-member probe body comprising Biman's Chief Engineer is likely to submit its final report later this week, pinpointing the cause of the incident.

The Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh is also conducting an inquiry into the incident.

## Workshop held for youths in Meherpur

MEHERPUR, July 26: A workshop for the unemployed youths organised by the Youth Development Directorate was held recently at Zila Parishad auditorium here, reports BSS.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (general) Md Khairul Alam was present in the workshop as the chief guest. Assistant Director of the Youth Development Ministry Md Sultan Ahmed presided over the workshop.

District Fisheries Officer Md Abdur Rouf, Family Planning Officer Dr Abul Bashir and Livestock Officer Md Mokhtar Hossain, among others, spoke on the occasion.

The workshop stressed on the self-employment and income-generating activities of the unemployed youths for the economic development of the country.

## Dr Wazed

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highly qualified person like you,' said Dr Wazed who retired as the chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission on February 15 this year.

Regarding Dr Wazed's appointment, Dr Zafarullah Chowdhury of the Gano Bishwabidyalaya said, 'We are happy to have a highly qualified person like Dr Wazed Miah.'

'We are not involved in any politics. The appointment has been made on the basis of his calibre,' Dr Chowdhury said.

Asked about his future plan Dr Wazed Miah said, 'I will continue to work for the country till my death.'

Asked whether he will stay in Gano Bishwabidyalaya, Dr Wazed said, 'I believe in living with honour. But the Almighty alone can say where I will stay.'

## JS body discusses procurement of food grain

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Food yesterday discussed in details the progress of food grain procurement at a meeting at the Sangad Bhaban, reports BSS.

The meeting was informed that 4 lakh 7 thousand 6 hundred 38 metric tons of rice and 2 lakh 54 thousand 7 hundred 33 metric tons of wheat have been procured so far. The procurement target for rice this year was 6 lakh metric tons, while the target for wheat was 2 lakh 80 thousand metric tons, a Parliamentary Secretariat press release said.

The meeting was told that 21 BADC godowns have already been handed over to the Department of Food and more BADC godowns will be put under the department.

Presided over by the committee chairman Mohammad Sayedul Huq, the meeting was attended by members — Food and Agriculture Minister Begum Motia Chowdhury, Mirza Azam, Srimati Bharati Nandi, Mohammad Joydul Abidin Sarkar and Prof Mohammad Shahjahan Miah.

## Woman dies

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She was admitted to DMCH with critical burn injuries where she died at about 4:30 pm.

Hospital sources said that none had come to claim her body till last night.

Her body was lying at the DMCH morgue till filing of this report last night.

Mohammadpur police, failed to give further details of the incident saying that they were yet to receive any complaint regarding the incident.

## Ctg port

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bridge. The government vehicles were, however, exempted from the restriction.

The Bangladesh Motor Vehicles Rules 1940, however, prohibits use of any tinted glass or paper, which hinders transparency. Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) officials said any car having tinted glass that hampers transparency, is not issued the Fitness Certificate. Despite the existence of a clear policy, thousands of cars can be found on the streets using tinted glass totally blinding other road users.

## Tayeibi murder

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professional statements before the court.

CID sources said the three arrested persons gave identical statements.

However, CID police said that they were continuing hunt for other culprits and the big shots involved in this gruesome murder.

But CID police remained tight-lipped about the masterminds and motive behind the murder though they claimed to have collected 'all information' regarding the incident.

CID police said that the arrested persons were hired by the masterminds.

Tayeibi, who worked in Agrabad commercial area as country manager of a foreign shipping company, was shot dead on June 9 while he was returning to his residence from his office by driving a car.

Tayeibi lived here with his wife Tili Nandi and used to maintain high profile. He had links with most of the elite in the port city.

## DU teachers

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tions, chairmen and directors would submit lists of teachers engaged in consultancy to the deans who would forward those to the VC. The VC would then go for disciplinary action after consultation with the dean, chairperson or director concerned.

The university authorities in recent letters to chairpersons of departments and directors of institute directors asked them to monitor academic activities of teachers and to prepare a list of those were involved in consultancy work without permission.

But the authorities found that they were hesitant to prepare the lists, the sources said.

Early this year, the DU authorities decided to go for action following widespread allegations that many teachers were not sincere to their academic activities.

These steps have been taken following widespread allegations about the low standard of education and increasing involvement of university teachers in consultancy by neglecting their academic duties. Prof M Asaduzzaman, Dean of Social Science Faculty said.

Sources said no chairperson of a department or director of an institute felt interested in making a 'genuine' annual confidential report (ACR) against his colleagues as it was rote.

Prof Asaduzzaman said, 'It is very unfortunate that none (chairperson or director) bothered to obey the order.'

Prof. Asad said a good number of teachers are now involved in consultancy and not giving due attention to their academic activities, which is violation of DU rules.

Talking to The Daily Star, a good number of DU teachers however praised the authorities' step to monitor the academic activities of teachers involved in consultancy. They emphasised proper implementation of the recommendations for improving the standard of education.

Arts Faculty Dean Prof. Dr Kazi Shahidullah admitted that the recommendations were yet to be implemented. He, however, said the chairpersons of different departments are now discussing the issue.