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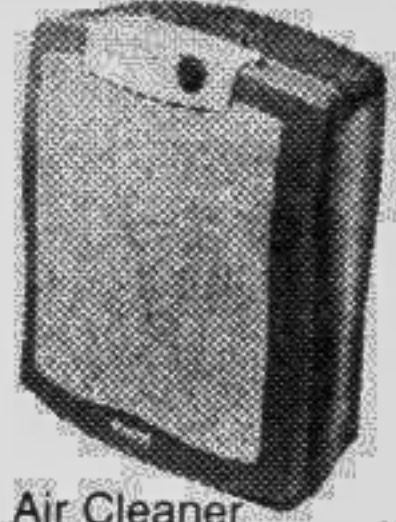
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**HC declares
appointment of
Muslehuddin as
VC of NSU legal**

By Staff Correspondent

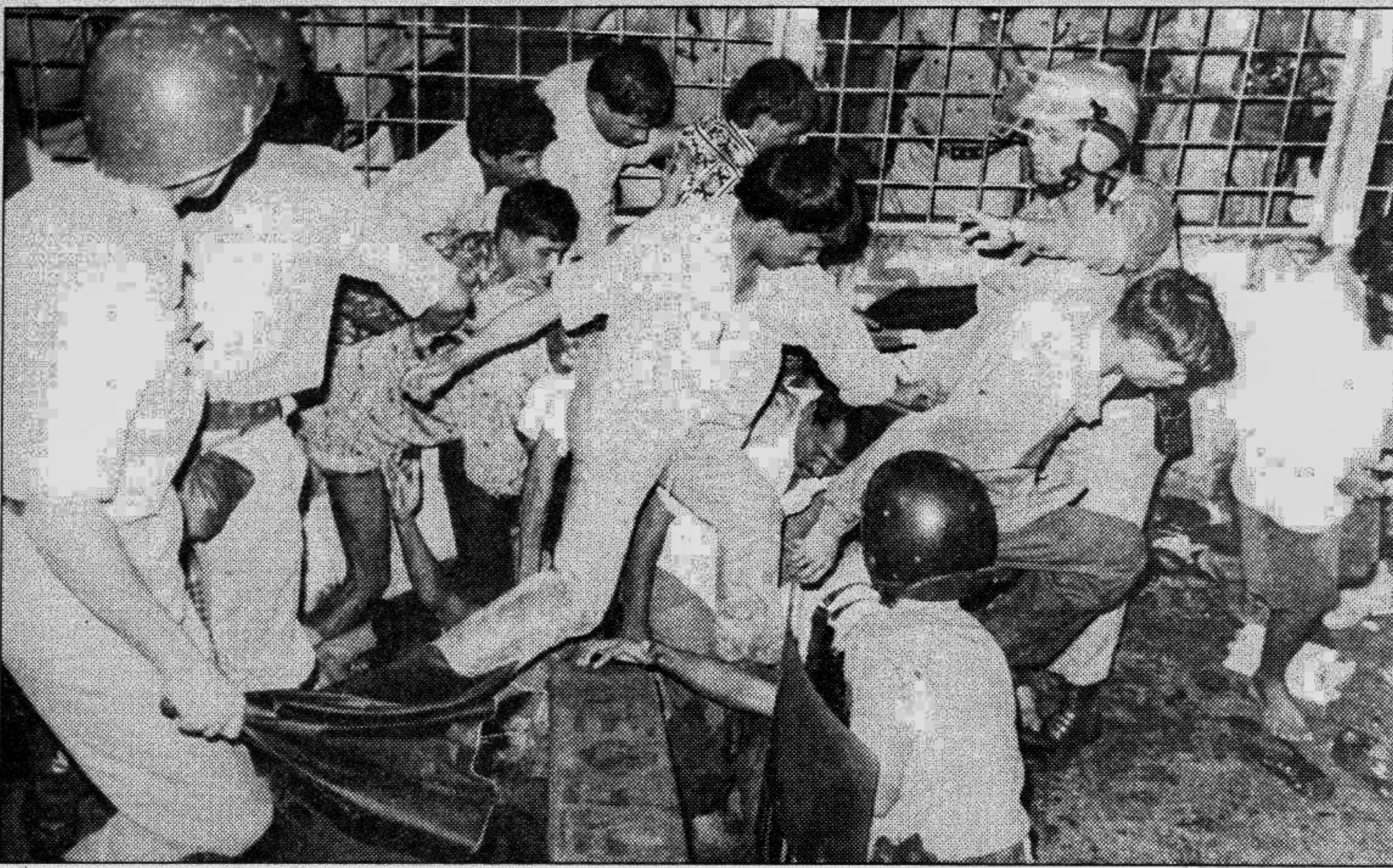
The High Court has declared the appointment of Muslehuddin Ahmed as Vice Chancellor of North South University (NSU) as legal and done with lawful authority.

The decision was pronounced in a judgement given by a Division Bench of the High Court comprising of Justice Kazi Ebadul Hoque and Justice Md Muzammel Hossain dated July 25, says a press release.

Earlier, the Chairman of the North South University Foundation filed a writ petition (No 2536 of 1998) challenging the appointment of the Vice Chancellor made by the Chancellor of the University on the ground that section 10 to the Private University Act requires that the Founders must recommend the name of the Vice Chancellor, and on such recommendation the Chancellor should make the appointment.

It was stated that in this case though Muslehuddin Ahmed was not recommended at vice chancellor, nevertheless the

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**Unsporting behaviour at the Bangabandhu**

Policemen invade the western stands — commonly known as the Mohammedan gallery — of the Bangabandhu Stadium to try to bring the unruly spectators under control.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

No phone, no ambulance at CMCH!

Pathetic state of the lone public hospital in port city

By Abdullah-Al Mahmud in Chittagong

Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) has been running without a telephone exchange for the last two and a half years as it has failed to clear arrears of the T&T.

The hospital is the largest and the lone government hospital to provide medicare service to around 60 lakh people of the port city and its suburbs.

All ambulances of the hospital are also non-operational for the last several months leaving patients in a miserable condition. The hospital also owes a large amount of money to fu-

elling stations.

CMCH authorities have failed to get required money from the health ministry in time resulting in the crisis.

The manually operated analogue telephone exchange of CMCH had been disconnected to be replaced by a digital one on April 14 1997. But installation work on the new digital telephone exchange remains to be completed. A few months back the Minister for Post & Tele-communication and Home Affairs Mohammad Nasim while attending a function at

CMCH directed the concerned general manager of T&T for immediate installation of the exchange, but there was very little progress. Concerned circles said that the exchange has the capacity to provide immediate connection but the crisis remained unresolved due to a row among the ministries of health, tele-communication and finance.

It is learnt that CMCH owes T&T bills worth Tk 17.

While talking to this correspondent CMCH director Brigadier Mohammad Shahja-

han said that talks with the local T&T were continuing and that the CMCH authority had been assured of getting connection and operation of the exchange any time now. But the deal remained inoperational, till date.

When asked about clearing the Tk 9 lakh arrears CMCH director said that they are yet to receive money from the health ministry to clear the bill. However, he hoped that the arrears would not come in the way of restoration of the tele-exchange.

**Another cheer
for IM Zia**

Sports Reporter

International Master Ziaur Rahman makes his grade in the international circuit becoming runner-up in the Smith and Williamson British Chess Championship on Friday.

The soft-spoken promising chess player drew with British Grand Master Peter Willis in the final round of the highly prestigious chess meet which drafted in 15 GMs and 24 IMs from home and abroad.

Zia, who beat three GMs in the 11-round tournament, finished with 8 points, just one short of champion Julian Harding, the British GM.

A student of the Anthropology

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The other costs of the big bridge

Local leaders demand job-generating public investment in the area

By Rafiq Hasan back from Sirajganj

The Bangabandhu Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge has greatly improved the country's communication network but it has wiped out various river-based activities, sending thousands of people in nearby areas out of work.

These people were earlier engaged in ferrying passengers and cargo by launches and boats, loading, unloading, catering, vending and different

other activities at ferry ghats on the Jamuna river before the bridge was opened.

Local public leaders and the affected people have emphasised the need for employment generating projects in the areas and urged the government to take immediate steps in this regard.

The leaders as well as others pointed out that Sirajganj area has a huge potential for devel-

opment of tourism and industrialisation. Taking up of schemes to develop these sectors without delay could go a long way in saving these distressed people, they added.

They demanded establishment of Export Processing Zones and industrial parks on the western side of the bridge for over all development of the area and creation of employment opportunities.

Local people alleged that many of those who lost their homes, land and their property due to land acquisition for the bridge and the river protection dam did not yet get compensation. Many were evicted from their ancestral homes but were not rehabilitated properly, they alleged.

About 3000 people in eight villages who were victims of the

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**EPB detects export
with forged visas**

4.46 lakh pieces sold to US in six months this year

By Rafiq Hasan

As many as 4.46 lakh pieces of apparels were exported to the US by forging Bangladeshi export visas during the first half of this year.

The apparels - trousers and shorts - having good demand in the US market this year, were exported under category No 347.

The forgery was detected through verification of the export visas issued by the Export Promotion Bureau and entry of garments to the US market with Bangladeshi name-tags, sources in the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) said.

The EPB so far detected 14 forged visas under which these apparels were exported. Investigation is going on and the number of such forged visas may rise, the sources said.

There is also a possibility that the visas may have been forged in any other country, they said.

The EPB has asked the Commercial Councillor of Bangladesh embassy in Washington to collect all relevant documents from US Customs and send those to the EPB for further checking and identification of the exporters, they said.

When contacted Director General of EPB Abdur Razzaq said action will be taken if any garments company is found involved in the forgery. They will be fined four times the value of the exports made through forgery and their registration will be cancelled, he said.

The export limit for category

347 this year is more than 10 lakh dozen and 67.5 per cent of it was fulfilled till July 20. Because of the good demand, the price of a dozen apparel under this category has increased to 65 US dollars in the unofficial quota market in the country.

The sources said 12 lakh pieces of apparels were exported to the US in 1997 and 1998 by forging 106 export visas. Twenty-four garments companies were involved in it.

To check forgery, the EPB has engaged a US company, GEIS, as a service provider in the Electronic Visa Information System (ELVIS) in the US Customs. Abdur Razzaq said. The company has a liaison office in Mumbai in India.

'Masters, not friends'

Former top cop traces the reasons behind low public image of police

Formation of a civil commission with distinguished persons was suggested yesterday to ensure responsibility and accountability of the police, reports UNB.

The suggestion came from a cross section of people, including university teachers, legislators, retired police and army officers and journalists, who took part in a roundtable discussion on Police and the Society: Expectations and realities in the city.

Expressing serious concern at the waning credibility of the

**BNP to observe
Khaleda's
birthday today**

BNP will observe the birthday of its Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia today at a simple ceremony at her official residence, reports UNB.

Party sources said leaders and workers of BNP and its front organisations will visit the cantonment residence of the party chief in the evening to greet her.

On August 11, a court in the city rejected a prayer for restraining BNP chief from observing her birthday on August 15 that coincides with the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

police force as a whole, the speakers viewed that they (police) are always used by the ruling parties to achieve their objective. This made the police arrogant, corrupt and enemy of the people, they said.

The discussants said people's confidence in the police has come down to zero and they are

no longer considered as friends of the people. The police behave as masters of the people.

Maj Hafizuddin MP, noted with regret that politics in the country is in the grip of terrorists, loan defaulters and criminals. Leading political parties used to favour such elements

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Flouting rules

Minister's son tries to jump the queue, allegedly

By Staff Correspondent

The government has allegedly violated the usual norms of examining international tenders for procuring 'instrument system' to set up a planetarium in the capital city.

Allegations are there that the Ministry of Science and Technology has grossly violated rules with a view to providing the contract to a company, the local agent of which is the son of a powerful minister.

The Science and Technology Minister was not available for comment over the last three days, while the project director concerned refused to comment on the issue last night.

However, the government

approved a Tk 52 crore project in March 1997. For the project - Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo-theatre, some three acres of land in the Agragaon area of the city was purchased about a couple of years ago.

So far, the government has called for international tender to procure the instrument system for the proposed planetarium three times. But it is yet to reach a decision. "The government adopted various means only to give the contract to a particular company, although the company has never been able to qualify in the technical

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Rivers rise

Moderate floods predicted if heavy rains continue

By Special Correspondent

All the major rivers have continued to rise during the past few days, threatening another spate of floods in a moderate scale if heavy rains continue for a few more days, a Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) source said.

There had been heavy rains recorded by the met office and the FFWC in the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna basins during the past three days which coupled with the rains upstream helped swell the rivers again.

The rains also triggered flash floods in the southeast, snapping road links between Chittagong and Cox's Bazaar

and triggering mudslides, killing 15 people in Chittagong and Bandarban.

Reports from India received by the FFWC said that there had been heavy falls in Bihar and the Gangetic West Bengal. Part of the Brahmaputra basin in India also experienced rains.

Earlier the met office in its long-range forecast had predicted moderate floods after two spells of rains—one in the middle of the month and another at the end of it.

Out of 46 water level stations monitored by FFWC, three points flowed above danger level, 28 points recorded rise, 10

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**Bus bomb kills 6
on Pakistan Day**

ISLAMABAD, Aug 14: A minibus bomb killed six people and thousands staged protests as Pakistan marked its 52nd independence anniversary today with a warning to India over the downing of its navy plane, reports AFP.

The bus bomb blast, which occurred on a passenger van as it arrived at Dina near here from Pakistani Kashmir, also left 14 people critically wounded, police said.

"It is a terrorist act and we suspect involvement of Indian intelligence agents," a police official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

On July 27 a bus bombing killed seven and injured 19 in Kotli district in Kashmir and it was also blamed by officials and police on its arch-rival neighbour.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said at a morning flag-hoisting ceremony outside the parliament here Pakistan had shown restraint after India shot down an Atlantic patrol

aircraft killing all 16 aboard five days ago.

But he warned Pakistan's attitude should not be taken as a weakness.

"There should be no doubt that if war is thrust on us, Pakistan is fully capable of giving a

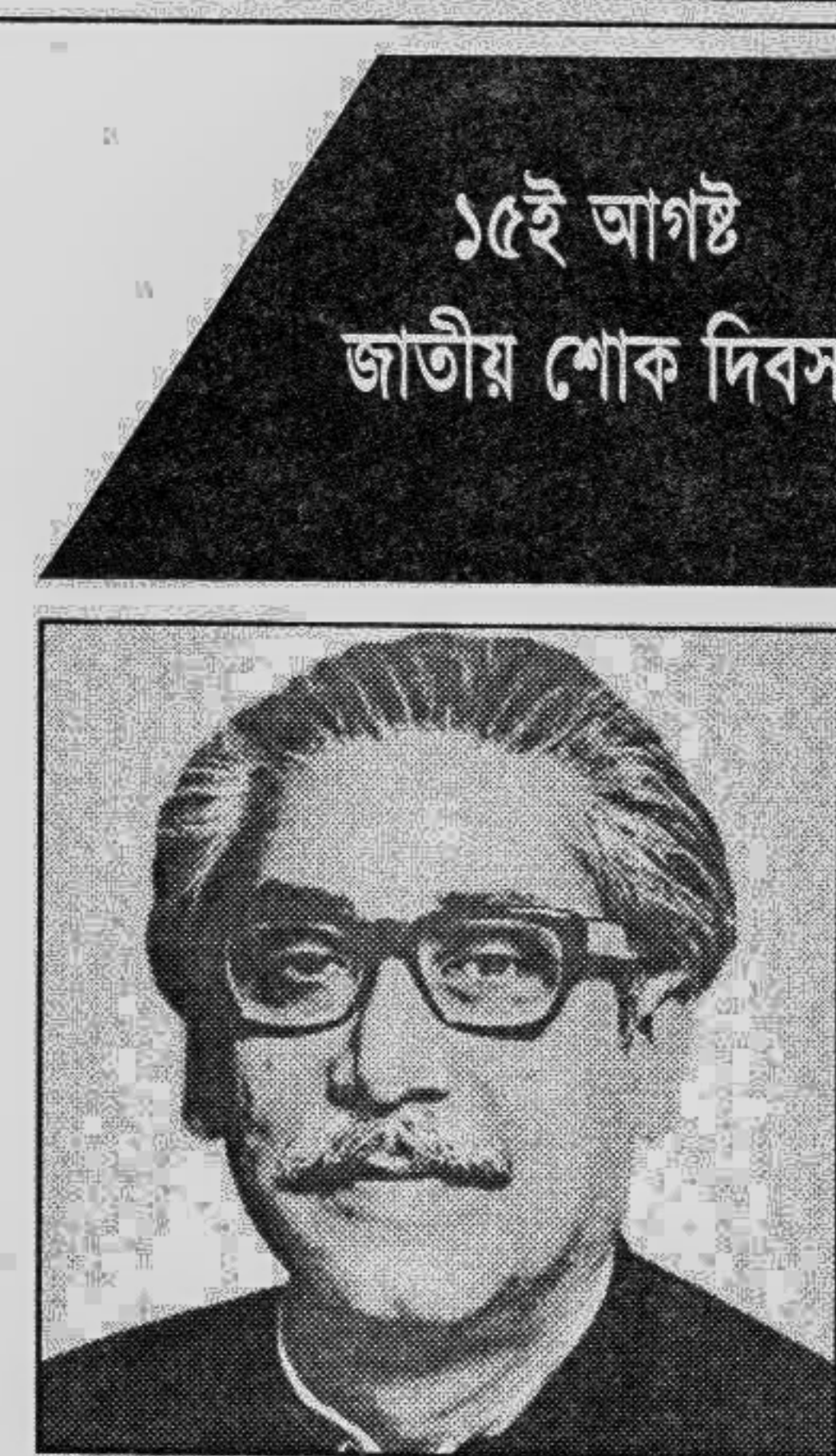
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**Over 500 MQM
activists
arrested**

KARACHI, Aug 14: Pakistani police have detained more than 500 opposition party supporters ahead of a planned anti-government rally on independence day, party sources said today, reports AFP.

Hundreds of workers and supporters of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) have been rounded up in the past two days in southern Sindh province, of which Karachi is

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জাতির পিতার স্বপ্নের

সোনার বাংলা গড়ার

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