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## Countrywide hartal today

**By Staff Correspondent**  
The BNP-led opposition alliance has called for a countrywide dawn-to-dusk hartal today to press home its one-point demand and early national election.  
The hartal was called on November 16. Sources said the alliance may announce fresh anti-government programmes from today's hartal.  
Today's hartal is the sixth in 25 days of this month. Earlier, hartals were observed on November 1, 7, 8, 9 and 16.  
In support of today's shut down, the BNP, Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Oikya Jote held separate rallies and brought out processions in the capital yesterday evening.  
Some other political parties i.e. Jagpa, Democratic League, Progressive Nationalist Party and Nationalist Democratic Alliance, who extended their support to the hartal call, also held rallies and brought out processions in the evening.  
Main opposition BNP brought out torch processions from 11 places - New Market, Khilgaon Chowrashta, Mohakhali, Badda, Farmgate, Mohammadpur, Kafur Bus Stand, Mirpur Town Hall, Pallabi, Shyampur, Uttara and Ram-pura.  
See Page 12 Col 4

## No further hartal this month

**By Staff Correspondent**  
A meeting of the opposition Liaison Committee last night discussed the preparation of the much-talked about summit of four party chiefs and fresh agitation programmes.  
Held at Jamaat-e-Islami central office with secretary general, Matur Rahman Nizami in the chair, the two-hour meeting had an elaborate discussion on fresh programmes and the planned meeting.  
The committee members said that the meeting "unanimously" decided not to call anymore hartal this month, but that there will be hartals in the first week of December.  
They also said that the planned summit meeting of See Page 12 Col 8

## Hartal: Only 15 working days this month

**By Special Correspondent**  
Another Opposition-called hartal today coming in the wake of a public holiday yesterday and preceding the two-day weekend beginning tomorrow left has its impact on the city life. Business activities slowed yesterday and the usual traffic chaos on the streets was not there.  
Six hartals including the one today, Shab-e-Barat holiday yesterday and the eight weekly holidays leave the total working days this month to only 15.  
The BNP-led opposition alliance called hartals on November 1, 7, 8, 9, 16 followed by today's one.  
Taking advantage of the four-day virtual holiday from yesterday, a large number of people left the city for their village homes. The exodus began Tuesday evening leaving the bus, and launch terminals and railway station crowded.  
Those who could afford flew to their favourite destinations abroad such as Bangkok, Singapore, Kathmandu, Calcutta and Dubai.

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**Prayer Timings**  
November 25

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-15	5-45
Johr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-42	4-00
Maghrib	5-20	5-25
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

# A stately burial for Sufia Kamal

**By Staff Correspondent**  
Poet Begum Sufia Kamal, the country's most celebrated woman of the age, was laid to eternal rest at Azimpur graveyard with state honour at about 5 p.m. yesterday.  
Buglers from the army's East Bengal Regiment played the last post when the body, draped in national colours, was laid in the grave. Thousands of people stood in solemn silence praying and paying their last respects to one of Bangladesh's most beloved and revered women.  
A resplendent army jeep carried the flower-bedecked body in a ceremonial motorcade to the site of her eternal rest at Azimpur graveyard where she was laid beside the grave of Language Movement martyr Shaheed Abul Barkat.  
Poet Sufia Kamal is the first Bengali woman buried with state honour.  
She died at the Intensive Care Unit of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) Saturday morning at the age of 88. Hospitalised on Thursday for renal failure, she had been suffering from old age complica-

tions.  
The body was taken to the Azimpur graveyard after her last namaj-e-janaza at the National Eidgah Maidan after Asr prayers, which were attended by thousands of people.  
A military carriage took the coffin to the Bangla Academy from her residence Shanjer Maya at Dhanmondi by officers of the East Bengal Regiment.  
The body was also taken to Mahila Parishad office at Bally Road and kept there for some time. She had served as the organisation's president since 1970.  
The military motorcade then took the body to the central Shaheed Minar. People from all walks of life and of different age thronged the Minar to pay their last respects. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was there and placed wreath on the coffin. The Prime Minister stood in solemn silence for sometime. She then offered *munajat* for the peace of the departed soul.  
Military secretaries placed wreaths on behalf of President



The coffin of the late Poet Begum Sufia Kamal on board of a gun carriage arrives at the central Shaheed Minar yesterday. — Star photo by A K M Mohsin

# Property dispute claims three of a family

**By Staff Correspondent**  
Three members of a family, including two women, were stabbed to death inside a flat at Azimpur Road under Lalbagh thana in the city in the early hours of Monday.  
The dead were identified as Sajedunnisa, 57, wife of late Abdul Hasem, her daughter Sabiha Begum, 27, and her son Swapon, 20, all residents of 1/1/C Azimpur Road.  
Lalbagh police recovered the partially decomposed bodies with marks of stab injuries at about 10 pm. Tuesday, after breaking open the entrance that was locked from outside since Monday morning.  
Relatives and neighbours of the dead informed police when they smelt a strong odour being emitted from the ground floor flat Tuesday evening.  
Police were suspecting that the three were murdered in the early hours of Monday, following a dispute with their relatives over landed property.  
Lalbagh police were interrogating four persons, including a woman, in connection with the

triple murder. They were identified as -- Obaidul Akbar, Ahmed Hossain, Shafiqul Islam and Sufia -- nephews and the niece of Sajedunnisa.  
Lalbagh police did not officially arrest the four till the filing of this report. The investigating officer of the case, along with the four, was out hunting for the alleged killers till the filing of this report late last night.  
Iqbal Bahar, the ADC of DMP, Southern Zone, told The Daily Star that police were interrogating them as suspects. "If necessary we will arrest them", said Iqbal Bahar.  
Another senior police official said that their investigation so far had revealed that there were as many as ten murders. The three victims were gagged with pillows and mattresses and were eventually stabbed indiscriminately, he said.  
According to sources, Sajedunnisa, mother of five daughters and three sons, had been residing with Sabiha and

## Babu's petition dismissed

**By Staff Correspondent**  
The High Court on Tuesday dismissed a petition by Akhteruzzaman Chowdhury Babu seeking revision of an order by the District Judge's Court, Dhaka, staying an ad-interim injunction by the Fourth Assistant Judge's Court on September 16.  
The injunction was given after Babu and four others prayed for restraining Zafar Chowdhury and four others from continuing to hold office as chairman and directors of United Commercial Bank Ltd (UCBL).  
The District Judge's Court stayed the injunction following prayer from Zaffar Ahmed Chowdhury and others.  
Babu later went to the High Court seeking revision of the District Court's order. After hearing both the sides, the HC fixed October 3 for next hearing and stayed the order. It also directed the parties to maintain status quo.  
The hearing date was re-fixed as the HC was on vacation. The hearing started early this week and a Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Moazzamul Huq and Justice Abdur Rashid dismissed Babu's petition on Tuesday.  
On August 26 this year, some 50 armed men allegedly backed by police stormed into the board room of UCBL during a meeting and forced some bank directors to resign.  
The ousted directors later alleged that Awami League leader Babu led the armed men and declared himself chairman of the bank.

# 13th Amendment to Constitution Writ challenging provision for caretaker govt

A writ petition seeking to nullify the constitutional provision for caretaker government was filed with the High Court on Tuesday, reports UNB.  
A lawyer of the Bangladesh Supreme Court, M Saleem Ullah, filed the writ challenging the Constitution 13th Amendment terming the revision that stipulated the caretaker government "ultra vires".  
Secretaries of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and of the Jatiya Sangsad and the Chief Election Commissioner have been made respondents.  
The writ was moved before a division bench of the High Court comprising Justice M Fazlul Karim and Justice M Abdul Wahab Miah by advocate M I Faruqui, along with petitioner Saleem Ullah.  
The court asked Deputy Attorney General Obaidur Rahman Mostafa to communi-

## Oil distributors, tank lorry owners continue strike in 16 dists

**From Our Correspondent**  
RAJSHAHI, Nov 24: Rajshahi Division Oil Distributor and Tank Lorry Owners' Association (RDOTLOA) observed strike for the fifth consecutive day in 16 northern districts today.  
The distributors and the tank lorry owners are not lifting fuel oil from the Baghabari oil depot since Saturday. As a result, their three-point demand, The demands include fixing same oil price rate for all depots, deployment of army and BDR personnel at the Baghabari depot and stoppage of 'illegal' activities of the Baghabari-based tank lorry workers' associations.  
Meanwhile, sufferings of the people in the northern region have mounted because of scarcity of fuel oils due to the strike.  
Sources said, 165 petrol pumps in the region have no fuel oils. They have hung signboards inscribed with "no oil". But some unscrupulous traders See Page 11 Col 3



Relatives wail as three of a family were murdered at Lalbagh yesterday. — Star photo

## 3 chargesheeted in Mammi Murder Case

**NARAYANGANJ, Nov 24:** Police today submitted charge sheet in the sensational Mammi Murder Case to the court, reports UNB.  
In the charge sheet, names of Abul Kalam Azad (Ripon), Mammi's husband, his mother Monwara Begum and sister Rokhsana Yasmin (Runa) were included as accused.  
However, names of Ripon's father and two brothers were dropped from the charge sheet due to lack of sufficient evidences.  
Names of 34 people have been included in the charge sheet as witnesses.  
Mahmuda Sultana Mammi was allegedly strangled by her husband at her in-laws house on October 30.

# Tayebi murder: 8 chargesheeted

**From Staff Correspondent**  
CHITTAGONG, Nov 24: CID submitted a chargesheet in the sensational Jibrin Tayebi murder case to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court here yesterday.  
The chargesheet was submitted after a five-month investigation.  
Eight accused, including 'the mastermind' Yasin Rahman Titu, son of garments industrialist Khalilur Rahman, have been charged with the murder under Sections 302, 109, 120-Kha and 34, the investigation officer of CID ASP Abdul Kader Khan told this correspondent today.  
Khan said that another supplementary charge sheet would be submitted after arrest of four others allegedly involved in the murder.  
He said in the charge sheet filed yesterday, 60 people including seven women were shown as witnesses. Of the eight accused, six were arrested while the alleged mastermind Yasin Rahman Titu and one Md Alamgir who informed the killers over a mobile phone after Jibrin came out of his office in Agrabad commercial area, are still at large, Khan said.  
Except the main accused See Page 12 Col 1

# Murder, rape on increase Criminals now use high-tech devices

**By Shaikh Nazrul Islam**  
Criminals now use hi-tech devices and sophisticated weapons which are far advanced than the resources available with police, a high police official has said.  
Organised gangs are using cellular phones high speed vehicles and different types of sophisticated firearms including AK-47. It is difficult to track down them with shot guns and auto-tempos, he told The Daily Star yesterday.  
As a result, crimes are increasing. The number of recorded crimes including mur-