

What's on today . . .

HAF roundtable: Health Action Forum (HAF) will hold a roundtable conference on "Drug pricing: Situation in Bangladesh and Peoples' Stand." Venue: VIP auditorium, Jatiya Press Club. Time: 9:00 am.

Launching ceremony: The launching ceremony of Barnasoft Bangla 2000, a software programme will be held. Chief guest: Minister for Science and Technology Lt Gen (ret) Mohammad Noor Uddin Khan (PSC). Venue: Winter Garden, Hotel Sheraton. Time: 9:00 am.

IMCT workshop: Institute of Media, Communication and Training (IMCT) will hold a day long workshop on Road Safety. Venue: IMCT venue, House No 690, Rd No 12, BAHs, Adabor, Shyamoli. Time: 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

IUB convocation: The Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) will hold its fourth convocation. Chief guest: Education Minister ASHK Sadeque. Venue: Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardi Indoor Stadium, Mirpur. Time: 10:00 am.

WVA ladies lunch: Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) will hold its international ladies lunch. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10:00 am-4:00 pm.

Group art exhibition: A fortnight long group exhibition by 51 artist couples titled "They" begins. Venue: Aerial Centre, House No 15, Road No 7, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5:00 pm.

Meeting: A meeting of the central committee of Sylhet Division Development Council will be held. Venue: Council premises at 881 Shahidbag. Time: 7:00 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Seminar: Iranian Cultural Centre will hold a seminar on "Ideological Islamic Society in view of Imam Khomeini (R)" to mark the 11th death anniversary of Imam Khomeini (R). Chief guest: State Minister for Religious Affairs, Maulana Mohammad Nurul Islam. Venue: Supreme Court Bar Association Auditorium. Time: 5:00 pm.

IFCAB seminar: International Film Critics Association of Bangladesh (IFCAB) will hold a two-day long seminar and film screening session. On the first day it will screen *Jago Huaa Savera* by Ad Kadar. Venue: Goethe Institut, House No 10, Road No 9, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5:30 pm.

Weather

Temperature may rise

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Rajshahi, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka, Barisal and Khulna divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Slight rise in day temperature is expected over the country during the period, the Met office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 36.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Khulna and the lowest 24.0 degree Celsius at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.43 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.11 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.7	27.0	71	57
Chittagong	32.2	26.5	78	78
Rajshahi	35.2	26.2	82	72
Khulna	36.8	26.0	77	70
Barisal	34.6	26.4	77	79
Sylhet	31.0	24.0	100	78
Cox's Bazar	33.6	25.8	90	78

HERE and THERE



Roads & Highways Engineers' Assoc

Md. Fazlul Haque and Jalaluddin Al-Quaderi have been elected president and general secretary respectively of Roads and Highways Engineers' Association. The executive committee election, 2000 was held at the annual general meeting of the association on May recently, says a press release.

Other office bearers of the association are: Afzal Hossain (vice president), Anwar Ahmed (vice president), Md Afil Uddin (joint secretary), A S M Faruq Hossain (joint secretary), Md. Ashraff-Ul-Islam (Treasurer), Nazmus Sadat (organising secretary), Md. Waliur Rahman (sports and cultural affairs secretary), Shishir Kanti Routh (publicity secretary) and the

members are: Md. Delwar Hossain, Ali Masud Haider, Abdur Rouf, Abed Uddin Ahmed, Al-Haj Md. Abdul Malek, Md. Aminul Islam, Talukder, Md. Abdul Mukhtar (Belal), Md. Nurul Huda, Ruhul Alam, Md. Soharab Uddin Mia, Abul Kalam Khan.

UniHealth Limited

By Staff Correspondent
UniHealth Limited has recently organised a two-day residential training and sales conference at Comilla BARD.

UniHealth is a pharmaceutical manufacturing and marketing company that represents a number of international companies, including Abbott of USA, Grunenthal of Germany and Rhone-Poulenc in Bangladesh for a wide range of products.

The closing ceremony of the programme was addressed by the chairman of UniHealth Dr Mostafizur Rahman, Director Marketing and Sales of Rhone-Poulenc Itefkarul Islam and Marketing Manager of Abbott Laboratories Irfan Hafiz Malik.

Biman resumes its 3rd weekly flight to NY

Biman Bangladesh Airlines started operating its third weekly flight on Dhaka-New York route yesterday, reports UNB.

This newly-patterned flight, BG-009, will leave for the Trans-Atlantic travellers with another option of flying to New York via Dubai and London on Fridays, said a Biman press release.

The two other weekly Biman flights to New York will continue to fly the existing route via Delhi and Brussels on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Passengers travelling on board Biman flights to New York need not change the aircraft during their start-to-end ZIA-JFK journey being it a much secured, tension free sort of offer to continue for this new route too.

Qulkhwani

The qulkhwani of Begum Fatema Jinnat will be held at her village home at Sutiakhali in Mymensingh after Asr prayers on Monday, reports BSS.

Jinnat, Mother of a Senior Assistant Editor of The Daily Inquilab Yusuf Sharif, died of old age complications at her village home on Thursday. She was 73.

Hasina welcomes appointment of more women in administration

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has welcomed appointment of more women in the administration and said she always encourages women hold important positions, reports BSS.

"At present there are two female secretaries in the government," she said while opening the convention of Lions Clubs multiple district at Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

Sheikh Hasina said there are now five female superintendents in the police service. Mentioning the appointment of a woman judge in the High Court, she said, "I will be the happiest person on earth if she (judge) becomes chief justice one day."

"I may not be in office at that time but still I would be very happy," she added.

The prime minister said she agreed to open the convention on a request from the lone woman district governor. "I may assent to your proposal to attend such conventions of your club once a year if there are more women district governors in the Lions Clubs," she said amid cheers from the audience.



Crime Reporters' Association of Bangladesh (CRAB) took to the city streets yesterday protesting police action on journalists. — Star photo

In Chittagong 2 youths get 3 years RI each for hijacking

CHITTAGONG, June 2: Two youths were sentenced to three years rigorous imprisonment by a special court for hijacking, reports UNB.

The court also fined Faruque and Mabud Hossain Tk 2,000 each, in default, to suffer one month more RI.

According to prosecution, the convicts were caught red-handed when they tried to snatch a gold chain and money from a garment worker near Baristar Sultan Ahmed College in Patenga on Feb 24 this year.

Later, a case was filed against them under Public Security Act.

After examining the witnesses, the tribunal judge found them guilty of snatching and handed down the judgement.

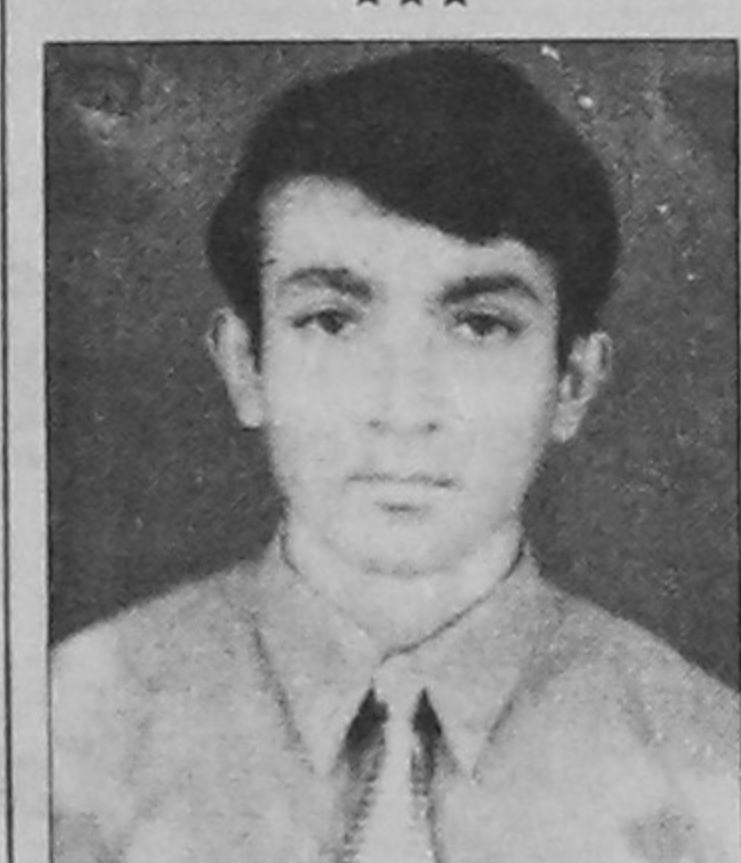
Congratulations

MYMENSINGH, June 2: Four students of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) received PhD degrees from the university recently, reports UNB.

They are M Bazlur Rahman Khan of Agri-Engineering and Technical Faculty, Sharifa Jahan of Veterinary Faculty, Marzia Begum and Hasan Mahmud Babar of Agriculture Faculty.

Their research papers were on "Influence of Evapotranspiration and Irrigation on Potato Crop" (Bazlur Rahman Khan), "Factors Affecting Post-Partum Reproduction in Local and Crossbred Dairy Cattle in Bangladesh" (Sharifa Jahan), "Differential Response of Ten Mustered Varieties to Aphid Liphis Erysimi (Kalt) Under Natural and Net House Condition" (Marzia Begum) and "Studies on Collar Rot of Sunflower" (Hasan Mahmud Babar).

They received the degrees after the BAU Syndicate approved the theses at its 245th session, according to a BAU press release.



M Rafiqul Islam Uzzal stood First Class First in M Sc (Thesis Group) final examination of 1996 (held in 1998 & 99) of the Department of Zoology from Jahangirnagar University, says a press release.

He is the third son of M Mohsin Ali and Rezia Mohsin of Dharampur Bazar under Bheramara thana in Kushtia district.

BCRA protest

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against journalists.

The action programme includes exchange of views with various associations of journalists, lawyers and other professionals and human rights bodies tomorrow and the day after.

Besides, leaders of BCRA will submit a memorandum to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday and meet Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia on Thursday.

Speakers at yesterday's rally condemned the home minister's press statement following a meeting with BCRA leaders. They also condemned the DMP commissioner for the arrest of journalist Aminur Rahman Taj.

The BCRA leaders alleged that crime reporters were being victimised for writing about corruption of police. The home minister and the DMP commissioner have forced them to take to the street to press their demands, they said.

The leaders warned that their movement will continue till the demands are accepted. Those who addressed the rally included President of BCRA Parvez Khan, Secretary Fakrul Alam Kanchan, Milfuzur Rahman, Samsul Salehin and DUJ leader Abu Saleh.

Experts suggest introduction of TQM in education sector

In a modest step towards introduction of the concept of total quality management among students from school to university levels, Bangladesh Society for Total Quality Management (BSTQM) has taken up programmes to formulate guidelines for the education sector in the country, reports BSS.

Inaugurating a day-long seminar on "Total Quality and Excellence in Education: Role of Students Quality Circles" yesterday BSTQM President Mofid Doula mentioned that education being the state of man-making, it is important that a student gradually exposes himself to the quality of light.

If the students get the touch of quality of light, Doula said, the nation would get appropriate human resources to achieve global excellence in all sectors of national economy. He said, "Though we started quality drive in industries and business 30 years back, we began the same in education very recently."

BSTQM organised the seminar for the first time in the country in cooperation with World Council for Total Quality and Excellence in Education (WCTQEE), Oponin Chemical Industries Ltd, The Structural Engineers Ltd, Micro Electron Ltd and Sonargaon Manuf Corp Ltd.

Chaired by Dr AKM Moazzem Hussain, Bangladesh representative of the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS) of Japan, the inaugural ceremony was also addressed, among others, by Dr Vineeta Kamran, Principal of CMS Degree College, Lucknow, India and WCTQEE Honorary Executive Director, PC Bihari, Executive Director, WCTQEE, Archana Bihari, an expert in students' quality control circles and AMM Khairul Bashir, General Secretary, BSTQM and a quality management specialist.

About 150 delegates representing schools, colleges, universities, training institutions and social service organisations participated in the seminar.

Mofid Doula said educational institutions could help the future work places by providing people with a 'total quality mindset'.

Khairul Bashir, in his introductory remarks, hoped that practice of Total Quality Management (TQM) in educational institutions would help enhance quality of people to provide leadership for development.

Students through the process of TQM can make tomorrow's world more creative, joyful and humane, Bashir added.

Dr Moazzem Hussain opined that expansion of the concept of globalisation would enforce quality as the key barometer for success.

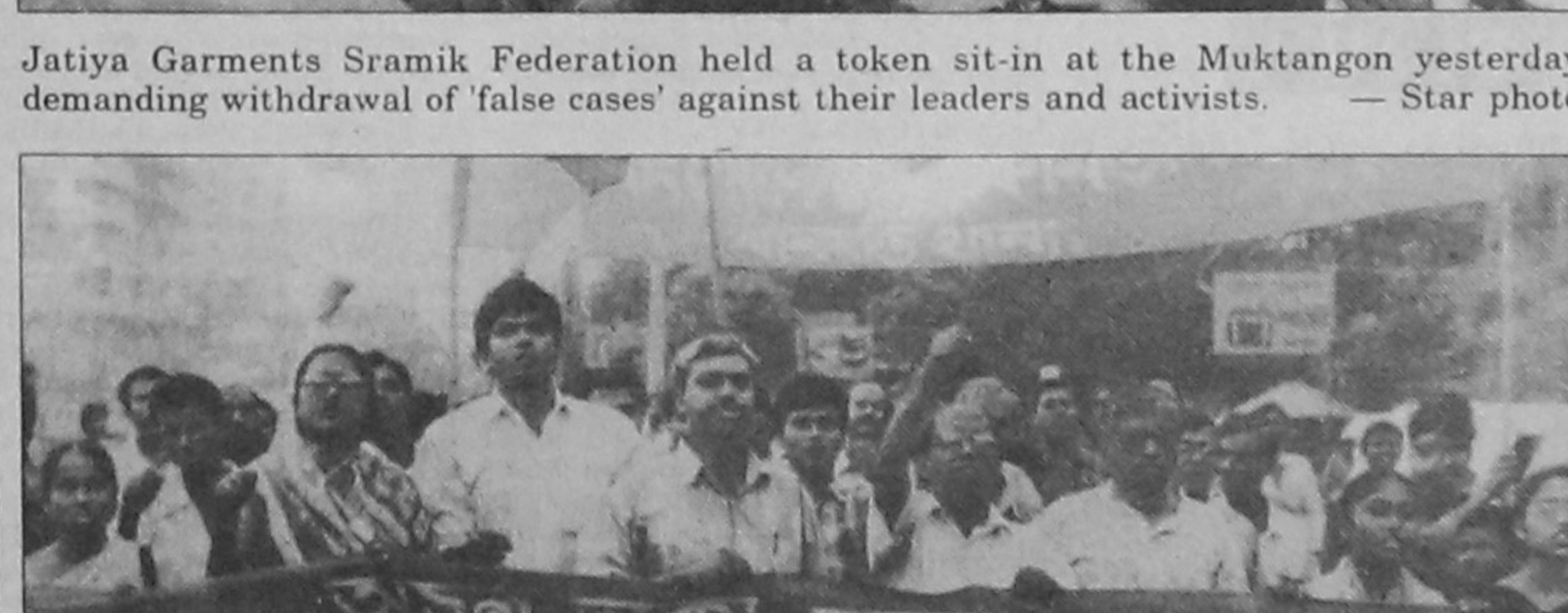
Experts from India, in their speeches, highlighted the issues related to practising TQM philosophy as a guiding force in the development of students as engines for self-improvement. They preferred adoption of quality circles at schools as the time of childhood, the mindset stays tender and the quality message can be better transcribed.

They said India held two international conventions on TQM in Lucknow in 1997 and 1999, the first of its kind in the world. Delegates from Australia, Bangladesh, the Maldives, Nepal, Switzerland and the United Kingdom joined both the conventions.

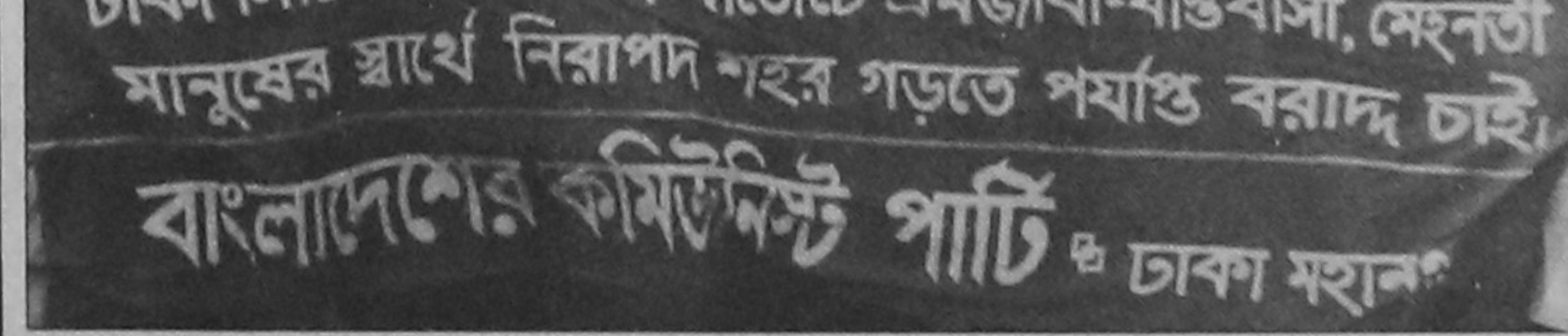
Workshop on water management begins today
By Staff Correspondent
A two-day South Asian workshop begins in the city today with focus on alternative water management.

Scholars and children from different countries of the region would join the programme titled "South Asian Children Workshop on Alternate Water Management," says a press release.

Centre for Alternatives, Dhaka, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi, Nepal Water Conservation Foundation, Katmandu, and Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad have organised the workshop.



Jatiya Garments Sramik Federation held a token sit-in at the Muktangan yesterday demanding withdrawal of 'false cases' against their leaders and activists. — Star photo



Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding solution to various problems of city dweller. — Star photo

Alleged terrorist

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Garden Road at around 9:30 pm, police said quoting the FIR.

According to police and witnesses, Jahangir was talking with Saldur, Nannu and Nazrul at Karwanbazar on Thursday night. At one stage, they started chasing Jahangir and shot him in front of his uncle's house at Garden Road. He died on the spot.

Telgaon police later recovered the body of the victim and sent it to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Monawara Begum, mother of the victim, filed a murder case accusing Saldur, Nannu, Nazrul, Nannu, Halim, Swapon, Noor Mohammed, Shah Alam and Liton.

Police could not arrest anyone of the accused till last night.

Shipu murder

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Shipu left behind two daughters and Ishtiaq has one daughter.

Police are guarding the house since the incident, Ishtiaq said.

The law enforcers are not serious to arrest the culprits, he alleged.

"We heard that Jewel left the country. He talked with his mother from Delhi over telephone", Ishtiaq claimed while talking to this correspondent yesterday.

"We are desperate. We have nothing to lose. If they want to kill us, let them do it", he said in an emotion-charged voice.

Gulshan police, when contacted last night, said they are yet to arrest any of the accused.

Obituary

Abul Kalam Chowdhury, a social worker and employee of Chittagong Port Authority, died of brain haemorrhage at the Chittagong Medical College Hospital yesterday. He was 54, reports BSS.

Kalam, only son of late Abdur Rashid Chowdhury of Demsha, Satkania, Chittagong, was buried at his family graveyard yesterday afternoon.

He is survived by his wife, only sister Dr Rizia Begum, two sons and four daughters to mourn his death.

Kalam was brother-in-law of Enamul Hoque Chowdhury, Senior Reporter of BSS.

Alhaj Afzal Ali Khan died of old age complications on May 31 at Michigan State of the USA. He was nearly 100, reports BSS.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held at his village home at Bagdur in Sirajganj today after Asr prayers.

JAMALPUR, June 2: Abdul Hye Bachu Mia, a former Member of Provincial Assembly of 1970 and a long time Chairman of Nagla Union Parishad under Melandah Upazila, died in the early hours of yesterday at his own residence in Melandah Pourasabha, according to family sources. He was 67, reports BSS.

Abdul Hye Bachu Mia was the president of Melandah Thana Awami League. Later, he joined BNP and became president of Melandah Thana Unit of BNP. He was also a former Upazila Chairman.

He left behind wife, one son, two daughters and a host of relations and friends to mourn his death.

A large number of people attended his namaz-e-janaza held last afternoon at the local high school ground. He was later buried at his family graveyard.

Beyond the boundary

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is mere apology when Test status is to be presented on a platform?

On the one-day front, things were a trifle different yesterday. Since cricket is a game for the statisticians, the following fact may be of interest. Of the ten highest one-day scores recorded at the Bangabandhu Stadium over the years, all exceeding 300, five of them were against Bangladesh. Against Pakistan the Bangladesh team showed in gory detail, the effects of lessons not learnt. 320 runs were posted on the board with the most consummate ease, and dare one say it, with disdain. The harsh realities of life at this level, and the fact that one swallow never makes a summer were brought home to us.

Pakistan blitzkrieged its way to a formidable total, the batting side's intentions being rude and impertinent from the very start. Two men of the batting side cantered to 80 apiece. But amiable hosts that we are, the biggest contribution to their cause came from one of our bowlers. But why was he allowed to bowl ten overs for 81 in the first place? In the strange world of cricket captains, where pressure is the name of the game, decisions may at times be bereft of logic. It is customary then to use a phrase, coined exclusively for cricket, that goes like this: "give them the benefit of the doubt".

While the formbook might favour the Pakistanis, strange things have been known to happen in clashes between these two rivals. What was an anti-climax yesterday may be atoned today.

Before we consider Bangladesh to be history in this competition, let us put in a plea to the management not to use this team uniform ever again. We may not be playing well for quite some more time to come, but that is still acceptable. What is not acceptable is the team attire in the most unseemly of uniforms. At least, let us do some things right.

We have come a long way. There are still many more miles to travel. Take the roads that are safe and straight, Bangladesh, and look out for the corners and the pitfalls. You will take a little longer to get there, but you will, eventually. It is the normally the long rides that are the more enjoyable ones, not the shortcuts.

Ban around EC sectt

From page 1

Udyan and all roads, lanes and by lanes around the EC Secretariat will also be under the purview of the ban.

The BNP, Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Oikya Jote and some other right wing political parties will simultaneously lay siege to the EC Secretariat in Dhaka and EC offices in district headquarters.

The BNP and its allies will march for converging on the EC Secretariat. Sources said BNP leaders and activists will assemble on Ramna Park premises at 10 am and head for the secretariat at 11 am through Shahbagh. JP will start from party central office at Kalabagan, Jamaat from Moghbazar crossing and IOJ from Purana Palta.

The Central Liaison Committee will sit at Minto Road official residence of the leader of the opposition this morning to take care of the last minute preparation. It will also discuss next course of action.

Sources said the opposition has no plan to confront the law enforcing agencies during the siege programme, instead it will stage demonstration at places where obstructed.

No memorandum, like in the past will be submitted. "To whom will we submit memorandum... we have no condition," he said.

He however said the government is yet to take any positive and sincere step to bring back the Opposition to the House by fulfilling the preconditions and creating a conducive atmosphere.

The government destroyed the atmosphere and closed the door for Opposition's return to the Sangsad. It has now started filing cases against MPs under the Public Safety Act, further aggravated the situation, he alleged.

Replying to a question, Khandaker Delwar said he wrote a letter to the Speaker on April 4 seeking information on the MPs' absence from the House.

"But I am yet to get any reply from the Speaker. Even I talked to him over telephone, but I am not furnished with any information," he said.

Another influential BNP leader said the party will soon sit to discuss the matter as there is a tremendous pressure from the MPs to find a solution so that they do not lose their membership.

Another source hinted that the party has a plan to attend a sitting and again "boycott" it only to avoid the "90 days" red mark.

Rajuk has no zonal office except one at Uttara. Its proposal for opening of six zonal offices is now awaiting approval of the Public Works and Housing Ministry.

Under Section-34 of the Town Improvement Act, Rajuk has the mandate to recruit its own manpower. "But no one dares to do anything without approval of the big bosses at the Ministry," one source said.

"The government is planning to abolish the almost inactive but over staffed Building Research Institute, Urban Development Directorate and Housing and Settlement Directorate and set up a National Housing Authority. Rajuk could be brought under it and properly reorganised," a top official noted.

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In this no-contest of a match, Pakistan showed no effects of the hangover of a hard fought series in the West Indies. This does not augur well for India, who really have a mountain to climb today. Both the Bangladesh bowling and batting provided the perfect fodder for the Pakistan team. Pakistan had a good workout albeit the sparing partner did not measure up to scratch. All is therefore in readiness for the mother of all matches today.

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