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VOL. X NO. 211 REGD. NO. DA 781

www.dailystarnews.com

DHAKA MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2000

3rd Millennium

BHADRA 6, 1407 BS

JAMADIUL AWAL 20, 1421 HIJRI

12 PAGES PRICE : TAKA 6.00

## Pro-opposition lawyers file contempt case against PM

By Special Correspondent

Another contempt petition was filed with the High Court yesterday against Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her remarks on the Judiciary.

The petition was filed by Barrister Rafiqul Huq on behalf of 339 pro-opposition lawyers including Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed, Barrister Abdur Razzak, Barrister Najmul Huda and Adilur Rahman Khan.

Barrister Huq also sought permission from the court for submission of photocopies of press reports in support of the petition.

Hearing on admissibility of the petition is likely to be held today.

A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Mohammad Mozammel Huq and Justice Mohammad Abdur Rashid will hear the petition.

Earlier, a contempt petition against the Prime Minister on the same issue was filed with the HC by President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) Barrister Mainul Hossain last week. Hearing on its admissibility will be held today.

Meanwhile, opposition See page 11 col 7

## Murders of two lawyers condemned

By Staff Correspondent

Dhaka Bar Association (DBA) at an emergency meeting yesterday strongly protested the killing of its member Advocate Habibur Rahman Mondal in the city and Advocate Kalidas Baral at Bagerhat by unidentified assailants.

Habibur Rahman Mondal, General Secretary of Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum, Dhaka unit and Advocate Kalidas Baral, General Secretary of Bagerhat District Bar Association were killed by unidentified miscreants yesterday.

Presided over by Advocate Lutfie Alam, President of DBA, the meeting demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of those responsible for the killings.

The bar members expressed sympathy with the members of the bereaved families and prayed for the salvation of the departed souls.

Bangladesh Bar Council at an emergency meeting strongly condemned the killings.

The meeting held at the Bar Council Bahaban here with Vice Chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council Barrister M Amirul Islam in the chair, expressed deep concern over the killings of the two reputed lawyers in the country.

See page 11 col 8

## Announcement



Following Lawrence L. Schultz's *Anatomy of a Coup: A Journey of a Quarter Century*, we publish from tomorrow *The Solar Correspondence: A Congressional Inquiry Deliberately Derailed?* by the same author in three parts on page 4.

## Inside Today Article

**Where Outlaws Make the Law**  
by Mir Ashfaquzzaman  
Page 4

August	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Aug 21	5:36am	6:27 pm

## Prayer Timings

August 21		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:30	5:05
Zohr	12:45	1:20
Asr	5:00	5:15
Maghrib	6:40	6:45
Esha	8:15	8:45

Source: Islamic Foundation

## 2 lawyers belonging to BNP, AL shot dead

Gunmen open fire on mourners in city

By Staff Correspondent

Unidentified assailants yesterday shot dead two lawyers, one in Dhaka and the other at Bagerhat, triggering protests by lawyers who ransacked some lower courts in the city and staged demonstrations.

Advocate Habibur Rahman Mondal, 44, was killed in the city and Advocate Kalidas Baral at Bagerhat.

Four people including two policemen were bullet-hit when unidentified gunmen opened fire again while mourners including lawyers were taking the coffin of Mondal towards the District Judge's Court area after Namaj-e-Janaza on the Supreme Court premises.

Police used tear gas and bat-

ons to bring the situation under control.

Chief Justice Latifur Rahman suspended work in all courts in the city after 1 pm following a request by a lawyers' delegation led by Barrister Mainul Hossain, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

Mondal, who was a defence counsel for Col (ret) Sultan Sharier Rashid, a convict in the Bangabandhu murder case, was shot in the head from a close range at Chandra Mohan Bashaki Lane at Banagram at 9:15 am. He, along with his muhori (clerk) was going to court on a Vespa motorcycle.

Mondal was Joint Secretary of city BNP and a leader of the

Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Parishad, front organisation of BNP. He was a former ward commissioner of DCC.

He was also a signatory to the *vakalatnama* for a contempt petition against the Prime Minister filed by pro-opposition lawyers yesterday.

Kalidas Baral, 45, Vice-president of Bagerhat district Awami League and General Secretary of the District Bar Association, was shot dead at the Sadhana Crossing at Bagerhat town at 8:30 am.

Baral was also a central leader of the Hindu-Boudha-Christian Oikya Parishad.

In the city, witnesses said See page 11 col 3



Wife of slain city BNP leader Advocate Habibur Rahman Mondal (inset) wails with their two-month-old baby in her lap yesterday. Relatives who came to console the family also broke down. - Star photo

## Lawyer murder, oil & gas price hike Countrywide half-day hartal on Aug 23, day-long Aug 30

By Staff Correspondent

The BNP-led opposition alliance has called a half-day hartal on Wednesday and a dawn-to-dusk on August 30 across the country protesting the killing of a BNP leader in the city yesterday and price hike of gas and petroleum products, respectively.

The half-day hartal will begin at 6 a.m. and end at 1 p.m.

BNP Secretary-General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan announced the shutdown programmes at a press briefing at 29 Minto Road yesterday evening. He also announced a series of demonstration programmes to mobilise public support to protest the killing of BNP leader Advocate Habibur Rahman Mondal and price hike of oil and gas.

The programmes include countrywide protest rallies and processions today to protest the killing of Mondal, city BNP

Joint-Secretary and Sutrapur thana unit general-secretary, and a lawyer's leader. The opposition parties will hold a joint protest rally at Muktangan at 4 p.m. today.

They will hold demonstrations and bring out torch processions in all thana, district and divisional headquarters on Tuesday in support of the half-day hartal.

The opposition alliance will stage demonstrations in all thana, district and city headquarters on August 28 to protest the price hike of gas and petroleum products as well as to drum up support for the day-long shutdown on August 30. It will also hold rallies and bring out torch processions across the country on August 29.

Bhuiyan blamed the Awami League for the brutal killing of BNP leader Habibur Rahman See page 11 col 7

## '71 war debacle Make public Hamood-ur Commission Report: PPP

By Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD, Aug 20: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) today demanded making public of the Hamood-ur Rahman Commission Report on the 1971 war debacle and said stern action needed to be taken against the army officials who brought disrepute to the country and the military, reports PTL.

Military ruler General Pervez Musharraf had promised even-handed accountability but it requires courage for the armed forces to admit that some of its officers had behaved disgracefully and were involved in corruption, drunkenness and moral turpitude during the war as has been mentioned in the Hamood-ur Rahman Commission Report, a PPP spokesman said.

The spokesman said to improve the image and moral of the armed forces, it was necessary to publish the report and allow a public debate.

Accountability would be meaningless unless it was expressed See page 11 col 7

## Mori goes round Bangabandhu Museum, leaves for Pakistan

Japan's Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori visited the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum yesterday and was visibly moved witnessing the marks and memories of the tragic event of Bangabandhu's assassination, report agencies.

Mori sympathised with Hasina saying: "I can now feel the grief you contain in your heart and what a life you're passing losing your near and dear ones."

"I hope you've learnt a lot from the life and struggle of your beloved father. I believe your grief has been turned into strength," he told Hasina.

The Japanese PM placed wreath at the portrait of Bangabandhu and stood in solemn silence for sometime as a mark of respect to the Bangladesh's independence leader.

Prime Minister Hasina and her only sister, Sheikh Rehana, See page 11 col 7



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori (L) with his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina on his side looks at photographs on the life of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman yesterday at the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum. - AFP photo

## PM's directive to arrest Mondal's killers

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday gave a directive for immediate steps to arrest the killers of lawyer Habibur Rahman Mondal, reports UNB.

Mondal, joint secretary of city BNP and also of Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum, was shot dead by gunmen in the city yesterday.

In a message of condolence and condemnation, the Prime Minister "strongly protested the barbaric killing" of Advocate Mondal.

She prayed for the departed soul and conveyed sympathies to the members of the bereaved family.

In a similar message, Hasina condemned the killing of lawyer Kalidas Baral, an Awami League leader and former chairman of Chilmari upazila.

The Prime Minister said Kalidas was a follower of the ideology of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

"We lost a devoted political leader at his death," she said. The Prime Minister conveyed her sympathies to the members of the bereaved family.

## Oil price hike 48-hr transport strike in Ctg from Aug 29

From staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 20: Road communication between Chittagong and other parts of the country was disrupted today as Chittagong transport owners and workers action council enforced a dawn-to-dusk transport strike.

The strike was called protesting price hike of petroleum products and gas.

However, no untoward incidents were reported during the strike, police said.

Vehicles except rickshaws and some private cars were off the roads and highways, during the strike.

Delivery of goods to and from Chittagong port remained suspended due to lack of trucks, port sources said.

Transport owners and workers held rallies at different places in and outside the city protesting the price hike of petroleum products and gas.

Greater Chittagong Truck Owners Coordination Council organised a meeting at its office in port area today.

Chaired by SM Chan Meah, president of the council, the meeting was addressed by Abu Siddique, Jahur Ahmed, See page 11 col 6

## Cases against cops: Court orders go unheeded

By Chaitanya Chandra Halder

At least a dozen complaint cases were filed against some DMP personnel with the CMM's Court in the first seven months of the year for their alleged involvement in killing, extortion, intimidation, misuse of power and misbehaviour.

The court ordered judicial inquiry in five of the cases and police investigation in the rest seven, and submission of reports to the court. But no report has yet been submitted, sources in the court said.

Haji Mozammel Hossain, a resident of Kartimullah Bagh under Shyampur thana, filed a case on February 14 accusing 16 Detective Branch officials of killing his younger brother Sumon.

The court had directed the OC of Shyampur thana to take it as a regular case after a thorough investigation.

On February 29, Mohammad Alimullah Alim of Dayaganj under Sutrapur thana filed a case against four policemen of Demra thana accusing them of trespass, theft and intimidation. The court ordered a judicial inquiry into the matter.

Abul Kalam Azad of Mirpur under Pallabi thana filed a case on March 1 accusing two police officials of Uttara thana of trespass, theft and intimidation. The court ordered a judicial inquiry into the matter.

Mosammam Nurjahan, a resident of Mirbagh under Ramna thana, filed a case against six policemen of Khilgaon thana on April 13 accusing them of trespass, physical torture and misuse of power. The court ordered a judicial inquiry.

Advocate Alina Khan, a director of Bangladesh Society for Enforcement of Human Rights, filed a case against Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury, ADC of DMP (South), on June 1 accusing him of misuse of power, intimidation and misbehaviour.

The court directed the DMP Commissioner to submit a report after thorough investigation.

Mosammam Farha Begum, a resident of Purana Pallan under Motijheel thana, filed a case against three police personnel of Motijheel thana on June 6 for trespass, theft, intimidation

and misbehaviour.

The court directed the DMP Commissioner to take legal action against the policemen after a thorough investigation and submit a report to the court.

Ibrahim Bhutto of Mohammadpur filed a case on June 7 accusing a sub-inspector of Mohammadpur thana of confining his younger brother Zakaria at the thana for Tk 50,000 ransom.

The court directed the Additional Deputy Commissioner of DMP (South) to take action after investigation and submit a report to the court.

Mohammad Lutfar Rahman of Islampur under Kotwali thana filed a case on June 26 accusing two DMP personnel of abducting his son Zahid and realising Tk 2,50,000. The court ordered a judicial inquiry.

Mir Nurul Islam, of Siddeswari Lane under Ramna thana filed a case on July 26 accusing a sub-inspector of Khilgaon thana of trespass and theft. The court directed the OC of the thana to submit a report to the court after investigation.

## Striking teachers stage sit-in in front of Shikkha Bhaban

By Staff Correspondent

Several hundred teachers and employees of non-government schools and colleges staged a sit-in in front of the Shikkha Bhaban yesterday.

Traffic came to a halt for about an hour in the area as the strikers came in a procession from the Central Shaheed Minar to stage the hour-long demonstration in front of the Bhaban.

Police eventually dispersed the teachers agitating under the banner of Teacher-Employees' United Front (TEUF).

Teachers and employees of the country's non-government educational institutions went on an indefinite strike demanding 100 per cent salaries from the public exchequer, promotion and service rules.

Earlier, the Front leaders held a brief rally at the Central Shaheed Minar, observing a minute's silence in memory of late teacher Motiur Rahman, who died at a rally held to protest the increased authority of managing committees of

non-government educational institutions. They reiterated their pledge not to back off from the demands.

Presided over by M. Shaheedullah, the rally was also addressed, among others, by Sheikh Amanullah, M. Sellin Bhuiyan and Rafiqul Islam.

The Front will observe a six-hour token hunger strike today in front of the Jatiya Press Club and also in front of the deputy commissioner offices in district headquarters to press home their demands.

Meanwhile, Prof. Minmoy Bhattacharya, Secretary-General of Federation Internationale Syndicate de Enseignement (FISE), an international organisation of teachers' bodies, and Dr. Sudhir Roy and Prof. Anil Bhattacharya, President and General-Secretary respectively of All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organisation, in separate messages yesterday expressed solidarity with the striking teachers.

## Govt offers talks with teachers

The government offered talks with the striking non-government teachers yesterday to resolve the problem for which all the educational institutions remained closed for the last 40 days, reports UNB.

If the teachers want, the government is willing to sit across the table. The doors for discussion is always open," said a press note issued by the Education Ministry.

The government considers that discussion is the best possible way to resolve the problem. The teachers held meetings with the Ministry at different times on various issues, which yielded good results.

It expressed hope that the teachers will resume classes for the greater interest of the nation.

By joining the class they should allay the fears of the guardians and place the teachers' community in its respectable position, the press note said.

The government admitted that the teachers should get 100 per cent of the salary and the government is now providing See page 11 col 8

## Dengue: Govt hiding facts Fatality rate already reached epidemic level: Expert

By Naimul Haq

The government is covering up the fact that the rate of fatality from dengue infection has already reached 10 per cent of the total number of cases which, by definition, makes it an epidemic.

Touhid Uddin Ahmed, former chief scientific officer at the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), made the observation in an interview with the Daily Star yesterday.

Ahmed, who has a 30-year experience in this field and has worked with competent WHO experts from time to time, said that between 1979 and 1994, he along with the visiting WHO consultants shared their studies with the government, warning that dengue infection was on the rise.

He said their visits were significant in the sense that WHO suspected Bangladesh mi-

ght have dengue cases considering its existence in neighbouring countries.

In fact, many of the people who died earlier from common viral infection (flu) are now suspected to have died of Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF).

The growth of Aedes mosquito population is measured with the number of containers found with its larvae in 100 houses. This measurement is known as the Breteau Index and an index of up to 18 is considered normal.

A 1997 survey showed that the index had reached 30 in the city, rising further to 160 in 1999 and to an alarming 254 in June 2000, which is 14 times the normal level.

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) and the Health Ministry ignored my warning of a dengue outbreak in the city. The government knew about the

consequences of dengue infection all along."

About the current spraying of insecticide in the city, he said the DCC is spraying larvicide and adulticide in the morning, which kills only the common Culex mosquitoes, not the Aedes, because to kill the carriers of dengue infection spraying needs to be done in the evening.

Spraying of insecticides should have started before the breeding season. "Now it's too late to achieve any notable success since the adult mosquitoes, already widespread, continue to lay eggs giving rise to a menacing growth of Aedes population."

Expressing surprise that the government has not yet initiated an epidemiological study on dengue patients, Ahmed said, "The current account of the number of dengue cases and See page 11 col 8

## 43 more dengue cases in city

By staff correspondent

Forty-three more people with dengue fever were hospitalised yesterday in different hospitals and private clinics in the city.

As per the control room at the health directorate, Dhaka Medical College Hospital admitted 12 patients yesterday while Mitford Hospital reported admitting 1 patient.

Among other hospitals and clinics, Dhaka Shishu Hospital reported admitting 2, BIRDEM 6, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital 2, Shrawardhy hospital 1, Red Crescent Holy Family Hospital 1, Bangladesh Medical College Hospital 6, Central hospital 2, Samarita hospital 3, Nibedita Nursing Home 5 and Ibn sina clinic reported admitting 2 patients.

In the meantime, a total of nine people - five in Feni and one each in Bhola, Manikganj, Rangpur and Brahmanbaria - were hospitalised after being clinically diagnosed for dengue See page 11 col 8



## QULKHANI

Our beloved 2nd son Al-haj Mahabubur Rahman Khan (Bappi) left us for the bliss of the eternal world at 04-10 hours on 18 th August '2000. His namaje Janaja was held at Banani Mosque after Juma Prayer and was laid to rest at the Banani grave yard on

the same day. His Qulkhani will be held after Asar prayer on 21st August, Monday at own home no. 37, Road no. 18, Block- B, Banani Dhaka.

We request all friends, relations and wellwishers to attend to pray and seek solace for the departed soul.

Al-haj Nazrul Islam Khan Badal (Father) & Mother Begum Hasna Islam Khan.