

## Engr Humayun murder: PW cross-examined

By Court Correspondent

Mohammad Enamul Kabir, the first prosecution witness as well as the complainant in the sensational Engineer Humayun Kabir murder case, was cross-examined in the fourth Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday.

The judge, Syed Aminul Islam adjourned the proceedings of the case till 11 am today.

Enamul in his statement said he along with his nephew Mohammad Shakhawat Hossain and elder brother Humayun Kabir (the victim) went to the residence of Faisal Ansari at 156, Azimpur Road in the city at about 7.30 pm on November 21, 1999.

Enamul said they then returned to his residence, leaving Humayun Kabir at Ansari's house. Humayun Kabir and for Ansari went to Dhamondi to see a prospective bride, Enamul said. He also told the court that at about 9 pm he received a telephone call from one of his relatives and came to know that his brother Humayun was shot at central road in Dhamondi area and rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. He immediately went to DMCH and found his

brother dead. Enamul stated that Humayun Kabir had been in America as an Engineer since 1981 and he came to Bangladesh on November 13, 1999.

Enamul further said that his brother Humayun Kabir married to an American lady and to the best of his knowledge, the victim had no enmity with anybody in Bangladesh.

Humayun Kabir and Faisal Ansari were partners in oil business in America and later a trade dispute developed between the two. Enamul said, adding that Faisal Ansari and his brother Chapal Ansari had killed Humayun Kabir in a pre-planned way to grab whole property of the victim.

Metropolitan PP Quamrul Islam, APP Faizuddin Bhuiyan and AF M Abdul Wadud appeared for the state while Advocate Sirajul Haq, Abdur Razak Khan and Humayun Kabir for the accused.

The accused Faisal Ansari, now in the jail custody, was present in the court while Chapal Ansari and others are still at large.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave away Bangladesh Police Medal and President's Police Medal to selected policemen at the inaugural ceremony of the Police Week 2001 at Rajarbagh Police Lines yesterday.

## PM: Apply PSA cautiously

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Hasina said that ensuring law and order is the precondition for the country's development and her government was working from the beginning to achieve this goal.

She said police has a great responsibility and the government has taken several steps for them to work properly.

Hasina said soon after assuming power, "we tried to identify the problems of the police department and took steps to resolve them."

Earlier, the Prime Minister inspected the parade and took salute from a contingent of the police force.

Later, she distributed Bangladesh Police Medal (BPM) and President's Police Medal (PPM) to selected policemen for their courageous role in combating crime last year.

The Prime Minister said it is not possible for the police to achieve total success in curbing crime without cooperation from the people. "Application of law will become easier for the police if citizens are respectful to the laws of the land."

Mentioning the risk allowance given to the policemen by her government for the first time, Hasina said the world of police has become too much risky as nowadays the culprits possessed bombs, bullets, guns and other sophisticated weapons.

She regretted that on-duty police were being "attacked by gun fire or bomb during the programmes of different opposition political parties." As a result, policemen receive injury, become paralysed or even killed, she said.

Hasina declared Tk 5 crore for education of the children of the members of the police forces and for proper treatment of those

policemen who became paralysed or sick during duty.

Referring to the steps taken to meet the residential problem especially of constables, she said the government allocated Tk 12.70 crore for building new barracks in the capital and another Tk 12.30 crore for extension of the barracks in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Sylhet, Dinajpur, Bogra and Mymensingh.

The Prime Minister assured that the government would allocate additional budget this year for welfare and development of the police forces.

Hasina announced the introduction of a new telephone system in the Dhaka Metropolitan Police so that people can reach the police quickly. The new 1000-line exchange has 999 dialling. The exchange was scheduled to go into operation yesterday.

## Illegal high-rises: HC rule on govt, Pvt bodies

By Staff Correspondent

The High Court yesterday issued a rule on 8 government organisations and 13 private construction firms to explain within two weeks why the construction of illegal high-rise buildings in various places in Dhaka City would not be stopped.

A Division Bench of HC also asked them to explain within the above time frame why the buildings would not be demolished.

The HC Division Bench comprising Justice Abu Sayeed Ahmed and Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury high court issued the rule following a writ petition submitted by Advocate Abdul Mannan Khan on behalf of Bangladesh Legal Aid and Service Trust (BLAST).

Advocate Idrisur Rahman argued in favour of the trust during the hearing. He was assisted by Advocate Panj Kumar Kundu, Advocate Mohammad Ikram and advocate Syed Ziaul Hasan.

## Two shot dead

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injured when miscreants shot him at Maniknagar.

He was admitted to DMCH with bullet injury in the abdomen.

Police said that miscreants led by Sentu, Kalu and Hanif might have attacked Huda following previous rivalry.

Mohammad Abul Hashem Mia, 61, was stabbed by extortionists while he was trying to save a woman from their grip at South Bashabo, witnesses said.

He was admitted to DMCH with stab injuries in his hands and abdomen.

## Hazari

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"Here is the journalist, Tipu" and Hazari ordered his men to take him to Zahir Raihan Hall and "cut off my hands and legs."

But the group led by Shahjahan Shaju and Kohinur forcibly took him to Shaheed Salam Community Centre at Mizan Road and beat him severely.

The FIR said that Hazari came there and again ordered them to take him to Zahir Raihan Hall where he was beaten with hockey stick and iron rod and left unconscious. Kohinur fired several gunshots to create panic in the area.

Tipu was brought to Dhaka and operated upon at the Orthopaedic (Pangur) Hospital Saturday afternoon. His condition was stated to be critical.

## Edn Policy

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effective policy to raise skilled manpower in the country," he told the House.

Prof Abdul Mannan, Dr Alauddin Ahmed, Hafiz Ahmed Majumdar, Dharendra Devnath Shambhu and Principal Abdus Shabed took part in the general discussion praising Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Education Minister and members of National Education Policy preparation committee for giving the nation its first policy on education.

"I feel proud and fortunate of framing the national education policy as the previous one was framed 150 years ago," he said, adding that attempts were made in 1952, 1957 and 1969 but failed due to obstruction by the then rulers. People had felt the necessity for change in the education policy since 1854.

Even attempts to formulate an education policy went in vain in 1979, 1983 and 1988, he informed the House.

The Education Minister said Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib had constituted Qudrat-e-Khuda education commission in 1972. The report was placed to Sheikh Mujib in 1973, but it was not formally adopted by the then government as the move was thwarted.

## Textbook scam Sit-in in front of NCTB

By DU Correspondent

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF), a left leaning student organisation, along with a number of school students, staged a sit-in in front of the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) office in the city yesterday demanding punishment of the officials responsible for 'irregularities' in printing and supplying the textbooks.

The SCF brought out a procession from the Dhaka University campus at around 12 noon and marched towards the NCTB office.

Addressing a rally during the sit-in, SCF leaders announced that they would lay siege to the office of Pustaka, a Beximco concern, on February 3 to press home their demand.

Among others, Nurul Islam, Khokon Das and Ashrafuddin Akash addressed the rally.

## Fear of fire Garment factory worker killed in stampede

By Staff Correspondent

A woman worker was killed in a stampede in a garments factory, triggered by a fire at a nearby bitumen factory at East Nakhalpara in the city yesterday.

The victim was identified as Rokhsana, 15, an employee of Patrick Group. She was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead.

The fire broke out at the bitumen factory of Nazrul and Brothers. Fire Brigade sources said the fire gutted a large number of drums containing bitumen and other goods.

Nine fire fighting units from Tejgaon, Kurmitola, Mohammadpur, Mirpur and the Fire Brigade Headquarters put out the fire, they said.

## AL activist murdered

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Jan 28: AL activist Nasir Molla, 35, of Mongla was murdered on Friday night at village Amurbunia under Swarnakhola thana of Bagerhat district.

His body was recovered from a canal of the same village yesterday.

Police said Nasir might have been killed as a sequel to previous enmity with one of two alleged killers who took Nasir to Swarnakhola in a motor bike at gunpoint.

## Opposition's rally at Bandarban

From Staff Correspondent

BANDARBAN, Jan 28: The BNP-led allied opposition will hold a grand rally at local station Tuesday, reports UNB.

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia, Jatiya Party presidium member Begum Rowshan Ershad, MP, Jamaat Ameer Moulana Motiur Rahman Nizami and Islami Oikya Jote president Shaikhul Hadith Moulana Azizul Haque are likely to address the rally.

## ILO study

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hostel is not prestigious since hostels are perceived as virtual brothels, it said.

Living in mess is also not secure, as women garment workers remain fearful of attack by local outlaws, pimps, drug addicts and, above all, by the landlords and their sons.

Streets in Dhaka city are risky for commuting, especially for women. About 75 per cent of mishaps encountered by female workers take place on street.

Such incidents include attack by mastans and harassment by police and youths on streets. About 70 per cent of the female bus commuters said they experienced bad behaviour from bus conductors and drivers. Kidnapping also occurs on streets.

## Rebels massacre 24 people in Algeria

ALGIERS, Jan 28: An armed group broke into two homes in an isolated village and massacred two dozen sleeping people including 16 children, security sources said Sunday, reports AP.

It was the deadliest attack so far this year in an Islamic insurgency that has left tens of thousands dead.

The attack occurred between 11 pm and midnight Saturday in the hamlet of Oued Fares in the Chlef region, some 210 kilometers (some 130 miles) west of the Algerian capital, according to the sources, who spoke on condition they not be named.

Security forces blanketed the area Sunday morning in search of the attackers.

The armed men broke into two homes, surprised their victims in their sleep and slit their throats, according to the sources, who added that 11 people lived in one of the homes and 13 in the other.

## South Korea to make new bid for permanent family reunion centre

SEOUL, Jan 29: A South Korean delegation will make a new bid Monday to persuade North Korea to agree to set up a permanent centre for reunions between families split since the war between the two sides five decades ago, reports AFP.

Three officials from the South Korean Red Cross were to arrive Monday at Mount Kumgang in North Korea for talks with counterparts from the North's Red Cross society.

The two sides will also attempt to agree details for the delayed third round of family reunions.

## Kuwaiti cabinet members resign

From Staff Correspondent

KUWAIT, Jan 28: Cabinet members have submitted their resignations in a widely expected move that may be designed to avoid the questioning of the justice minister by a lawmaker over inefficiency allegations, reports AP.

Parliament Speaker Jassem Al-Kharafi told reporters today that the prime minister, Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah, would now take the resignations to the ruler of this Gulf nation, Sheikh Jaber A Ahmed Al-Sabah.

If the resignations are not accepted, a reshuffle may follow, political analysts said.

Al-Kharafi said he didn't know the reasons for the resignations, which came one day after lawmaker Hussein Al-Gallaf said he planned to question Justice Minister Saad al-Hashel over what he called unprosecuted murder and corruption cases.

The Cabinet's decision had "nothing to do with the grilling" of the minister, Al-Kharafi said.

Questioning Cabinet ministers in parliament usually causes tension between the two branches of government. They have led to the dissolution of the 50-seat legislature in the past, the last time in 1999.

## Terrorists ransack garments factory in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent

A group of terrorists ransacked an export-oriented garments factory in BSCIC industrial area at 'Panchalati' under Fatullah thana on Saturday night.

The miscreants also chopped the security guard of the factory and damaged a van of the mill.

According to sources, the security guard of Fair Apparel Ltd resisted a group of terrorists while they were taking heroin on the factory premises on Wednesday last.

Following this incident, the gang led by one Jasim, 25, attacked the factory at 10 pm on Saturday.

They fired some bullets, exploded bombs and ransacked the factory.

They beat up and chopped the security guard Kalimullah. He was taken to hospital in a critical condition.

A case was filed with Fatullah thana but none was arrested.

## Sumon

From Page 12

to the city on Friday night. He is now under a five-day remand.

The sources said Sumon denied his involvement in the killings and said that some criminals in Sutrapur area were behind the incident.

Police interrogated him for about five hours on the first day of remand yesterday.

Police so far arrested 20 people in connection with the killings. They are looking for the rest of the accused, the sources said.

Son of a leader of Dhaka city Mohila Awami League, Sumon is charged with killing two youths at the Rifle Club at Sutrapur in the city on September 15 last year.

Bodies of the victims - Sayem, 19 and Mohsin 18 - were recovered from a manhole near the Loharpool in the area on the next day.

## JCD rally

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They also manhandled the JCD president as he reportedly refused to withdraw the expulsion order of JCD city organising secretary Yasin Chowdhury Lito.

Local JCD leaders rescued Pintu who later left the meeting venue.

Later, the rebels in the JCD held a rally at the city BNP office at Nasim Bhaban with former JCD city president Mohammad Ali in the chair.

At the meeting, they declared Pintu persona non grata in Chittagong.

## Bushra murder

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Ahmed is still at large.

Rushdania Bushra alias Phool, 18, a college student and daughter of a retired police officer, was raped and killed at her Hazipara residence in the city's Rampura area on the night of July 1 last year.

Special public prosecutors Abdur Rezaq Khan and M A Bari appeared for the state while Advocate Mahbub Ahmed and Shamim Ahsan for the accused.

## By-election to Satkhira-1 JS seat Feb 28

By-election in Satkhira-1 (Kalaroa-Tala) constituency will be held on February 28, according to the schedule announced by the Election Commission yesterday, reports UNB.

The last date for submission of nomination papers is February 4. Scrutiny of nomination papers is February 5 while withdrawal of candidature is set for February 12.

The seat fell vacant following the death of Syed Kamal Bakht Saki on December 15.

## CPB rally

From Page 1

Incident.

Besides party leaders, some witnesses to the January 20 rally, CPB activists from across the country will attend the protest rally.

Processions and demonstrations will also take place at district headquarters as per schedule, the sources said.

Meanwhile, CPB General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim at a press briefing yesterday reiterated his appeal for assistance for rehabilitation of families of the blast victims.

The sources said 13 of the injured are still undergoing treatment. "Some of them may need treatment for more than a year," one source said.

Replying to a query, Selim said people from various walks of life have so far deposited Tk. 3.51 lakh for treatment and rehabilitation of the victims. The party has spent Tk 1.75 lakh, he said.

He appealed to people to donate more money for the rehabilitation programme. Donations can be deposited with Deposit Account No. 9126, Janata Bank, Purana Paltan Branch, Dhaka.

## Jubo Dal rally

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speech.

Addressing a Jubo Dal assembly before opening the rally, BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan praised their late leader, saying president Zia had floated the youth front to engage the youths, the backbone of the country, in the nation-building process.

He said the Awami League government pushed the youth into uncertainty failing to provide job for them. The government is destroying the backbone of the country compelling them to indulge in drug addiction.

The BNP leader said it is time for Jubo Dal to take actions to resist all sorts of "conspiracy" of the government.

Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Sadek Hossain Khoka and Gayeswar Chandra Roy also addressed the rally presided over by Jubo Dal president Mirza Abbas.

Later, a big colourful rally with party activists carrying big national and party flags and portrait of Zia and Khaleda Zia marched through the city streets.

## Teesta water

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off the Teesta barrage where they have their own barrage to use the Teesta flow for their own use, the sources said.

The issue was raised at the recently concluded meeting of the JRC on January 12-13.

Bangladesh pressed for an interim agreement on the river to meet the urgent needs before a complete agreement. But the Indian side had reportedly offered a 10 per cent flow, which was turned down by Bangladesh.

Bangladesh pointed out that there had been an interim agreement in 1983 for the Teesta. The Indian side reportedly agreed to consider it but would not say when it would be signed.

## IJO

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cerning terms of reference of the proposed body and we are hopeful that we would be able to finalise those at this meeting," a delegate said.

The International Jute Council (IJC), the highest decision making body of IJO, in October last year accepted recommendations of the working group of IJO for a successor organisation.

The IJO formed in 198 is being liquidated as EU members of the Dhaka-based UN body on jute were reluctant to extend further cooperation, alleging that it has failed to prove its potential.

There are criticisms that the IJO failed to make jute competitive with cheaper and more durable synthetic materials.

The 25-member IJO was formed under an agreement initiated by UNCTAD in Geneva. About 10 million people depend on jute industry directly or indirectly, sources concerned mentioned.

## Syed Moazzem Ali

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on August 4, 1971 and set up the Bangladesh mission in the US capital, which later became full-fledged Bangladesh embassy in 1972.

As a career diplomat, he held important posts in Bangladesh missions in US, Poland, India, Saudi Arabia and in Bangladesh Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

Ali was Bangladesh Ambassador in Bhutan and Iran with concurrent accreditation to Syria, Lebanon and Turkmenistan.

He was made Bangladesh Ambassador to France with concurrent accreditation to UNESCO and Portugal.

Ali was promoted to secretary in December 1999.

## Hartal paralyses normal life in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Jan 28: A half-day hartal paralysed normal life in Khulna city today.

Rob Smriti Parishad enforced the hartal demanding arrest and trial of those involved in the killing of AL mayoral candidate S MA Rob.

Rob was gunned down by a gang of terrorists at Sonadanga in the city on August 11 last year.

All modes of vehicles went off the roads while public and private offices, educational institutions and shops remained closed during hartal hours.

Production in Khalishpur industrial belt was hampered due to thin attendance of workers.

Apart from suspension of transaction in all banks and

insurance companies, economic activities in the commercial belts in the city came to a standstill.

Leaders and activists of the Smriti Parishad brought out a procession in the morning denouncing failure by CID to arrest the killers and masterminds in the conspiracy to kill Rob.

Joined by the people from all walks of life irrespective of political affiliation, the processionists through their slogans gave blank cheque to Rob Smriti Parishad for launching vigorous movement soon to press the government for arresting not only the alleged killers of Rob, but also the killers of all political leaders and activists.

## South Asian Peace Mission arrives today

A four-member South Asian Peace Mission arrives in Dhaka today as part of its ongoing South Asia tour, reports UNB.

The Mission comprises former Indian Naval Chief Admiral L Ramdas, organiser of World Peace Procession 1999 Dr Pandey and nuclear scientists from Pakistan Dr A H Nayyar and Dr Zia Mian.

The Mission will attend a roundtable at CIRDP auditorium on January 30 and exchange views with members of the civil society.

They will also exchange views about their mission with the editors of the leading dailies and news agencies and noted columnists of the country on the same day.

## Tanti Dal leader shot dead in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 28: A BNP backed Jatiyatabadi Tanti Dal leader was shot dead by unidentified assailants at village Gopalpur under Belkuchi upazila in Sirajganj district at midnight on Saturday night.

The victim was identified as Chandmiah, 35, general secretary of Jatiyatabadi Tanti Dal, Gopalpur unit.

Police said a gang of five shot Chand while he was going to a tea stall near his house. He died on the spot.

The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately.

Police recovered the body today and sent it to Sirajganj General Hospital for autopsy.

The victim's wife filed a murder case with Belkuchi thana.

## JBIC to take up new projects

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Prime Minister that his bank would also provide assistance for the development of socioeconomic condition of the people, including financing the Arsayan project.

Finances for construction of the Padma Bridge also came up for discussion in the meeting and Yasuda responded positively for conducting feasibility study of the bridge. The Japanese Agency for International Cooperation will take the initiative for the study.