

## Sami Secretary Gen of 13th NAM Summit

BSS, Dhaka

Former foreign secretary C M Shafi Sami yesterday took over as the secretary general of 13th NAM Summit.

The next summit of 114 member countries of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is scheduled to be held here early next year. The date is yet to be finalised.

The Summit was originally scheduled to take place later this year. The date was, however, shifted because of national elections sometime in October.

The secretary general is now busy recruiting his support staff to begin his actual work which is likely to start from next month. The office of the secretary general will be housed in a building in Bailey Road which is now being renovated.

Meanwhile, preparation of

Govt employees iterate demand for 30 pc DA

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Sarkari Karmachari Dabi Bastabayan Parishad yesterday reiterated their appeal to the government to accept their five-point demands.

The demands include 30 per cent dearness allowance for the government employees, formation of a permanent service commission and pay commission, equal status for the employees who perform similar duties and right to trade union for the government employees, a press release said.

As part of the scheduled programme, a large number of government employees joined a protest rally at the Audit Building premises to press home their demands.

President of the parishad Harun-Ur-Rashid chaired the meeting. It was addressed, among others, by Syed Ataur Rahman, Muhammad Shahabuddin, Abdul Hashem Miah and Muhammad Lokman Ali.

The government employees also announced fresh programmes to press home their demands at the meeting, the press release said.

They will hold a grand rally at the Paltan Maidan on June 20 to announce their final programme.

## PSA threatens rule of law

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the Act took away the right of the lower court to grant bail to an accused during the period of investigation. By such provision the Act also called in question the wisdom of the judiciary.

The much-talked-about PSA was passed by parliament early last year without the presence of the opposition. Application of the law gave a sharp rise of writ petitions. The court took up 260 identical ones for hearing together.

Barrister Iftiqar appeared for M Moshred Khan MP.

Abdul Malek, another senior counsel, submitted adopting most of the points raised by Barrister Iftiqar.

Barrister Rokon Uddin Mahmud

## 36 murders in 20 days

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But in most of the cases, the killers were still at large.

Although allegations against police are widespread, police say most of the 21 city police stations are overburdened with cases of violent crimes. Officials at these stations say they are not aware of culprits being put behind the bars and that most of the notorious criminals are getting bail.

Of the 36 murders this month, 15 took place in the first week with five each on May 4 and May 7.

Businessman Rafiqul Islam, managing director of the Asia Pacific Medical Supply Limited was killed on May 7. He was found dead half-lying on his computer table at his Motijheel office.

A case was filed with Motijheel police but no one was arrested as yet.

Two persons a boy and a girl were killed on May 2. Body of the girl was recovered from Badda area and that of the boy from Mirpur area.

On May 3, a hotelier and an

## JCD activists regrouping

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underworld sources, one of the JCD groups operating in the city's Chawkbazar area would not settle for less than five lakh taka in any hold-up. There is another JCD group that operates in the largely BCL-dominated Pahartali area.

The Moshred Khan group, the strongest of the JCD cadres, dominates the Bakulai and Mirkhan Nagar areas. While the Don Shamrat group operates in the Pahartali area, Iqbal-Alam group controls the Chakoria area.

Excepting the Pahartali College, JCD does not have control over any other college in the city. Don Shamrat leads the college-based cadres of the JCD. Sources said, this group owns two submachine guns, five cut-rifles and eight to 10

## Jubo Union lays siege to US embassy today

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Jubo Union, the youth front of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), will lay siege to the US embassy in Dhaka today in protest against recent statement of Ambassador Mary Ann Peters about the country's politics, election and post-election obligations.

It will hold a rally at Natun Bazar in Badda at 10:30 am from where a procession will proceed to the US embassy, said a press release.

BJU termed the statement beyond diplomatic norms and tantamount to direct interference into the internal affairs of Bangladesh.

## Customs officer held on charge of killing his domestic help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested a customs officer for allegedly killing his domestic help at Halishahar on Sunday night.

Police said the arrested customs appraiser Moktar Hossain was brought under remand yesterday for two days for interrogation at Halishahar Thana.

Moktar Hossain was suspected to have tortured Md Akram, 12, to death in his house at 10.30 pm, police said.

On receipt of information from the landlord of Moktar, police rushed to L-block of Halishahar residential area and recovered the body from the kitchen and arrested Moktar.

Police said the customs officer earlier tried to convince his neighbour that it was a normal death. But police found the marks of torture on the body of Akram. Akram's ears were found blood-stained, police added. The body was sent to hospital for autopsy.

A case was filed with Halishahar Thana against the customs appraiser.

## JCD leader

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police did not take any action against the offenders," he said.

District BNP leaders, including former State Minister Mosharrif Hossain Shahjahan, condemned the killing and demanded immediate arrest of the killers of Iftekharul.

A murder case was filed against local Sramik League leader Daimuddin and his associates.

## Funds diverted

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rickshaw lanes. Meanwhile, army personnel are forcing rickshaws to use the lanes.

Officials of Dhaka Urban Transport Project, who are now implementing several projects at busy intersections, expressed surprise over building of the rickshaw lanes. They were not even informed about it, they said.

## DCC

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required but we may not need so many at a time," Huda said.

The CEO said, as per policy, recruitment of cleaners under "master roll" is done by respective Ward Commissioners and his office has no monitoring over the process.

## Date for talks

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four and a half years.

Answering a question on arms smuggling from India prior to the general elections, the foreign secretary said, the issue will be discussed at a routine BDR-BSF meeting at the level of Deputy Director General at Rajshahi on June 2.

Ali said Bangladesh is investigating the April 18 BSF attack on the BDR outpost at Barabari. A report will be available after the investigation is over.

Autopsy reports of the 16 BSF soldiers killed in the Barabari clash was given to the Indian authorities earlier. But Dhaka is yet to get from New Delhi the autopsy reports of the Indian troops, done in India after the bodies were handed over, he said.

Three people were killed on May 11, two on May 15, three on May 16, four on May 17, three on May 19 and two on May 20.

On May 3, a hotelier and an

## Notification: Ershad's parliament seat

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instant notice was legally issued or not.

The judgement in this writ petition did not in any way put any embargo on rescinding Ershad's parliament membership. So, fate of Ershad with his seat vacated for moral turpitude remains unchanged.

Ershad had filed a writ petition when the secretary in charge of parliament issued the notice that the JP chief had been stripped of his membership being convicted of moral turpitude.

Barrister K S Nabi, counsel for Ershad, argued before the court at the time of hearings that a review petition was pending with the Appellate Division against the judgement and conviction.

Besides, there are some pocket terrorist groups of the JCD in Firozeshah Colony, Jhaitala, Panubhabhi Lane and Foy's Lake areas.

As such, he said, "the notification



PHOTO: STAR  
Stinking sewerage water on the road in the city's Chankhar Pool area has made life in the area quite miserable these days. Local people allege that the authorities have not made any move to end the problem despite repeated requests.

## Cars for diplomats being sold

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not less than Tk five lakh, the customs officials said.

They suspect that the government was deprived of at least Tk 50 crore revenue in the last five years because of such forgery.

Diplomats and donor agencies are allowed to import car without any duty and tax but payment of duty and tax is mandatory if the car is sold to others.

"The gang take Tk 20,000 for clearance of a car from foreign ministry," said a senior official of Custom Intelligence Department.

The Customs Intelligence has collected a list of 70 cars which were imported for use by diplomats but are being used by others now. Most of the cars are being used by members of parliament, political leaders and

businessmen. They are investigating how these cars were sold.

According to documents collected from Chittagong Customs House, more than 400 luxurious cars were imported for diplomats in the last five years, the sources said. Documents are being checked with the foreign ministry to ascertain how many of those are being used by diplomats, how many were sold and through which process, they said.

When contacted, Foreign Secretary Syed Muazzam Ali said he did not know about any such practice.

"The matter is dealt by Chief of Protocol Jahangir Shadat," he said.

Jahangir Shadat could not be contacted despite repeated attempts in several days.

Failing to communicate with him

over telephone, this correspondent faxed some questions to the protocol section at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for clarification and his comments in this regard.

The questions were faxed on May 16, requesting the Chief of Protocol to reply within two days. But till last night, no response was received from him or any one at the protocol section.

While leaving Bangladesh, a foreign diplomat can sell his car or take it with him. If he wants to sell the car, he has to obtain clearance from the foreign ministry. There are more than 60 diplomatic missions and offices of donors in Dhaka.

Two rival factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) exchanged gunshots on the Dhaka University campus last night.

Campus sources said Kala Sento, a notorious criminal in the city and former BCL leader, and a group of Mohsin Hall-based BCL activists traded at least six rounds of gunshots to chase each other down at about 9 p.m.

The clash erupted when Sento beat up Monir, a BCL activist of Mohsin Hall, at the Suhrawardi Udyan gate close to the TSC after an altercation at about 8 p.m.

Monir went to his hall and came back with a group of BCL men within a short time and started firing to chase Sento and his men who also fired gunshots in retaliation, witnesses said.

However, none was injured.

## Probir Assault Case No progress in investigation

BSS, Faridpur

The investigation in journalist Probir Shikdar assault case is yet to make any important headway.

Probir Shikdar, Faridpur-based district correspondent of the Daily Janakantha, was shot by some unknown masked miscreants in broad daylight on Faridpur-Kulhna highway on April 20 in the suburb of this district town. Probir was coming to Faridpur in a vespa from his village home at Kanaipur, 7 miles from here.

The miscreants shot at Probir and cut several parts of his body with sharp weapons.

He was shifted to Dhaka from Faridpur Medical College Hospital when his condition deteriorated.

During treatment at the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) Hospital, Probir's right leg had to be amputated. He is still undergoing treatment at the hospital and being attended both by NICVD and Pangu Hospital doctors.

According to surgeon Prof Sirajul Islam of Pangu Hospital who amputated Probir's leg, he will require more surgical operations on his left hand where some important tendons were cut by the miscreants.

## BCL factions trade gunshots on DU campus

DU CORRESPONDENT

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## Haris Khan

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DMCH morgue, Haris was buried at a graveyard in Tongi yesterday afternoon.

Haris' father Zamiruddin Khan told The Daily Star over telephone last night that the policemen present during the hand-over of the body told him that there was no sign of injury on the body. He said he was afraid that they would not get justice.

Earlier on Saturday, an unnatural death (UD) case was filed with the Ramna police station, which said that the boy died of "asthma".

SI Abdus Sattar and ASI Shah Alam were closed on Saturday on charge of torturing the teenaged boy to death.

An inquiry committee headed by Additional Superintendent of Police, Gazipur, Anwar Kamal was also formed to investigate the incident.

Four others accused in the same

## Tanbazar sex workers in vagrants centre Rehabilitation completes within couple of days

UNB, Dhaka

colleagues," she said. The others are Hasina, 25, Nazma, 24, Seema, 21, Beauty, 20, Shahinur, 24, and Parul alias Pagli.

Except Aleya and Pagli, the other five were pregnant when they were brought to the vagrants centre. They gave birth to children named Meem, Najmu, Kulsum, Hriday and Dilara.

Nazma and Hasina are happy they would be rehabilitated in society with jobs in a garments factory. It was possible for the leader of our mother, Aleya, said Beauty. "It is for her, we stayed here and she secured the means for our living."

The 271 inmates of the vagrants centre suffer from a variety of diseases. Some of them complained of the poor quality of food that was often served to inmates.

The inmates have been here for periods varying from one month to seven years. Officials at the centre said those living for years could not be rehabilitated due to "physical or mental defects."