



Death of a nurse

# Strike continues at BSMMUH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The entire nursing staff, backed by about 600 Class III and IV employees of the Sarkari Karmachari Samannaya Parishad (SKSP), continued work stoppage for a second day at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) yesterday.

The strike, enforced in protest at the death of a nurse following 'wrong treatment', forced activities at the hospital to nearly a halt, causing extreme inconvenience for indoor patients.

Together with Class III and IV employees, the nurses held demonstrations on the hospital premises and threatened to attack some doctors.

According to sources, they demanded immediate investigation into death of Shamsur Nahar, who died at the gynaecology department of the hospital. They alleged that she died due to sheer negligence, a charge the doctors deny.

Nahar, admitted under Associate Professor Saleha Begum, had undergone a laparoscopy about two weeks ago. She had some complications and allegedly died from profuse bleeding last Thursday.

At the news of her death many nurses demonstrated and resorted to violence on the day.

"They had chased away many doctors from the gynaecology ward," said

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A new plaque with the words Prodhanmontri Bhaban (Prime Minister's House) inscribed in it has been placed on the wall by the main entrance of erstwhile Ganobhaban.

## Ganobhaban's name plaque changed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The new name plaque of the erstwhile Ganobhaban was installed yesterday.

The BNP government last month changed the name of 'Ganobhaban' to Prime Minister Building (Prodhanmontri Bhaban) and made it the Prime Minister's evening office.

In the early seventies, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman used this building as the prime minister's office. In the late seventies, the building was used as a state guesthouse and was named 'Karotoa'.

After coming to power in 1996, the then prime minister Sheikh Hasina converted it into the prime minister's residence and resided there during the tenure of her office.

Before the end of the AL government, Parliament passed a law providing state protection for life to Bangabandhu's daughters. The

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## 2 rescued camel jockeys tell their tales

BSS, Dhaka

With tears in their eyes, former camel jockeys Mohsin and Zakir, showed the scars on their bodies to newsmen in the city yesterday. Their masters in Abu Dhabi had tortured them regularly, they said.

The Labour Wing of the Bangladesh mission in UAE recently rescued the two young boys. They were sent home on Friday and Minister for Labour and Employment Abdullah Al-Noman handed them over to their parents yesterday in presence of newsmen.

Mohsin was handed to his father Dulal Patwary and Zakir to his mother Razia Khatoon.

Mohsin, 12, son of Dulal Patwary of West Borail and Zakir, 11, son of Sirajullah and Razia Khatoon of Sontoshpur of Faridganj upazila in Chandpur district were trafficked to Abu Dhabi six years ago and used as jockeys in camel races.

Two child traffickers Monwar Ali and Manara Begum of Puidda village in Faridganj lured the boys' parents to send them to UAE promising them lucrative jobs and education facilities.

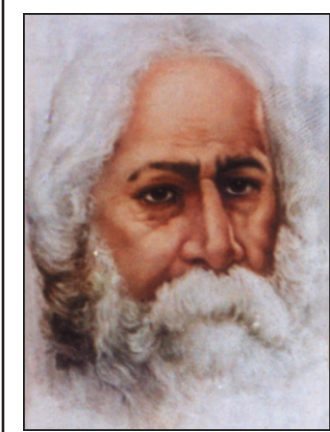
"I sent my son to UAE as I am poor and can't afford give my son two square meals a day. I made a mistake, I did not understand that the man sending my son to UAE was a child trafficker," Dulal Patwary said while talking to newsmen when he came to take his son.

Both parents said that they received between Tk 30 to 40 thousand each during the last six years from their sons.

Both Dulal and Razia Khatoon demanded punishment of the couple who had trafficked their sons.

Monwar and Manara, posed as the parents of Mohsin and Zakir while

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## Soumitra to play Tagore in movie

REUTERS, Kolkata

Renowned filmmaker Ismail Merchant is to make a movie about India's most famous poet, Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, the Bengali actor selected to play the lead role said yesterday.

"I have been offered the role of Tagore and am looking forward to it as I have never played a real-life person before," renowned actor Soumitra Chatterjee told Reuters.

He said that Merchant was planning a film on Tagore's long association with the French intellectual Romain Rolland, also a winner of Nobel prize for literature, that began in 1919.

Shooting of the as yet untitled film begins in December next year.

Merchant is one of the partners of Merchant Ivory Productions, which has produced such acclaimed movies as "A Room with a View" and "Howard's End."

He has recently produced

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## Buddhadeb-Vajpayee talks 'Influx of Bangladeshis not alarming but no room for complacency'

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Chief Minister of West Bengal Buddhadeb Bhattacharya on Friday took up with Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee the issue of influx of Bangladeshis in the wake of reported attacks on minorities in that country.

Bhattacharya told reporters in New Delhi that he discussed with Vajpayee the impact of the influx on West Bengal. He said the situation was "not alarming" but there was no room for complacency.

The chief minister said his government was closely monitoring developments in Bangladesh and situation in West Bengal's districts bordering that country.

Asked if he considered those

coming from across the border refugees or infiltrators, Bhattacharya said that rather than defining their status more important was solving the problem.

Bhattacharya is here in connection with a meeting of the chief ministers convened by Vajpayee to discuss steps to tackle the threat of terrorism, including the controversial Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance (POTO) which has been strongly opposed by the opposition.

Bhattacharya also discussed the issue of influx of Bangladeshis with Indian Home Minister Lal Krishna Advani. This was the first time that the head of West Bengal's Left Front government discussed the issue of influx from Bangladesh with the

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## Shazneen case adjourned till Nov 28

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Mojibur Rahman, ASP of CID and first prosecution witness and complainant in the Shazneen Rape Case, was cross-examined in the Special Court for Prevention of Women and Children Repression, Dhaka yesterday.

After an hour-long cross-examination by the lawyer for Shahidul Islam alias Shahid, the principal accused in the case, Judge M Shah Alam Miah adjourned the hearing till November 28.

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## President's directive Issue invitation cards to newsmen as other guests

UNB, Dhaka

President Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday assured that journalists will not have to face any awkward situation henceforth in covering any functions at Bangabhaban.

He made the assurance when Dhaka Reporters Unity President M Anwarul Haque and General Secretary Motaheer Hossain Masum met him at Bangabhaban at his invitation, a DRU release said.

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## Road carpeting suspended for refusal to pay toll to BNP men

UNB, Manikganj

Work on carpeting of Satura-Pakuria road remained suspended following assault of workers at the site by local BNP cadres for refusing to pay illegal tolls.

The victims said Baraket and Rafiq of village Baliaghata came there Thursday on a motorbike and identifying them as BNP cadres asked the contractor to see their leaders at the Dakbonglow.

The contractor met local JCD president Rahman and BNP organising secretary Sobhan where other cadres including Motaheer, Barkat, Rafiq, Bilop and Lal Siraj were present.

Later, the BNP leaders sent their cadres to the site of work. They assaulted the workers and ordered suspension of work until the toll is paid.

The matter was informed to the authority but no action was taken till writing of this report.

## JCD leader kidnapped in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Shahadat Hossain, vice president of Khulna Polytechnic Institute unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) was kidnapped early Friday morning by some unidentified armed miscreants from Sundarban Hostel under Khalishpur thana.

While fleeing the kidnapers fired several blank shots. Police recovered three empty shells of cartridges from the spot. Clothes of the victim were seized as evidence.

Till the time of writing this report yesterday, police could not rescue Shahadat, a third year student of Electronics Department. Police said Shahadat was illegally residing in the hostel.

JCD activists and supporters barricaded old Jessore road from 10 to 11 am yesterday, disrupting transport movement. Later, at a rally on the campus, they demanded rescue of the victim and arrest of his kidnapers to avoid any 'unpleasant situation.'

Armed cadres of JCD were found moving on the campus yesterday.



This undated file video grab shows Osama Bin Laden (L) and his deputy Mohammad Atef (R) walking together at an unspecified location in Afghanistan. US intelligence intercepts indicate that Atef, bin Laden's deputy and top military commander, was killed in an air strike near Kabul in what would be a major blow to the al-Qaida terrorist network, US officials said on Friday.

## 6 killed as bus, tempo collide in Feni

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Six people, including two female students, were killed when a bus collided head on with a tempo at Ramnagar Kalarpukurpar on Feni-Majidee Road under Daganbhuiyan upazila yesterday.

Four of the dead were identified as Aklima Aktar, 18, and Rosy, 17, both are first year students of Daganbhuiyan Iqbal Memorial College, Forkan, 16, brother of Aklima and tempo driver Babul. The identity of two others could not be known till filing of this report at 6 pm yesterday.

Police and witnesses said the Noakhali-bound Jatri Seba passenger bus from Dhaka collided with the tempo coming from Senbagh at about 11 am, leaving five of the tempo passengers dead on the spot and its driver injured.

The tempo driver was admitted to Feni Sadar Hospital when he succumbed to injuries at noon.

Immediately after the mishap, the students of Iqbal Memorial College put up a barricade on the road, disrupting traffic for an hour. They also damaged 7-8 vehicles.

Police went to the spot at about noon and brought the situation under control.

## 6 more police officers transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six police officers were transferred yesterday in yet another shuffle in the police administration.

The Superintendent of Police (SP) of Rangpur Akbar Ali was transferred to Rangamati, Rangamati SP Mainur Rahman Chowdhury to Rangpur, SP of Sarda Police Academy Jasim Uddin to Barguna and Barguna SP Wasikuzzaman to Sarda Police Academy.

Deputy Police Commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP) Mostafa was transferred to CID, Dhaka and SP of Munshiganj Chowdhury AG Kabir was transferred to Commandant APBN, Barisal.

## HC issues rule on removal of JU VC

BSS, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday issued a rule on removal of former Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Professor Abdul Bayes asking the respondents why his removal should not be declared illegal.

A division bench comprising Justice Mohammad Hamidul Hoque and Justice Mohammad Iman Ali issued the rule on government and other authorities concerned in view of a writ petition challenging the removal of Prof Bayes.

The order asked the respondents to reply within four weeks.

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## Six secretaries given new postings

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Six secretaries were given new postings in another reshuffle in the administration yesterday, sources in the Establishment Division said.

Of them, Azad Ruhul Amin, who was earlier transferred thrice in a month, has become the new agriculture secretary. He has been replaced by Anil Chandra Singh in the Statistics Division.

Ehsanul Huq has become the new defence secretary, while Maniklal Samaddar was transferred to the IME division. ASG Mohiuddin has been appointed education secretary.

The chairman of Steel and Engineering Corporation has become the chairman, Land Appeal Board.

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