

Workers giving a facelift to the Memorial for Martyred Intellectuals at Mirpur in the city yesterday, ahead of the Martyred Intellectuals Day on December 14.

### Attack on Tipu Bidhan Chandra arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Feni police yesterday arrested Bidhan Chandra Majumdar, an accused in the case filed in connection with the attack on journalist Tipu Sultan.

Bidhan, executive editor of the weekly Hazarika and a close associate of absconding godfather of Feni Joyanal Hazari, is the first accused to be arrested so far since the attack on the journalist on January 25.

Hazari's men abducted Tipu, the then UNB correspondent of Feni, from the Trunk Road and roughed him up taking him behind the Zahir Raihan Hall in the town. Four people, including Joyanal Hazari and Bidhan were named in the FIR filed with Feni sadar thana on September 17. About 12 unidentified terrorists were also made accused in the case.

Police arrested Bidhan from  
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	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Dec 12		5-13 pm
Dec 13	6-33 am	

Prayer Timings		
Dec 12		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-07	5-13
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-16	5-22
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

## Hanumans need protection

SHEHAB AHMED

The country's only colony of Hanumans in Jessore-Kushtia region is finding it difficult to survive, needing 'immediate protection' under a 'conservation strategy', a primate expert says.

There are about 104 Hanumans in Bangladesh, the largest primate in the sub-continent. Of them, the biggest concentration of 94 Hanumans are at Keshabpur upazila and its surrounding areas, Dr Mohammad Ali Reza Khan said after a visit to the area.

Dr Khan, a former teacher in Zoology department of Dhaka University, now works as chief of the Dubai Zoo. Last month, he conducted a survey of the Hanumans in Keshabpur area, assisted by Director of the Centre for Sustainable Development (CFSD) Mahfuzullah.

Dr Khan recommended that the Hanumans in Jessore need immediate protection. Community awareness should be created for preservation of wildlife, particularly Hanumans. With cooperation from the law enforcing agencies, villagers should be persuaded not to kill or trap those, he added.

If local protection measures do not work, the only alternative is to trap all the Hanumans from Keshabpur and place them in Dhaka and Rajshahi zoos for 'captive breeding as well as future reintroduction.'

"If such management of Hanumans is not possible, then all those are to be captured in phases and released in the coppice Sal forests in the Dhaka-Mymensingh-Tangail-Jamalapur belt. The habitat in the Sal forest needs to be improved prior to

## Govt to increase ISP licence fees

Service providers find provision discriminatory

ABU SAEED KHAN

The government has decided to increase license fees for Internet service providers (ISPs) as per a recommendation of the Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB).

The BTTB at a meeting on November 6 recommended that ISP license fees should be increased as measure against 'illegal' call termination business.

Currently, the ISPs pay the equivalent of US\$ 3500 annually to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MOPT). The BTTB has requested the MOPT to cancel this fixed license fee and to impose variable amounts as fees. The amounts are yet to be fixed.

Unlike the current licensing provision, the ISPs will have to pay their annual fees according to the bandwidth they use. The BTTB has also recommended increase in monthly line rent of each telephone being used by the ISPs from Tk 150 to Tk 2200, a 15-fold rise.

In a November 12, 2001 letter, the BTTB informed the MOPT that the prevailing annual license fee of \$3500 is 'extremely low' compared to that of the 'adjacent neighbouring country'.

Satya N. Gupta, advisor of Converged Network, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), has contradicted the BTTB's statement. TRAI issues licenses to each ISP for an initial period of 15

years. While talking to this correspondent in New Delhi, he recently said, "The Indian ISPs are exempted from any license fee till October 31, 2003. From November 1, 2003, the Indian ISPs would pay a token license fee of one rupee per annum."

Gupta also confirmed that the bandwidths being used by the ISPs are independent of any regulatory restrictions. "Bandwidth is a commodity and it is no one's business to control it," said the Indian telecom  
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### Jail Killing Case Shah Moazzem, Khairuzzaman get interim bail

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday granted ad interim bail to Shah Moazzem Hossain and Maj (rtd) Khairuzzaman, accused in the jail killing case, till April 30 next year.

Earlier, KM Obaidur Rahman MP and Nurul Islam Manju were granted ad interim bail in the same case.

Four national leaders -- Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, Qamaruzzaman and Captain Mansoor Ali were killed inside the Dhaka Central Jail on Nov 3, 1975.

### PM performs Umrah

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia performed Umrah at the holy city of Makkah early yesterday morning (Tuesday).

She will offer Fateha at the Rawja Mobarak of prophet Hazrat Muhammad Mostafa (SM) today in Madina, according to a message received here.

### Moyeen Khan for 'genuine' autonomy for radio, TV

UNB, Dhaka

Information Minister Dr. Moyeen Khan yesterday said he wants to give 'genuine' autonomy to state-owned radio and television and sought support from journalists for his endeavours to ensure free flow of information.

"What was planned in the past in the name of autonomy was a mere eyewash...", he said while exchanging views with newsmen at an iftar party he hosted at hotel Purbani.

Referring to the law framed by past Awami League government about autonomy to radio and television, the minister questioned how the government could ensure autonomy while maintaining control over radio and television.

"We want to give autonomy in a true sense of the term," he said but would not say precisely how long it would take.

Dr. Moyeen said although autonomy had not yet been given to the state-owned media by the present government, radio and television were functioning independently, giving coverage to the opposition, which was not given in the past.

"It would have been nice if five minutes could be allocated for the opposition, but we have at least ensured 50 seconds from zero second," he said.

The minister said there is scope for running radio and television more logically and objectively. "We believe in free flow of information, but it is easy to say, difficult to implement."

He said democratic tolerance is essential for advancement of democratic culture in the country and journalists could make a great con  
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### Marghub Morshed new information secretary

UNB, Dhaka

Syed Marghub Morshed yesterday joined as the Secretary of the Ministry of Information, said an official handout.

## City corporation polls EC move to dispose of delimitation cases

NAZRUL ISLAM

The Election Commission (EC) has taken initiatives to dispose of the cases regarding delimitation of the three city corporation areas.

The move is seen as a fresh bid to pave the way for holding the long-pending city corporation polls.

"The government has revived the previous delimitation and we hope that there would be no legal complexities to hold the city polls," Additional Secretary of the EC Secretariat Khairuzzaman Chowdhury told The Daily Star yesterday. He also said the commission is preparing for the local body polls in March next year.

To remove legal barriers to the holding of the long overdue city polls, the government in a recent notification has reinstated the previous delimitation of Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna city corporations. This has nullified the delimitation made by the immediate past Awami League government.

Accordingly, the EC on Monday asked the law ministry to produce the government notification before the High Court to have the legal bars removed for holding the city corporation polls.

On assumption of office in early October, the BNP-led coalition government initiated moves to hold the long-pending elections to the three city corporations, the tenures of which expired in 1999.

In 1999, the authorities

announced the schedule of city corporation polls on the basis of a new delimitation of three of the four city corporations. Several word commissioners and some citizens filed writs with the High Court, challenging the fresh delimitation. The cases are still pending.

The government now hopes that the legal complexities will be over once the delimitation of the city corporations are reverted to their previous status. As the local government ministry informed the EC  
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### HC asks govt to return Tofail's passport

BSS, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday asked the government to return the passport of Awami League leader and former minister Tofail Ahmed within the next 10 days.

A division bench of the High Court comprising Justice Mohammad Hamidul Huq and Justice Iman Ali gave the order.

Earlier, a division bench of the High Court issued a rule nisi asking the government as to why they seizure of the passport would not be declared unlawful.

Police seized the passport of Tofail Ahmed last month.

## 'Kala' Jahangir remains 'too slippery' for cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite three attempts in the last three months by the police, 'Kala' Jahangir, the infamous lord of the capital city's underworld, remains as elusive as ever as information was leaked out to him before the raids.

The arrest of his wife Sonia Akhter and an accomplice Mohammad Shafiq on Wednesday last shed little light on the whereabouts of the frontline gangster.

'Kala' Jahangir's rise as an underworld don is meteoric in many senses. He comes from a well-off educated family. His mother is a teacher and brothers and sister are all well established. And yet, Jahangir, a lanky dark boy, spun off the family bounds and slowly became the top terror of the city, a professional killer who would not bat an eyelid while slitting the throat of his victim.

'Kala' Jahangir has been accused in at least 22 cases 10 for murder - filed with different police stations in the city. Besides, he has been indirectly involved in numerous murders in the capital during the last five years, police sources said.

A seasoned outlaw, Jahangir is slippery enough to be arrested only once from Zahurul Haq Hall of the Dhaka University in 1994.

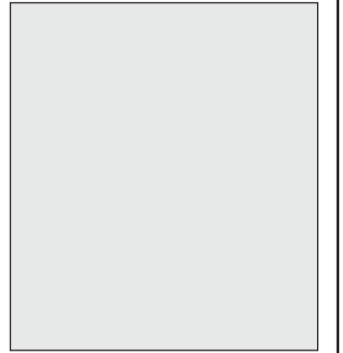
"Jahangir was a teenager at that time," said Senior Assistant Commissioner of the Detective Branch Akteruzzaman Bhuiyan, who arrested Jahangir at that time. But the police failed to trace him down during the last seven years despite his committing all the crimes.

The killings of BNP leader advocate Habibur Rahman Mondol in Old City last year and businessman Azad alias Sumon on the court premises in 1999 are among his 'prized kills'.

"The three consecutive attempts to arrest the top criminal in last four months have proved futile," said a DB official.

Police arrested 'Kala' Jahangir's wife Sonia and Shafiq, a body guard, from his Uttara residence on Wednesday last. The DB conducted the raid on the basis of information provided by Akhter, another body guard of Jahangir. Akhter was arrested in the last week of November.

Since September last, the DB made three attempts to arrest Jahangir. The first one was at the old part of the city and the second at Mahakhali  
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'Kala' Jahangir

## White Panel sweeps DUTA polls

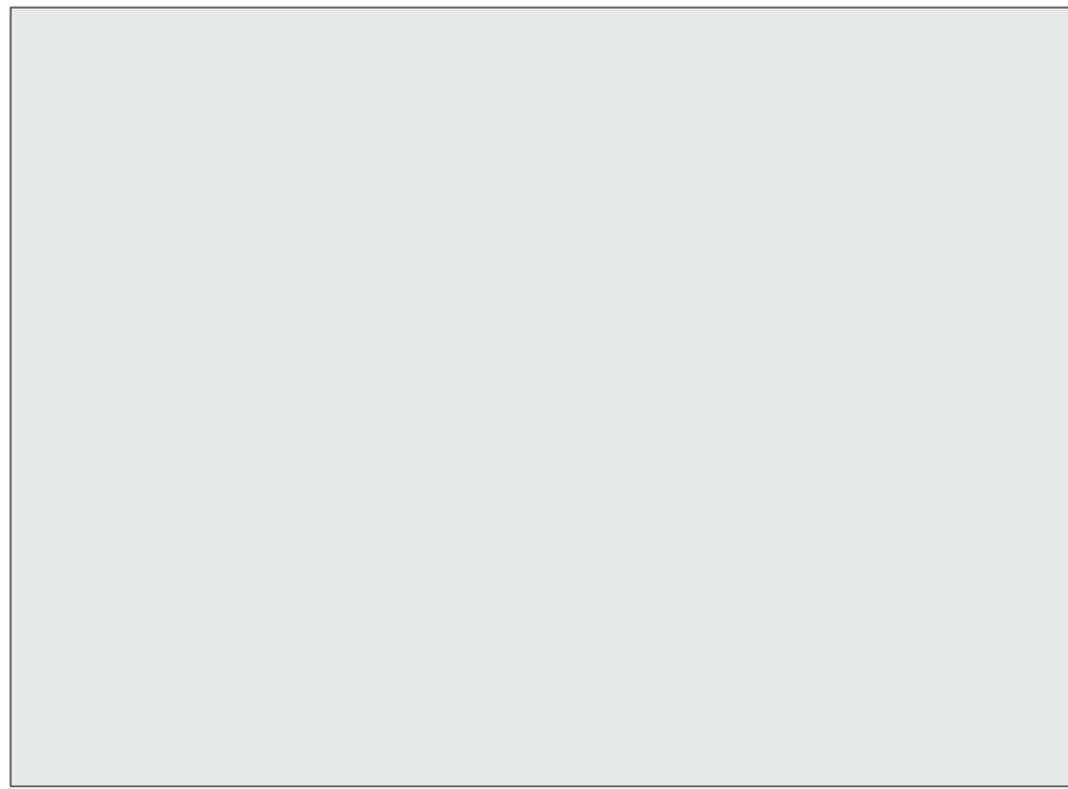
DU CORRESPONDENT

BNP and Jamaat-backed 'White Panel' won a landslide victory in the election of the Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) yesterday, bagging 12 posts out of 15 including the post of president.

Awami League-backed 'Blue Panel' candidates won the remaining three posts including the post of general secretary. The left-leaning 'Pink Panel' did not contest the poll due to their 'strategic reason'.

Prof. AFM Yusuf Haider of the 'White Panel' elected president of DUTA with 512 votes beating his only competitor Prof. AZM Nowsher Ali who got 434 votes.

The incumbent general secretary Sharifullah Bhuiyan of the 'Blue Panel' was re-elected with a difference of only three votes from his competitor Dr. Earul Kabir of the  
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Candidates wooing voters during election to the Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) yesterday. Prof A F M Yusuf Haider and Prof Sharifullah (inset) have been elected President and General Secretary respectively of DUTA.