

Criminal Kamal and his four accomplices held in Uttara

UNB, Dhaka
BDR personnel and police, in a joint operation, arrested six people, including a top criminal from Baunia in the city's Uttara area in the early hours of yesterday.

Belt tightening a must to boost economy: Saifur

UNB, Dhaka
Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman yesterday said the economy must have a "belt tightening" effort to increase its tax-GDP ratio and reduce dependence on foreign assistance.

Govt firm to stop cheating in public exams: PM

UNB, Dhaka
Prime minister Khaleda Zia yesterday reiterated her government's determination to restore disciplines ensure security and a corruption free environment in public examinations.



Activists of Hill Women's Federation (HWF) and Pahari Chhatra Parishad (PCP) formed a human chain in the city yesterday demanding punishment to the persons responsible for the abduction of HWF leader Kalpana Chakma.

Media Cell to campaign steps against crimes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government has formed a three-member Media Cell under the Ministry of Home to launch an effective campaign for highlighting government steps to improve law and order and curb crimes.



Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman speaking at a port-budget discussion at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

BSF abducts 2 Bangladeshis

BSS, Rajshahi
Two Bangladeshi nationals were abducted by the members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) from near Chamusha village under Bholahat upazila of Chapainawabganj district yesterday morning, BDR officials of Rajshahi sector said.

Suppl budget passed

Relief ministry spends Tk 200.31 cr, PMO Tk 37.44 cr beyond budgetary allocation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday approved a supplementary budget of Tk 689.57 crore for the outgoing 2001-02 fiscal.

Main suspects in Sony killing still at large

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The main suspects in the killing of BUET student Sabequn Nahar Sony five days ago in a cross fire between two factions of Jatiyatadabi Chhatra Dal (JCD) are yet to be arrested.

Election to 9 municipalities on July 20

UNB, Dhaka
Elections to nine more pourasavas will be held on July 20. The Election Commission (EC) announced the schedule for seven out of the nine pourasavas yesterday as the schedule for the two other pourasavas was announced earlier.

PDB explains reasons behind revenue losses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) has incurred a revenue loss of Tk 5741.11 million in 2000-01 fiscal and Tk 5236.81 million in 1999-2000 fiscal by selling power to the agriculture and domestic sectors as well as to the Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) and Rural Electrification Board (REB).

India detains 16 Bangladeshis for suspected al-Qaida links

AFP, Kolkata
Authorities in the eastern Indian state of West Bengal have arrested 16 illegal Bangladeshi immigrants suspected of having links to the al-Qaida terrorist network and Islamic militant groups operating in Indian-Kashmir, police said yesterday.

Proposed import duty on soyabean oil withdrawn

BSS, Dhaka
Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday announced withdrawal of proposed 7.5 per cent import duty on soyabean oil in the budget for 2002-2003 in the greater public interest.

'Budget has no meaning as long as JS fails to function properly'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Gano Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain has said the proposed budget would not meet people's expectations so long as the parliament fails to function as an effective forum.

Motia on food autarky Saifur deceived nation thru' wrong statistics

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Awami League (AL) yesterday said the finance minister deceived the nation and the international community as well by what it said providing wrong statistics on food import in his budget speech on June 6.

Bangladesh to colse down its mission in Brazil

M ANWARUL HAQ
Bangladesh is closing down its mission in Brazil, the only one in South America. Foreign ministry sources confirmed that the mission in Brasilia is being closed down and the Bangladesh flag will be lowered there on August 31.



BDR, police raid 2 JU halls: 3 held, arms recovered

JU CORRESPONDENT
Police and BDR personnel recovered nine firearms and arrested three students from two residential halls of the Jahangirnagar University yesterday.

Law-breaker lawyer

STAR REPORT
Lawyers yesterday beat up one of their colleagues at the High Court premises for freeing convicts on bail by submitting false documents.

Some rtd army officers meet Hasina again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Retired army officers who took part in the last general election on Awami League (AL) ticket met AL chief Sheikh Hasina for the second time in a week yesterday and discussed the party's ongoing overhauling programmes.

Table with prayer timings for June 13, including Sun Rises, Sun Sets, Azan, and Jamaat times.