



Police take Monir Hossain Liton (in blue shirt) and Abu Sayeed (in red T-shirt), killers of Khandaker Shihab Ahmed, to the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday. The Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka, convicted four persons to death for the murder.

## Calm at CMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Tension eased at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) as the deadlock ended with restoration of medical service there yesterday (Wednesday) morning.

Medical service resumed both at the out-door and in-door departments of CMCH where patients were admitted yesterday, hospital sources said.

The deadlock prevailed at CMCH from Monday night till Tuesday after the pro-ruling party student wing JCD activists enforced a shutdown their demanding release of their four leaders and activists arrested by police on Monday evening.

Police said the four JCD men were arrested a shop where they went to collect illegal tolls. The arrested were sent to jail on Tuesday afternoon.

Meanwhile, the Chittagong Medical College (CMC) unit of JCD at a press conference at the local press club yesterday noon termed the arrest of the four JCD men as "motivated" "conspiratorial" and "harrasing".

The CMC JCD leaders at the conference blamed the conflicts among the ministers and instigation and conspiracy hatched by a partner of the alliance government for this.

They arrest was made in a bid to foil the upcoming CMCCSU election scheduled for August 5, they alleged.

JCD leaders condemned the arrest and demanded immediate release of the arrested persons.

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# Heads roll at Titas

ZAYADUL AHSAN

The Titas Gas authorities have transferred 106 employees in the last few days in a bid to 'purge' the office of corrupt staff.

Another 50 employees will be transferred next week as part of the move, sources said.

Although 13 meter readers have been shifted in this process, allegations are there that many of the transfers were done under influence of the trade unions although there is a three-month moratorium on unionism.

There are also allegations that many employees and officials bribed influential quarters to stop their transfer orders or to 'buy' desired postings.

Because of such influences there are instances that some employees have been transferred to departments having inadequate posts. "For instance, five supervisors have been placed in a department having only two positions," said a source.

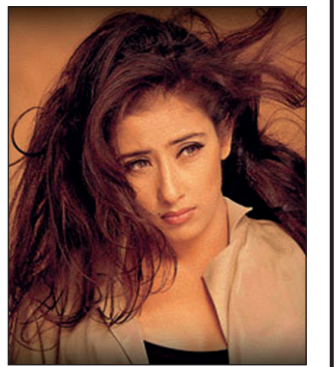
A section of the corrupt meter readers, employees and officials gobble up Tk 200 crore in revenue every year by tampering with meters and other means.

In the last two days alone, 93 employees were transferred and on July 8, 13 meter readers were reshuffled.

According to sources, the leaders of the ruling BNP-backed trade union played vital roles in the transfers, violating their promise not to interfere with administrative matters. They influenced the Titas management to transfer their own men to 'important' places.

The sources added that prior to the issuance of transfer orders, union leaders collected money from the employees in exchange of lucrative postings.

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## Close call for Manisha

AFP, Mumbai

Four gangsters linked to a dreaded underworld don were shot dead by police on their way to kidnap Bollywood star Manisha Koirala, police said Wednesday.

Police said they laid a trap for the kidnap squad as they drove to Koirala's home in northern Mumbai. When police stopped the blue Maruti car, the gangsters opened fire.

"In the subsequent exchange of fire four were injured and declared dead before admission to a nearby hospital," a police

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## 8 die in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eight people met unnatural deaths in the city between Tuesday night and yesterday.

Among them, two died when a bus knocked them over; one was electrocuted; one committed suicide; one died in a fall from a building; and one jumped from the running train to his death, said sources.

Bashar Ahmed, 45, son of late Nuru Gazi of Gazihat village in Kazibari Upazila, Chandpur, died instantly when a bus knocked him down at Merul under Badda Police Station yesterday noon. Police recovered the body.

Mohammadpur police recovered the body of an unidentified youth, 27, from in front of the Mohammadpur College Gate. He died when a bus ran him over at about 2:15pm yesterday.

Hannan, 22, an electrician, was electrocuted at Kalyanpur under Mirpur Police Station yesterday. He was repairing electric lines in a house close to the main road of the area.

Abdul Matin, 30, son of Abdul Mutalib of Bazipur in Sherpur died in a fall from the ninth floor of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University yesterday.

Khodeza, 25, wife of Yasin, com

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## India claims 'terrorist base' in Bangladesh

AFP, New Delhi

An Indian minister on Wednesday named six countries, including Britain and the Netherlands, as having been infiltrated by "terrorist" groups working to harm India.

In a written reply to a question in parliament, Junior Foreign Minister Digvijay Singh said "terrorist organisations" had established new bases in Britain, the Netherlands, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan, aside from Pakistan.

In response to a separate question, Singh said New Delhi had raised with Britain the issue of organisations raising funds there for "terrorist" activities in Kashmir and elsewhere in India.

"There are credible reports of continued fund raising in the United Kingdom by supporters of terrorist organisations operating in India under the garb of promoting humanitarian causes," Singh said.

The minister added the British government had been "sensitised" on the matter.

"The government will continue to pursue this matter at appropriate

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# 7 killed in renewed Kashmir violence

AFP, Srinagar

Seven more people, including a senior Indian paramilitary commander, were killed in an upsurge of separatist violence yesterday in the Indian zone of troubled Kashmir, officials said.

A police spokesman said three pro-India rebels were killed and nine people injured in a blast at a base of the Ikhwan, a militia backing Indian authorities, at Ashmuqam, 75 kilometers (45 miles) south of Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar.

Police identified the dead as Ikhwan activists Ayub Khan, Bilal Khan and Goffur Khan.

The injured include a wife and three children of an Ikhwan militant, Ghulam Wagah, who were living at the camp for fear of attack by separatist militants, the spokesman said.

"The building, which housed the camp, was extensively damaged," the spokesman said, adding that the injured were taken out for fear of falling debris.

Senior officials of Anantnag district, of which Ashmuqam is a

village, rushed to the site of the attack.

Ashmuqam derives its name from a Muslim shrine in the town which is visited by hundreds of worshippers every day.

The village lies along the road where thousands of Hindu devotees are expected to travel next week on their annual procession to the Amarnath cave, which they believe is the abode of the god Shiva.

In Jammu, the winter capital of

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# Forward looking AL

Next council to map new policy on good governance, human rights, unemployment, law & order

REAZ AHMAD

The Awami League (AL) in its next council will come up with a fresh policy on important issues like good governance, human rights, unemployment and law and order.

The main opposition party will map out its plans to address the issues of national importance if and when it returns to power.

Scheduled for December 22 and 23, the AL's central council, though late, will also bring major changes to its key leadership positions, except

the president, party insiders told The Daily Star.

"The council will not only choose leaders, but project the party as a credible alternative with the potential of running the country better," said a frontline party leader close to AL President Sheikh Hasina, requesting anonymity.

In the run-up to the council, several sub-committees, constituted by the party last month, are now working on incorporating policy issues into the party constitution. The AL will present an amended

party constitution to its councillors in December.

A process is underway to elect a fresh central committee through direct franchise by party delegates instead of entrusting the power of selection only to Hasina, the sources added.

Young and dedicated party leaders will fill the vacancies of most senior party leaders, now in the AL Presidium, who will take up responsibilities as advisors. The party, especially after the last year's poll

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# Co-ordination failure lets garbage pile

JULHAS RIPON

Lack of co-ordination among four departments of the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) has caused serious problems in the collection and dumping of nearly 5,000 tons of solid waste generated every day in the city, sources said.

There is hardly any co-ordination among the four departments -- Conservancy, Transport, Mechanical Engineering division-1 and Mechanical Engineering division-2 of the DCC -- which are

involved in the collecting and dumping of the city's solid waste. The lack of co-ordination has created 'systems inefficiency' over the years, said the sources.

Sources in the DCC identified several reasons for the 'systems inefficiency' of the departments involved in waste management. The reasons include inadequate and non-expert manpower in the Conservancy Department, absence of unified strategic plans and specific guidelines, inadequate budgetary allocations and a lack of modern

machinery.

Even the officials of these departments lack sensitivity towards the environment, the sources said.

There is no efficient manpower in the Conservancy Department. Over the years, inefficient people with inadequate academic and managerial background were being given vital posts, although posts in this department require technical and managerial abilities.

At present there is no 'management policy' to handle the city's waste. The DCC unscientifically collects and dumps the wastes in the lowlands. They do not follow any defined procedures to manage the waste, which require collecting, separating, processing and dumping, said the sources. The present process of collecting and dumping the waste is absolutely rudimentary.

According to a study conducted by the Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA) and the Conservancy Department of the DCC, about 5,000 tons of solid waste are piled on the city streets every day. Another recent observation revealed this amount would rise to 10,000 and 40,000 tons by 2010

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## Road accidents kill 2 in city

BSS, Dhaka

Two people were killed in separate road accidents in the city's Merul Badda and Shyamoli areas yesterday.

Police and hospital sources said one Bashar Ahmed, 50, was killed on the spot near Merul Badda Fish Market at about 5-30 a.m. when a speeding minibus knocked him.

Police arrested Zahid Hossain, driver of the bus, and seized the vehicle from the area.

The body of the victim was sent to the morgue of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

In another incident, an unidentified young man aged about 28 was hit by a minibus at Shyamoli College Gate in the morning. He died on the spot.

The body was sent to the morgue of DMCH for autopsy.

Two separate cases were registered with Badda and Mohammadpur police in connection with the accidents.

## Bushra murder case: Charges framed against six people

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Third Special Court for Prevention of Women and Children Repression, Dhaka, yesterday framed charges against six people in Bushra Islam alias Phool murder case.

Judge Sarker Abul Mansur fixed August 4 for trial of the case. The accused are M A Kader, his wife Runu Kader, Sheikh Shawkat Ahmed Ruhul, Kaniz Fatema Hena, Sufia Begum and Sheikh Kabir Ahmed.

The accused pleaded not guilty and demanded justice after hearing the charges brought against them.

Accused M A Kader, Kaniz Fatema Hena, Sheikh Shawkat Ahmed Ruhul and Sufia Begum were present in the court during the hearing. Charges were framed against two other accused -- Runu Kader and Sheikh Kabir Ahmed -- in absentia.

The defence lawyers had earlier submitted a petition before the court for discharging the accused from the charges and made submissions on the petition on July 14.

The prosecution opposed the petition and prayed for framing charges against the accused.

Rushdhania Bushra Islam alias Phool, 18, a college student and daughter of a retired police officer, was raped and murdered at their Hazipara residence in the city's Rampura area on the night of July 1, 2000.

Later victim's mother Laila Islam filed a murder case with Ramna

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PHOTO: STAR

The city witnessed severe traffic jam yesterday. Vehicles are stuck in a long tailback on the Mirpur Road in front of the New Market in the city yesterday.

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
July 17		6-48 pm
July 18	5-22 am	

Prayer Timings		
July 17		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-56	7-00
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation