

Biman employee murder Family members demand revival of '73 case

BSS, Dhaka

Family members of Noor Hossain, a Biman employee, who was abducted and killed allegedly by the then ruling party activists in 1973, have demanded revival of the murder case.

"As nation had witnessed filing of new cases like Mujib murder case even long 21 years after the occurrence then certainly the government can assist to revive the case which was filed immediately after abduction of my brother in 1973," M Nurunnabi, younger brother of the victim, told a press conference at the National Press Club here yesterday.

Nurunnabi is a freedom fighter like his slain brother and at present country manager of Biman in Bahrain.

The former organising secretary of Biman Samik Union Noor Hossain was first shot at in front of GPO on May 21, 1973 then dragged into a white-colour jeep which took him to an undisclosed

destination where he was killed as successive governments claimed. Noor Hossain took a leading role in observance of an all party hartal call in support of hunger strike by national leader Maulana Bhasani on May 21.

Nurunnabi said after the incident he met the then prime minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who categorically blamed the opposition for this murder. "They have done it to defame me," said Sheikh Shaheb, recalled Nurunnabi. Wife of Noor Hossain and other members of the family were present at the press conference.

Dhaka College Ex-students' Assoc reunion

The second grand reunion of the Dhaka College Ex-students' Association will be held at the Sultana Kamal Women Sports Complex at Dhanmondi on December 20, says a press release.

Interested former students have been requested to collect the registration forms and drop it at the designated centre by November 15.

For details, one can contact the following persons: Naseem Mahmud, general secretary, House # 49, Road # 1, Dhanmondi, Tel-8612504, 017-825799; Muhammad Nurul Huda, Director, Bangla Academy, Tel-8619358; Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu, Tel-017-523570; Naquibul Islam, Corporate Branch, Uttara, Bank Head Office Motijheel, Tel-7113489, 019-352542; Engr Anwarul Haque, Tel-8825075; and Saiful Karim, Tel-017-541162.

Lawyer held by army gets bail

BSS, Dhaka

Mohamud Hossain Chowdhury, a lawyer nabbed by army personnel on Friday, got bail after he was produced before the CMM court here yesterday evening.

Uttara police produced him before the court of Mohammad Emdadul Haq with a prayer for detention. But, the court granted him bail.

Court granted him bail as bar President and Secretary Mohammad Atif Hossain and Mohammad Sanaullah Mian gave bond in favour of the lawyer.

Probarana Purnima today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shuvo Probarana Purnima, the second biggest religious festival of the Buddhist community will be held today.

Bangladesh Buddhist Federation (BBF) has chalked out an elaborate programme to celebrate the occasion at Merul Badda International Buddha Bihar in the city, says a press release.

The programme includes Buddha puja in the morning, Sanghadan at 11.00am, discussion and rally at 4.00pm, prayer at 6.00pm, flying of balloons in the sky for universal peace at 6.30pm and cultural function at 7.00pm.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will attend the discussion as chief guest while State Minister for Religious Affairs Mosharruf Hossain Shajahan as special guest.

Besides, the BBF will accord reception to Buddhist government servants who were promoted to their posts and students who have done brilliant result in SSC and HSC examinations, the press release added.

Dhaka welcomes Indo-Pak decision on troops pullout

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh yesterday welcomed the decision of both India and Pakistan to pull back their troops from common frontiers, a foreign ministry spokesman said here yesterday.

"Bangladesh considers the decision to be a first step towards the maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia," the spokesman said expressing Dhaka's reaction to the recent development in the Indian and Pakistani borders.

He added that the development would lead to greater interactions on crucial socio-economic issues "confronting our region and a forward movement in respect of SAARC."

Bangladesh had earlier called for disengagement and initiatives by both sides, with a view to diffusing tension between the two nuclear power South Asian states.

Chinese envoy meets Haris

BSS, Dhaka

Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Hu Qianwen made a courtesy call on Political Secretary to the Prime Minister Haris Chowdhury at his office here yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters of mutual interests and said the existing relationship between China and Bangladesh would strengthen further in the years to come.

Smuggling, hundi trade Directive to arrest criminals, godfathers

BSS, Dhaka

Home Minister Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Altaf Hossain Chowdhury yesterday directed the authorities concerned to launch an all-out drive against criminals and their godfathers involved in trafficking, smuggling and hundi trade.

The minister's directive came at a meeting with senior police and BDR officials which he presided over. The meeting was attended, among others, by State Minister for Home Luthfuzzaman Babar, Home Secretary Muhammad Omar Faruque, Inspector-General of Police Modabber Hossain, Director-General of BDR Major General Rezzakul Haider and concerned high officials.

"The smugglers, hundi traders

and their godfathers, whoever or whatever powerful they may be, will be nabbed and brought to book," Air Vice-Marshal Altaf said.

He stressed the need for joint raid by police and BDR to halt smuggling. If necessary cooperation of the armed forces would be taken, he added.

He called for launching a massive campaign to motivate the people of the border belt against the curse of smuggling. In this context, he suggested formation of anti-smuggling task forces in the border districts to curb smuggling effectively.

While discussing about hundi trade, the meeting was told that since enactment of Money Laundering Act, the hundi trade had reduced to a large extent. The meeting was, however, told that

unscrupulous people connected with hundi trade are not active to continue their illegal trade through floating various establishments and agencies.

The meeting directed the authorities concerned to take drastic action against such establishments and agencies after proper investigations and scrutiny.

Briefing newsmen after the meeting, home secretary told that detailed discussions were held in the meeting to stop smuggling and hundi trade. The meeting stressed the need for improving quality of goods and reduce production cost of indigenous commodities to discourage smuggling, he added.

This is the first meeting on halting border smuggling and hundi trade.

Canadian help for Dhaka-Ctg electric train service sought

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan yesterday sought Canadian help to carry out a feasibility study and financing for establishment electric railway communication between Dhaka and Chittagong.

He sought this help when the visiting Member of Parliament of Canada and the head of the Parliamentary Committee for International Trade Mac Harb made a courtesy call on him at his office here yesterday afternoon.

Welcoming the Canadian MP, he said Canada could be a substantial partner in our trade and development.

To expand and facilitate trade

between the two countries he underscored the need for closer interaction between the business communities of Bangladesh and Canada through formation of a joint task force.

Morshed expressed gratitude on behalf of the government for Canada's decision to allow duty and quota free access of Bangladesh products to the Canadian market.

He also appreciated Canadian government's favourable attitude towards students from Bangladesh who seek to study in Canada and expressed thanks for steps that Canadian High Commission has taken regarding student visa arrangements.

He said the excellent bilateral relations between the two countries could be further strengthened through extensive exchange of visits at political, business and academic levels.

Mac Harb expressed satisfaction at the Canadian decision to allow duty and quota free access of Bangladesh products to the Canadian market.

He said the recent visit of Bangladesh foreign minister to Canada played an important role in this regard. The visit paved the way for cooperation in many other fields between the two countries, he said.

Mac Harb emphasised the need for increasing business contacts with Canada.

Describing Bangladesh community in Canada as model citizens, Mac Harb was highly appreciative of the people of Bangladesh whom he mentioned as intelligent and energetic.

Zaki Memorial Trust Board meets

A meeting of the trustees of Zaki Memorial Trust was held at the Atomic Energy Commission in the city to finalise arrangements to award Zaki Memorial Gold Medals for 2001 in the fields of life and physical science, says a press release.

The award will be given in recognition of outstanding contribution to peaceful uses of Nuclear Energy.

The trust was set up in memory of Nurul Ameen Zaki, Asst Scientific Officer of Atomic Energy Commission, who died of cerebral disorder in 1972 on way to the USA for doing his Ph.D. Zaki was the only son of Ayesha Ameen, founder-headmistress of Banani Bidya Niketan.

The Trust Board meeting was presided over by Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission Dr Nayem Chowdhury.

Obituary



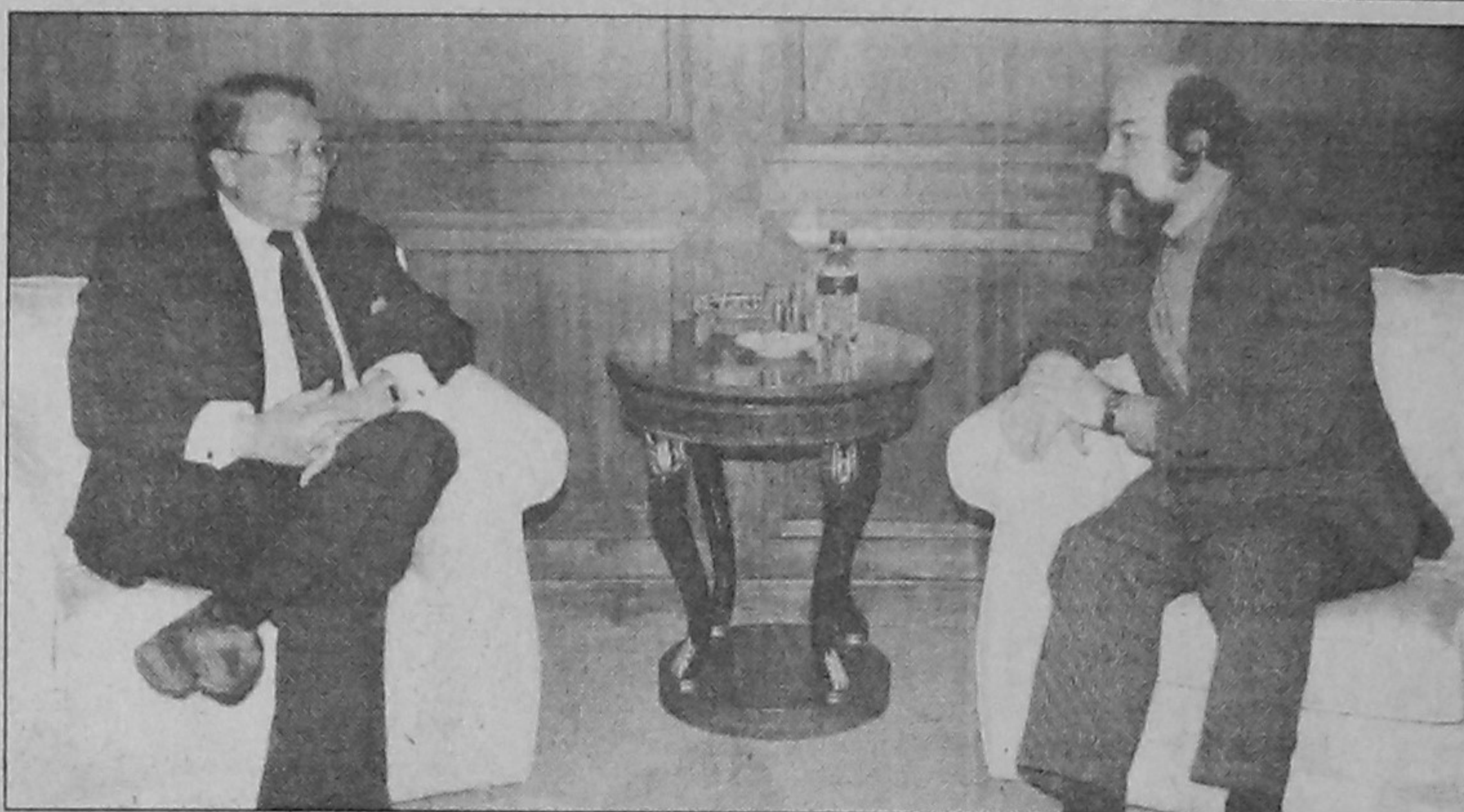
Eminent columnist and novelist Abdul Jalil (Shaym Mia) died at the Pan Pacific Hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 77.

He left behind his wife, one daughter and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

He was also a former trade union leader and a close associate of late comrade Deben Shikdar.

Abdul Jalil was a regular columnist of the daily Rupali. Five of his books have so far been published. These are: Nindita-Nandita Taslima Nasrin, Chheleer Taka, Tama Tuli Gangajal, Mukitjuddhe Doloner Dinratri and Mukitjuddhe Pothor Prem.

All have been requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



Outgoing Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Rezaei Nouri called on Foreign Minister Morshed Khan at his office in the city yesterday.

NUB starts functioning

BSS, Dhaka

Northern University, Bangladesh (NUB) has begun its academic activities as a full-fledged university with the approval of the Ministry of Education and University Grants Commission from this month, says a press release.

Though this institution has newly appeared as a university it has been functioning its academic activities as IBAT since 1999.

There are more than 500 students in its three faculties (BBA, MBA, and BSc in Computer Science).

Northern University has taken some steps to bring higher education within the reach of the meritorious students of the poor and the middle class families. These include 100 per cent scholarship

in tuition fees for the students with board stands in SSC and HSC, 20 per cent scholarship in tuition fees for the students with first division in both SSC and HSC and 15 per cent for the students with one first division and one second division.

Besides, education loan for sons and daughters of the lower middle class govt service holders and scholarship on the basis of the results in Semester Final Exam will also be provided, the release added.

Former vice chancellor of Chittagong University, and former member of University Grants Commission Prof. Muhammad Ali joined as vice chancellor of the university.

SC reopens

BSS, Dhaka

The Supreme Court reopened yesterday after nearly two months of autumn vacation.

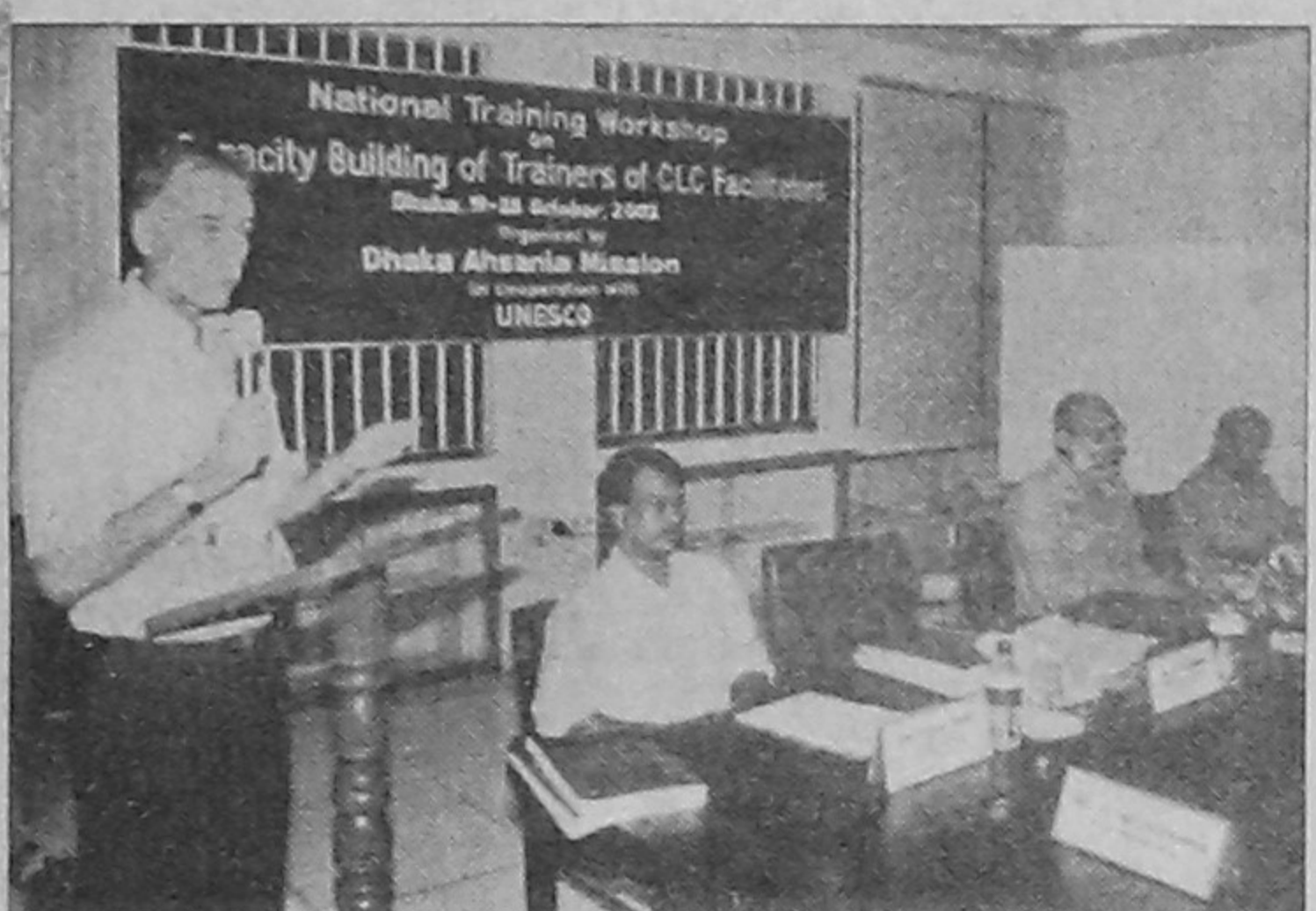
Lawyers and Judges exchanged greetings in the judges' lounge.

In the afternoon the Supreme Court Bar Association hosted a tea party at the Bar Bhavan. The Judges and Lawyers attended the party.

1578 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,578 people, including eight listed criminals, from different parts of the country in a 24 hours ending at 1am yesterday.



UNESCO Representative Dr W Valmann speaks at the inaugural session of a 10-day national training workshop titled 'Capacity Building of the Community Learning Center Facilitators' in the city yesterday. The Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised the workshop in cooperation with the UNESCO.

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রেজিস্ট্রেশন কুপনঃ একক ১৫০ টাকা, যুগল ২৫০ টাকা ও সত্তান ৭০ টাকা। শেষ তারিখঃ ২৩ অক্টোবর '০২

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পাঃ অধ্যাপক ফেরদৌস হোসেন ৮৬১৫৮৬৫ অধ্যাপক জিন্নাত আরা নাজনী ৮৬১২৭৯২

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Obituary

Syed Mohammad Hossain, former Chief Research Officer, Forest Research Institute, Chittagong breathed his last on Friday 18, October 2002 at the National Heart Foundation, Dhaka. He was 75. (Inna----Rajeun).

An MS from University of Maine, USA in 1968, Late Syed Mohammad Hossain was former lecturer of Dhaka University in the Applied Chemistry Department from 1954 to 1959 and was the examiner of Forestry Department, Chittagong University.

He was laid to rest at the Azimpur graveyard. Late Mohammad Hossain is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters to mourn his death.

A doa mahfil for the departed soul of late Syed Mohammad Hossain will be held today 20th October 2002 after Maghreb-prayers at 14/9, Pallabi, Dhaka.

C-2315

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