

# Soybean oil, meat prices up

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The government efforts to bring down the price of soybean oil have failed.  
The price of the edible oil marked a sharp rise just before the Ramadan which did not come down even a few days before the Eid-ul-Fitr.  
Soybean oil now sells at Tk 45 to 46 per litre which was around Tk 40 before the Ramadan.  
The government held a series of meetings with the edible oil refiners to keep the prices at reasonable level, but all efforts went in vain.  
Meantime, the prices of meat including chicken, beef and mutton have increased by around Tk 10 as Eid nears. The price of mutton is Tk 160 per kg, beef Tk 90 per kg and chicken Tk 65 per kg.  
However, the prices of other vegetables, including green chilli,

brinjal, tomato, beans, cauliflower, cabbage and potato, has decreased significantly due to increasing supply.  
On the contrary, the prices of carrot and cucumber have increased, traders said.  
Cucumber now sells at Tk 24 per kg, up from Tk 12-16 while carrot at Tk 25, up from Tk 20-22.  
The price of green chilli is Tk 30-35 per kg, down from Tk 60, brinjal Tk 16, down from Tk 20-24, the potato Tk 12 per kg, down from Tk 16-18, tomato Tk 30 per kg, down from Tk 35-40, and onion Tk 14 per kg, down from Tk 18.  
The retailers blamed the wholesalers for the price hike while the wholesalers passed the buck on the retailers.  
Mubarak Hossain, a vegetable wholesaler at Karwan Bazar, said, "Sometimes, the trucks carrying vegetables arrive late in the city and it has an impact on the price situation."

He also attributed the price hike of cucumber and carrot to the recent rain.  
Abul Kalam Bhuiyan, a grocer at the New Market, said the price of edible oil has increased due to price manipulation by the wholesalers.  
Inadequate supply of soybean oil is mainly responsible for the price hike, he added.  
A buyer at New Market said the prices of essentials marked sharp rise with the beginning of Ramadan. And the price never comes down once it goes up, he said.

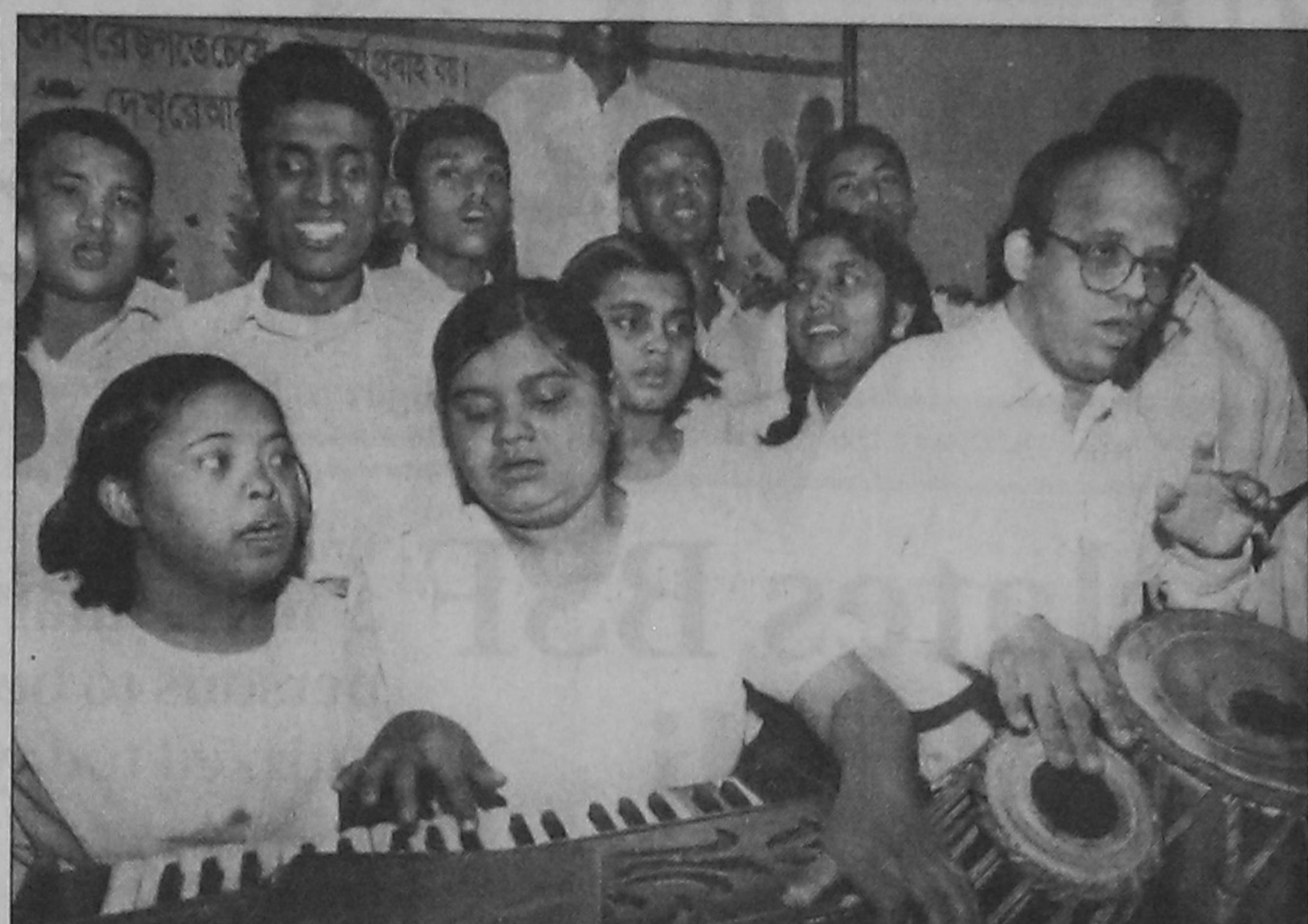
## Shishu Park to remain open

**UNB, Dhaka**  
The Central Shishu Park at Shahbagh will remain open for public from 10.00am to 7.00pm on the Eid day and subsequent three days.  
The park will remain open from 12 noon to 2.00pm for the distressed and poor children and from 2.00pm to 7pm for the public on Wednesday, said a DCC press release.

## Qulkhwani

**BSS, Dhaka**  
Qulkhwani of Nasrul Mobin Chowdhury will be held at his brother Foreign Secretary Shamsur Mobin Chowdhury's residence at House No 6, Road-89, Gulshan, at 3.00 pm today.  
The family of the deceased has requested his relatives, friends and admirers to attend the qulkhwani.

**For Sale**  
Extremely cheap price for Nissan Sedan Car with up-to-date papers, New Battery/Radio/Cassette Player - 60,000/= Brand new Olympus Digital Camera - 18,000/= 9895586 C-2577



The mentally challenged students of Kalyani render songs at a function in the city yesterday. The Bangladesh Foundation for the Disabled organised the event on the occasion of World Disabled Day.

# Parity in trade opportunity a must for poverty cut in LDCs

**Khosru tells UNCTAD panel discussion**  
**BSS, Dhaka**  
Commerce Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury has said LDC countries would not be able to escape the poverty trap unless parity in opportunities in trade is ensured through meaningful market access for products of interest to them.  
The commerce minister was speaking at a panel discussion organised by UNCTAD at its executive session of the Trade and Development Board (TDB) in Geneva on Monday.  
TDB, the highest intergovern-

mental decision making body of UNCTAD, met in the executive session to discuss the LDCs 2002 report by UNCTAD, according to a message received here yesterday.  
The meeting, the first of its kind, was held as the follow up to the Brussels programme of action adopted for LDCs during the third United Nations Conference on LDCs held in May 2001.  
The three-day session meeting, attended by ministers from LDCs, was expected to identify national and international policy options for LDCs to arrest the trend of persistent poverty.  
He said national efforts of LDCs would go in vain, if the external environment were not supportive and favourable.  
Emphasising the role of trade, the commerce minister stressed the need for operating the existing special and differential provisions in WTO agreements.  
"The current trade rules do not give sufficient policy space to LDCs to choose their development strategies," he added.  
He called for eliminating tariff pike, tariff escalation, and other non-tariff barriers to export LDCs' products. He also emphasised the need for technical cooperation in strengthening the supply side capacities of LDCs and elimination of agricultural subsidies of the developed countries.  
Earlier in the day, he met the International Trade Centre (ITC) executive director Denis Belisle.  
During discussion the minister stressed the importance of taking up projects in handicrafts, light engineering, and agro-based products in Bangladesh.  
The ITC is currently implementing a project for the leather sector in Bangladesh.

## In Loving Memory

Late Mahamuda Khatoun, who passed away to the heavenly abode of Allah last year, December 3, 2001. Every moment reminds me (Abdul Hye) and my children of your absence. We miss you beyond any imagination. As with your presence, your absence binds us together to keep the love, affection, care and comfort you shared with us, while alive. Nothing can take away what you have given us, yet there is still so much that we wish, we could share with you. You were a friend to us in our distress. How can we forget you?  
*We miss you more with every moment that passes by. May Allah the Almighty, the Most Merciful rest your soul in eternal sleep.*  
Grand - Children Afifa, Dimple, Binty, Nafeesa, Neeva, Habib, Son-in-Law - Alam & Sohael, Great Grand-child-Evan

**DFID** Department for International Development  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

**DFID Bangladesh**  
British High Commission

### Vacancy Announcement

Co-ordinator for the Chars Livelihoods Programme  
Department for International Development Bangladesh (DFIDB)

DFIDB is responsible for managing Britain's international development programme in Bangladesh, which is aimed at reducing poverty. This includes significant support to strengthening the livelihoods of the rural poor, working with government, the private sector and NGOs. A vacancy will arise in early 2003 for a DFID Co-ordinator for the newly approved Chars Livelihoods Programme.

- Tasks:**  
Your responsibility will be to ensure that implementation of the Chars Livelihoods Programme (CLP) delivers its outputs and purpose effectively, contributing to the achievement of the Rural Livelihoods Strategy and Country Assistance Plan objectives, and delivers synergies to other parts of the Rural Livelihoods and wider DFIDB programme. Your primary tasks will be to manage all aspects of commissioning, overseeing implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of the Chars Livelihoods Programme. Specific tasks will include:
- Selecting and engaging CLP management and independent evaluation contractors.
  - Maintaining oversight of contractor performance, relationships and key personnel management issues.
  - Directly overseeing the activities of the programme audit and evaluation contractor.
  - Ensuring that contractual and financial administration and reporting is efficient and effective.
  - Building influencing relationships within and beyond the CLP, including information dissemination, coordination meetings, etc.
  - Participating in the wider implementation of the Rural Livelihoods Strategy.

**Skills and experience required:**  
You will be a highly motivated "self-starter" committed to working with others to help improve the livelihoods of the rural poor. In addition, the Co-ordinator will be expected to contribute more broadly to the work of the Rural Livelihoods Team (RLT). To achieve this, you will work closely with the RLT advisers and other DFID Bangladesh staff.

The Co-ordinator for the CLP will have an important role in ensuring lesson-learning and dissemination between the CLP and other DFIDB projects and programmes, and feeding into advisers' lesson-learning and dissemination activities with Government of Bangladesh, donors and other partners.

Experience in working with rural livelihoods issues is highly desirable. Demonstrable experience and a proven track record of working in an influencing and facilitatory manner is essential. You will be able to work at various institutional levels (from community to senior Government), will be sensitive to the institutional domains of partners, and capable of using appropriate styles when working with different stakeholders.

You will require a sound understanding of development issues and be able to combine networking skills and high-level discussion of policy and strategy with getting things done. A firm understanding of public sector institutions, NGOs and the environment for private business in Bangladesh would be beneficial.

Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English are required as is an ability to work with tact and diplomacy. You will be able to demonstrate well-developed skills in the use of information technology. You will have a good degree in a rural livelihoods related discipline.

The Chars Livelihoods Programme is expected to continue for 8 years and therefore the selected candidate will be awarded a permanent contract based on performance. A competitive salary and benefit package (salary under review) will be offered, taking account of the successful applicant's skills and experience. For a full job description and application form, please e-mail to: [dfidb-recruitment@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:dfidb-recruitment@dfid.gov.uk) or contact in person at the Management Unit, DFID Bangladesh, House 76, Road 24, Gulshan-1, Dhaka - 1212. Only applications made on the application form will be considered. Completed **HARDCOPY** applications (only) are to be returned addressed to the HR & Training section by latest Sunday (15:00 hour) 29 December 2002. Please clearly mark as "Chars Livelihoods Programme Co-ordinator" on the top left hand corner of the envelope. Applications are welcome from all ethnic groups, women and disabled people. Only short-listed candidates will then be contacted for Assessment Process.

**Note:** if you are requesting the Job Descriptions and Application Form electronically through e-mail, please write, "Chars Co-ordinator" in the subject head of your e-mail.

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE  
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

## 1108 more held

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Police arrested 1,108 people, including seven listed criminals, from different parts of the country in 24 hours ending at 6am yesterday.

People seeking to get French visa will have to submit non-refundable fees at the time of submitting their applications from January next year.  
The procedure was changed in line with the European Union decision adopted last year, a French Embassy press release said here yesterday.  
Applicants must submit visa forms duly filled in along with relevant documents and necessary visa fees depending on the type of their applications from January, it added.



Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) formed a human chain in front of the National Press Club yesterday protesting repression on journalists and demanding release of arrested journalists.

**WEATHER TODAY**

## Dry weather likely

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country today. Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.  
Country's highest temperature 31.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 13.4 degree at Rajshahi.  
The sun sets in the capital at 5:11 pm today and rises at 6:28 am tomorrow.  
Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.5	18.8	55	67
Chittagong	30.6	19.4	86	60
Rajshahi	28.7	13.4	70	78
Khulna	29.0	16.0	76	72
Barisal	28.0	16.4	83	92
Sylhet	29.6	17.7	70	77
Cox's Bazar	31.4	20.5	77	81

# Resist conspiracy to export gas: Lawyers

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Some 1,010 lawyers of Supreme Court and Dhaka Bar yesterday accused Prime Minister Khaleda Zia of hatching conspiracy to export gas even staying at the holy city of Jeddah.  
In a statement, the lawyers said the country does not have enough gas resources to be exported. Only four per cent of the people has access to gas while gas connection is yet to be given in northeastern region of the country.  
They said when Khaleda Zia was the leader of the opposition, she opposed the export of gas saying "If necessary, we will give blood but not gas". But after coming to power, she had been hatching conspiracy to export gas, they added.  
"We will resist any conspiracy to export gas, the country's main natural resource," the lawyers vowed.  
The statement said the country has only proven gas reserve of 11 TCF (Trillion Cubic Feet). Moreover, the possibility of finding new gas reserve in the country in next 50 years is not bright. Only 8 TCF gas is likely to be discovered during the period, it added.  
On the other hand, the country's requirement of gas till 2030 will be 27.70 TCF, the statement said quoting a Petrobangla study.  
It also expressed apprehension that the country's present gas reserve could be finished by 2020.  
Therefore, no question of gas export arises, the lawyers observed.  
The signatories to the statement included Barrister Amrul Islam, Barrister Shawkat Ali, Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, Advocate Subhangshu Shekhar Halader, Advocate Ojayer Faruk and Advocate Syed Rezaur Rahman.

## Mehendi festival at Press Club

**BSS, Dhaka**  
Jatiya Press Club (JPC) yesterday arranged a colourful Mehendi festival on the occasion of Sab-e-Qadr at the end of holy month of Ramadan at its auditorium.  
Wives and daughters of the members of the club participated in the programme with great enthusiasm.  
JPC General Secretary Swapan Kumar Saha inaugurated the function. It was attended by joint secretary of the club Abdur Rahman Khan, owner of Shahjadi Mehendi, Khorshed Alam, Mrs Alam and members of the club.  
A huge number of wives and daughters of the members took part in the Mehendi festival and decorated their hands with Mehendi in a festive mood.  
Swapan Saha, in his speech, thanked the Shahjadi Mehendi for co-operating in holding such a beautiful and traditional function in the Press Club.  
Mehendi function will be arranged in every year on this occasion in the club, he added.

## Hasina to exchange Eid greetings

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina will exchange Eid greetings with a cross section of people at Sudha Shadhan in Dhanmondi on the Eid day from 9.00am to 12 noon.  
She will also exchange greetings with the diplomats and the representatives of donor agencies from 10:30am to 11:30am, party sources said.

## Death anniversary

The 31st death anniversary of Shaheed Abdullahil Baqui, Bir Protik, will be observed today, says a press release.  
On this day in 1971, he embraced martyrdom in a face to face battle with Pakistan Army.  
Qurankhwani and Milad Mahfil have been arranged on this occasion at the residence of his father.

**DHAKA TODAY**

- Release**  
The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Bangladesh, will release the "State of World Population Report (SWPR) 2002. UNFPA Representative Suneta Mukherjee will formally release the report. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 11.00am.
- Human chain**  
A human chain will be formed demanding withdrawal of case against Priscilla Raj, a young writer and interpreter who had been arrested with two foreign journalists recently. Venue: In front of National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 3.00pm.
- Angikar Bangladesh**  
On the occasions of 31st year of Victory Day and 54th year of Universal Human Rights Declaration, Angikar Bangladesh will place wreath as part of its inaugural programme. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar. Time: 8.00am.
- Memorial meeting**  
Pallima Sangsad organising a meeting in memory of Shaheed Abdullah-Hel-Baqui, Bir Protik, and Shaheed Amrus Salam Babul on the occasion of their 31st death anniversary. Venue: Pallima Sangsad premises, Khilgaon. Time: 4.15pm.
- Discussion**  
Jatiya Party (Monju) organises a discussion on the occasion of 39th death anniversary of Hossain Shahid Suhrawardi with party Chairman Anwar Hossain Monju as chief guest. Venue: 7/10/A, Block-D, Lalmitia. Time: 3.30pm.

**কিস্তি বীমা মেয়াদ শেষ হবার আগেই বীমার টাকার সদ্যবহার করুন**

৩ কিস্তি মেয়াদী বীমায় পুরো মেয়াদ শেষ হবার আগেই বীমার টাকা পাওয়া যায়।

- বীমাকৃত টাকার প্রথম ৩ কিস্তি কিস্তি মেয়াদের ১/৩ ত ২/৩ অংশ পূর্ণ হলে পাওয়া যায়। বাকি শিফা, বিবাহ, পুষ্টিমাণ, ব্যবসা জুড়ি কাশে অর্থ যোগানো সহজ হয়।
- কিস্তির টাকা হলে নিজেই বীমাকৃত পুরো টাকার উপর সুবিধা অর্জন থাকে। শেষ কিস্তির সংশ্লিষ্ট বোনাসও পাওয়া যায়।
- এই পলিসি ১২, ১৫, ১৮, ২১, ২৪ অথবা ৩০ বছর মেয়াদে নেয়া যায়।
- ইচ্ছা করলে এর সাথে সমান্য অতিরিক্ত প্রিমিয়াম দিয়ে দুর্ঘটনাজনিত বীমাব (Accident Insurance) নিতে পারেন।
- প্রদত্ত প্রিমিয়ামের উপরে আয়তর রেহাত পাওয়া যায়।

আপনি যদি এই আকর্ষণীয় পলিসি গ্রহণ করতে চান, তাহলে নিম্নোক্ত কৃপাটি পূরণ করে পাঠিয়ে দিন।

**জীবন বীমা কর্পোরেশন**  
একটি স্বাস্থ্যকর বীমা প্রতিষ্ঠান

এখানে কটন

ম্যানেজিং ডায়রেক্টর  
জীবন বীমা কর্পোরেশন  
২৪, মতিশিল্প ২/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০

আমি একটি ৩ কিস্তি বীমা পলিসি গ্রহণ করতে ইচ্ছুক।

নাম \_\_\_\_\_  
পূর্ণ ঠিকানা \_\_\_\_\_

DPP-20254-2711/02