# **3 JCD men sent to** jail for extortion

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

years rigorous imprisonment in an arms case and had been on bail, was arrested along with two accompli-ces when they went to collect toll An activist of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), who was sentenced to 14 from a cinema hall manager in the



Abu Sayeed's anniversary of birth today

Today is the 82nd anniversary of birth of late president Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, says a press release.

Justice Chowdhury is one of the leading organisers of the War of Liberation. He was elected chairman of the United Nations Human Rights Commision in 1985. After Vijay Luxmi Pundit of India and Sir Jafarullah Khan of Pakistan, he was the third personality from the subcontinent to lead this prestigious forum of UN.

35, was hit by a speeding bus at Gulshan Avenue at around Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury 10:30am. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he died at around 12.00noon. National Memorial Council will distribute stipends among meritorious students soon.



### **Premiere show**

The premiere show of the film titled 'Bachelor' by Mostofa Sarwar Farooki will be held. Venue: Balaka Cinemal Hall, Time: 5.00pm

### Arts exhibition

The 11th biennial Asian Arts Exhibition, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, ends. Venues: Osmani Memorial auditorium, National Museum and Shilpakala Art Gallery. Time: 11.00am to 7.00pm

### **Rotary Central**

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club, Shahbagh. Time: 1.30pm.

**Rotary North West** Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club, Shahbagh. Time: 5.30pm.

Later, they were sent to jail custody after being produced before the Magistrate's court on

Police said Jahidul Islam Shiplu,

Rajib and another JCD activist went to the manager of Nandita Cinema Hall and demanded Tk 30,000 as

As the manager refused to pay, they ransacked the furniture and other valuables of his office.

Sources said some 20 JCD lead-ers pressed the police for their release and threatened them with serious consequences.

2 killed in road

Two people were killed in separate

road accidents in Sabujbagh and Gulshan area of the city yesterday.

Kamruzzaman Tapu, a 14-year-old factory worker, died when a speeding bus knocked him down on the Bishwa road at Bashabo at

Police seized the bus, but the

In another incident, Abdul Jalil,

accidents

around 12.30pm.

driver managed to escape.

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT** 

Thursday afternoon.



Trade fair

The concluding ceremony of Dhaka International Trade Fair will be held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief quest. Venue: Fair premises, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 10.30am.

in 1971. With the cooperation of Rotary Club of Agrabad, the Japanese Rotarians helped construct three two-storied buildings and an auditorium for his school

NURUL ALAM, Chittagong

Obituary

vesterday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Founder of Rotary Betagi Union

Eskander Ahmad went to Japan

High School, he is survived by his

in 1965 for study under Yoneyama Scholarship. After completion of

his studies, he joined the Bengali

As the founder president of

Bangladesh Society in Japan,

Eskander played an active role in

mobilising Japanese public opin-ion in favour of the Liberation War

apanese wife and two sons.

Service of NHK (Radio Japan).

## **MMROsmani**

Engineer MMR Osmani, retired

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami Leaque President Sheikh Hasina visited injured party leader Monjur Morshed Khan Labu at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday. Monjur, general secretary of Sonadanga thana AL, was severely injured when assailants hurled three bombs at him in Khulna on Thursday.

## Move to introduce second tea auction market falls through

by the tea growers and traders.

The state-owned Bangladesh Tea Board (BTB) dropped the idea of holding another international Move to introduce another international tea auction market out-side Chittagong reportedly fell through in the face of opposition tea auction at Srimongal in Sylhet, after a Board meeting rejected the proposal recently, meeting sources

The meeting decided to con-tinue to hold the international tea auction only in Chittagong having all infrastructural facilities and other logistics.

Eskandar Ahmed Chowdhury of The tea auction is held in Agrabad commercial area on each Rotary Club of Agrabad died at his village home at Betagi in Rangunia, Fuesday, a tradition that dates back Chittagong, in the early hours of to the British period.

The BTB placed the idea on the genda of the official meeting after the commerce ministry forwarded the proposal of a trade association in Sylhet in this regard.

The meeting was attended by tea growers, traders, representatives of tea broker houses and officials of the Board. And all of them opposed the idea as the country supplies only two percent of the world demand.

The participants argued that all international tea auction markets in the world are located in the port cities offering quick shipment facilities, sources said.

They said the tea auctions should be held only in Chittagong as it has all infrastructural facilities including port, customs houses warehouses and tea broker houses The associations of tea growers and traders are also based in the port city, they added.

"The proposal was rejected in

# **Right to form trade union** in EPZs demanded

### **STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

National Garment Workers Federation (NGWF) yesterday demanded the right to form trade union in the export processing zones (EPZs) of the country.

The NGWF leaders also called for fixing the wages of EPZ workers keeping consistency with the existing market price.

They raised the demands at the inaugural session of a two-day national conference of the federa tion at the National Press Club auditorium vesterday.

Speaking at the conference, eminent lawyer Dr Kamal Hossain said it is the basic right of the workers to bargain with their employers collectively

"The constitution of the country has guaranteed everybody to form

Dr Kamal said the bar on EPZ workers to form trade union violates the constitution. It is also a are struggling here to establish their constitutional rights, he



Dr Kamal Hossain speaking at the inaugural function of the national conference of the National Garment Workers Federation

### added

"It is not the trade union, rather the wrong policy of the government is responsible for the closure of state-owned mills and factories. Dr Kamal noted.

"When the lawmakers are enjoying all benefits, then why

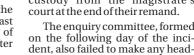
Shahjalal shrine blast No progress in investigation

### **STAFF CORRESPONDENT,** Sylhet

No progress has been made in the investigation of the bomb blast that took place in the shrine of Hazrat Shahjalal (RA) even after two weeks of the incident.

Law enforcers could neither find any clue nor identify the persons responsible for the bomb explosion that killed five 5 people and injured 50 others

Police did not get any information from the six people arrested in connection with the incident, sources said.



When contacted, officials declined to say any thing about the fate of the investigations

They have been sent to jail

way though it was given a 10-day extension which ended vesterday.

bonus

custody from the magistrate's The enquiry committee, formed

infrastructural facilities although

most tea gardens are located in Sylhet region," BTB Deputy Director (trade) Shah Alam told

"We need to raise tea produc-

tion and develop other logistics to

facilitate its export. Otherwise, it will be difficult to keep operating

another auction market," he

Sylhet region because of favour-

able climatic conditions and suit-

The country produces on an average 55 million kilograms of tea

a year, of which 40 million kg are

needed to meet the domestic

WEATHER TODAY

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country till opm today. Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country during morning.

Night temperature may rise slightly over Rajshahi division and may remain hearly unchanged ensewhere over the country, Met

**Dry weather likely** 

demand and the rest are exported.

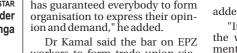
UNB, Dhaka

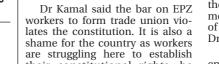
able locations for tea plantation.

Bangladesh has 156 tea gardens and over 80 percent of them are in

The Daily Star.







should the workers be deprived of their rights," asked Dr Kamal, adding that only a handful of plunderers are looting the country keeping the majority of the people as hostage.

The Daily Star

Shirin Akhter, president of Karmajibi Nari, said industrial workers have to be given sufficient wages as they are earning valuable foreign exchanges for the country.

She supported the demand of the workers to form trade union in the EPZs.

Shirin also alleged that female workers are still being subjected to narassment at their workplace.

Shafiqur Rahman Majumder, a leader of Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad, said the government is violating the convention of International Labour Organisation by barring the workers from formng trade union in EPZs.

He regretted that 18 lakh gar-

The inaugural session was also

addressed by Advocate Abed Raza and NGWF General Secretary

Amirul Hoque Amin.

ment workers are not getting Eid

B a n g l a d e s h R u r a l Development Board, died at Shikder Medical College Hospital in the city on January 28 at the age of 62, says a press release. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and grandchildren. His qulkhwani will be held at 154/1 Monipuri Para, 5D Sheltech Monihar Apartment, Tejgaon after Asr prayers today. Relatives, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend the qul.	week-long festival on the occasion	at 5:44pm today and rises at	<b>6:40am</b> in some ty in cage	