



Police stand guard as Awami League leaders stage a sit-in on a road at Dhanmondi Russell Square in the city on the first day of hartal yesterday.

## 5 killed in road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five people were killed and 15 others injured in separate road accidents in Manikganj and Feni yesterday.

Of them, three were killed in Feni and the rest in Manikganj.

Our Manikganj Correspondent reported that a road accident on the Dhaka-Arich Highway at Golora under Satura upazila left two people killed and 15 others injured.

Police said the accident took place when a pickup van, carrying 17 fish traders, collided with a speeding truck early yesterday, leaving Nusal Mia, 32, of Boalia

under Pangsha Pourashaba and Nasim Shaikh, 30, of Kalyanpur in Rajbari dead on the spot and 15 others injured.

The injured were admitted to Manikganj Sadar Hospital.

In Feni, Three people were killed in separate road accidents during hartal hours yesterday, according to the UNB.

Police and witnesses said Nazrul Islam Chowdhury, district

## Notorious robber arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

Police arrested notorious forest robber Rana Sarder, chief of Rana bahini, and recovered an arms cache from Ganipur in Begumganj in the early hours of yesterday.

Police also seized one rocket launcher, 11 long guns, 14 hand-made guns, one foreign gun, one shooter gun, one airgun, 97 cartridges, 33-round bullets, two trawlers, two motorcycles and huge locally made firearms.

Acting on tip off, police raided the house of Rana's sister and nabbed the ringleader, said Officer-in-Charge (OC) Kamruzzaman of Char Jabbar Police Station.

Rana, accused of more than 50 criminal charges, went into hiding during police raid in December last year and served as a rickshaw-puller in Chittagong. He came to Ganipur a week back to sell a piece of land.

He created a reign of terror in the coastal areas of Noakhali for the last 6 years by killing, looting valuables, selling encroached forestlands, rape, extortion and other criminal activity.

Hasina prayed for salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to his bereaved family members.

unit president of Sonali Bank CBA, died on the spot and general secretary Haji Lokman Hossain was critically injured as their motorbike was hit by an oil tanker at about 11:30am.

Lokman later succumbed to his injuries at Sadar Hospital. They were going to the bank's Mohipal branch from Feni town.

In another accident, Abdul Gafur, son of Tamjuddin of Feni town, died on the spot as his motorbike crashed into a speeding truck in front of the Sadar Hospital at about 8:00am.

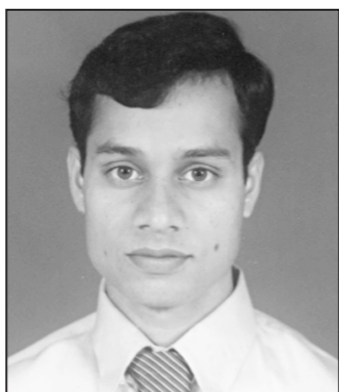
## Body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Police recovered a body of a youngman at Uttar Eidgah under Bandar thana in the district yesterday morning.

Police identified the body as Mamun, 30. Mamun went out of home in Bandar thana on Tuesday night to buy medicine for his mother but did not back home.

There were marks of injuries in his body. Mamun might have been killed by the local criminals, police said. The reasons behind the killing could not be known immediately, police added.



## Appeal for help

DU CORRESPONDENT

Md Korban Ali, a third year student of Islamic Studies Department of Dhaka University, seeks financial assistance for his treatment as he has been suffering from acute heart disease.

Doctors have advised him to undergo an operation immediately but his family could not afford such expensive treatment involving around Tk 3.50 lakh.

Ali and his classmates have appealed to the generous people to extend a helping hand to save his life.

Contributions can be sent to the following account: Md Korban Ali, Savings Account No. 34085205 (26745), Janata Bank, Teacher Student Centre (TSC) branch, DU.

Ali stays at Room No. 109, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall, Dhaka University.

## Garments worth Tk 30 lakh seized at CEPZ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Customs officials seized a truck loaded with fabrics and ready-made garments worth over Tk 30 lakh while being taken out of the Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) here on Tuesday night.

The fabrics were imported under back to back L/C for garments factories in the CEPZ.

Acting on a tip off, a team of Audit Investigation and Research (AIR) branch of Chittagong Customs House, seized the truck with the

fabrics at Saltgola, about one kilometer away from CEPZ gate, at 9.00pm.

Both the driver and helper of the truck, managed to flee.

The seized items include 15,000 yards of fabrics (coated nylon typed) in 134 roles and 60,000 pieces of panties.

Customs officials said that the fabrics might have belonged to either Japanese firm Dream Bengal Apparels, or Bangladeshi firm Intech Apparels as both the firms use such fabrics.

## Two 'outlaws' lynched in Bagerhat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two operatives of the Janajuddho faction of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) were lynched by an angry mob early yesterday morning at Mulghar union under Fakirhat upazila of Bagerhat.

The victims were identified as Chute Sheikh, 32, and Sultan Sheikh, 28. Police recovered a loaded revolver one of the deceased was carrying.

According to police, a group of PBCP cadres were hiding in a bush in preparation for a criminal operation when they were surrounded by a mob of local people. The outlaws opened fire in a bid to escape but the mob caught two men while the others escaped.

The two died were severely beaten and died on the spot. The bodies were sent to Bagerhat General Hospital for autopsy.

## Gazipur BNP leader stabbed to death

UNB, Gazipur

Kazi Mahmud Hossain Hashem, 52, a leader of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Gazipur chapter, was stabbed to death allegedly by the activists of Jatityabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Jubo Dal in the town yesterday.

Locals caught the alleged killers, Jewel, 25, his brother Rubel, 20, and father Ismail Molla, 50, and handed them over to the police.

Former Jatiya Party leader Kazi Hashem recently joined the BNP and incurred the wrath of criminals

for strongly opposing extortion.

Witnesses said a gang of three swooped on Hashem while he was taking tea at a tea stall in front of the deputy commissioner's office at noon and stabbed him.

He was rushed to Gazipur Sadar Hospital where he died soon after admission.

Soon after the death, angry people ransacked a business house of the alleged killers. They hurled brickbats at the police, leaving six of them injured. Police fired teargas shells to bring the situation under control.

## Infuse newness, diversity into our culture

### Khaleda tells delegation of Zia Shishu Academy

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday called for infusing newness, new ideas and diversity into the country's culture maintaining its rich heritage.

A 15-member children's delegation of Zia Shishu Academy made a courtesy call on the prime minister at her office. The delegation is leaving for Singapore and Australia today.

The delegation members informed the prime minister that Zia International Shishu Fair will be held in Dhaka on December

where 25 countries will participate. The visit takes place on the occasion of the forthcoming international fair.

Khaleda wished success of the children's cultural delegation and expressed the hope that they would highlight the country's rich cultural heritage through their performance abroad.

She said they would act as the country's cultural ambassadors abroad would enhance the country's image.

She said their visit would create enthusiasm about the country's art and cultural heri-

tage and also they would return home with diverse cultural heritage.

The prime minister said that the country's culture would further be enriched and stay for ages if diverse cultural ingredients could be accommodated keeping pace with the time.

Science and ICT Minister Dr A Moyeen Khan, State Minister for Finance and Planning Shah M Abul Hossain, MP's political secretaries - Harris Chowdhury and Mosaddek Ali and Amin Ahmed and Humayun Kabir were present.



A 15-member children's delegation of Zia Shishu Academy made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

## Army retrieves firearms in Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Army personnel yesterday seized eight handmade guns, one grenade, huge bullets and other belongings after a shootout with gunrunners allegedly belong to the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghaty Samity (PCJSS).

Locals said they saw bloodstains on the forest spot near Kalapahar in Katukchhari in Naniarchar upazila but no casualty was reported.

Army sources said a patrol troop on a regular exercise came under fire in Debachhara at around 9:00am. The gunrunners left the spot leaving behind their belongings, as the army returned fire.

The troop also recovered some documents that indicate the gang's link with the PCJSS, the sources said.

## Acid attack on housewife in Barguna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A land dispute between two families led to an acid attack on a housewife at her house in East Hatempur village in Patharghata, Barguna, on Monday.

Hasina Begum, 32, wife of deep-sea fisherman Belayet Hossain, sustained severe acid burns during the attack. She was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMHC) yesterday from Patharghata Health Complex.

"Belayet has a five-year dispute with his cousins over the land of the house and the acid attack was a sequel to the dispute," said Bachchu, brother of Belayet.

Hasina said Taslima, wife of Belayet's cousin, and neighbours Amena, Rehana, Shamima, Monir Yunus and Eshaq threw acid on her during a quarrel with her two brothers-in-law and their wives over landed property. The left side of her body was badly burnt.

The attackers also beat up her and Kohinoor, wife of Belayet's brother Bachchu.

## Tiger kills honey collector

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Tiger killed a honey collector in Hoghliadanga area of the Sundarbans on Monday.

The victim, Taru Gazi, 38, of village Kashimari in Shyamnagar upazila went to the Sundarbans in the morning, taking permission from the forest department.

Police quoted witnesses as saying a tiger jumped on Gazi and killed him while he was collecting honey in the forest at noon.

Gazi's body was recovered yesterday and handed over to his relatives.

### DHAKA TODAY

**Film show**

The Academy Film Society will screen an Indian film titled 'Chalte Chalte' (2003), an American film titled 'Pirates of the Caribbean' (2003), and a French film titled 'The Realm of the Senses' (1969). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm, 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

**Dance Day**

On the occasion of World Dance Day, Nriyadhara organises a dance programme. Venue: Mohila Samity auditorium. Time: 7.00pm.

**Seminar**

The inaugural session of the national stakeholder awareness seminar on 'Strategic Planning & Management' will be held, with State Minister for Power Iqbal Hassan Mahmood as chief guest. Venue: Conference room, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon. Time: 10.00am.

**SC Bar Assoc protest meeting**

Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association will hold a joint meeting of professionals to protest mass arrests and police action on rallies and processions. Venue: Association office. Time: 12.00 noon.

**Workshop**

Bangladesh Association for Prevention and Treatment of Liver Diseases will

hold an awareness workshop on 'Jaundice in Newborns'. Venue: Association office, 16 Elephant Road. Time: 3.30pm.

**Condolence meet**

The Sandwip Samity, Dhaka organises a condolence meeting in memory of those killed in severe tornado and tidal wave that lashed the island. Venue: Eastern University auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.30pm.

### DHAKA TOMORROW

**Seminar on dowry**

Rapport Bangladesh Limited will hold a breakfast seminar on 'Socio-economic impact of dowry system in Bangladesh: Problems and remedies'. Venue: Rapport Seminar Hall, Zeenat Bhaban, 41/1 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 8.30am.

**Seminar on birds**

Bandhu, an association of youngsters working for the betterment of the Earth, will hold a seminar on 'Birds in the coastal zone', with MA Muhit of Bangladesh Bird Club as the key speaker. Venue: Bandhu office, 15/10 Madhubagh, Maghbazar.

### WEATHER TODAY

## Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over six divisions till 6.00pm today.

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 36.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rangamati and the lowest 20.0 degree Celsius at Srimongal.

**The sun sets in the capital at 6:26 pm today and rises at 5:25 am tomorrow.**

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.0	22.2	58	49
Chittagong	33.0	23.5	71	65
Rajshahi	35.4	22.7	67	60
Khulna	34.5	24.0	73	57
Barisal	33.5	22.5	70	72
Sylhet	33.5	22.7	57	48
Cox's Bazar	33.6	25.2	69	71