



PHOTO: STAR  
Filthy floodwaters emitting foul smell add to the suffering of passengers as the rickshaws got stuck on a road at Gopibagh in the city yesterday.

# 'Construct dams to prevent artificial floods'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh can prevent the artificial floods by constructing dams in greater Sylhet, Comilla and Feni districts, said the speakers at a seminar yesterday.

They said the proposed Demra-

## Justice Mahmud Husain's death anniversary today



Today is the 22 nd death anniversary of former Chief Justice Syed AB Mah-mud Husain, says a press release.

On the occasion, Chief Justice Syed AB Mahmud Husain Smriti Sangsad will organise a discussion meeting at the Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association auditorium at 4.30pm today.

Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassir Husain will attend the meeting as chief guest.

Friends, relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the meeting.

## Suraiya Begum

Today is the first death anniversary of Suraiya Begum, an associate professor at the Department of Information Science and Library Management, Dhaka University, says a press release.

She was the wife of late Tawfiq Aziz Khan, former executive editor of The Daily Star and a renowned sports writer and commentator.

Suraiya Begum was a life member of Bangla Academy, Library Association of Bangladesh (LAB), Institute of Library Information and Management (ILIM) and Asiatic Society.

Tongi Eastern By- Pass has to be constructed immediately to keep the capital city free from flooding.

The seminar was organised by Uniting Bangladesh at the National Press Club with K M Obaidur Rahman MP in the chair.

State Minister for Agriculture Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and State Minister for Water Resources Goutam Chakraborty attended the seminar as special guests.

Chairperson of Uniting Bangladesh Giasuddin Chowdhury presented the

## JAHANGIR MURDER CASE

## Absconding accused arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Police arrested an absconding accused in a murder case and his accomplice following an encounter in the city yesterday.

Zakir Hossain Litu is the number one accused in the sensational Jubo Dal leader Jahangir Shahin Murder Case.

Zakir, a listed terror of Sylhet, had been absconding since the murder about a year ago, said a police official.

His accomplice Enamul Islam Fakhrul is also wanted in different cases.

The arrest followed when a police sub-inspector asked two motor cyclists for a halt at the approach of Shahjalal Bridge at about 6:00am.

To avoid the police, Zakir suddenly opened fire at them and jumped into the river leaving behind his motorbike. He managed to swim ashore at about one kilometer away from where the police caught him.

Police also arrested Enamul.

Among the 10 chargesheeted accused, six have been so far arrested by the Kotwali police while three are still at large in the murder case.

keynote paper.

Giasuddin said dams with sluice gates must be constructed over the hilly rivers of greater Sylhet, Comilla and Feni districts to control the onrush of waters from the upstream. These could also be used for producing electricity like Kaptai Hydroelectricity Project, he added.

Fakhrul Islam said the proposed Indian River Linking Project would have devastating impact on Bangladesh if we fail to take necessary steps against it.

He also suggested large scale dredging of rivers, and digging of canals to control the artificial floods.

Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu said India never wants to see Bangladesh as a rich country. So they create artificial floods by opening the sluice gates of the dams in the rainy season, he added.

"Bangladesh becomes the victim of floods every year. So it is necessary to construct dams with the help of Nepal which is our friendly country," Minu said.

Joinul Abedin Faruq MP, BFUJ President Gias Kamal Chowdhury and Abul Kashem Chowdhury of Bangladesh Water Development Board also spoke.

## 18,000 bottles of foreign liquor seized

BSS, Dhaka

The members of the coast guard working in east and west zones have seized different smuggled goods including 18,000 bottles of foreign liquor worth Tk one crore during the last 15 days.

They also detained 8 pirates during the drives, a coast guard headquarters press release said yesterday.

## Janamat editor receives threats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Nawab Uddin, visiting editor of Britain's first and popular Bangla weekly Janamat, has been receiving threats, reportedly from the cadres loyal to a ruling party MP, to leave the country.

The Janamat editor, now on a two-week visit to his homeland, made this allegation while exchanging views with the journalists at a reception ceremony at a hotel in the port city yesterday.

Nawab alleged that unknown callers had been issuing threats accusing him of publishing 'defamatory' reports on Naser Rahman MP, son of Finance Minister Saifur Rahman, since he went to his village home at Moulavibazar a week ago.

Local police refused to record even a GD (general diary) entry he wanted to make and expressed their inability to ensure his round-the-clock safety while the local leaders of ruling BNP advised him to leave the country, he said.

"The GD could be registered once only after I talked to and had the police super make an order for it," Nawab said, "But the officer-in-charge of local police station called on me, asking for its withdrawal immediately after its entry."

He regretted that although he has been working as an editor of a Bangla weekly in a foreign land, he could not escape the threats and hazards the press was facing at home.

The Chittagong office of Janamat accorded the reception to Nawab Uddin. Monowara Hakim Ali presided over the ceremony.

## Reception to Qazi Faruque

Proshika President Qazi Faruque Ahmed has said coordination is needed between the government and non-government organisations to tackle the current devastating floods.

Speaking at a reception accorded to him yesterday, he also called for international assistance and people's participation to overcome the crisis.

The function was also addressed by Senior Vice President of Proshika Mahbulul Karim, says a press release.

## Gulshan Club distributes relief

Gulshan Club led by its President Chowdhury Monwar Ahmed Siddiqui and Chief Co-Ordinator Engr. Mohammad Rezaul Karim distributed relief to the distressed people of nine flood shelters in Bhairab on July 30, says a press release.

The flood shelters are Bus stand, Jagannathpur, Kamolpur, Bhairab Railway, Lakshimpur and Bhairab Uttar Para.

Local Pourasabha chairman was present during distribution of relief.

## Puja committee

BSS adds, Mohanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee and Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Parishad yesterday jointly distributed relief among 3,000 flood-hit people at Abhoy Binodini High School shelter at Sabujbagh and its adjoining areas in the city.

Maj Gen (Rtd) CR Dutta, Prof. Dr. Nim Chandra Bhowmik, journalist Swapan Kumar Saha and social workers Dipak Bhowmik, Joyanta Sen Dipu, Mangal Chandra Ghose, Nirmal Chatterjee, Chitta Ranjan Das, Uttam Kumar Chakraborty, Padmaboti Devnath, Motilal Roy, Advocate Shyamol Roy, Advocate Kishore Mondal, Sukhendu Boidhya, Dilip Ghose and Nihar Halder, were in the team to distribute relief.

Mohanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee will inaugurate a hand-made 'Ruti' making programme at Dhakeshwari National Temple Auditorium today at 3.30 pm. Editor of the Jugantor Golam Sarwar will inaugurate the programme.

## Obituary

Msammam Shaheda Begum, mother of Shafiuzzaman, president of Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries, died of old age complications at her residence at Batikabari, Dhunat, Bogra on July 25 at the age of 78, says a press release. Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries expressed deep shock at the death of Shaheda Begum and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

## Alhaj Sirajul Haque



Alhaj Sirajul Haque, former sales officer of MM Ispahani Limited, died at a city clinic on Saturday at the age of 65, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, three daughters and two sons.

# Saifur asks VCs not to appoint teachers on political considerations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Appointment of teachers on political considerations rather than on merit is dealing a heavy blow to higher education, Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman told the university vice-chancellors yesterday.

He made the observation when a delegation of Bangladesh Biswabidyalaya Parishad, an association of public universities, met him at his office at the planning ministry.

Quoting press reports, Saifur told Vice-chancellor (VC) of Rajshahi University Prof Faisal Islam Faruki that the university recently appointed teachers on political considerations; the appointments should have been

done on the basis of merit.

Faruki denied the allegation and told Saifur that 300 teachers were appointed to the university during the rule of Awami League government.

But this year the university recruited only 100 teachers whose appointments have been made purely on the basis of merit, he claimed.

VC of Open University Prof Ershadul Bari, however, defended political appointment of teachers. He argued the VCs find it difficult to run the university if members of the senate and academic council do not share the same ideology as theirs.

National University VC Prof Aftab Ahmed observed that the University

Ordinance 1973 needs to be amended if politics by teachers at the universities is to be stopped.

The Parishad leaders said the private universities are buying competent, meritorious teachers out of public universities by offering higher salary.

They asked the minister to form a

separate pay scale for public university teachers.

Saifur turned down the proposal but said the government will consider raising their allowances.

He, however, assured the VCs of including a teachers' representative in the newly-formed pay commission.

DHAKA  
T O D A Y

**Drama**  
Space and Acting Research Centre will stage a drama titled 'Bouder Pathshala' directed by Ashish Khandaker. Venue: Natmondol, Dhaka University. Time: 7.00pm.

**Brac seminar**  
Brac University organises a seminar on 'Developing applications for the mobile industry in Bangladesh: Prospects and benefits'. Venue: University Building, Mohakhali. Time: 4.00pm.

**Daffodil seminar**  
Daffodil Computers will hold a RISK seminar on network security and spam solution with Post and Tele-Communications Minister Md Aminul Haque as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sundarban. Time: 5.30pm.

**Launching ceremony**  
The launching ceremony of Tommy Miah's Institute of Hospitality Management will be held with State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin as chief guest. Venue: Mohammadpur. Time: 9.30am.

**Russian film show**  
Zahir Raihan Film Society, in association with Russian Cultural Centre, will screen two recent films from Russia. These are 'Gate of Parkov' directed by Mikhail Kazakov, and 'Urga- The Territory of Love' directed by Nikita Mikhilov. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00pm and 6.00pm.

**Academy film show**  
Academy Film Society will screen an

American film titled 'Boat Trip' (2002). Venue: Society Auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.



Gulshan Club President Chowdhury Monwar Ahmed Siddiqui distributes relief in Bhairab on July 30.



NEPC Consortium Power Ltd. and Covanta officials distributing relief materials among the flood victims around the plant site area at Haripur in Narayanganj.



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB), Dhaka Regional Committee, distributes relief at Dakhinkhan union yesterday.



Fire Service and Civil Defence personnel supply pure drinking water among flood-hit people in the city yesterday.