



PHOTO: STAR

Tarun Nagorik Uddyog took out a procession in front of the National Museum in the city yesterday protesting the grenade attack on Awami League rally on August 21.

Step up security for Hasina

Bangabandhu Parishad urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangabandhu Parishad yesterday demanded immediate resignation of the government, saying that it has failed to ensure safety of the people and safeguard democracy. Parishad leaders also called for stepping up security for opposition leader and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina who narrowly escaped the deadly grenade attacks on August 21. They demanded international investigation into the grisly attack that left 19 people dead and over 200 injured, saying that they were sceptical about the investigation commission

formed by the government. "We want that an international committee comprising FBI, Scotland Yard and others should conduct the investigation," said AAMS Arefin Siddique, president of Dhaka University Teachers' Association, at a press conference. "The beneficiary group never wants Hasina to be alive so that they could rule the country for another 21 years as they did after the killing of Bangabandhu," said Prof AK Azad Chowdhury. On proposed dialogue between the government and the opposition, he

said it could not be effective as the opposition has lost confidence in the government. The Parishad leaders said a vested quarter wanted to kill democratic-minded people and free thinkers so that no-one dares to say anything against fundamentalism and fascism. Justice KM Sobhan, Prof Kabir Chowdhury, Prof Shamsul Huda Harun, journalist Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury and SA Malek, general secretary of Bangabandhu Parishad, also spoke.

Brac starts post-flood rehabilitation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Brac, a leading non-government organisation, has started a nine-month rehabilitation programme in 39 flood-affected districts with a budget of Tk 13 crore. Under the agriculture rehabilitation scheme, it is now providing different kinds of seeds to vegetable growers and rice cultivators, said a press release on Tuesday. The NGO has also started disbursing soft loans to the Brac group members for house repairing. Under the social forestry programme, it will distribute plants among 45,000 people. The Brac is also providing credit

support for 1500 people under the sericulture programme. In addition, it has a plan to reconstruct about 15,000 schools, including 2000 private primary schools and 2000 private high schools, in the flood-affected areas. It has also started repairing damaged tubewells and installing new ones and slab latrines in villages. As part of its relief operation with the support of WFP, Brac has been providing dry food package, including 15 kg of rice, 3.75 kg of pulses, 1.5 litres of oil and 375 grams of salt, for two lakh families for 15 days. Biscuits are also being distributed among the schoolchildren in 37 districts.

Jubo Parishad leaders meet Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad leaders called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence on Tuesday and expressed concern over the grisly grenade attack on AL rally on August 21. A nine-member delegation led by Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad President Akhtar Ahmed Khan and General Secretary Rezaul Karim Khan Reza expressed deep shock at the death of 20 leaders and activists. Hasina expressed her satisfaction at the activities of Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad and intensify organisational activities across the country. Shamsun Nahar Hossain and ABM Byazid, Wadud Haoladar, Nasir Abedin, SM Shafiqul Islam and Hasibul Kabir Ripon were present.



PHOTO: STAR

Minister for Science and Information & Communication Technology Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan speaks at a discussion at the National Press Club yesterday on the occasion of the birth anniversary of General MAG Osmani, the commander-in-chief of the War of Liberation. Sylhet Bibhag Unnayan Sangram Parishad organised the meeting.

Body to probe vandalism at DCC office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) yesterday formed a one-member committee to investigate the acts of vandalism on its premises. A faction of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal vandalised the office of chief health officer and the DCC staff and workers union office on Tuesday. The inquiry committee headed by Akhteruzzaman, deputy chief revenue officer, has been asked to submit its report within next seven days, said Alamgir Hossain Khan,

secretary of the DCC. Action will be taken on the basis of the report, he added. The conflict between the two factions -- Jatiyatabadi Sramik Karmachari Union of DCC unit and Sarbadaliya Sramik Karmachari Samannay Committee -- came to a head as supporters of Union President Zahangir Alam attacked the activists of the Samannay Committee at Motijheel when they were marching towards Muktangan to join the ruling BNP's protest rally on Sunday.

Open workshop on foreign study

The International Admission Council, Bangladesh, and Pembroke College, Wales, UK will jointly organise an open workshop on foreign study on September 3, says a press release. Gazi M Alam, researcher of Nottingham University and adviser to overseas students of Pembroke College, will talk on various issues related to overseas study. Interested students have been requested to attend the workshop at Russian Cultural Centre (H-510, R-7, Dhanmondi) at 5:00pm.



Winners of the car vendor campaign pose with Mamoon M Shah, manager, Personal Financial Services of HSBC Bangladesh.

HSBC car loan campaign prize distribution held

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (HSBC) in Bangladesh held the prize distribution ceremony of its car loan campaign for vendors in Dhaka recently, says a press release. The campaign from March to June generated a substantial number of car loan references from the car dealers operating in Dhaka and Chittagong. A significant number of car vendors participated in the campaign. Manager, Personal Financial Services of HSBC Bangladesh, Mamoon M Shah handed over the prizes to the top ten winners at a ceremony. Md Habib Ullah Dawn of Auto Museum Ltd was awarded the first prize of Dhaka-Bangkok-Dhaka air ticket, S M Shafiqul Islam of Car Impo and Md Shahidul Islam of HNS International got the second runners-up prize of Dhaka-Kolkata-Dhaka air tickets.

Soil fertility on the wane due to rampant use of chemicals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Society for Human Upliftment through Rural Institutional Development (SHURID), a non-governmental organisation working with commercial production of vermicompost, organised two separate training workshops on Sunday and Monday in the city, says a press release. Sixty-four district level officials and about 30 senior officials of Department of Agriculture (DAE) participated in the workshops. The participants said that soil fertility in the country is on the wane due to rampant use of agrochemicals. Reduction in use of chemicals replacing with organic manure is essential for maintaining the soil fertility, they added. They told the workshops that vermicompost was a unique tool that can increase the crop yield significantly without any harm to soil and environment. A.B.M Shahjahan, director of SHURID, moderated the workshops.

Obituary



Dr Mozharul Islam, a physician of Kachua and son of former divisional commissioner of Chittagong ASM Mobaidul Islam, died of old age complications at the age of 98, says a press release. He left behind his seven children.