



PHOTO: STAR

Transparency International, Bangladesh (TIB) Advisor Prof Muzaffer Ahmed, left, presents a working paper on the 'Courtwatch' research at a roundtable at the Cirdap auditorium in the city yesterday.

Plan to initiate shared afforestation in CHT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is contemplating to initiate a shared afforestation programme involving the inhabitants of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) for the economic emancipation of the local people, enhancement of national resources and overall improvement of the environment.

tries and departments concerned including the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council and Development Board, Bandarban, Khagrachhari and Rangamati Hill Districts Council and the local inhabitants.

GRENADE ATTACK SC Bar probe body urges people to provide info

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The enquiry committee of Supreme Court Bar Association yesterday urged all concerned to provide information about the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally.

Persons having information about the attack are requested to contact Bashir Ahmed, secretary of the association and coordinator of the probe committee, at the Association Bhaban between 10.00am and 4.00pm on any day from September 15 to 20.

GOSWAMI MURDER Verdict tomorrow

UNB, Chittagong

Verdict in sensational Modon Gopal Goswami murder case scheduled for yesterday has been deferred to Tuesday due to "unavoidable circumstances".

Wife hacks husband to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Incensed at her husband's alleged extramarital affair, a housewife hacked him to death in his sleep at their house at Shukarshi in Demra in the early hours of yesterday.

Jubo Sangram Parishad formed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seven opposition youth organisations, including youth front of the main opposition Awami League, will form a common platform titled 'Jubo Sangram Parishad' to launch one point out-government movement.

Obituary

BSS, Dhaka

Spiritual leader and freedom fighter Hazrat Moulana Shah Sufi Muhammad Kamaruddin Ahmed died at Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 65.

College student abducted in Kushtia

Tk 4 lakh ransom demanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A gang of criminals abducted a college student from his home at Masaura village in Daulatpur on Saturday night after his father refused to pay them Tk 50,000 in toll.

They also fired two blank shots while fleeing, sources said. Later from an unknown place, the gang told Manirul over cell phone to pay Tk 4 lakh for the release of his son.

But being refused, they picked up his son Kamrul Islam, 19, a student of People's Degree College, at gunpoint.

As many as 104 people, including 41 school and college students, were abducted in the district in the last nine months.

Of them, 13 victims, including two students, were killed, 12 are still missing and the rest bought their freedom.

1005 lawyers reject judicial probe body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One thousand and five lawyers of the Supreme Court and Dhaka Bar yesterday rejected the one-member judicial probe commission of Justice Joyrul Abedin and demanded an international investigation into the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally.

In a joint statement, they said the attack was a blow to democracy, constitution and the independence and sovereignty of the country.

They alleged that the attack on Opposition Leader and AL President Sheikh Hasina was carried out with "government patronisation" to create another August 15.

They lawyers felt that the judicial probe commission was not working impartially as Justice Joyrul Abedin was performing his duties on consultation with the government.

They also demanded resignation of the government as it failed to arrest any culprit even three weeks into the incident and to ensure safety of the opposition leader.

The signatories to the statement included Barrister M Amir-ul-Islam, Shawkat Ali Khan, Abdul Baset Majumder, Md Ojaer Faruq, Abdul Matin Khasru, Sahara Khatun, Yusuf Hossain Humayun, Momtajuddin Mehedi, Subrata Chowdhury and Md Rahmat Ali.

KILLING OF DEMRA JUBO LEAGUE LEADER

Five to die, six get life

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka Court yesterday sentenced five people to death and six others to life imprisonment for killing a Jubo League leader in the city on August 26 in 1999.

Judge Mohammad Rezaul Islam of the Fifth Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court gave the verdict at a jam-packed courtroom for killing Saidul Islam Swapan, president of a ward unit in Demra thana.

The convicts with death are two brothers- Shafiullah and Hedayetullah and Babu alias Abul Bashar, Motasin alias Motasin Billah and Ismail Fakir while Abdur Rahim, Hazrat Ali, Fakir Chand, Rakib Uddin, Shukur Ali and Mostaque were given life in jail.

Of the convicts, Motasin, Babu and Ismail were tried in absentia while the rest were present in the court during the delivery of the judgement.

The punishment of the fugitives will be effective from the date of their arrest or surrender, the judge in his verdict said.

Earlier, the prosecution and the defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 13 prosecution witnesses.

In the case filed with Demra Police Station, Swapan's elder brother Shamsul Islam alleged that a gang of assailants led by Shafiullah equipped with hockey sticks and sharp weapons attacked their house at 12/2 Par Gandaria in the city to kill his brother Swapan, 22, at about 9:30pm on August 25, 1999. Later, they killed Swapan in front of

Nazma Monzil in the pre-planned way over previous enmity.

Shamsul Islam filed a murder case accusing Shafiullah and 10 others the same day. The investigation officer pressed charges against Shafiullah and 11 others on May 29, 2001 showing 24 people as prosecution witnesses.

Victim's father Sirajul Islam was present in the court during the delivery of the judgement and expressed his satisfaction over the verdict.

Specially appointed Public Prosecutor Haji Nazrul Islam, Additional Public Prosecutor Khorshed Alam and Assistant Public Prosecutor Hossain Majumder appeared for the state while advocates Abdul Matin Khosru, AFM Abdul Wadud and Shah Alam Talukder defended the accused.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami Sangskritik Forum forms a human chain at Mukttangan in the city yesterday protesting August 21 grenade attack on Awami League rally.

Death anniversary



Today is the second death anniversary of Abu Muhammad Murta'yish (Kachi), an advocate of Supreme Court and one of the founders of the

Padatik Natya Sangsad and Bangladesh Law Association, says a press release.

Murta'yish was also a consultant of World Bank's Legal and Judicial Capacity Building Project. A milad mahfil will be held at his village home at Dhanbari, Kazibari in Tangail. Padatik Natya Sangsad organised a memorial meeting at the Shilpakala Academy Experimental Theatre Hall yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

11- Party leaders and activists march towards Jatiya Sangsad yesterday as part of its joint programmes to oust the BNP-Jamaat led coalition government.

WEATHER TODAY logo with sun and cloud icons.

Moderately heavy falls likely

UNB, Dhaka

Moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty to squally wind is likely at most places over the country till 6.00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at a few places, Met Office said predicting that day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period.

Highest temperature 30.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Dinajpur and lowest 23.1 degree Celsius at Srimangol.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:04pm today and rises at 5:45am tomorrow.

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

Table with columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

DHAKA TODAY event schedule including AL meeting, JP meeting, Roundtable, Workshop, Discussion, Trust meeting, and Training.

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