



An elderly woman wails over charred remains of her shanty at the Jalladkhana Baddhyabumi Slum at Pallabi yesterday. About 200 shanties were gutted in a fire that broke out in the early hours of yesterday.

## 200 shanties, 30 shops gutted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over 200 shanties and 30 shops were gutted in separate fire incidents in Pallabi and Sadarghat areas in Dhaka early yesterday.

About 30 shops of readymade garments and garments accessories were gutted at Mayakata Market near Sadarghat after an electrical short circuit sparked off the fire at around 1.00am.

The traders estimated the loss at around Tk 2 crore, including Tk 60 lakh in cash. The shop owners alleged that fire fighting units from Sadarghat Station reached the spot late and

with inadequate amount of water. Later, fire fighters from Narayanganj extinguished the blaze. The fire at Jalladkhana Baddhyabumi Slum at Pallabi near Mirpur section 10 left about 1,000 people homeless. However, there was no casualties in the blaze that started at around 1.00am, police said.

Local people said five people have been missing following the fire incident but could not provide specific information. Slum dwellers said the oven at the shanty of one Rahima Khatun might have sparked the fire. But Rahima suspected that somebody had set the fire to the slum.

At least 15 people were injured as the blaze sent the slum dwellers scurrying out of their houses. Eight fire fighting units from Kurmitola and Mirpur extinguished the fire after a struggle for two hours, fire fighters said. They estimated the loss at around Tk 7 lakh.

## AL leader Abidur Reza hospitalised

Abidur Reza Khan, an elderly Awami League leader, former lawmaker and an organiser of the Liberation War, has been suffering from complicated diseases, says a press release. He is now undergoing treatment at Birdem Hospital in Dhaka. A senior lawyer of the Supreme Court, Reza requested all to pray for his early recovery.

## Noman's Iftar party turns into chaos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

An Iftar party hosted by Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman ended up in chaos as thousands of people scrambled for iftar items at Jamiatul Falah Mosque ground here yesterday.

Over 10,000 invitation cards were distributed among people from all walks of life on behalf of the minister and the venue became overcrowded as the Iftar time came closer.

As soon as the Iftar time started, people seemed to be in a rush to get the food and drinks as fast as they can, making a total mess of the party.

The minister, at one stage, was found requesting the crowd to remain calm but his repeated appeals virtually went in vain and many invitees left the place without having their Iftar.

The situation also caused a brief gridlock on the roads around the venue.

## Iajuddin, Khaleda, Hasina condole death of Nahyan

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina yesterday condoled the death of Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Abu Dhabi.

In a condolence message to Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Iajuddin said President Nahyan was a great leader of his people as well as of the Islamic Ummah.

In a similar message to the Crown Prince, Khaleda Zia said, "The demise is a great loss to the entire Islamic Ummah."

Meanwhile, Sheikh Hasina expressed her deep shock at the death of Sultan Al-Nahyan.

In a condolence message, Hasina said Bangladesh has lost a real friend at the death of President Nahyan.

Our Staff Correspondent adds, AL acting President Zillur Rahman and General Secretary M Abdul Jalil, Jatiya Party Chairman and former president HM Ershad and Jatiya Party (Manju) Chairman Anwar Hossain Manju and Secretary General Sheikh Shahidul Islam also condoled the death of Sultan Al-Nahyan.

## Missing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Mujibur Rahman, a 75-year-old resident of West Manipur under Mirpur thana in the city, has been missing since October 27.

He went out of his home at noon on the day to say his prayers but did not return home. He was clad in white pyjama and punjabi.

Mujibur Rahman has lost his memory due to old-age complications, family source said. If any body finds him, please contact at the following address: Imtiaz Masroor, Islam Villa, 151 West Manipur, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216. Phones: 9016714, 0175021592 and 0189290785.

## 4 killed, 40 injured in road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least four people were killed and 40 others injured in two separate road accidents in Brahmanbaria and Mymensingh districts yesterday.

Our Mymensingh correspondent reports: A Mymensingh-bound passenger bus collided with a sand-laden truck, coming from opposite direction on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway at Bakshatara under Bhaluka upazila yesterday, leaving three passengers dead and at least 35 injured, Police said.

The injured were admitted to Bhaluka Upazila Health Complex.

Of the dead, two were identified as Ahsan Uddin Badal, 45, of Phulpur upazila and Saiful Islam, 40, of

Kurigram district.

Police recovered the bodies and sent to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Our Brahmanbaria correspondent adds: Shahana Begum, a day labourer, aged about 30, died on the spot while 5 others were critically injured after a tractor hit a tempo on Darkher road, at Doroin village under Akhaura upazila of Brahmanbaria district.

Police seized both the tractor and the tempo but the drivers managed to escape.

The injured were sent to the Akhaura Upazila Health Complex for treatment while the autopsy of Shahana's body was done at Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital.

## AL protests PM's remarks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil yesterday protested Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's remarks that the next general election will be held under either the caretaker government or the elected BNP-led alliance government.

"Khaleda Zia will have to face the same sad consequences as in 1996 if she chooses to follow the path of conspiracy instead of bringing reform to the caretaker government system and the Election Commission," Jalil

said in a statement.

On Tuesday, the prime minister said there are only two ways open for going to polls - either under caretaker government according to the Constitution or under the elected BNP-led alliance government.

The AL leader called for reforms of the caretaker government system and the Election Commission as demanded by the mainstream opposition parties.

He also warned that making such remarks without considering the opposition's demand would result in chaos in the country.

## 1 shot, one stabbed, two muggers beaten

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminals shot one youth at Mohammadpur, stabbed another at Shantibagh and mob beat two alleged muggers mercilessly at Shyampur in the city yesterday.

Rubel Hossain, 19, an employee of a video games shop at Shantibagh in Motijheel, was stabbed by local thugs after an altercation over free entry to play games.

Rubel was stabbed as he tried to prevent the gang of five, including one Sujon, from playing games on credit at 1.00pm.

Hearing the hue and cry of Rubel, local people caught the five. Sujon's elder brother Ratan rushed

to the spot and threatened to take revenge if they touched Sujon. Locals then beat Ratan, an extortionist, and handed him over to police.

In another incident, muggers shot Faruk, 25, in his leg and snatched away his mobile at around 5.00am at Shekheret in Mohammadpur.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

A mob beat two alleged muggers Rafiqul Islam, 22, and Mohammad Sohail, 20, at around 7.00am at Shyampur and handed them over to police.

Later, police sent the two to the DMCH for treatment.

## EWU's evening MBM classes from Jan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Admission process of a 60 credit evening MBM (Master's in Bank Management) course at East West University has started for the spring 2005 (January to May) semester, says a press release.

This course is designed especially for employees in the banking sectors, the authorities said.

Further information about tuition fees, admission procedures, scholarships and financial aid, can be collected in person from the admission office of East West University at 43, Mohakhali or over the telephone at 9882308, 9887989 and 8811381 (extension 238).

The admission office will remain open everyday, including Friday.

## Obituary

Maji Huzur, the youngest daughter-in-law of the great saint of undivided Bengal Hazrat Syed Shah Irshad Ali Al-Qaderi (Pir Saheb of Midnapur) and wife of Choto Huzur Syed Shah Rashid Ali Al-Qaderi (Pir Saheb of Midnapur), passed away on October 28 at Khankah Sharif-e-Qaderia at Taltola in Kolkata, says a press release.

Thousands of disciples from all walks of life attended her namaz-e-Janaza.

Sadhana Debnath

Sadhana Debnath, former teacher of Bhola Government High School, died yesterday at her Azimpur residence due to old age complications at the age of 83, says a press release.

She left behind her only son and four daughters to mourn her death.

Sadhana, mother of Debnath, former secretary general of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, participated in women and progressive movements.

She was cremated at Sabujbagh crematorium. Her *shraddha* will be held at Dhakeshwari Temple on November 13.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Local Government Engineering Department  
District: Joypurhat

Memo No: LGED/EE/JOY/RTIP/2004/2143

Dated: 30/10/2004

### Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP)

### Invitation for Bids (IFB)

IFB No. 01/2004-05

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association (hereinafter referred to as the IDA) towards the cost of the Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contract(s) as mentioned in para-2.
- The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, represented by the Executive Engineer, LGED, Joypurhat invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the construction and completion of the following works:

Name of the work	Contract		Bid security (Tk)	Time for completion (days)	Price of bidding documents (Tk)
	Package No	Slice No			
01	02	03	04	05	06
Improvement of Boiragipara Matrai Hat road (Ch: 0+000km to 3+037km)	Joy/URZ-35	URZ-35.1	2,60,000.00	550	3000.00
Improvement of Kalai-Moslemganj road (Ch: 0+000km to 8+073 km)		URZ-35.2	5,92,000.00	550	5000.00
Improvement of Itakhola-Shirotti road (Ch: 0+000km to 4+455km)		URZ-35.3	3,39,000.00	550	3000.00

- The bidders may inspect the bidding documents, obtain further information and clarification at the office of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Joypurhat, Tel: 0571-62542 or the Office of the Project Director, RDP-26, LGED Bhaban (Level-5), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Tel: 9122435, 9122432. The bidder must be eligible in post qualification as specified in bidding documents.
- A pre-bid conference will be held on 08.12.2004 at 12.00 noon in the office of the undersigned and all bidders are requested to attend the conference on time.
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any eligible bidder from the office of the Project Director (Address: LGED Bhaban (Level-5), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207) or the Deputy Commissioner, Joypurhat or the Superintendent of Police, Joypurhat or the Upazila Sadar, Joypurhat or the undersigned on submission of a written application upon the payment of a non-refundable fee as mentioned in para-2 for each set in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh drawn in favour of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Joypurhat. Additional sets of bidding documents may be purchased at the same price. The bidding documents will be available during office hours from 10.11.04 to 18.12.04. Bidders may wish to compete for one or more slices and or package as a whole.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of amount as mentioned in table, para-2, in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Demand Draft/unconditional Bank Guarantee drawn in favour of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Joypurhat.
- All bids must be delivered to the Deputy Commissioner, Joypurhat or the Superintendent of Police, Joypurhat or the Upazila Engineer, Upazila Sadar, Joypurhat or the undersigned on or before 1:00 pm of 19.12.04.
- Bids will be opened at 2:00 pm on 19.12.04 at the office of the undersigned in presence of the bidders or their authorised representative who choose to attend.
- Bidders may deliver/submit bids personally or by registered mail or by courier services, etc. and bids must reach to the office(s) mentioned at para-7 on or before 1:00 pm of 19.12.04.
- A general information regarding the bidding will be available at the LGED Web Site (<http://www.lged.org>)
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason.

Narayan Chandra Biswas

Executive Engineer  
LGED, Joypurhat.

DFP-26375-2/11/04  
G-1058

## DHAKA TODAY

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an American film titled 'Dave' (1993). Venue: 21/C Jigatola. Time: 7.00pm.

### Jatiya Oikyamancha

Jatiya Oikyamancha will hold a programme to mark the constitution anniversary. Venue: Hotel Purbani. Time: 4.00pm.

### Roundtable

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust, Research Initiative Bangladesh and Ain O Salish Kendra jointly organise a roundtable on permanent rehabilitation and rights of slum dwellers. Venue: Cirdap auditorium. Time: 10.00am.

### Discussion

Muktijoddha Samannya Parishad organises a discussion to mark the Jail Killing Day, with former law minister Abdul Matin Khosru as chief guest. Venue: Dhaka Taxes Bar Association auditorium, Segun Bagicha. Time: 2.30pm.

### Prize distribution ceremony

Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) will hold a prize distribution ceremony for best report 2004 and an Iftar party, with Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: DRU office. Time: 3.30pm.

### Seminar

The Centre for Health, Population and Development of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) will hold a seminar on 'Stakeholder Participation in Reduction of Fertility in Bangladesh'. Venue: Library Building, Road # 14,

House #6, Baridhara. Time: 2.00pm.

### CIFD discussion

Chittagong Journalists Forum-Dhaka (CJFD) organises a discussion on 'Karnaphuli bridge and development of Chittagong' and an Iftar party, with Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman as chief guest. Venue: Grand Azad Hotel.

### Jubo League

Bangladesh Awami Jubo League organises a discussion and an Iftar party, with AL presidium member Zillur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Imperial, Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 3.00pm.

### Launching ceremony

The launching ceremony of TVS Centra Motor Cycle by Rian Motors Limited will be held. Venue: 50 Airport Road. Time: 4.30pm.

### IP Iftar party

The Jatiya Party (Manju) will hold an Iftar party for its presidium and central committee members and district leaders. Venue: Xinxian Restaurant, Dhanmondi.

### Discussion

Demra theta unit of Jatiya Party organises a discussion with party Chairman HM Ershad as chief guest. Venue: Samrat Community Centre, Jatrabari. Time: 4.00pm.

### Rotary Greater Dhaka

Regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka will be held. Venue: Residence of Rtn. PP Shahadat Hossain, Flat # D/5, House #32, Road # 5, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.30pm.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami League leaders offer munajat at the graves of three national leaders after placing wreaths at Banani in the city yesterday on the occasion of the Jail Killing Day.

## Death anniversary



Betar Kendra.

Several programmes, including recitation from the Geeta and puja, will be held at his residence at 7, Shiyama Proshad Lane, Laxmibazar in the city and his village home at Subarnakhal in Nilphamari, on this occasion.

### Towfiq Nazir Rupak

The first death anniversary of Towfiq Nazir (Rupak), son of Lion Ahsan Nazir and Lioness Ruksana Nazir, will be observed today, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held today after Asr prayers at his residence in Elephant Road.



## Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country till 6.00pm today.

Night temperature may rise slightly over the country during the period, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 31.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and Hatiya and lowest 16.0 degree Celsius at Dinajpur and Jessore.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:17pm today and rises at 6:07am 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	30.5	20.5	66	62
Chittagong	31.8	20.3	65	61
Rajshahi	30.2	17.2	63	73
Kulna	30.2	18.5	70	82
Barisal	30.3	18.7	82	92
Sylhet	31.5	19.6	72	66
Cox's Bazar	31.0	21.0	73	62