# METROPOLITAN

## Carry out responsibilities | 7 killed in road rising above party interest accidents

## PM urges employees

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia vesterday called upon the employees of all sectors to carry out their responsibilities sincerely for the national interest rising above personal and

The call came when the newly elected office-bearers of Sonali Bank Employees Association (CBA), led by its president BM Bakir Hossain and general secretary Mohammadullah Chowdhury, made a courtesy call on the prime minister at her office

Terming the banking sector an important area, she said it is directly related to the economic

Reiterating her demand to ensure

accountability of the Caretaker

Government and the Election

Commission by bringing reforms,

opposition leader in Parliament

Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her

party wants fair and free election so

that the people can vote according

ance government as a "corrupt,

terrorist, killer and repressor", the

Awami League president urged the

people to be united and build up a

vigorous movement to save the

ing in observance of the 33rd

founding anniversary of

Bangladesh Krishak League (BKL)

at the Engineers' Institution audito-

rium in the afternoon, she urged

the people to be alert about the

Mirza Abdul Jalil, AL general secre-

tary Abdul Jalil, MP, presidium mem-

ber Begum Matia Chowdhury

Advocate Rahmat Ali, MP. Dr Abdur

Razzak, MP, and BKL general secre-

tary Motahar Hossain Mollah also

In her speech, Sheikh Hasina

narrated various development

programmes and initiatives taken

during her previous AL regime. She

said, "We ensured food security by

turning the country into self-

Sarwar Hossain Mollah has been

appointed ambassador of

Bangladesh to the Socialist Republic

of Vietnam, a Foreign Ministry

announcement said here vesterday.

Government Service on February 8,

1972 and his service was placed in

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in

Missions in Bangkok, Tokyo, Cairo,

Harare (now closed) and Pretoria in

various capacities. He was also

ambassador to Iraq from May 2002

he was serving as A-grade ambas-

sador in the ministry of foreign

Prof Kafiluddin

Professor Emeritus Dr Kafiluddin

called on Prime Minister Khaleda

of his research book on health and

environment now under process of

He apprised the Prime Minister

Zia at her office here yesterday.

calls on PM

Prior to his present assignment

He had served in the Bangladesh

Sarwar joined Bangladesh

Sarwar made

envoy to

Vietnam

September 1978.

to January 2004.

BSS, Dhaka

BSS, Dhaka

Chaired by BKL president Dr.

Addressing a discussion meet-

Terming the BNP-Jamaat alli-

**BDNEWS**, DHAKA

to their wills.

country

rights of vote.

spoke

government removed various obstacles in the economic sector, resulting in massive successes in the economic field.

Khaleda said that if all, including the employees of the respective organisations and institutions, in different sectors work together for production and development, its fruits could be enjoyed by everyone in the country.

Responding to the CBA's demands, she said the government has been providing assistance and cooperation for the welfare and development of various institutions and organisations, and similarly, their interests would also be considered.

The CBA leaders appreciated Congratulating the newly the government's successes in a elected CBA leaders, she said her number of sectors, particularly

Reforms CG, EC to ensure

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh

Hasina gives away prize among the best farmers at the Engineers' Institution

'Make learning process

of children interesting'

Surf Excel competition launched

The AL president hoisted

national flag inaugurating the

founding anniversary function

while BKL leaders presented agri-

products to the opposition leader

Bangabandhu Agriculture Award to

Sheikh Hasina, Impress Telefilm

(Channel I), Kamal Miah of Bogra,

Abdul Mannan of Shahjadpur and

Mobarak Sarder of Kalkini of

The schoolchildren will take part

in four events such as painting, mud

building, face painting and building,

said Surf Excel's Brand Manager

Nayla Khan of Shishu Bikash

Kendro, Dhaka Shishu Hospital,

said emotion is the most important

aspect of growth of children. "But,

most of us abuse children while

stressing their intellectual growth."

Learning process of the children

Rezwana Chowdhury Bonnya,

must be interesting and inspiring to

help them think creatively, she said.

chairperson, Department of

Dramatics and Music of Dhaka

University, said the today's children,

especially those living in cities, have

little scope for enjoying the boun-

ties of nature and are deprived of

their best friends today; they don't

even have any scope to play with

their neighbours. It is a major

obstacle to developing their cre-

ative and imaginative skills," she

"Computer and television are

Speaking at the seminar, Prof

Besides, BKL also accorded

and other guests.

voting rights: Hasina

auditorium yesterday

sufficient and kept the prices of all

essential commodities under

purchasing capacity. But, the

country dependent after assuming

the alliance government, she said

the government has destroyed the

whole agri-sector as well as

destroyed the economy. "We must

bring change of such a situation so

that country's farmers would not

bear the burnt of the misdeeds of

the alliance further," she said.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Surf Excel Protibhar Lorai, a compe-

tition for schoolchildren, was

launched yesterday to help children

explore their potential and encour-

age creative thinking and practical

"This is an endeavor to make the

earning process of the children

interesting and intellectually stimu-

lating," said Sanjiv Mehta, chairman

of Unilever Bangladesh Ltd., at a

seminar held on the occasion at

Earlier, such seminars were also

Schools from Dhaka, Rajshahi,

Khulna and Chittagong will take part

in the preliminary competition. Two

schools from each district will qualify

fora the final contest to be held in

be held in Chittagong on May 1, in Khulna on May 6, in Rajshahi on

May 11 and in Dhaka on May 19 and

32 in Chittagong, 25 in Rajshahi and

15 schools in Khulna have already

Sanjiv Mehta, chairman of Unilever Bangladesh Ltd., speaks at a seminar at the Osmani Memorial Hall in the city

registered for the competition.

A total of 125 schools in Dhaka,

The preliminary competition will

held in Khulna, Rajshahi and

Osmani Memorial Hall in the city.

Chittagong.

office by looting and corruption."

lliance government has made the

Bitterly criticising agri-policy of

substantial improvement of law and order, restoration of discipline in banking sector, massive recoverv of loans from defaulters through formation of Artha Rin Adalot (Money Loan Court).

They told the Prime Minister that CBAs in various sectors are working in fair and disciplined manner for the national development. The victory of the pro-BNP CBAs is the reflection of the government's successes in various

PM's Political Secretary Harris Chowdhury, acting president of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal Abul Kashem Chowdhury and General Secretary Mohammad Zafrul Hasan were also present.

> Tejgaon rail station colony, died on the spot when a Kishoreganj-bound train

rail track near Nakhalpara at about

adds: The women and her child who died in truck plunge were identified as

going to Sylhet from Faridour by the hired truck to join his new workplace, police sources said.

Maya and Snigdha.

Atiar Rahman and his another Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital.

## **CAG** submits audit reports

to president

BSS, Dhaka

Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh Asif Ali yesterday submitted a set of audit reports to President lajuddin Ahmed at

Bangabhaban here yesterday. While accepting the reports, the president underlined the importance of regular auditing to ensure financial discipline of the government.

He said independence and accountability were established in different sectors and pointed out that the role of audit report is very important in this regard.

The president thanked the Auditor General and other concerned for submitting audit reports in time. Secretary to the president M Abu

Solaiman Chowdhury and Press Secretary M Mukhlasur Rahman Chowdhury were present.

### **QUESTION PAPER LEAKAGE** Students submit memo to DU VC

**DU CORRESPONDENT** 

The students of Arabic department of Dhaka University (DU) submitted a memorandum to Vice-Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz yesterday demanding that the probe report on question paper leakage be made public. Question papers of MA (general

group) examinations-2002 of the department held in January this year allegedly leaked out, prompting the

paper leakage. They also threatened to launch tougher movement if

their demands are not met A four-member probe committee. headed by arts faculty Dean Prof Sadrul Amin, submitted a report to the VC on April 16, but it is vet to be

The VC, however, assured the students that the probe report would be placed at the next Syndicate meeting on May 3 and action would be taken against the persons



The 21st death anniversary of Justice Abdul Jabbar Khan. former speaker of Pakistan National Assembly, will be observed tomor-

He was born in village Baherchar Khudrakathi under Babuganj thana

A doa mahfil will be held on the

### Satya Ranjan Dasgupta



tomorrow, says a

press release. A programme in his memory has

## Qulkhwani



Hafiza Samad, wife of former deputy commissioner late MA Samad and mother of Irtiza Nasim Ali, chief

editor of the Magazine, will be held at her resi-

## Asma Kibria demands FBI probe again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka City Corporation demolishes illegal structures at Mohakhali in the city yesterday.

Asma Kibria, wife of slain lawmaker SAMS Kibria, demanded FBI and other international organisations' probe into Kibria killing as the chargesheet in the case filed under explosives act 'hints at al Qaeda's involvement in it'.

Addressing a press conference vesterday, she said that it is the government's responsibility to unearth the sources of the grenades in this country. If they loovernmentl do not take measures to stop grenade smuggling immediately, more intellectuals might soon be killed like Kibria, she observed.

Reza Kibria, son of the former finance minister, was also present at the press conference held at their Dhanmondi residence.

Habiganj police submitted the chargesheet in the case filed under explosives act on April 20 accusing 10 ruling BNP leaders of carrying out the January 27 grenade attack in Habiganj "The government version

[chargesheet] itself links international terrorist groups to the Habigani carnage. So, we demand that they [government] let international organisations like FBI, Scotland Yard and Interpol investigate the incident," said Asma Kibria.

Reza described the chargesheet as incomplete. He said that some more influential people might have links to the

four others killed. "It really is a big opportunity for

the government to detect the network of international terrorist organisations and thus uproot it," Reza said adding, "We want our country to be free from international terrorists.

The government should be sincere in pinpointing the sources of thousands of grenades and firearms smuggled into the country, Reza observed. "FBI should investigate the sources of those grenades," he said. "We do not know who would be the target of the next grenade attack," he added.

"We also learnt that a few of the accused wanted to be approver, but they did not get the home ministry's permission," Reza said wondering why the home ministry did not want this

He said that Finance Minister Saifur Rahman who once described the killing as a local

incident should also be quizzed. "Saifur's comment suggests that he might know something about the killing and that's why he

should at least be quizzed," he Reza Kibria also said that

Industries Minister Motiur Rahman Nizami had made a reference to the intelligence apparatus of a neighbouring country for the killing but now the chargesheet reveals that the ruling BNP leaders were in fact involved in the killing.

**Jote discussion** 

Forum meeting

Auditorium, Dhanmondi.

**Quranic exhibition** 

Time: 6.00pm.

Gonotantrik Biplobi Jote will hold a

discussion on 'Politics of the ruling class

and reforms of the caretaker govern-

ment.' Venue: 68/2. Purana Paltan.

A general meeting of the Youth Forum

for Democracy will be held. Venue: WVA

DHÂKA TOMORROW

The inaugural ceremony of a five-day

long Glorious Quranic Exhibition

organised by Al-Quran Research

Academy, will be held with Justice

Muhammad Abdur Rouf, former chief

election commissioner, as chief guest.

Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium

National Museum, Shahbagh. Time:

In observance of the World Book Day,

the Jatiya Granthakendra and the

Central Public Library jointly organise a

seminar with State Minister for Cultural

Affairs Begum Selima Rahman as chief

guest. Venue: Seminar room of the

The Institute of Water and Flood

Management organises a seminar on

'Hydrological aspects of 2004 flood."

Venue: Buet seminar room. Time

Seminar on agriculture

In celebration of its silver jubilee, the

library, Shahbagh. Time: 4.00pm.

Seminar on flood

Seminar on book

## **Discussion**

In observance of Eid-e-Miladunnabi, Masjidul Jami' A of Dhaka University will hold a discussion on the life of Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SM). It will be

followed by a milad mahfil. Venue: Masjid premises. Time: 6.30pm. Bangla Academy The Bangla Academy will hold a discus-

## the academy. Time: 5.00pm.

Grand conference On the occasion of holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi, a grand conference of Ashekane Maizhhandari Association will be held with Maulana Syed Mujibul Bashar Maizbhandari as chief guest. Venue: Paltan Maidan. Time: 10.00am.

### Film show

The World Literature Centre will screen two films titled 'Fire Works' by Takeshi Kitano, and 'The Dreamers' by Bernardo Bertolucci. Venue: Auditorium of the centre, Bangla Motor. Time: 10.00am and 6.00pm

### Muldhara film show

The Muldhara, a forum of writers, journalists and artists, will screen two films titled 'Lucky' and 'Double Team' Venue: House-15, Road-7, Dhanmondi. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

### Art exhibition

The opening ceremony of a joint art exhibition, organised by the Gallery Chitrak, will be held. Works of Basudev Biswas, Samsul Arefin Mithu, Fakhrul Alam Tofa and Mahmudul Islam will be on display. Venue: Chitraneer. Time: 5.30pm. The exhibition will remain open

**Print exhibition** A solo print exhibition by Abdus Salam will be inaugurated by French Ambassador Jacques-Andre Costilhes.

Venue: Alliance Française Gallery.

Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm. The

exhibition will remain open till April 30

from 9.00am to 12.00noon, and from

5.00pm to 9.00pm daily

### Drama

The Subachan Natya Sangsad, a theatre group, will stage a drama titled 'Tirthankar' directed by Faiz Jahir. Venue: Mahila Samity Auditorium,

Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad organises a seminar on 'Bangladesher Krishi and Krishak.' Venue: Cirdap Auditorium. Topkhana Road, Time: 3.30pm.

Bailey Road. Time: 6.00pm.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six women and a child were killed in separate road accidents in Savar Dhaka and Brahmanbaria in the last

Of them, a woman and her 18month-old daughter were killed when a truck in which they were travelling with her husband and another daughter plunged into a roadside ditch in Brahmanbaria the early hours of vesterday.

In Savar, three women were run over by a speeding truck on Wednesday night. The accident took place near the Savar thana when they were crossing the road at about 8.35pm. All of them died on the spot.

Police sent the bodies to Dhaka

Medical College morgue for autopsy but their identities could not be known. Two other women died when two speeding trains knocked them down in Tejgaon area of Dhaka on Wednesday

Razia Begum, 22, a resident of

The other victim could not be

identified. A Noakhali-bound train hit her near Tejgaon level crossing at Our Brahmanbaria correspondent

Maya, wife of Sub-Inspector Atiar Rahman, and their daughter Snigdha. Sub-Inspector Atiar Rahman along with his three family members was

But the truck suddenly overturned and fell into wayside ditch near the Titas Bridge at Shahbazpur village in Sarail upazila at around 1:45am, killing

daughter Samma, 10, were injured critically. They were admitted to

Police arrested truck driver Nurul

## 'Women's participation in decision making still absent'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a meeting vesterday said despite women's empowerment in many spheres, their participation in the decision making process is still

They underscored the need for

joint programmes of men and women to establish the political empowerment of women and prevent violence The meeting was organised to share experience of the 49th session

of the United Nations' Commission

on the Status of Women (CSW)

(Beijing+10 conference) held in New

York between February 20 and March 11 this year. The Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) organised the meeting at the Cirdap auditorium with its President

BMP General Secretary Ayesha Khanom said women's organisations need to work jointly to establish their political and human rights

"We need to bargain jointly with

Hena Das in the chair

Referring to the Millenium Development Goal (MDG). Avesha said very little about women's affairs was included in it. She called for incorporating the

issues of women's rights in the MDG. Salma Khan, member of the UN Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), said women have made remarkable progress in many fields in Bandladesh compared to other South Asian countries.

been able to overtake scores of barriers in terms of moving ahead in the last decade. Women are now joining air force, army and business occupying notable place in those spheres, she added.

But the lack of participation in decision making process is still a serious impediment to women's

Country Director of the Hunger and President of Women for Women Dr Mahmuda Islam were present on

# Public security stays

## Says former chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

yesterday said the force's main task remains ensuring public security, no

newsmen at Rab headquarters at

The outgoing Rab DG said that no government permission is required to

On shootings by Rab men, he said that in 61 cases Rab members were compelled to open fire. Of those, police and magistrates are carrying out investigations in 58

"So far investigations in 35 cases have been completed, but we do not yet have any information regarding the results [of the investigations]," he

bers of ranks ranging from senior warrant officer to constable have been sent back to their parent organisations as a punitive measure. Of those, 57 committed serious crimes

also present at the meeting. About controversy surrounding Rab's role, Col Bari said, "Ask your parents and brothers and sisters. If

any one of them says what Rab does is bad, I will take off my uniform and quit the iob.

that say Rab is more powerful than

Deputy Inspector General of police (DIG-Khulna Range) Abdul Aziz Sarkar, who is expected to join Rab in a day or two, will replace Iqbal, said sources. Igbal has been trans-

cerned and punished the others

## today

Thousands of people irrespective of religions, race and caste, along with ministers, member of parliaments, national leaders, members of the diplomatic missions are expected

Anjuman-e-Rahmania Moinia Maizbhandaria will also hold seminar and discussion from 8:30am to 10:30

## GARMENT FACTORY COLLAPSE

## Impartial investigation demanded

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Sramik Nirapatta Forum (SNF) yesterday demanded an impartial and independent investigation into the collapse of the Spectrum sweaters factory building at Savar, and stern punishment to the persons

rights, labour, environmental and civil rights organisations, urged the authorities concerned to make the probe report public. The forum, in a statement, also

the family members of the victims be adequately compensated and rehabilitated

Kendra, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust. Samaj and Ubinig

future by ensuring that all factory buildings are constructed in full

the ninth day of the incident The forum included Ain O Salish

the police, Iqbal said Rab is a force under the police. "I do not think that Rab has been given more power than

ferred to the police headquarters. Regarding the Rab assault on The Daily Jugantor Chief Photographer SM Gorkey, the outgoing DG said after a thorough investigation they have transferred the officer con-

## Akheri Munajat

The Akheri Munajat (grand prayer) will be held at Dhaka Kendrio Khankah Sharif at Mirpur in the city at 11:45am today on the occasion of Eid-e-Miladunnabi, says a press

to participate in the prayer. at the Khankah Sharif today.

demanded that the survivors and

The Bangladeshi women have

empowerment, said Salma. Project Dr Badiul Alam Majumder.

# Rab's main task

The outgoing director-general (DG)

matter what the rights activists say. "We are trying to make sure that parents will not be in tension after sending their kids to schools and people will not be mugged," Anwarul lqbal, the outgoing Rab DG told during a courtesy meeting with

file a case against Rab members.

Iqbal said so far 133 Rab mem-

like robbery, corruption and bribery, and 76 anti-disciplinary acts. Additional DG of Rab Colonel Chowdhury Fazlul Bari, directors of different wings, deputy directors, and

commanders in chiefs (CO) were

# steps to prevent such incidents in

responsible for the tragedy.
The SNF, a coalition of 14 human

It called for taking immediate

compliance with the building codes. The forum also expressed its concern over the fact that the factory owner was not arrested even after

Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association, Incidin, Jatiyo Nari Jote, Karmojibi Nari, Nijera Kori, Odhikar, Oxfam, Sammilito Samajik Andolon, Sammilito Nari

## Centre in the city on Wednesday.

### sion on 'Humanist Hazrat Mohammad (SM)' to mark the holy Eid-e-Death anniversary Miladunnabi. Venue: Seminar room of

# row, says a press release.

The 2nd death anniversary of Satva Ranian Dasgupta, a spiritual person of Daser Bari in Gaila. Barisal will be observed

been arranged at Daser Bari.

## Qulkhwani of



dence, House # 10B, Road # 9 Dhanmondi, after Asr prayers today, says a press release She died at Labaid Cardiac

### authorities to postpone the exams. incident that left SAMS Kibria and But no fresh date of the examinations has vet been announced. which threw the students into uncer-In the memorandum, the students also demanded punishment to the persons responsible for question

# placed at the Syndicate meeting.