



Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) took out a procession in the city yesterday protesting Wednesday's country-wide bomb blasts and in support of today's dawn to dusk hartal.

PHOTO: STAR

## Ratify UN Convention on migrant workers

### Experts urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Legal and migrant experts at a function yesterday urged the government to ratify the UN Convention to ensure the rights of the migrant workers and their families across the globe.

They said in absence of the ratification, Bangladesh as well as receiving countries are not obliged to protect the undocumented migrant workers.

The function was organised to mark the closing ceremony of a training programme.

Welfare Association of the Repatriated Bangladeshi Employees (Warbe) and Refugee and Migratory Movement Research Unit (RMMRU) organised the 5-day training on 'Migrant Workers and the

UN Convention' in collaboration with Migrant Forum Asia and Diplomacy Training Programme of the University of New South Wales, Australia at the Biam auditorium in the city.

"Bangladesh signed the convention in 1998, and then the law commission also recommended its ratification, but it has not been implemented until today," said Dr CR Abrar, executive director of RMMRU, University of Dhaka.

The fear that if ratified the receiving countries will hesitate to take the workers from Bangladesh is not true, as another South Asian country Sri Lanka has already ratified the convention and faces no problem in sending workers abroad, he added.

Speaking as chief guest Justice Syed Rezaul Karim said the gov-

ernment should establish without any undue delay a framework to protect human rights and orderly movement of migrant workers.

Dr Tasneem Siddique of RMMRU said there are 180 million migrant workers earning a huge amount of money, so the government must come forward to ensure the rights of the migrant workers.

Thirty-one countries have so far ratified and 15 others signed the 1990 UN Convention since its inception, said Syed Saiful Haque, chairman of Warbe.

The ratification of the convention will ensure total migration and repatriation process, he added.

## PBCP cadre killed for defying party guidelines

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A cadre of outlawed Janajuddho, a faction of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP), was killed by the party men for what they said his alleged involvement in 'criminal activities' defying party guidelines.

The incident took place at Charjaddobpur village under Alamdanga upazila in Chuadanga district on Thursday night.

According to family sources, Soheli, 25, son of Khadem Ali Biswas, went out of his home at about 10.00pm after receiving a phone call from an unknown person.

Local people found his body on the bank of the Ganges-Kabadak canal yesterday morning.

He was shot dead, sources said. One Abir Hasan introducing him as a regional leader of Janajuddho claimed the responsibility for the killing and told local newsmen that Soheli was engaged in various misdeeds which were damaging party ideology.

Alamdanga police told that Soheli was a cadre of the outfit and involved in various criminal activities.

Police sent the body to Chuadanga sadar hospital for autopsy.

A case was filed accusing Abir Hasan and his accomplices with Alamdanga Police Station.

## 'Fanatics carried out bomb attacks'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The fanatics and communal forces carried out the countrywide bomb attacks on Wednesday at the instigation of international imperialists, said the leaders of Gonomukti and Jatitya Sampad Raksha Sammilita Andolon, a forum of left-leaning political parties and trade unions, yesterday.

Bangladesh is very important to the US-British imperialists as they want to establish their supremacy in the Southeast Asia, said Comrade Khalequzzaman, convenor of Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), at a press conference in the city.

He said the USA has failed to establish a base at Chittagong port, but its conspiracy is going on.

Their companies have signed new agreements to explore oil and gas in the Bay of Bengal, he said, adding that to divert people's attention from this issue, the imperialist forces might have masterminded such heinous acts.

The imperialist forces are resorting to acts of illegal intervention and conspiracy because of the weak-kneed policy of the government, Khalequzzaman said.

In the last six years, a total of 27 bomb and grenade attacks took place in the country, leaving 157 people dead and about 2,000 injured. But the culprits managed to go unpunished, he said.

Khalequzzaman also urged all the progressive and left-leaning parties to form an alternative politi-

cal forum to eliminate the communal and fanatical forces.

The Gonomukti will hold a countrywide demonstration on August 23 demanding steps to unearth the clues to the Wednesday's bomb attacks and bring the culprits to book.

## JCD factions clash at Ctg Polytechnic Institute

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two factions of Jatityatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) clashed at the Chittagong Polytechnic Institute yesterday afternoon, leaving four students injured.

Both the feuding groups used lethal weapons during the clash over establishing supremacy on the campus.

One group is loyal to Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman and the other is loyal to State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin.

The injured were identified as Tarek Bin Osman, Nisan, Ashraf and Ziku Das. They were treated at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

## Memorial book on Ivy Rahman launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"I still cannot believe that my mother has died although one year has passed," Nazmul Hasan burst into tears while recalling the memory of his mother Ivy Rahman who was killed in a grenade attack on the Awami League rally on August 21 last year.

"I want no more families lose their nearest one like mine, which is quite unbearable," he said at the launching ceremony of a book on the life of veteran AL leader Ivy Rahman yesterday.

AL presidium member Zillur Rahman, husband of Ivy, formally unveiled the cover of the book titled 'Ivy Rahman Smarakgrantha' at the Mahila Samity auditorium in the city.

The Bangladesh Mahila Samity took the initiative to publish the

memorial book on its former president.

The nation will always remember Ivy Rahman with gratitude for her contribution to the War of Liberation and women's development, said AL presidium member Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury.

Her soul will find peace on the day when her killers will be given exemplary punishment, she said.

Justice Naimuddin Ahmed said the government has utterly failed to track down the killers even one year after the incident.

He also called for shunning the politics of killing.

Mahila Samity Vice-President Prof Mamtaz Begum and General Secretary Advocate Sahara Khatun also spoke.

## Husband stabs wife for dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A husband stabbed his wife for dowry at Fatulla in the early hours of yesterday.

Critically injured Parvin Akhtar, 22, was admitted to Narayanganj Hospital.

She received injuries in her neck, cheek and shoulder.

Police said Parvin was married to a garment worker Rahman Ali nine months ago.

Since then, he was torturing his wife for dowry.

Rahman tried to kill Parvin by stabbing, sources said.

After the incident he fled the scene.

A case was filed with Fatullah thana in this regard.

## N'ganj trader buys freedom, six arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

The police yesterday arrested six extortionists who took away Tk 13,000 from a businessman at gunpoint in the town on Thursday.

The armed criminals intercepted garments trader Faiz Ahmed when he was going home by a rickshaw at around 9:30pm and took him to a desolate place.

Criminals snatched Tk 3,000 from Faiz and held him hostage. However, they released him after his friends paid them Tk 10,000, source said.

Fatullah police arrested Akhtar, 20, Nazrul Islam, 22, Sumon, 24, Jewel, 22, Mizan, 25, and Lutfur, 20 after a case was filed.

## Transport workers clash in Pirganj: 20 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Twenty transport workers were injured in a clash between two rival groups in Pirganj yesterday.

Of them, the condition of Nurul Huda and Abdul Kalam was stated to be critical.

They are now undergoing treatment in Rangpur Medical College and Hospital.

Eyewitnesses said a group of workers led by Bablu opened fire on the members of another group led by Lulu at Banana hat at about 9.00am.

They fired at least 50 round of bullets leaving Nurul Huda and Abdul Kalam injured seriously.

Later Lulu and his men equipped with firearms made a counter attack on Bablu and his supporters.

On information, police rushed to the spot and resorted to baton charge to disperse the supporters of both the groups.

A total of 18 workers were injured in police action.

Previous enmity over the establishment of supremacy at the hat was the cause of the fierce clash, sources said.

## Obituary

Begum Dina Sultana, wife of Anwar Iqbal, Member-Director (Planning & Evaluation), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) passed away due to brain stroke at the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital in the city yesterday, says a press release.

Her namaz-e-janaza was held after Juma prayers yesterday at the Ahmed Nagar Jame Masjid, Mirpur and she was buried at the Mirpur Intellectual Graveyard.

Her Qulshahni will be held after Asr prayers tomorrow at Mirpur Ahmed Nagar Jame Masjid in the city.

Muzaffar Islam Chy

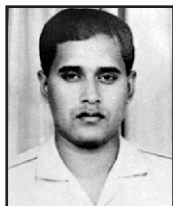
BSS, Chittagong

Alhaj Muzaffar Islam Chowdhury, former chairman of Haildhar union parishad of Anowara upazila in the district, died at his city's Jamal Khan Road residence in the early hours yesterday at the age of 92.

Family sources said late Muzaffar had been suffering from various complicated diseases.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held at PDB mosque at Jamal Khan Road after Juma prayers and another at his village after Asr prayers. He was buried at his family graveyard at Haildhar village.

## Death anniversary



Today is the 9th death anniversary of Flight Lieutenant AAM Rahmatul Bari, GD Pilot of Bangladesh Air Force, says a press release.

On the occasion, doa mahfil will be held at the Bayt-ur-Ridwan Orphanage and Babe-i-Rahmat Girl Orphanage at Nasirabad, Chittagong for the peace and salvation of the departed soul.

Flight Lieutenant Bari lost his life in a F-6 Fighter aircraft crash in the Bay of Bengal on August 20 in 1996. He was on his way to Dhaka to attend a lunch party arranged by former prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

Fazal Karim

CU CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 21st death anniversary of Fazal Karim, former chairman of Chittagong Municipality (now Chittagong City Corporation) and a social worker.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil and Qurankhawani will be held and Fateha to be offered at his mazar on the city's Kadam Mubarak Mosque premises in the noon.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Moderately heavy falls likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over the country till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also expected at places during the period, Met Office said predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.

Highest temperature 33.6 degree Celsius was recorded today at Rajshahi and lowest 24.8 degrees at Rangamati.

**The sun sets in the capital tomorrow at 6:28pm and rises at 5:36am 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	31.0	26.8	81	75
Chittagong	32.7	26.2	74	80
Rajshahi	33.6	27.0	88	83
Khulna	32.2	27.4	81	81
Barisal	31.5	26.3	90	94
Sylhet	32.3	25.4	92	74
Cox's Bazar	31.4	25.5	79	97

## Unite to establish a nat'l govt to save country

### B Chowdhury urges opposition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) President Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday urged the opposition to unite to establish a national government to save the country from what he said was the misrule of the alliance government and bomb culture.

"The BNP-led four-party government should step down immediately admitting its failure to protect the people from bomb and grenade attacks."

"The government has failed to bring any of the perpetrators of the bomb or grenade attacks to justice," Badruddoza, also former president, told a discussion at BDB central

office in Dhaka.

He said the government has lost the right to stay in power as such attacks are being continued across the country, killing hundreds of people and injuring more.

"We want to stop the grenade and bomb attacks and only a national government led by all progressive parties can save the country," he added.

"The real culprits are still at large, though two days have passed after the 459 blasts in 63 districts on Wednesday that killed two and injured over 100 people."

He demanded trial and proper investigation into the bomb and grenade attacks including the August 21 carnage on an Awami

League (AL) rally last year and Habiganj attack on January 27 that killed former finance minister and AL leader Shah AMS Kibria.

The discussion was arranged after the kulhwani of BDB leaders Khaled Hossain and Mujibur Sikdar where 40 lawyers led by Advocate Azizul Islam Bhuiyan joined the BDB.

BDB vice-presidents Wahi-Uddin, Major (ret'd) MA Halim, Advocate Abdul Jahid and Advocate Joydul Abedin Jahidi, leaders ATM Kamal, Major (ret'd) Seikh Nadir Ahmed, Advocate Shah Ahmed Badal and Abdul Rauf Mannan, among others, addressed the meet.



PHOTO: STAR

Prof Dr Mainul Islam Mahmud speaks at a roundtable on protection of buyers' rights in Chittagong yesterday. The Buyers' Rights Protection Committee, Chittagong organised the roundtable.

## Seven killed, 12 injured in road accidents

UNB, Bdnews

At least seven people were killed and 12 injured in road accidents in Gazipur, Bogra, Thakurgaon and Tangail yesterday.

UNB from Gazipur reports, three people were killed when a bus rammed a private car in Sadar Upazila on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway yesterday.

The deceased were identified as car passengers Tareq Ahmed, 43, General Manager of Agrani Insurance Company, his son

Nazmul Saqib, 12, and driver Salahuddin Shibu, 20.

Police said the Mymensingh-bound bus knocked the car coming from the opposite direction at Shalna Forest Road at about 7.15am, killing the three on the spot. The bodies were sent to Gazipur Sadar Hospital morgue.

Another report from Bogra adds, two people were killed and two others injured in separate road accidents in Bogra and Thakurgaon districts yesterday.

In Bogra, a goods-laden truck hit

a passenger van at Laskarpur on Bogra-Rangpur highway in the morning, killing a brickfield worker on the spot and injuring two others.

The dead was identified as Shahjahan Ali, 50, of Sahapur village in Gabtali upazila.

The two injured - Mrinal Kanti, 14, and Ahsan Habib, 28, - were given first aid at a local hospital.

Thakurgaon Correspondent said, a day labourer, Shafiqul Islam, 18, was injured when he fell down from a running power trolley at Boxer Hat-Battali in Sadar upazila in the morning. Later, he died on way to hospital.

BDNEWS from Tangail reports, at least two people were killed and 10 others injured in two separate accidents on Dhaka-Tangail highway Friday.

Witnesses said the first accident occurred when a speeding truck hit another truck standing on the roadside to repair some mechanical problems killing two people on the spot and injuring five others early in the morning.

One of the two deceased was identified as Sentu, 30, of Munshiganj village under Daulatpur upazila of Kushtia.

In another accident near Ibrahimabad station of the Bangabandhu Bridge, a Gaibandha-bound microbus from Tongi ploughed through pedestrians at about 10:30am after its driver lost control over the steering leaving five people injured.

Four of them admitted to Tangail general hospital in critical condition.



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Photojournalists Association brings out a procession in the city yesterday on the occasion of World Photography Day.