



President Iajuddin Ahmed speaks at the Army Headquarters Selection Board-2007 meet at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

## Execute verdict in Bangabandhu murder case, release Hasina

36 eminent citizens urge CG

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 36 renowned citizens yesterday issued a joint statement demanding the execution of the verdict of Bangabandhu Murder Case and immediate release of former prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

They also urged the caretaker government to withdraw all false and controversial cases filed against Sheikh Hasina who is also president of Awami League (AL).

"We have observed that several conspiracy cases were filed against Bangabandhu's daughter Sheikh Hasina. We demand her release immediately and withdrawal of all controversial cases against her," the statement added.

It said a group of misguided officers of the armed forces killed Bangabandhu and his family members on August 15, 1975 and later a court sentenced the killers to death penalty but the verdict is yet to be executed.

"We urge the caretaker government in this month of mourning to execute the verdict of 'Bangabandhu Murder Case' and establish the dignity of Bangabandhu to stop the distortion of history," the statement added.

The signatories to the statement are Prof Kabir Chowdhury, Justice KM Sobahan, Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Prof Saidul Haque Chowdhury, Iqbal Chowdhury, Prof Dr AFM Ruhul Haq, Prof Dr Iqbal Arslan, Nasiruddin Yusuf, M Golam Kuddus, Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, Engineer AKM Ishaq Bipratiq, Dr Kamrul Hasan Khan, Poet Mahadeb Saha, Ferdousi Majumdar, Prof Anowar Hossain, Prof Harun-ur-Rashid, Prof Nazma Shaheen, Prof RIM Amirul Rashid, Manzurul Ahsan Bulbul, Ramendu Majumdar, Syed Shamsul Haq, Poet

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## 3 boys missing in Bay

### CU CORRESPONDENT

Three schoolboys went missing while playing football at the Patenga sea beach yesterday morning.

They were identified as Ibrahim Mian Ripon, a student of class X, Abhishek Barua and Arefin of class IX of Agarababu Boys' High School.

Sources said, a group of 11 students of the school went to the beach and started playing football at around 11:00am.

At one stage when the ball went into the seawater Ibrahim ran to fetch it and was carried away by the sea.

It prompted Abhishek and Arefin to rush for saving Ibrahim, only to be caught up in the huge waves and meet the same fate, said the witness.

All the three boys remained missing since then.

Rescuers from fire service rushed to the spot but failed to conduct any search as the sea was very rough.



Warid Telecom CEO Munir Farooqui gives a scholarship to schoolboy Rakibul Hasan at Warid head office in the city yesterday.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Thundershowers likely

#### UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said in a forecast.

Highest temperature 36.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 25.2 degree Celsius at Sandwip.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:39pm today and rises at 5:30am tomorrow.

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in percentage		
	in celsius	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	35.5	28.3	59	51	
Chittagong	34.1	26.0	76	86	
Rajshahi	35.0	27.2	75	68	
Khulna	33.5	27.5	69	70	
Barisal	32.6	26.8	69	69	
Sylhet	36.4	26.6	--	52	
Cox's Bazar	33.0	26.2	67	76	



Grameenphone officials hand over relief materials to the armed forces at the Army camp in Badda in the city yesterday.

## BSF guns down 2 cattle traders

### UNB, Dhaka

Two Bangladeshi cattle traders were gunned down by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) in separate incidents on Benapole and Satkhira borders yesterday.

At Benapole, BSF troops shot dead a Bangladeshi cattle trader on Agrabhulot frontier early in the morning. The dead was identified as Ajijuddin, 30, of Agrabhulot village.

In Satkhira, another Bangladeshi cattle trader was shot dead by BSF on Kadangla border in Kolaroaupazila early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Ziarul Haq, 25, of Raipur village.

BDR sources said the Indian border guards of Hakimpur camp fired on him, when he was returning home from India with cattle, leaving him dead on the spot.

Studies at Dhaka University (DU) at a function at the Senate Bhaban.

In her welcome speech Chairperson of women and gender studies department Prof Ayesha Banu said Nurjahan Begum, who herself is an institution, led the advancement of women of this subcontinent.

She said the function was organised to recognise her incomparable contribution to women journalism and her pioneering role in advancing the cause of women in various sectors.

She was presented a citation by the Department of Women and Gender

## Call to build a secular society

### Begum editor honoured

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nurjahan Begum, editor of the weekly magazine Begum, was honoured yesterday for her outstanding contribution to women journalism and her pioneering role in advancing the cause of women in various sectors.

She was presented a citation by the Department of Women and Gender

#### SEDITION CASE

### Charge sheet against Bahauddin Nasim accepted

#### COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday accepted the charge sheet of the sedition case against Awami Svechchhasebok League President AFM Bahauddin Nasim.

After scrutinising the case docket and other relevant documents, Metropolitan Magistrate Selina Akhter accepted the charge sheet and sent to the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) for next steps.

On July 25, Assistant Superintendent (ASP) of CID Munshi Atiqur Rahman, also the investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the CMM's Court, Dhaka showing 17 people as prosecution witnesses.

Police filed the sedition case with a Dhaka court on March 11 in 2002 accusing Nasim of acting against the country's sovereignty and tarnishing its image abroad.

Mohammad Dulal Uddin Akond, ASP of CID's Faridpur zone, arrested Bahauddin Nasim on February 27, 2002 from Zia International Airport and seized \$6,300, three passports, two tickets, eight books and some CDs.

The complainant alleged that the CDs contained 'false and fabricated scenes of torture' on the minority community, videos of ransacking of rooms at Dhaka University dormitories and houses at different parts of the country by the activists of the four-party alliance.

He said the CDs contained videos of attacks on the minority Hindu community and ransacking of puja mandaps after 2001 general election.

"Such activities might destroy the communal harmony and worsen the country's law and order," he observed.

## Death anniversary



Today is the 23rd death anniversary of Rear Admiral Mahbub Ali Khan, former navy chief and communication and agriculture minister, says a press release.

On the occasion, wreaths will be placed at his grave at the Banani defence graveyard and milad mahfil will be held at Mahbub Bhaban at House No - 40, Road No - 5 at Dhanmondi in the city after Maghrab prayers today.

Rear Admiral Mahbub Ali Khan popularly known as M A Khan breathed his last on this day in 1984 while on his duty.

Relatives, colleagues, friends and admirers are requested to attend the milad mahfil and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

MA Khan Memorial Committee, Sylhet and UK also have taken programmes marking the day.

Bangladesh Navy will also observe the day with due solemnity.

#### Mahmudnabi Chowdhury



Today is the 12th death anniversary of former minister and former president of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Alhaj Mahmudnabi Chowdhury, says a press release.

He was senior assistant editor of the daily Sangbad.

Santosh Gupta Smriti Parishad will place wreaths at his memorial at the Postgola crematorium in the city in the morning today.

On the occasion, a discussion will be held and a documentary on his life will be screened at 5:00pm at the Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium at the National Museum on August 11.

#### Mahmudur Rahman Nur

Today is the first death anniversary of Mahmudur Rahman Nur, a second year student of the Khulna University, says a press release.

He drowned in the river last year.

Relatives and admirers are requested to pray for salvation of his departed soul.

## Cheholum

Cheholum of Taokirun Nesa, a social worker and wife of former labour commissioner Golam Mobarak, will be held at her residence at 23 New Eskaton in the city after Maghrab prayers today, says a press release.

Relatives, friends and admirers are requested to attend the cheholum.

Studies at Dhaka University (DU) at a function at the Senate Bhaban.

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document of socio-political picture of the then society and a medium of expressing thinking of womenfolk at the grassroots level, he added.

In her response, Nurjahan Begum urged all to keep continuing her efforts towards building a secular society.

She also recalled the early days of 'Begum' saying, "Women were not even allowed to go outside let alone working there."

She urged all to take fresh vow to work together to stop violence against women and children and bring an end to child marriage.

DU Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz also addressed the function as chief guest while Dean of Social Science Faculty Prof Dr Harun-or-Rashid spoke as special guest.

Prof Nazma handed over the citation to Nurjahan Begum.

## Time for depositing Hajj money extended

### BSS, Dhaka

The government has decided to extend time for depositing Hajj money in the banks up to August 30 next considering the country's overall flood situation, an official handout said here yesterday.



Prof Dr Nazma Chowdhury hands over a citation to Nurjahan Begum, editor of the weekly magazine Begum, at a function at the Dhaka University Senate Bhaban yesterday. DU Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz, left, is also seen.

## Heavy rainfall brings boon to lone croc farm

#### FROM PAGE 16

in Mymensingh, the farm's 13.4 acre compound houses 68 crocodiles in 12 artificial ponds and two lagoons.

The large reptiles, ranging from 7 feet to 12 feet in lengths, were brought from Malaysia on December 22, 2004, at a total cost of around Tk 1.25 crore. Of the 75 crocodiles imported initially, one died in its cage during the airplane journey, and six others also perished since.

Fourteen of the remaining crocodiles are males, while 54 are females. Each female can lay 30 to 40 eggs a year. The eggs will be hatched artificially, and the offspring will be sold on the international market when they become four years old.

"Over the past year, we have built special incubation facilities and other infrastructure for hatching the eggs and raising the baby crocodiles," said Mushtaq Ahmed.

RFL employed Geoff McClure, an Australian crocodile expert, to design the state of the art infrastructure for the company. He also helped the company to establish and follow Australian reptile farming protocols, which are among the most widely used and successful in the world.

After a slow start, it seems the company's activities are finally gathering momentum.

"We are expecting 30 to 40 percent yield of hatchlings from the 500 plus

eggs we have gotten this year. Next year, we anticipate a substantially larger number of eggs, and a higher yield rate of about 60 to 70 percent," said Mesbahul Haque, chairman of the farm.

While the project is Ahmed's brainchild, it was Haque's investment that helped turn the dream into a reality. The two entrepreneurs were aided in their maiden venture with technical assistance from South Asian Enterprise Development Facility (SEDF) and with financial support from the equity and entrepreneur fund (EEF) unit of Bangladesh Bank.

RFL also received assistance from Southeast Bank Ltd.

Bangladesh Bank holds 49 percent equity in the company, and their support has been invaluable, but we wish they were more active as partners," said Haque. "We also hope the government will formulate an exotic wildlife farming policy to facilitate exploration of this field, as the sector can make valuable contributions to our export basket," he added.

Currently the farm employs 12 full time staff, who have been trained locally and internationally. As part of its human resource development programme, RFL encourages all its employees to pursue higher studies in local universities.

The employees are bound to