

### Mahbub Anam's seventh death anniversary today

METRO DESK

Today is the seventh death anniversary of eminent journalist and author Mahbub Anam, former editor of the now-defunct Bangladesh Times, says a press release.

In a distinguished career as a journalist, he also served as a senior executive of the then Pakistan Observer, senior vicepresident of the Bangladesh Editors' Council and as an executive committee member of Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad, Bangladesh Press Council and Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha Porichalona Board.

For his contribution to journalism, he received Swadhinata Padak, Sher-e-Bangla Gold Medal and Moulana Akram Khan Gold Medal.

Mahbub Anam authored a number of books on the cultural and political identity of Bangladesh, including 'Amra Bangladeshi Amra Bangali' and 'Itihasher Shikriti Banam Bikriti'. He also served as the president of Nattyamancha Bangladesh and Bangladesh Sahitya Sangskriti Kendro.

He was actively involved in politics from his student life. In addition to being the general secretary of Salimullah Muslim Hall of Dhaka University in 1954-55, he was appointed acting publicity secretary of the Jukta Front on behalf of the Awami League in 1954.

Mahbub Anam took part in the Language Movement and was jailed several times for his role in the movement. In recognition of his contribution to the Language Movement, he was awarded the Bhasha Andoloner Bir Sainik Padak' by President Ziaur Rahman and the 'Matribhasha Padak' (posthumously) by Tamaddun Majlish.

He was the second son of eminent litterateur, journalist and politician late Abul Mansur Ahmad and elder brother of Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star.

### HC stays NBR notice to Moudud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday stayed for three weeks the operation of a notice issued by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) asking detained former law minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed to reopen an income tax file.

Upon a writ petition, an HC bench of Justice ABM Khairul Haque and Justice Md Abu Tariq also issued a rule on the NBR to show cause within two weeks why its notice to the petitioner, Moudud Ahmed, should not be declared illegal.

On June 17, the NBR sent a notice to Moudud in jail for reopening an income tax file for fiscal 2002-03, Barrister Mahbubuddin Khokon, a counsel for Moudud, said.

In the notice, the NBR also said that Moudud did not pay full income tax for 2002-03.

Moudud filed the writ petition challenging the legality of the NBR notice. In the petition, he said that he paid all taxes to the NBR as per rules. Barrister Rafique-ul Huq appeared for Moudud in the court.

## Meet 4-party's demand to end stalemate: BJP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) at its presidium meeting on Monday called on the government to meet the five-point demand of the four-party alliance in order to rid the country of the present political stalemate.

The leaders also urged the government to bring the prices of essentials under the buying capacity of the common people.

The presidium meeting was held at Baridhara in the city with BJP Chairman Andaliv Rahman in the chair.

They also demanded holding of the general election by October, lifting the state of emergency, releasing former prime minister Khaleda Zia and Jamaat-e-Islami

Ameer Matiur Rahman Nizami. General Secretary of the party Shamim Al Mamun, presidium members Reba Rahman, Taiyabur Rahman, Principal Bulbul Nahar, advocate Shahidul Islam, Khalilur Rahman Majumder, Kamal Uddin Chowdhury and Mohammad Mujibur Rahman spoke at the meeting.

# Mindset change a must Cabinet meeting in Sylhet July 21 for woman-friendly bus journey: Study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mindset change is imperative for making journey in the buses more woman-friendly, a study report of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) revealed yesterday.

Women will be empowered if they can move freely without obstacle. They cannot do so due to lack of security, revealed the study tiled 'Gender analysis for improving mobility in Dhaka city' at the BIDS auditorium in the city.

The study suggested for a strong transport commission like Anti-Corruption Commission to revamp transport sector and musclemen need to be weeded out of transport sectors o that women can enter.

Around 15 percent of the 1100 respondents in the survey identified out of the house earlier than men cultural constraint as the main and they go out in larger number reason of mobility difference between men and women.

conductors do not want to take

women and children take more space than men.

The study was conducted at schools, colleges, university, recreation facility centres, markets, hospitals, garment factories, street corners and BDR-run shops in Mirpur area in May and June.

The key objectives of the study were to help the city's transport authorities to design and implement more effective interventions in order to improve access and mobility for both males and females.

The study identified distinct travel patterns of male and women and identifies opportunities and mechanism for employment/sustainable income generation for women through project implementation activities.

The study found that women go

Good pedestrian facilities help The study revealed that bus walking for women. Now they go even short distances via rickshaw women on board complaining that due to lack of good sidewalks, said

BIDS Consultant Khurshed Alam said, "Women are more exposed to air pollution as they travel in slow moving modes. Although men commute longer hours than women but women suffer from illness more than men."

The study showed that even though the rates of accidents are lower for women, but their severity Research findings suggested that

women are responsible for most of the household transports but have limited access to avail them. Most of the respondents identi-

fied physical inability of women like women cannot get on and get down from a running bus, they cannot walk fast, cannot hold knob of the bus, etc as the main mobility differences between men and women.

Women and Children Affairs Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury, World Bank Country Director Xian Zhu and Communications Secretary Dr Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman also took part in the programme.



Women and Children Affairs Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury speaks at a workshop at BIDS auditorium in the city

yesterday. On her right is World Bank Country Director Xian Zhu and on her left are BIDS Director General Quazi Shahabuddin and Communications Secretary Dr Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman.

Teachers' Association.

10:00am on August 1.

executives

says a press release.

METRO DESK

month.

indefinite hunger strike at Central

Shaheed Minar in the city from

community schools began working

in 1995 for Tk 500 as honorarium,

which was later increased to Tk

750. Now they get only Tk 1200 per

**BOU** Zia Parishad

Dean of Open School Prof

Mohammad Alinur Rahman and

Dean of School of Law Shahid

Ahmed Chowdhury were

announced as convenor and mem-

ber secretary of Bangladesh Open

University (BOU) unit Zia Parishad,

Zia Parishad Kabir Murad

announced the 33-member con-

vening committee yesterday.

Central committee chairman of

About 14000 teachers of 3,788

# Community pry teachers threaten hunger strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers of Community Primary Schools will go for indefinite hunger strike from August 1 if their demand for 20 percent dearness allowance is not met by July 31.

They will also submit memorandums to the chief adviser through upazila nirbahi officers on July 20 and deputy commissioners on July 23.

### Fake cosmetics tactory unearthed, 2 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday unearthed a factory of fake cosmetics in the city's Paltan area and seized huge adulterated face washing cream worth Tk 33 lakh.

They also arrested two employees of the factory identified as Habibur Rahman and Mohammad Shakil.

SM Ashrafuzzaman, an assistant commissioner of the DB, said they found the adulterated cosmetics in a factory on the third floor of Solaiman Plaza in the city's Paltan area at about 2:00pm.

He added that the factory owned by one Hossain Badsha had long been carrying out such illegal business.

#### Teachers said it is impossible for them to maintain their family with a monthly salary of only Tk 1200. STAFF CORRESPONDENT "The caretaker government should pay attention to our demands otherwise community schools will

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed the government not to be shut down," said M Hafizur rearrest or harass, without due Rahman, secretary general of process of law, former BNP law-Bangladesh Community Primary maker Joynal Abedin Faruk, who is now on bail. He also said that they will go for

An HC bench of Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Mashuque Hosain Ahmed also issued a rule upon the government to explain within four weeks why the arrest of Joynal at the jail gate should not be declared illegal.

The HC order came following a writ petition filed by the former lawmaker who fears that the law enforcers can arrest him again in false cases after his release from the jail.

In the petition, Joynal said that he got bail from the court in 12 cases and when he was coming out of the jail on June 22, the law enforcers arrested him at the jail gate on charges of violating the emergency rules.

His counsel Barrister Mahbubuddin Khokon told reporters that Joynal has got bail in a case two weeks ago, but he is not receiving the court order fearing that he would be arrested again after his release in a false case.

Joynal Abedin Faruk, who was arrested on May 25, 2007, is now detained in Dhaka Central Jail.

# Scrap trader shot in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A scrap trader was shot by a gang of armed criminals in the city's graveyard. Gandaria under Shyampur police station last night.

The trader identified as Mohammad Iqbal Hossain, 24, of Gandaria area was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with bullet injuries in his back. Iqbal told journalists at hospital

that his former business partners Emon, Sohag and Farhad fired at him at 8:30pm while he was talking to a man in front of his shop at Ekshokatha at Gandaria.

He said they made the gun attack following a feud over the business.

### Correction

In a report headlined 'Mother Teresa medal for 37 eminent citizens' published on Page 3 of July 8 issue of The Daily Star, 'Channel 1 Chief Reporter and 'Channel 1 Managing Director' were inadvertently printed as 'Channel i Chief Reporter' and 'Channel i

Managing Director'. We regret the error.

# in Sylhet July 21

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A cabinet meeting will be held at the divisional headquarters of Sylhet on July 21.

To this end, a preparatory meeting was held at the office of Divisional Commissioner Zafar Ahmed Khan yesterday afternoon.

The chief adviser will arrive at Sylhet on July 20 to attend a citizens' dialogue.

It will be the second cabinet meeting in Sylhet while the first one was held in 1981 with the then president Ziaur Rahman in the

### Moriarty visits solar project, hospital in Cox's Bazar

UNB, Cox's Bazar

US Ambassador in Dhaka James F Moriarty yesterday visited a solar project, run by Grameen Shakti and Malumghat Christian Memorial Hospital in the district.

During the visit, the envoy talked to the users of solar energy, women entrepreneurs and technicians who have taken training on setting up the solar system and its maintenance.

USAID provided a 1.18 million US dollar grant to Grameen Shakti for the project in August 2005. Grameen Shakti Managing

Director Dipal Chandra Barua said they have 170,000 users of solarenergy across the country. The US Ambassador later visited

Malumghat Christian Memorial Hospital in Chakoria upazila. Moriarty, now in Cox's Bazar on a three-day trip, is scheduled to

visit a Rohingya refugee camp on Teknaf border and the Forest Department's Nature Park, funded by USAID, today. HOUSEWIFE MURDER

## **BSEHR** demands punishment to killers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) yesterday expressed grave concern at the murder of a housewife at Mirpur and demanded that the killers be brought to book. Fahmida Akhter Nazma was

killed allegedly by her husband, who is a doctor, at their residence at Mirpur in the city on Sunday night, according to reports published in national dailies yesterday. In a statement, BSEHR

Executive Director Advocate Alena Khan expressed concern and resentment at the incident. She demanded that a fair inves-

tigation be conducted to find out the real culprit who must be given exemplary punishment.

### Obituary

METRO DESK

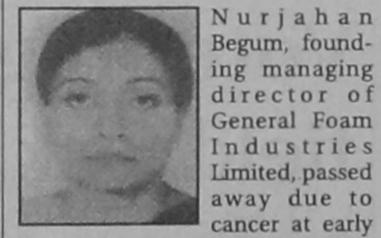


Md Abdul Hamid Khan assistant director, Bangladesh Agricultural University Research System (BAURES),

passed away due to a massive heart attack at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital on Saturday at the age on 56, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, three daughters, relatives, colleagues, friends and a host of admirers to mourn his death.

#### Nurjahan Begum STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Begum, founding managing director of General Foam Industries Limited, passed away due to cancer at early

hours of yesterday at the age of 58, says a press release. She was laid to rest at Banani

Nurjahan left behind her one son and one daughter to mourn her

Her qulkhwani will be held at her residence at House No # 07, Shah Makhdum Avenue, Sector No # 14 at Uttara in the city after Asr prayers on

Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani.

#### Tajul Islam Bhuiyan METRO DESK

Tajul Islam Bhuiyan, a socia worker and former president of Dania AK School and College, passed away due to old age complications at his Dania residence on Monday at the age of 104, says a press release.

He left behind his three sons, three daughters and a host of admirers to mourn his death. He was buried at his family

graveyard after namaz-e-janaza at

Dania mosque yesterday.

G8 leaders for sustainable Ex-energy secy use of biofuels

AFP, Toyako

yesterday.

The Group of Eight powers yesterday agreed to explore ways to reduce the impact of biofuels on food prices amid concern they may be hurting the poor and adding to global warming.

materials such as palm oil and sugar beet, were once seen as a promising way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions blamed for global warming by cutting the use Monday it would slow the expanof fossil fuels.

that current biofuels policy could push up grain prices and cause greenhouse gas emissions rather than savings.

Biofuels were a hot topic among leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States huddled in this spa resort in northern Japan, a senior Japanese foreign ministry official said.

sary to study the (effect of the) use Zoellick said.

of biofuels and ethanol in particular," he told reporters.

RECKLESS DRIVING: This truck crashed into a road island on Bishwa Road at South Badda in the city

The G8 leaders pledged in a statement to "ensure the compatibility of policies for the sustainable production and use of biofuels with food security."

They vowed to "accelerate devel-Biofuels, derived from organic opment and commercialisation of sustainable second-generation biofuels from non-food plant materials and inedible biomass."

The British government said sion of biofuels following a report But some experts have warned that found they might increase greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to food price rises. World Bank President Robert

Zoellick said on the sidelines of the

G8 summit that there was "no doubt" that the use of biofuels has had an effect on food prices. "For the corn production globally, the use of corn ethanol in the United States has, I think, taken

two-thirds or three-quarters of "Some leaders said it's neces- added marginal production,"

### BRAC'S ANNUAL REPORT 2007

# Social enterprises reduce donor dependence

METRO DESK

Brac released its Annual Report 2007 at a press meet at its head office in the city yesterday, says a

press release. The annual report reveals that Brac's donor dependence has reduced significantly over the years. This has been achieved partly through engagement in social enterprises where Brac

charges for its services. Fazle Hasan Abed, founder and chairperson of Brac, at preface of the annual report preface stated, "In this short span of time, our programmes have experienced dramatic growth. Continuing this strong growth rate and reaching more of the poor remains our goal

where Brac is operating." "Brac's vision is of a just, www.brac.net.

enlightened, healthy and democratic world free from hunger poverty, environmental degradation and all forms of exploitation", STAFF CORRESPONDENT he reiterated.

Brac Executive Director Dr Mahabub Hossain said, "This report highlights our main achievements in 2007 and gives the reader a clear outline of our priorities and strategic directions."

Reaching technologies to farmers to support food production, combating extreme poverty, reducing maternal and infant mortality, diversifying microfinance services, and continuing replication in Africa and Asia are some of the highlights featured in this report.

Department of Public Affairs of Brac produced the annual report, which is available at



Participants at a press conference observe one minute's silence in memory of those killed in launch disasters at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. Nirapad Noupath Bastabayan Andolon organised the press conference.

# 600 Yaba tablets, 978 bottles of phensidyl seized in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and police in separate drives yesterday recovered 978 bottles of phensidyl and 600 Yaba tablets in the city and arrested eight people with three microbuses.

The arrestees are Mohammad Rahad, 23, Mizanur Rahman, 22, Mohammad Sujan, 20, Mokbul Hossain, 38, Mohammad Litan, 35, Badsha Miah, Mohammad Harun, 30, and Raj Chowdhury. Rab-3 official sources said they

raided Saudia counter at Sayadabad Bus Terminal and arrested Mohammad Harun with 600 Yaba tablets. Harun told the Rab that he

smuggled the tablets into the country from Myanmar.

Sabujbagh police station and recovered six Yaba tablets from his possession. Rab-4 officials said they recovered

800 bottles of phensidyl from a microbus at Shekhertek under Adabar police station early yesterday. They said they also seized the microbus.

Meanwhile, Detective Branch (DB) of Police also seized 48 bottles of phensidyl in a separate drive from a microbus in the New Market area and arrested its passengers Sujan, Mokbul, Rahad and Mizan in this connection.

The arrestees said they use the microbus for peddling drugs at different parts of the city.

In another drive, Jatrabari police arrested Liton and Badsha and recovered 130 bottles of phensidyl from their possession The Rab-3 arrested Raj while they were peddling the drugs Chowdhury at Basabo under byamicrobus.

## Toufiq granted ad interim bail STAFF CORRESPONDENT

PHOTO: STAR

The High Court (HC) yesterday granted ad interim bail to former energy secretary Dr Toufiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury in a general diary filed against him on charges of violating Emergency Power Rules (EPR).

Upon a writ petition, an HC bench of Justice Sharif Uddin Chaklader and Justice Md Emdadul Haque Azad also issued a rule on the government to explain within four weeks why charges against the petitioner, Dr Toufiq, should not be declared illegal.

sel for the petitioner, submitted before the court that it was not at all a case for which Dr Toufiq was arrested and that charges were brought against him out of malafide intention. He also said that Toufiq got bail

Barrister Rafique-ul Huq, coun-

from the Appellate Division in Niko graft case, but the police again arrested him immediately after his release from the jail. On April 18, Tejgaon police arrested former energy secretary

EPR only three hours after he was released from Dhaka Central Jail The police also filed a general

Dr Toufiq-e-Elahi for violating the

# Akhtaruzzaman released from

diary against him.

hospital

Awami League (AL) Organising Secretary Akhtaruzzaman was

released from the hospital yesterday.

He was undergoing treatment at city's Sikder Medical College Hospital after being critically injured in a road accident recently. The doctors at the hospital also

advised him to take complete bed

rest for two months as his injuries would take time to be completely The accident occurred when his

jeep turned turtle in the city's Nikunja area on July 4. Akhtaruzzaman has sought doa from the countrymen for his early

# DHAKA

Bimstec ministerial meet The inaugural ceremony of the Bimstec ministerial meeting will be held. Venue:

#### Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 10:00am. **FBCCI** seminar

recovery.

Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) organises a seminar on 'Upcoming WTO ministerial and challenges for Bangladesh'. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10:30am.

PPRC in association with the World Bank

will organise a workshop on '100 days of

#### employment generation: Implementation opportunities and challenges'. Venue: LGED auditorium. Time: 9:30am.

Workshop

Seminar Bangladesh Mahila Parishad organises a seminar on 'Election, women representative and role of media'. Venue:

#### National Press Club. Time: 3:00pm. Convocation

The 2nd convocation of Northern University Bangladesh (NUB) will be held. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. Time: 10:30am.

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh organises a talk on 'Gandhi and Bengal: A difficult friendship'. Venue: Asiatic Society auditorium. Time: 4:30am.

#### **British Council counselling** British Council organises a counselling

session on studying and living in the UK and professional advisory service for students (PASS) for prospective students. Venue: British Council auditorium. Time: 2:30pm.



Thundershowers likely UNB, Dhaka

ing the period, Met Office said.

major cities and towns yesterday were:

tomorrow.

Dhaka and Chittagong divisions and at many places over Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy to heavy rainfalls are also likely at places dur-

Moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary

gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over Khulna, Barisal,

It also said day temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over Highest temperature 34.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 23.0 degrees Celsius at Maijdee Court. The sun sets in the capital at 6:50pm today and rises at 5:19am

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some

Humidityin City/Town Temperature in Celsius percentage Max Min Morning Evening 25.5 30.5 Dhaka 80 30.2 24.6 Chittagong 94 26.0 Rajshahi 32.0 82 30.3 26.0 97 Khulna 25.0 96 29.5 Barisal 25.7 34.8 Sylhet 74 24.6 92 30.7 98 Cox's Bazar

### HC asks govt not to harass former BNP lawmaker Joynal