Sexagenarian

killed by

muggers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

station in the city last night.

8:30pm, local people said.

looted all of his valuables.

A sexagenarian retired person was stabbed to death by muggers at

Malibagh under Khilgaon police

The dead identified as Kazi

Shamsul Huq was attacked by a gang

of muggers in front of Khidma

Hospital at Malibagh while he was

going to a relative's house at Hajipara

at Khilgaon in a rickshaw at about

Family members of Shamsul Hug

said the muggers stabbed him in his

chest and abdomen, leaving him in a

pool of blood. The miscreants also

Don't bow down to corrupt politicians

National Press Club in the city.

demanding slash in bus fare.

PBA urges govt

DU CORRESPONDENT

Slash bus fare

Despite police interception,

Shahbagh intersection in the city

demanding urgent steps to slash

PBA also demanded standard

service, removing all obstructions

from the pavement to ensure safe

way, and cancellation of road per-

mit, registration and financial

punishment to those companies

Police took away banners and

PBA condemned the police

placards from the PBA leaders while

they gathered at the spot to form the

action and urged the government to

course from July 22

The High Commission of India in

Bangladesh in association with the

Indian Council for Cultural

Relations will organise the first

session of a month-long Manipuri

Bimbavati Devi, one of the renowned

ducted at the Indian High

Commission's Dance and Music

Training Centre (House-24, Road-2,

the course have been requested to

contact the Information and

Cultural Wing of the high commis-

sion over telephone 9888789-91

(Ext-250) for enrollment by July 21.

DHAKA

ILO Office in Bangladesh organises a

symposium on 'Deployment of workers

overseas: A shared responsibility'.

Department of History of Dhaka

University organises a discussion and

film show marking the anniversary of

French Revolution. Venue: RC

World Bank Office, Dhaka will launch a

report World Trade Indicator 2008

Database and Ranking Tools'. Venue:

View exchange meeting

WBB Trust organises a view exchange

meeting on contribution of women in

national economy. Venue: WBB Trust

Award giving ceremony

Poet Abu Zafar Obaidullah Award giving

ceremony will be held. Venue: Poet Sufia

Manusher Jonno Foundation organises a

sharing meeting on 'Going to school:

Challenges in Chittagong Hill Tracts'.

Venue: Cirdap auditorium. Time: 2:00pm.

seminarroom. Time: 11:00am.

Kamal Auditorium. Time: 4:00pm.

Sharing meeting

Majumdar auditorium. Time: 10:30am.

Report launching

WB Office. Time: 2:00pm.

Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 1:30am.

ODAY

Those interested in attending

The session will be conducted by

The dance course will be con-

Manipuri dance

bus fare, says a press release.

taking excess fare.

meet their demands.

human chain.

BSS, Dhaka

dance from July 22.

Dhanmondi).

Symposium

Discussion

Manipur dancers of India.

black money-free society. The "We never bowed down in the dream of a corruption-free society can be fulfilled through holding a people and we would not do this free, fair and credible election, he

some threaten that the election released but we will not surrender

Pointing at Tarique Rahman, Gono Forum presidium member Pankaj Bhattacharya said the person, who had broken the backbone of the nation through looting and smuggling crores of public

Gonotontri Party President Nurul Islam Nahid, Workers Party General Secretary Biman Biswas and Forward Party Convener ABM



people

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Char Nazir area in Patuakhali.

recently provided 75 houses, 75

sanitary latrines, a shop with capi-

tal money, five deep tubewells and

25 cattle for rehabilitation and

employment of the people of Char

The rehabilitation programme

took place under the 'Project Light

House' that was inaugurated by

Chief of Army Staff General Moeen

commercial organisations to come

forward to be involved with such

social welfare activities. He also

urged the people of Char Nazir area

for making the maximum use of the

land and expected that it would

help increased production of

Major General Rafiqul Islam,

Customer Development Director

of Unilever Bangladesh Limited

Mizanur Rashid and Deputy

Commissioner of Patuakhali

Moshiur Alam were also present.

Left parties

protest day'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Next programme July 16

Different left leaning political

parties yesterday observed their

district level protest day programmes with the demands

of cancellation of price hike of

fuel, stopping the price hike of

essentials and lifting emer-

formed human chain, indoor gath-

ering and submitted memoran-

dums at different districts including

Rangpur, Gaibandha, Bogra,

Noagaon, Jaypurhat, Rajshahi,

Dinajpur, Narayanganj, Kushtia,

Khulna, Chittagong, Sirajganj and

Dhaka Mahanagar Bam Morcha

Demanding the resignation of

the finance adviser they said price of

everything including essentials and

transport fare have been increased

Ganashanghati Andolon con-

Leaders of Ganashanghati in a

Another protest day will be

demned the interception of their

protest day programme by police

statement said this government is

curbing democratic rights of the

people in the name of strengthen-

observed centrally on July 16, they

Dhaka's heritage

The 400-year old Dhaka city wants

to get its greenery and space for

breathing back, the photographs

put on display at an exhibition at

the Drik Gallery in the city seemed

historic structures of Dhaka City,

traditional festivals and photo-

graphs of some paintings snapped

by Babu Ahmed, Munem Wasef and

Taimur were displayed at the exhi-

bition organised by Traditional

Photo Gallery and sponsored by

the Hong Kong and Shanghai

Banking Corporation (HSBC) Limited, commemorating Dhaka's

HSBC Bangladesh Chief

Executive Officer Steve Banner

inaugurated the exhibition that will

continue till July 22 from 3:00pm to

years-old Ahsan Manjil, Paribibir

Majar, Chhoto Katra, Dhanmondi

Eidgah, Tara Mosque and other

structures of the city seemed to be

telling the dignified history of the city.

some engraved works on the build-

ings show how much creative the

Babu Ahmed said the photographs

of the engraved works were taken

six to seven years ago but now

Photographs of traditional

Babu Ahmed said, "Dhaka has a

festivities like Ashura and Holi were

rich cultural heritage that we

wanted to showcase in our photo-

graphs," adding, "Unplanned

urbanisation of the city has tainted

awareness among the people

about the city and its heritage and

"This is an initiative to create

those works have disappeared.

While talking to the Daily Star,

Some of the rare photographs of

The picture of several hundred-

A total of 78 photographs of

Photography

exhibition on

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

to be telling this yesterday.

at a meeting demanded rationing

Sylhet to observe the day.

system for the poor people.

due to increase of fuel price.

in the name of emergency.

ing democracy.

begins

400 years.

8:00pm every day.

buildings were.

also put on display.

the heritage."

history," he said.

Ganatantrik Bam Morcha

observe

GOC of 55 Infantry Division

Gen Moeen urged different

Nazir area, says a press release.

UAhmed.



Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, left, stages a demonstration on the Dhaka University campus yesterday demanding unconditional release of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and Bangladesh Chhatra League, right, for withdrawal of all cases against Awami League President Sheikh Hasina. (Story on Page 3)

crash, prevent gridlock

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Metropolitan Police (DMP) has taken a number of massive and multipurpose programmes to make people from all walks of life aware of traffic rules in order to avert increasing road mishaps and also to curb intolerable gridlockin the city.

As part of the programmes sched-

According to the Bangladesh Road in road accidents every year in the The BRTA and ARC study reports added.

the city streets every day, sources

and multi-purpose programme, we have been getting preparation before its formal launching."

(Traffic) Jasim Uddin said, "In the programme, we would brief them about road rules, road safety, violation of traffic rules and punishment in this

accidents take place as well as we would train them up about how the accidents may be prevented and averted", the joint commissioner

The traffic department of Dhaka also estimated that the accidents also According to DMP sources, they cause huge losses of Tk 5,000 crore per would invite transport owners and their instructors for training purposes. After they would be trained up, they would train up the drivers of their

> In the same way, the traffic department would train up rickshaw owners and their leaders who would train up the pullers.

> Besides, training programmes would be arranged at most of the important schools and colleges in the

The joint commissioner further said letters have already been sent to various schools and colleges seeking

Moreover, the training programmes would be organised at different bus stands at different times.

ries at the DMCH at about 12:00 at Nurse commits

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BSMMU

A nurse of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) committed suicide yesterday evening by pushing a poisonous injection.

Shahbagh police said they recov-

ered the body of Taslima Akter Lipi, 25, at about 6:30pm from her room on the fifth floor of B-Block Nurses said Lipi commits suicide while she was alone in the room.

The cause behind the incident could not be known immediately.

2 schoolboys 'Govt-NGO effort a must to missing in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two school students went missing in the port city on Saturday. They are Md Toukir Ahmad Jewel, 15, son of Md Harunur

Rashid, and Ashikur Sabur, 15, son of Md Sabur. Both were class IX students of Government Muslim High School.

police said. Sources said Jewel left his house at Rahmatganj at around 6:00pm to

attend the class in a nearby coachlike MR (mensional requisition) at the centre X Plus at Chernel Rabas D&C, Antenatal, postnatal care, at Jamalkhan Road. But he did not go to the centre at all, and went missing since then, said family members.

Jewel's father lodged a general diary (GD) with Kotwali Police Station in this connection yesterday. He said a teacher of the coach-

ing centre informed him that he saw Jewel with his friend Sabur in front of the coaching centre on Saturday evening.

"We contacted the guardians of Sabur immediately but they couldn't give any information about their son also," the worried father said.

Police said they were investigating the matter.

invites entries for painting, photo contest

Thai Embassy

METRO DESK

To celebrate 36 years of Bangladesh-Thailand diplomatic relations, the Royal Thai Embassy has organised a "painting and photo article contest" for the students up to 25 years old currently enrolled in universities or schools

in Bangladesh, says a press release. Participants are requested to share their impression on Thailand by sending their original works for the contest along with a completed

registration form to the Royal Thai Embassy no later than August 20. For further information and to download the registration form, please visit www.thaidac.com or

visit the Royal Thai Embassy (18 and 20 Madani Avenue, Baridhara).

Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Nogen Chandra Malakar, a freedom fighter of Borokot Adhardighi village under Haripur upazila in Thakurgaon, passed away due to old age complications on Friday.

He left behind his wife, two sons and a daughter to mourn his death. He was cremated with state honour on Friday evening.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



founding vicepresident of Udichi Shilpa Goshthi and city Chhatra

Today is the 4th

On the occasion, a doa mahfil and discussion will be held at the residence of her brother journalist GM Yakub in 158 Journalists' Residential Area, Section-11 at Mirpur in the city after Asr prayers

DMP move to avert road

uled to be started later this month, the traffic department initiated to train up the transport owners, instructors, drivers, rickshaw owners and pullers, teacher and students of schools and colleges and also the general public.

Transport Authority (BRTA) and Accident Research Centre (ARC) of Buet, around 12,000 people are killed Over 6 lakh motor vehicles ply on

DMP Commissioner Naim Ahmed told The Daily Star, "As it is a massive

Joint Commissioner of the DMP

"We'll also explain why and how their cooperation.

make healthy Bangladesh' general member of RHSTEP, were director, RHSTEP, said that RHSTEP has been working for 25 years to

> to this end. Brig Gen Mahfuzur said, "We maternal mortality, infant mortality and other reproductive health

related problems in Bangladesh." Both the special guests emphasised government-NGO collaboration to make a healthy Bangladesh.

also present while Dr Luna Chakma,

Prof Thanjama said maternal mortality rate in Bandarban is huge, adding that only a united effort can bring success.

establish reproductive health and rights. She sought cooperation of all The clinic will provide free medi-

cine and treatment services and all reproductive health related services abortion care, RTI/STIs, different general health, pathological services like Pap's Smear Test, blood

grouping, blood sugar, pregnancy Besides, the clinic will arrange different health related education sessions to make people aware of sexual and reproductive health and

Quazi Suraiya Sultana, executive

WHOLESALE MARKET Mobile phone officials robbed of Tk 18 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers riding on motorbikes snatched away over Tk 18 lakh from the officials of mobile phone operator on Saturday night.

Banglalink from the city's Uttara area Mokhlesur Rahman, Uttara zone distributor of Banglalink, filed a case

with Uttara Police Station in this connection. In the case statement, the plaintiff mentioned that six muggers riding on

three motorbikes snatched the money away from them at around 7:30pm when they arrived in front of their office at Road-18 in sector 7. He along with three staffers of the

company was on way to their sector-7

microbus, the snatchers pointed guns at us and took the carton containing the money", Moklesur Rahman said.

Rice price increases, oil falls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prices of different varieties of rice increased once again, while those of edible oil registered slight fall in the wholesale market in the city yesterday with no impact on retail markets. The prices of rice registered a

rise of Tk 10 to 20 per maund (37.32 kg) in the wholesale market. Irri, a variety of coarse rice, was sold at Tk 1180 per maund, which

was Tk 1160 a day ago. Parija, a medium quality of rice, saw a rise of Tk 20 per maund and

was sold at Tk 1360. Miniket, the fine variety of rice,

was sold at Tk 1560 per maund showing an increase by Tk 10.

said the prices of edible oil registered a slight fall of Tk 10 to 20 per maund.

fixed the wholesale price of soyabean and palm oil at Tk 112 and Tk 100 litre four days ago, those were sold at Tk 117.50 and Tk 103.50 in the wholesale market.

The minimum price of coarse

Meanwhile, the wholesalers

Though the government had

rice in the retail markets was Tk 35 a

The price registered a fall of Tk .50 per kg in the wholesale market. But this fall had no impact on the retail markets where Soyabean oil was sold at Tk 120 to 124 per kg and palm oil at Tk 105

to 110 akg.

Kader Siddiqui slates govt Nasrin Kader Siddiqui, Hamidul Haq to Hasina's residence, Commerce and

of the country, but if they went there

as government representatives, they made a mistake and they will have to be liable for that," Siddiqui told a joint press briefing following the party's dialogue with the panel of advisers led by Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed. The release of Hasina was a com-

mendable step, but the way the four advisers rushed to Hasina's residence did not seem proper and it caused confusion among the people, added Siddiqui. The government must keep in

mind that it cannot change its attitude towards the corruption suspects overnight and "no one should be released without trial, nor should anyone innocent be tried," said the former AL leader and also a veteran freedom fighter. Siddiqui urged the government

not to compromise on the issue of eradicating corruption under any circumstances. Siddiqui, leader of an 11-member national elections.

delegation at the dialogue, also suggested that the government should give equal significance to all political parties and invite the parties that have not been on the government's invita-

Commenting on the advisers' visit Humayun Kabir, Khaled Habib,

Education Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman said the advisers went there in the greater interest of improving the atmosphere for holding a successful political dialogue.

tions of the people by creating a buoyant environment for all," the adviser told journalists adding that if there is any confusion, it can be cleared through discussions.

elections will be held in the third week of December Siddiqui said, hoping that no member of the caretaker government would participate in the The issues of people's miseries caused by soaring prices of essentials

LGRD and Cooperatives Adviser

Anwarul Iqbal was also present at the

BKSJL General Secretary Habibur

and Abdullah attended the dialogue. Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed along with four advisers will hold talks

with rural and urban civic groups in Keshabpur upazila of Jessore and in Jatiya Gonotantrik Party and the Jatiya Party faction led by former

minister Anwar Hossain Manju is scheduled to participate in dialogues with the government on July 16 and July 17.

IUBAT signs MoU with US varsity METRO DESK

Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) has signed a MoU with University of Michigan Flint (UMF), USA, says a press release. Prof M Alimullah Miyan, vice-

Union leader, says a press release.

today.

Dr Kamal urges patriotic forces Forward Party organised the President Sheikh Hasina, he said STAFF CORRESPONDENT discussion titled 'Demand for a corrupt-free and prosperous would not be held if they are not Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday said they will not bow down to the 'corrupt poli-"We must win in 2008," Dr tothem. Kamal said, adding that "We would ticians' who are threatening that not be defeated by any corrupt election will not be held without force this time." their release. Speaking as the chief guest he Dr Kamal called on all the patri-

otic forces to get united in order to establish the rule of law through

candidates. past to any threat from corrupt time also," he said this while he was said. addressing a discussion at the

said they want a change in the government through a transparent electing honest and competent election to build a corrupt and money, should be tried under

United Nations intervention.

Hinting at BNP Chairperson Mostafa Amin also spoke at the

Khaleda Zia and Awami League discussion.

Paribesh Bachao Andolon (Save the Environment Movement) forms a human chain at Shahabag in the city yesterday

ECHO TEAM VISITS FOOD DISTRIBUTION SITES

WFP food for rodent-hit people in CHT

Paribesh Bachao Andolon (PBA), an environmental organisation, yesterday formed a human chain at

METRO DESK Commission for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) Bangladesh mission on Friday visited the United Nations World Food Programme's (WFP) distribution programme of relief food assistance among the rodentaffected poor people in the WFP has been implementing

press release.

tion sites in the hilly areas. flowering of bamboo, has destroyed the crops and livelihood

of the people. WFP has been assisting 25,680 households at 31 most affected unions under seven upazilas of Rangamati and Bandarban districts since May this year with the aim at

meeting their immediate food needs. David Hill said, "WFP food distribution to people affected by rodent crisis has been critical in supporting thousands of poor tribal families who would not have able to feed themselves in these months follow-

"We are particularly glad to see that WFP has responded quickly to feed these vulnerable poor families who are in need of food. WFP assistance is helping affected people of CHT to meet their nutritional

support to WFP," he added.

tomorrow.

family receives 50kg rice, four litres with micro-nutrients.

Head of ECHO mission David Hill visited the WFP's food distribu-

Several thousands of families in CHT are struggling to feed themselves after the areas were overrun by millions of rats -- a phenomenon known locally as a rat flood The rat flood, caused by seasonal

ing the loss of their crops."

needs while protecting their liveli-

hood. We are happy to extend our The second round of food distri-

of vegetable oil and four kilograms The head of European of high-energy biscuits enriched WFP food assistance is being distributed in collaboration with the government officials, Unicef,

local NGOs, traditional leaders and community representatives. Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), says a food aid programmes in CHT since 1998.

Former BNP lawmaker Alal rearrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Police yesterday rearrested former

BNP lawmaker and General Secretary of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal Syed Moazzem Hossain Alal for the third time soon after he came out of Dhaka Central Jail. The former lawmaker of Barisalconstituency was produced

before the court that sent him to the jail again. Alal was released in the afternoon on a High Court bail. Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Lalbagh Police Station Nabojyoti Khisa told The Daily Star, "Coming out of the jail, the former lawmaker delivered speeches which were provocative against the government. Therefore, he was arrested

under the section 16/2 of the emergency power rules (EPR)." Sources said he was first arrested on February 8 this year under section 16/2 of the EPR from his Lalmatia residence. He was arrested for the second time on April 23 from in front of Rangpur jail soon after he came out on

bution started on July 7. Each another HC bail.

Thundershowers likely UNB, Dhaka Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by tempo-

the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy to heavy rainfalls are also likely at places during the period, Met Office said, predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.

Highest temperature 33.4 degrees Celsius was recorded yester-

The sun sets in the capital at 6:49pm today and rises at 5:20am

day at Rangpur and lowest 22.6 degrees Celsius at Hatiya.

rary gusty wind is likely at many places over all the six divisions in

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Temperature in Humidityin City/Town Celsius percentage Min Morning Evening

31.5 26.4 Dhaka 25.4 27.0 93 Chittagong 87 26.2 31.4 Rajshahi 25.2 30.5 86 Khulna 26.5 29.3 89 Barisal Sylhet 32.7 25.7 88 28.2 25.2 100 Cox's Bazar

manager-programme, RHSTEP, Reproductive Health Services presented the overall activities of Training and Education Programme (RHSTEP) recently launched a clinic at Bandarban Sadar Hospital to have to work to make women provide the people of Bandarban aware of reproductive health and district with free medicine and rights and for women's empowertreatment facilities, says a press ment and thus we will reduce

Brig Gen Md Mahfuzur Rahman was present as the chief guest at the launching ceremony held at the conference room of Parjatan Motel in Bandarban while Prof Thanjama Lusai, chairman, Bandarban Hill Tracts Union, and Dr Abdus Salam, civil surgeon of Bandarban district,

were present as special guests Prof Dr Hamida Akhter and Prof Md Mozammel Haque Azad Khan,

METRO DESK

office from another office at sector-3, hementioned. "Soon after we got down from the

"Our priority is to stick to the Khulnacitytoday. principle and live upto the expecta-

and frequent power outages were also discussed during the dialogue being sponsored by the government to reach a consensus over crucial

Rahman, Organising Secretary Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Office Secretary

As per the commitment of the government, the parliamentary

national issues prior to holding the

International University of Business

chancellor of IUBAT and ProfVahid Lotfi, vice -chancellor for Academic Affairs, UMF recently signed the agreement on behalf of their respective sides.

The agreement will facilitate exchange of faculty and students, joint research widening the field of cooperative initiative.

The pedestrians rushed him to a local hospital from where he was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) when his condition deteriorated. Shamsul succumbed to his injusuicide at