METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Forge strong unity to establish rights

Shantu Larma urges indigenous people

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parbatya Chattagram Janasanghati Samity (PCJSS) Chairman Jyotirindra Bodhipriyo Larma alias Shantu Larma yesterday called on the indigenous people to forge a strong unity and launch a movement to PCJSS who have been vocal for establish their rights.

people in the hill districts is getting worse. The result can never be good," he said at a discussion marking the 11th anniversary of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Accord at Women's Voluntary Association auditorium in the capital.

Larma also warned that the consequences of nonimplementation of the peace accord would not be good.

"I got a feeling from the quently. experience of the last 11 years that there is a conspiracy to destroy the existence of Jumma people and their political, cultural and land rights," he said.

Bangalees and indigenous recognise this." people in the last two years

paper, PCJSS Information and Publicity Secretary Mangal Kumar Chakma said more than 50 leaders and workers of implementing the CHT treaty "Condition of indigenous have been implicated in false cases and that the drive to evict indigenous people has Abed Khan, Editor of the been strengthened.

people in seven villages at Sajek in Rangamati were set on and indigenous woman leader fire on April 20, he said.

Bangladesh Adivasi Forum General Secretary Sanjeeb peace accord is violated fre-

Even the land commission has not started functioning in the last 11 years to settle land dispute, he said.

Prof Mesbah Kamal said, "The CHT accord is an issue of He also said that harass- human rights and dignity and ment and torture of local cultural diversity. We must on Hasina at her residence.

CPB General Secretary have made the situation Muzahidul Islam Selim said the movement to implement Presenting a keynote the spirit of the Liberation War and the movement to implement the CHT accord are interlinked, which calls for united action.

Gono Forum leader Pankaj Bhttacharya, writer Selina Hossain, journalist Kamal Lohani, Editor of the Samokal Saptahik Golam Mortuza, Houses of indigenous Tribal Welfare Association President Promod Mankin Choitali Tripura also spoke.

Larma meets Hasina

Drong said the indigenous Shantu Larma called on people are now subject to Awami League President more persecution and that the Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence at Dhanmondi last night.

> They discussed the situation in Chittagong Hill Tracts and election-related issues during two-hour meeting, sources said.

Earlier, Gono Forum leader Mostafa Mohsin Montu called



PCJSS Chairman Jyotirindra Bodhipriyo Larma speaks at a discussion at Women's Voluntary Association auditorium in the city yesterday. On his right is journalist Kamal Lohani and on his left are writer Selina Hossain and CPB General Secretary Muzahidul Islam Selim.

SC upholds HC order granting bail to Pankaj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday upheld the High Court (HC) order granting bail to Awami Swechchhasebak League General Secretary Pankaj Debnath in a corruption case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

The apex court also upheld the HC verdict quashing the proceedings against Pankaj in a tax evasion case filed by the National Board of Revenue.

Upon separate appeals, the four-member full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice MM Ruhul Amin passed the orders.

Pankaj's counsel advocate M Enayetur Rahim yesterday told The Daily Star that there is no legal bar on way to his client's release from the jail following the SC orders.

On August 26 last year, the Special Court No-1 set up in the MP Hostel in the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban complex sentenced Pankaj to 13 years' imprisonment in connection with the case for amassing wealth illegally and concealing the information to the ACC.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof M Shariful Islam, former principal of Mohammadpur Central University College, member of the advisory committee of Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh and former secretary general of Bangladesh Shikkhak Karmachari Oikyajote, passed away due to a cardiac arrest at Birdem hospital in the city at the age of 67, says a press release.

His body will be kept at the Central Shaheed Minar from 11:00am to 12:30pm today for the people to pay last respect to him.

ANM Golam Mortuza

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



ANM Golam Mortuza Mukul, a cultural activist and son of late Zahiruddin

passed away on Monday at the age of 58, says a press release. He left behind his wife, one

daughter, one son and a host of relatives to mourn his

death. His qulkhwani will be held at his residence (34/6, Ahmedbagh) in the city after Asr prayers on Friday.

We will support pro-people party after elections

Says Mannan Bhuiyan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expelled BNP secretary general Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday said he along with his fellow reformist colleagues would support the political party which will work in favour of the people after the general election.

The veteran politician further said that he and his colleagues, who are known as reformists in BNP and, therefore, did not get party nominations, may take the side of both treasury or opposition benches.

"We will remain with the party which will work in favour of the countrymen. Therefore, we can remain in the treasury bench or in the opposition bench," he told reporters at his Nam flat in the city's Gulshan

Bhuiyan, who was expelled a day before BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was arrested in September 3 last year, hoped that many individual candidates may win in the next election as people this time will cast their votes considering the quality of the candidates.

About his colleagues who were sided with him after 1/11 changeover and filed nominations as independent candi-

dates, Bhuiyan said, he is not in contact with them at this moment, "but I will communicate with them in future."

The former secretary general further said that qualitative change has not yet entered the politics.

Asked about launching of a new political party or platform, he said, they will take a decision on this issue after the December 29 election. "I did not want to split BNP, I

still believe in late president Ziaur Rahman's philosophy," he added.

11 police inspectors promoted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eleven police inspectors were promoted to assistant com missioner yesterday.

They were posted to various branches and ranges of police.

The police personnel are Saiyeed Akter Newazi, Md Abdul Hannan, Md Obaidul Huq, Md Shah Alam Bakul, Md Nurul Alam, Nirmalendu Bikash Chakraborti, Md Jahangir Alam, Syed Mostofa Kamal, Mohammad Azad, Md Abdul Motaleb and Md Abdul



LatifBhuiyan.

No change in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country having chances of light rain or drizzle at one or two places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

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

Highest temperature 30.6 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sandwip and lowest 14.8 degrees Celsius at Srimangol.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:11pm today and rises at 6:27am tomorrow. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded

in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Temperature in Humidityin City/Town Celsius percentage Morning Min Max

Evening 18.0 69 64 Dhaka 28.0 75 29.0 19.4 79 Chittagong 15.2 90 80 Rajshahi 28.5 18.4 91 28.5 Khulna 17.0 81 91 29.0 Barisal 74 17.5 29.4 Sylhet 64 19.0 30.0 Cox's Bazar

VoIP equipment worth Tk 1cr seized, one held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Officials of Bangladesh Telephone Regulatory Commission (BTRC) in association with Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members seized huge voice over internet protocol (VOIP) equipment worth over Tk 1 crore in separate drives in the city's Ramna and Malibagh areas on Monday night.

They also arrested one Sohrab Hossain, 28, in this connection.

Rab and BTRC officials said in a joint drive at a Bailey Road house they arrested Sohrab with huge VOIP equipment.

In a different drive at Hosaf Market at Malibagh, they also recovered different VOIP equipment.

Public Admin society launched

BSS, Dhaka

A new organisation named Bangladesh Society for Public Administration (BASPA)' was launched with a commitment to help develop the skills of officials and employees working in government and nongovernment organisations.

The formal launch of the organisation was announced at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday, with its President Prof Dr Mohammad Mohabbat Khan in the chair.

BASPA Vice-president Dr Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah and Secretary General Dr M Abul Kashem Majumder were also present.

A 19-member full-fledged committee was also formed. Other office-bearers are:

vice-presidents - Sharful Alam, Molla Wahiduzzaman, Prof GM Shahidul Alam, Prof Shairul Mashreq, Dr Begum Rukhsana Mili and Anwara Begum; treasurer-Mohammad Abul Bashar Mia; joint secretaries general Nusrat Jahan Chowdhury and Saber Ahmed Chowdhury.

Executive members are Ershadul Haque Bulbul, Firdous Zareen, Dr.Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Dr Mujibar Rahman, Zebunnesa, Nafisa Rashid and Asif Mohammad Shahan.

Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Two sisters have sought financial assistance for the treatment of their father,

Md Zamiul Haider, additional chief judicial magistrate in Jhenidah, who has been suffering from liver cirrhosis due to hepatitis Cinfection.

He has been undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) for the last three months, says a press

release. According to doctors, Zamiul needs to undergo liver transplant abroad, which involves a huge amount of money. But it is not possible for him to afford such an expensive treatment.

His two daughters, Zamiul Safa, 7, and Rafa, 5, have appealed to generous people to extend a helping hand to save the life of their father.

Contributions can be sent to Md Zamiul Haider, Savings Account No. 002313036 Sonali Bank, Jhenidah branch, Jhenidah, or Md Zamiul Haider, Savings Accout No. 8664-6, Pubali Bank, Shishu Park branch, Dhaka.

Saiful Islam METRO DESK

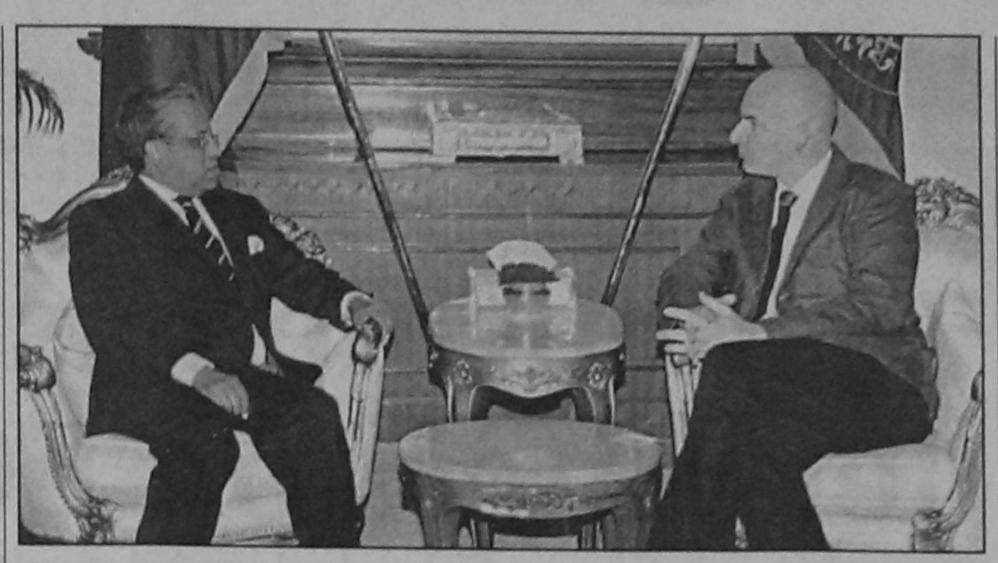


Saiful Islam, a 25-yearold labourer from Kish oreganj, has been suffering from cancer for

long, says a press release. He needs a lot of money for his treatment but his family could not afford to continue his treatment.

His father, who is blind, and mother have appealed to generous people and philanthropic organisations to extend a helping hand to save the life of their son.

Contributions can be sent to Saiful islam, Account No. 19176, Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd, Dhanmondi branch. Phone: 01190883175, 01723933975.



International Press Institute Director David Dadge calls on Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his office in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

HC stays admission process of 7 DU depts for 4 weeks

barrister Belayet Hossain told

The Daily Star that following the

HC order, the authorities cannot

continue admission process in

seven departments under its

'Kha' and 'Gha' units since the

new conditions are related to the

inserted in the admission

guidelines of the Dhaka

University are discriminatory

for the Aleem graduates, he

said, adding that Aleem stu-

dents will not be eligible to

study in these seven subjects

following the writ petition, the

HC issued a rule upon the DU

authorities to explain why the

new admission conditions

Earlier on October 26,

The additional conditions

admission process.

under the units.

seven departments should not

rules, an admission seeker must

study English and Bangla

courses of 200 marks each in

HSC or equivalent examina-

tions to be eligible for admission

also introduced a condition

that only the students who

studied economics, not health

economics or Islamic econom-

ics in HSC and equivalent

exams, will be eligible for

English and Bangla of 100 marks

each and Islamic Economics.

The writ petitioners yesterday

filed the application to stay the

operations of the additional

plaques to

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mymensingh tomorrow.

War Crimes Facts Finding

Committee (WCFFC) will

erect Genocide Plaques at

three killing fields in

up such plaques on the killing

fields that have been

neglected, says a press release.

and in two others places on the

bank of the Brahmaputra.

be present on the occasion.

There are around 5,000

killing fields in the country

along with their local collabo-

and Al-Shams -- killed inno-

The launching ceremony of the

book 'Constitution Made Easy' by

Justice M Gholam Rabbani will be

held. Venue: National Press Club

Small and Medium Enterprises

(SMEs) Owners Association of

Bangladesh organises a seminar

on global financial crisis and SME

sector in Bangladesh. Venue:

Sena Kalyan Bhaban auditorium.

Bangladesh Chemical Society

and ICCT jointly organise a

health hazards and detection.

Venue: MHK Biggan Bhaban, DU.

Diplomatic Correspondents

Association Bangladesh (BCAB)

organises a talk on Bangladesh

UK cooperation. Venue: National

WARBE Developmen

Foundation and Brac jointly

organise a national consultation

on 'Streamlining the labour

migration from Bangladesh with

ratification of UN and ILO

conventions on migrants' rights'

Venue: Brac Centre (2nd floor)

Press Club. Time: 11:30am.

Consultation

Time: 9:30am.

symposium on melamine, its

Time: 11:00am.

Seminar

Time: 3:30pm.

Time: 9:30am.

Talk

Symposium

Criminal Court.

in 1971.

Earlier, they pledged to set

The WCFFC will set up the

Madrasa students study

admission to the department.

Economics department

As per the new admission

be declared illegal.

to those departments.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) vesterday stayed for four weeks the operations of additional admission conditions that disqualify Aleem graduates for their admissions to seven departments at Dhaka University.

The departments include Bangla, English, International Relations, Mass Communication and Journalism, Economics, Women and Gender Studies and Linguistics.

Upon an application filed by five DU admission seekers, an HC bench comprising Justice Mir Hasmat Ali and Justice Shamim Hasnain also fixed December 14 for hearing of the rule earlier issued by this court in this regard.

that disqualify Aleem gradu-Counsel for the petitioners ates for their admissions to guidelines.

BALAKA' VANDALISED Genocide Punishment to culprits demanded be set up

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) students yesterday reiterated their demand for exemplary punishment to the people who vandalised the sculpture 'Balaka' in the city's Motijheel area on Saturday night.

Putting up barricades on the streets near the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) intersection at around 11:00am, continued to stage demonstrations at the base of Raju Memorial.

They also demanded a ban on all Islamist outfits, including Al-Baiyenat, Al-Ihsan and Hizbut-Tahrir, restoration of secularism as a basic pillar in the constitution and formulation of an act to protect culture from the attack of fundamen-

Students under the banner of 'Sanskriti Rakkha Andolan'

(movement to save culture) also brought out protest procession that paraded different streets on the campus.

They called upon countrymen to join their demonstrations to resist conspiracy of the fundamentalists against the country and its culture. Students vowed that they would save art and culture

from the attack of fundamentalists at any cost. They also plaques at the Mymensingh several hundred DU students said they would continue to District Council Dak Bungalow demonstrate until their demands are met. Different student organisations, including Bangladesh

Chhatra League, Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and representatives from different universities expressed their solidarity with the demands. In the evening, students

organised a cultural programme at the foot of Raju Memorial.

NDC AFWC GRADUATION DINNER HELD

Greater synergy, integrity among national forces underscored

BSS, Dhaka

The Graduation Dinner of National Defence Course (NDC)-2008 and Armed Forces War Course (AFWC)-2008 conducted by the National Defence College was held at the Officers' Mess of the Defence Services Command and Staff College at Mirpur Cantonment on Monday.

Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury attended the dinner as the chief guest. ddressing on the occasion,

the chief guest thanked all course members of National Defence Course and Armed Forces War Course for successful completion of the courses.

Iftekhar Ahmed expressed his gratitude to the high quality education standard of NDC. He also underscored the need for greater synergy and integrity among all national forces for national development and security. In this regard, he highlighted the role of NDC, an ISPR press release said yesterday.

Among others, Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral Sarwar Jahan Nizam, Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal SM Ziaur Rahman, Principal Staff Officer of Armed Forces Division Lt General Md Abdul Mubeen, Defence Secretary Kamrul Hasan, secretaries of the government, vice chancellors and professors of different universities, distinguished personalities, defence advisers and attachés of different countries in Bangladesh and high officials from Armed Forces attended the graduation dinner.

Commandant of the NDC Lieutenant General Mohd Aminul Karim in his welcome address congratulated the graduating members of both the courses and gave thanks to his colleagues at NDC for their relentless hard work for making the courses complete and success.

Wasa inspector caught while taking bribe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) officials yesterday caught a revenue inspector of Lalbagh branch of Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) red-handed while he was taking Tk 20,000 as bribe from a client. They handed over the

inspector Dawlat Hug to Lalbagh police. ACC Assistant Director Rafiquzzaman filed a case

with Lalbagh Police Station. Director General (admin) of ACC Col Hanif Iqbal told The Daily Star that the ACC officials caught the inspector

red-handed on the spot. Lalbagh police confirmed the matter, saying the ACC caught Dawlat while he was taking the bribe money from Ziauddin Rubel for a reconnection to his Haranath Ghose Road residence.

The inspector had been demanding the amount for last several days. At one stage, Rubel informed the ACC officials of the matter, they added.

JMB man held with explosives in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) of Dhaka yesterday arrested a member of banned Islamist outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and recovered explosives from his possession from Sonapara village at Ghoraghat in Dinajpur.

The arrestee was identified as Md Shahidul Alam, 55, but his particulars could not be known immediately as the raid was going on till filing of

Rab sources said acting on a tip-off, a Rab team led by Major Shah Ali raided Abdullah Hil Kafi's residence at Sonapara and arrested him.

Rab recovered huge explosives, including detonators, a time bomb and nine hand bombs, four revolvers and two cocktails from his possession. Rab sources said that Abdullah Hil Kafi has not yet

been arrested till filing of the

report. Earlier, Rab arrested one Shahin and upon his confessional statement they raided Kafi's residence.

Death anniversary METRO DESK

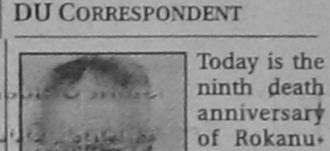


Today is the 10th death anniversary of Prof Md Yusuf Ali, one of the organisers of the War of

Liberation and first education minister, says a press release. On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held in

Dinajpur. ProfYusuf, read the Charter of Independence of Bangladesh and conducted the oath taking ceremony of the Mujibnagar government in exile.

Rokanuzzaman Khan



ninth death anniversary of Rokanu+ zzaman Khan Dada Bhai, foun-

Today is the

25th death

anniversary

of Kazi

Ashraf

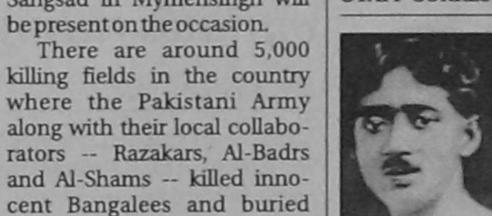
Mahmud, a

der director of Kachi Kanchar Mela and a journalist, says a press release. He was also the first director of Kachi-Kanchar Ashor,

feature editor of the daily

Ittefaq and director of Weekly The WCFFC in the press release said they would set up Qurankhwani and milad the plaques conforming to the mahfil will be held at his resiguidelines of International dence (38 Saratgupta Road,

Narinda) in the city. Commanders of the liberation war, local administration Kazi Ashraf Mahmud and leaders of Muktijoddha STAFF CORRESPONDENT Sangsad in Mymensingh will



poet and scientist, says a press release. He was elected the general secretary of All India Students'

He has a close relation with Kazi Nazrul Islam and Comrade Mozaffer Ahmed. He was also a close aide of

METRO DESK



37th death anniversary of martyred Abdullahil Baki Birpratik, says a press release. Qurankhwani and milad mahfil

Today is the

will be held at his residence after Asr prayers in the city.

Ashraf Uddin Ahmed

Today is the 9th death

anniversary of Ashraf Uddin Ahmed, legal guardian of the family of poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, says a

press release. Special prayers will be offered at his son's Pallabi residence today.

Ibne Fazal Badiuzzaman STAFF CORRESPONDENT Today is the 37th death anni-

versary of martyred Lt Ibne Fazal Badiuzzaman, Birpratik, says a press release. Shaheed Badiuzzamn

Street in Dhaka cantonment, Badiuzzaman Parade Ground in Bogra cantonment and part of Brahmanbaria-Akhaura road were named after him.

them during the liberation war WCFFC has so far identified 920 killing fields. Forum in 1925. DHAKA ODA Mahatma Gandhi. Abdullahil Baki **Book launching**