



Members of Khelaghar Asar Dhaka Mahanagar, a children's organisation, form a human chain at Shahbagh in the city yesterday demanding playground for the children and a pollution-free Dhaka.

Call for gender equity in political parties

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a lecture series yesterday said gender equity inside political parties is a must to create a level-playing field for women leaders in the country. However, most political parties do not even have enough women representation in their central committees, putting a barrier to women playing the role of decision-makers, they added.

The parties are also reluctant

to nominate more women or provide sufficient election fund for women candidates, they said this at the lecture series on 'Levelling the playing field for women leaders' jointly hosted by Bangladesh Alliance for Women Leadership and National Democratic Institute at a city hotel.

Dr Lesley Clark, former lawmaker of Queensland Parliament, Australia, was present as the keynote speaker. Chairperson of the alliance

barrister Rabeya Bhuiyan, Executive Director Ambassador Nasim Firdaus, lawmakers Dr Shirin Sharmin and Tarana Halima and Prof Dilara Chowdhury of Jahangirnagar University spoke at the programme.

Sharing her experience in parliament, Lesley said, "Women can make a difference. To do that, you have to have power and become a leader at first. Changing rules inside your own party is important for that."

She stressed the need to nominate more women candidates by political parties and forming partnership with male members of the parties.

Currently, Bangladesh has record 64 women lawmakers. A total of 19 were elected through direct voting among them, while the others were selected for reserved seats.

Nasim Firdaus said, "There is a negative attitude towards women as leaders in society. Mindset change is needed. Women must also change their own views."

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Kenaram Sarkar, father of Kailash Sarkar who is a staff reporter of The Daily Star and member of Dhaka Reporters' Unity, passed away at his residence at Polita village under Rajoir upazila in Madaripur yesterday.

The deceased was 86. He was suffering from a number of old-age complications.

He left behind his wife, four sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death.

He was the grandfather of Ashutosh Sarkar, also a staff reporter of The Daily Star.

Death Anniversary

METRO DESK



Today is the first death anniversary of Begum Fatema Zaman, wife of Maj Gen (Retd) Shamsuzzaman, former

ambassador of Kuwait, says a press release.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to pray for salvation of her departed soul.

Atiqur Rahman

METRO DESK



Today is the 21st death anniversary of Atiqur Rahman, an organiser of the War of Liberation and founder president of

city Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD), says a press release. Relatives, friends, colleagues and admirers have been requested pray for salvation on his departed soul.

Alhaj Turab Ali

METRO DESK



Today is the 30th death anniversary of Alhaj Maulvi Md Turab Ali, father of Shaheed Engineer Fazlur

Rahman and Md Rafiqul Islam Baset, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at his village home at Kazir Kandi in Narsingdi after Juma prayers today.

Joadul Huq

METRO DESK

Today is the 3rd death anniversary of Joadul Huq, retired senior officer of Bangladesh T&T Board, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at Motijheel T&T Colony Mosque after Asr prayers.

All his relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the milad.

Qulkhwani

METRO DESK



Qulkhwani of Mostak Ahmed Chowdhury, former additional secretary of communications ministry,

will be held at his elder son Ishtiaq Ahmed's house on the Buet campus today after Juma prayers, says a press release.

He breathed his last on June 2 at the age of 79.

He left behind his wife, two sons, two daughters to mourn his death.

Money changer shot dead by muggers in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A money changer who was shot on Wednesday night at Gulshan succumbed to his injuries at the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases in the city yesterday.

The victim identified as Faruk Ahmed Khan, 48, was shot by a gang of muggers at Gulshan while he was returning to his residence Joar Sahara from his office along with his business partner and his car driver in a rickshaw. His car driver Anisur Rahman Rana was also shot and is now under treatment at the United Hospital in the city.

Faruk's nephew Kaiser Alam told this correspondent that the muggers stopped Faruk's rickshaw near the Saudi Arabian embassy and snatched Tk 2 lakh and two mobile phone sets after spray-

ing bullets on them.

The muggers left the place leaving the car and pistols used during mugging, he said quoting the driver.

Gulshan police said they are trying to identify the owner of the car.

Faruk's younger brother Obaed Khan filed a case with the Gulshan police station in this connection.

Meanwhile Badda police recovered the body of a youth from South Anandanagar of Badda area in the city on Wednesday night.

The youth was identified as Shipon Sikder.

His brother Ripon Sikder said some unknown persons took Shipon to an unknown place forcefully from his residence at Merul Badda.

Locals said Shipon was a source of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab).

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