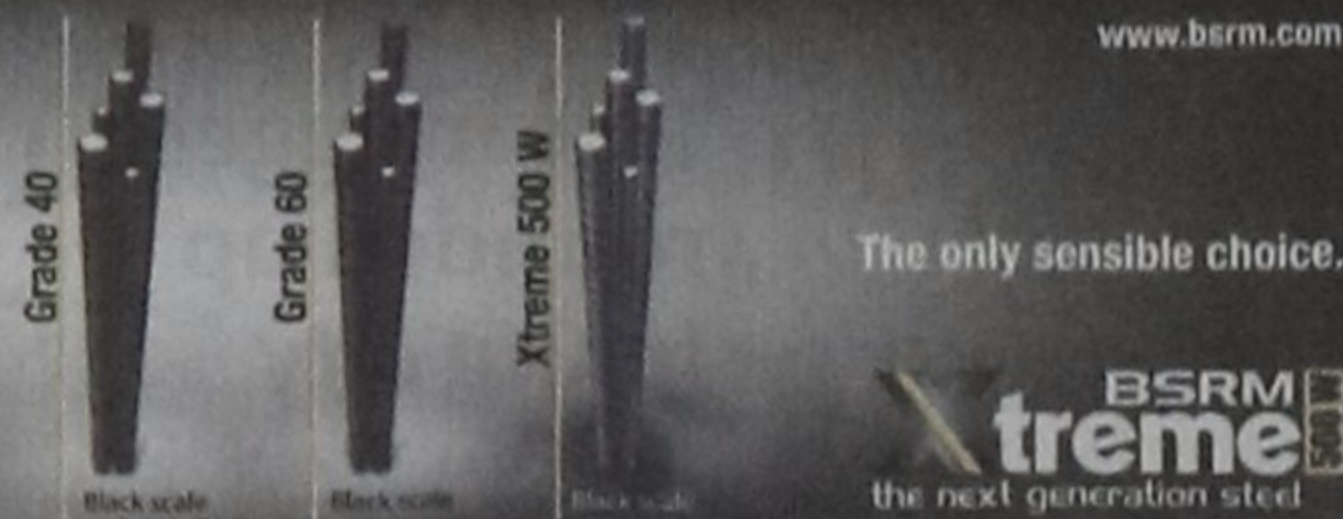


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Corazon Aquino no more

AFP, Manila

Former Philippines president Corazon Aquino, whose "People Power" revolution toppled dictator Ferdinand Marcos and restored democracy to the nation, died Saturday after a battle with colon cancer.

"Cory" Aquino was propelled into the political

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Country needs committed leadership: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said it would be easier for a correct leadership committed to the people to steer the country forward by combating all conspiracies in the future.

"Since the assassination of Bangabandhu, conspiracy has continued against political process, politicians and democracy," she said, adding that there were frequent coups and democracy was unsafe during the post-75 era. But if democracy cannot function,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

BANGABANDHU MURDER CASE

Case summary may be placed before SC this week for appeal hearing

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

A summary of the long-pending Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman assassination case is likely to be submitted to the Supreme Court (SC) by the end of this week for hearing of the appeals in the case.

Chief state counsel for the case Anisul Huq said yesterday he has already prepared a 'concise statement' on the present status of the case to place it before the SC. And he will pray to the apex court to start hearing the appeals.

Talking to The Daily Star, he said now there is no bar to constituting an SC bench for hearing the case as four more judges were appointed to this court recently.

He had earlier said he would soon ready the case for hearing. "Since the Appellate Division (of the SC) now has requisite number of judges for hearing the appeals of five condemned prisoners of this case, I shall take necessary steps to make the case ready for hearing within the shortest possible time," he told this correspondent.

Meanwhile, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said recently hearing of this case could start any time after the chief justice constitutes an Appellate Division bench for this purpose.

He however said he wants that the hearing be held after the month-long annual vacation of the SC so that it (hearing) continues without any break.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

15,000 illegal dwellings on Cox's Bazar hilltops

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Over 1 lakh people are illegally living on about 600 acres of the forest department's hilly land worth about Tk 700 crore under serious threats of landslide during heavy rains.

These floating people from across the country live in around 15,000 houses in Baiderghona, Pahartali, Ghonapara, Light House Para, Bus Terminal and other areas in the town.

As heavy shower starts, the people living in these hills find themselves in serious troubles. Many, especially women and children, get injured as they trip over while walking on the muddy and slippery roads.

Besides, many houses are destroyed and people are killed in landslides caused by torrential rain.

In a continuous downpour for four days from July 28 at least 11 houses were destroyed in several incidents of landslide and 20 women and children were injured.

The house of Mohammad Alamgir in Baiderghona in the town was destroyed by heavy rain on July 28. Four people including Alamgir and his wife Amina were seriously injured.

Alamgir said if the government made arrangements for their living elsewhere they would not live there risking their lives.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



1. Hired goons led by former Proshika chief Qazi Faruque Ahmed, circled, try to break into the Proshika office in Mirpur yesterday. 2. Faruque's goons wearing helmets attack the office. 3. Police apparently not preventing their attempt to get into the office. 4. One of the 20 injured Proshika employees lying on a table inside the office.

PHOTO: SHAFIQU ALAM



A group of Swachhshabak League activists yesterday attacked and ransacked the house of a resident in Kamrangirchar on the outskirts of the capital allegedly to evict them and occupy the house.

PHOTO: COURTESY

AUG 15 CARNAGE Month-long mourning begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A month-long mourning programme began yesterday commemorating the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of his family members on August 15, 1975.

The ruling Awami League and various political and cultural organisations have

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

CU takes control of 2 Shibir occupied rooms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The authorities of Chittagong University's (CU) Suhrawardy Hall yesterday took control of two rooms being used illegally by the activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir for political purpose.

Sources said Shibir activists were using the rooms, previously used as library and students' union office, by hanging a signboard of 'World

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

MAGURA SADAR HOSPITAL

Patients suffer as doctors, staff on indefinite strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Sixty-three staff, including eight physicians, of Magura Sadar Hospital began an indefinite strike yesterday demanding arrear salaries for the last 67 months and placing their job under revenue budget.

Most of the patients have been shifted to private clinics or other hospitals, causing untold sufferings to them.

After announcing the work abstention programme, the agitating staff also besieged

the outdoor and emergency wards and barred the attendants from collecting tickets for patients' admission.

They also announced fast unto death and besiege programme at Civil Surgeon's office today.

Dr Sharif Shahabur Rahman, an agitating doctor, told The Daily Star that they were compelled to go on strike as the authorities turn a deaf ear to the problems.

The staff also staged demonstrations and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Bus-truck strike begins in 6 dists

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

The Bus-Truck Owners' Association in six southwestern districts called an indefinite transport strike yesterday, demanding a stop to operation of unauthorised vehicles on the highways of the region.

No vehicles except a few under Bangladesh Road Transport Authority were seen on the roads in Kushtia, Meherpur, Jhenidah, Chuadanga, Magura and Rajbari yesterday.

The strike resulted in a communication snap between southwestern and northern regions and also between the capital and aforesaid districts pushing people into miseries.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

AL activist shot dead in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Unidentified criminals shot dead an activist of Awami League (AL) and injured two others at Sadarpur village in Mirpur upazila in the district yesterday.

The dead was identified as Tipu, 28, of Gaserdiara in Daulatpur upazila in the district.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Horror haunts Proshika's female staff

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than one hundred female employees at Proshika's head office yesterday passed the day in a state of constant panic as a group of people reportedly led by its recently sacked chief Qazi Faruque Ahmed swooped on them during their entry into the office.

A female programme

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Home minister vows to root out criminal acts, militancy

STAR REPORT

Newly appointed State Minister for Home Affairs Shamsul Haque Tuku said his first task would be to ensure security of life and property of the people by eliminating criminal acts and militancy.

He said this while responding to journalists' queries at Power Development Board's bungalow in the town on Friday afternoon, says a correspondent from Cox's Bazar.

Tuku said, "I will carry out whatever responsibility Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives me. I will serve the people using my experience."

He said a peaceful and corruption free society must be built up for building a non-communal Bangladesh in line with the ideals of the liberation war.

He said, "As the state minister for home I will be sincere in checking the militants. I will try to create an environment so that the businessmen can do business safely, students continue their studies and politicians do politics freely."

The former state minister for power Tuku said setting up a 60MW capacity power plant at Shikolbaha in Chittagong could be completed and put into operation by December next.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Filling station employee murdered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminals beat Sario CNG Filling Station's employee to death at Uttara in the capital yesterday.

The victim, Zia Uddin alias Jalil, 25, was an assistant manager of the refuelling station owned by BNP leader Major (ret'd) Sayeed Iskandar at Kashaibari in Uttara.

Police recovered Jalil's mutilated body left lying at a lane behind the filling station around 7:00am and sent it to Dhaka Medical College (DMC) morgue for autopsy.

Wahidur Rahman, elder brother of Jalil, said around 8:30pm Friday Jalil went out from his residence at Ashkona to report for duty.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Prayer Timing		
August 2		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-20	5-55
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	6-00	6-15
Maghrib	7-47	7-50
Esha	9-15	9-45

Source: Islamic Foundation