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AUG 21 ATTACK, HASINA'S JEEP

Gunshots muted by probe

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and
SHARIFUL ISLAM

The Criminal Investigation Department's charge sheet in the August 21 grenade attack case does not explain convincingly the dents on the bullet-proof jeep that drove Sheikh Hasina out of the blast site.

The investigators seem to have muddled up the vital issue in the charges pressed in June last year.

The immediate past investigation officer of the case, CID's senior ASP Fazul Kabir, cited contradictory findings about the much-reported bullet scars on Hasina's four-wheel drive.

Five years after the carnage that left 23 AL leaders dead and scores maimed, now there's room for unravelling the mystery with a new IO assigned to the case.

Another senior CID ASP, Abdul Kahar

Interpol vs CID

Interpol found gunshots on Hasina's jeep

CID experts found no firing on the vehicle

Interpol report even labelled as 'blunder'

Truth may come out in further investigation

Akand, who has been tasked with further investigation, told The Daily Star that besides tracking down the source of the grenades used in the attack, they will seek to undo the contradictions and anomalies of the previous probe and also solve

the gunshot riddle.

"If I find anything new in my investigation, I will include it in the charge sheet," he added.

A few days after the attempt on Sheikh Hasina's life on August 21, 2004, INTERPOL experts came to help the local investigators with the probe.

Fred J Bradford of INTERPOL, the international police organisation, sent a report to the Bangladesh authorities that year.

The report states that the vehicle whisking away Hasina indeed came under fire.

"There was some shooting around the vehicle, more than 10 rounds perhaps. The window on her [Hasina] side was shot at twice and the back window five times. The vehicle was also struck by grenade

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



PHOTO: SHAFIQU ALAM

Pedestrians in Farmgate area are seen wearing masks yesterday as swine flu infection rises across the country.

Yunus denies any political links

UNB, Dhaka

Nobel Laureate and Grameen Bank Managing Director Prof Muhammad Yunus totally denied his involvement with any political party in Bangladesh.

"I am not involved with any political party," Prof Yunus told UNB over phone yesterday.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Rental terms revised

Ministry relaxes power project implementation period, but sticks to hard penalty provision

SHARIER KHAN

The energy ministry yesterday finalised some terms and conditions for upcoming tender on eight rental power projects with a total capacity of 530 megawatt, relaxing the deadline for implementing the projects.

The ministry however has kept the option for strong penalty against contractors for failing to launch power plants in line with the contract.

A ministry meeting, chaired by State Minister for Power and Energy Enamul Haque, set the timeframe for implementing four diesel-fired rental power plant projects within 120 days of signing of the agreement and the other four heavy fuel oil (HFO)-based plant projects within 270 days against the previous practice of 90 days and 180 days.

Prime minister's energy Adviser Dr Towfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury was also present.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Sale of drug at reduced price

Govt to regulate market to ensure it

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The anti-viral drug 'Oseltamivir' used for treatment of swine flu will be sold now at a reduced price under the government 'regulated market' across the country to stop misuse of the drug and control its price.

The government has also reduced the price of the drug as each capsule will be sold at Tk 150 instead of Tk 180, said DG of the Directorate General of Health Services Prof Shah Monir

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

SWINE FLU OUTBREAK

District hospitals lack preparedness

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Most of the district hospitals in the country are not yet ready to treat swine flu patients although the number of infected people with the virus has been swelling every day.

Some hospitals, however, have set up separate flu units but are yet to open any separate corner at the outdoor department from where patients with flu-like symptoms can get ticket and suggestions, patients alleged.

Even testing facility is limited in the capital and that is why the samples taken with swab are sent to the Institute of the Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) in Dhaka from different hospitals across the country for confirmation of swine flu.

Reports from different districts also blamed lack of coordination between the government and hospitals in making preparations for combating the virus.

A suspected swine flu patient was admitted to Rajshahi Infectious Disease Hospital on Friday afternoon and the swab collected from the patient has been sent for testing.

A swine flu ward is set up at Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH) but it is not isolated and also part of the emergency ward of the hospital. The space of the hospital, used earlier as motorcycle and bicycle parking place of on-duty staff, was turned to four-bed isolation ward for the swine flu patients.

The ward has been found unhygienic and glasses and windows of it are broken. Patients coming to the emergency section

SEE PAGE 12 COL 4



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আমরা শোকার্ত

বাংলাদেশের অর্থনৈতিক সংস্কারের পুরোধা ও বিশিষ্ট রাজনীতিবিদ এবং সাবেক অর্থমন্ত্রী জনাব এম. সাইফুর রহমানের দূর্ভাগ্যজনক মৃত্যুতে বাংলাদেশ টেক্সটাইল মিলস এসোসিয়েশনের (বিটিএমএ) সকল সদস্য অত্যন্ত মর্মান্বিত ও গভীরভাবে শোকার্ত। বাংলাদেশের সার্বিক বহুশক্তির আজকের এ দুর্ঘটনা ও প্রবৃত্তির অস্বাভাবিক হলে এম সাইফুর রহমান।

কেননা বাঙালীর আমলাতান্ত্রিক জটিলতার বেড়া জাল ভেঙ্গে তিনিই প্রথম বেসরকারী হাতকে উল্লাহ, বহুশক্তির জন্য সর্বাত্মক নীতিগত সহায়তা প্রদানসহ আর্থিক প্রয়োজনামূলক সুবিধাদি চালুর মাধ্যমে অর্থনীতিতে কতিপয় যুগান্তকারী সংস্কার আনেন। এরই প্রেক্ষিতে বাংলাদেশের সার্বিক অর্থনীতির আজকের যে অর্জন, এর দুল রূপকার হচ্ছেন জনাব এম সাইফুর রহমান।

পরবর্তীতে বাংলাদেশের আরেকজন শ্রমায়ন্য অর্থনীতিবিদ ও সাবেক অর্থমন্ত্রী জনাব শাহ এ এস এম নুসরাতুল্লাহ সে ধারাবাহিকতা বজায় রেখে আরো কতিপয় সংস্কারমূলক পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করেন, যা অর্থনীতিতে আরো গতিশীলতা আনেন। এরই প্রেক্ষিতে আমাদের অর্থনীতি বর্তমানে একটি শক্ত ভিতের উপর দাঁড়িয়ে আছে। বাংলাদেশের টেক্সটাইল ও ক্রোডিং আন্তর্জাতিক বাজারে বর্তমানে সমদক্ষতায় ও সমভাবে প্রতিযোগিতা করছে। তাই আমরা উভয়ই এ অবদানকে কৃতজ্ঞচিত্তে স্মরণ করছি।

জনাব এম সাইফুর রহমানের মৃত্যু দেশ ও জাতির জন্য এক অপূরণীয় ক্ষতি ও বেদনাদায়ক। মহান রাব্বুল আল আমিন তাঁকে বেহেশত নসীব করুন ও তাঁর শোক সন্তও পরিবারকে এ শোক বহন করবার ক্ষমতা দান করুক, এ দোয়াই করছি।

বিটিএমএ'র পরিচালনা পর্ষদ ও সদস্যবৃন্দের পক্ষে
আব্দুল হাই সরকার, প্রেসিডেন্ট

Tributes pour in for Saifur

Burial today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders, workers and supporters of BNP and other political parties, colleagues and well-wishers yesterday paid homage to veteran political leader Saifur Rahman, who died in a road crash on Saturday.

He will be buried at his family graveyard in Moulvibazar today, and his Qulkhwan will be held on Friday at Azad Mosque at Gulshan in the capital after Asr prayers.

Yesterday, namaj-e-janaza for the former finance minister was held at three places in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Facts & Tips

MAJOR SYMPTOMS

High fever (temperature over 100°F or 37.8°C) with rash
Respiratory problems
Pain in throat
Diarrhoea
Coughing
Sneezing
Runny nose

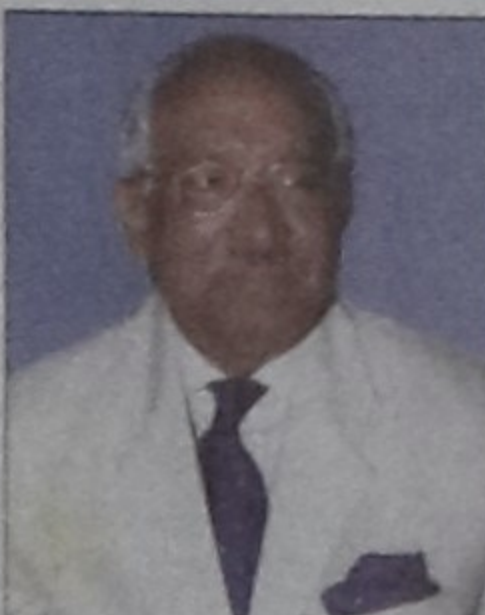
TREATMENT

If anyone has at least two or three of these symptoms, s/he can start taking paracetamol and then anti-viral drug Oseltamivir without consulting a doctor, says Health and Family Welfare Minister AFM

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

ICAB condoles the sad demise of its illustrious Member

Mr M Saifur Rahman FCA



The Council and the members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) condole with deep shock the sudden death of Mr. M Saifur Rahman FCA at around 3.00p.m. on September 05, 2009 in a road accident. (Innah Lillah He O Innah Elaihe Rajoun). A glorious Chartered Accountant of the country and a Past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) Late Mr M Saifur Rahman FCA became a man of the masses and earned the hearts of billions as their friend in need. He became a Member of Parliament many times and Minister for Planning and Finance of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for record 3 terms. The pioneer and promoter of the free market economy in Bangladesh Late Mr. M Saifur Rahman FCA was widely respected not only by the members of the accounting profession, but also by the high profile economists for his wisdom and farsightedness in economic issues.

A member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) Late Mr. M Saifur Rahman FCA steered the Institute as its President in 1974-1975. His contributions for the cause of the Accounting Profession in Bangladesh will be remembered for long. We deeply mourn his death. We somberly pray for the peace and tranquility of his departed soul. We pray whole heartedly for his bereaved family to uphold the strength to bear this irreparable loss of the family and the nation.

May Allah Bestow His Rahmat on the departed soul.

The Council and the Members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB)

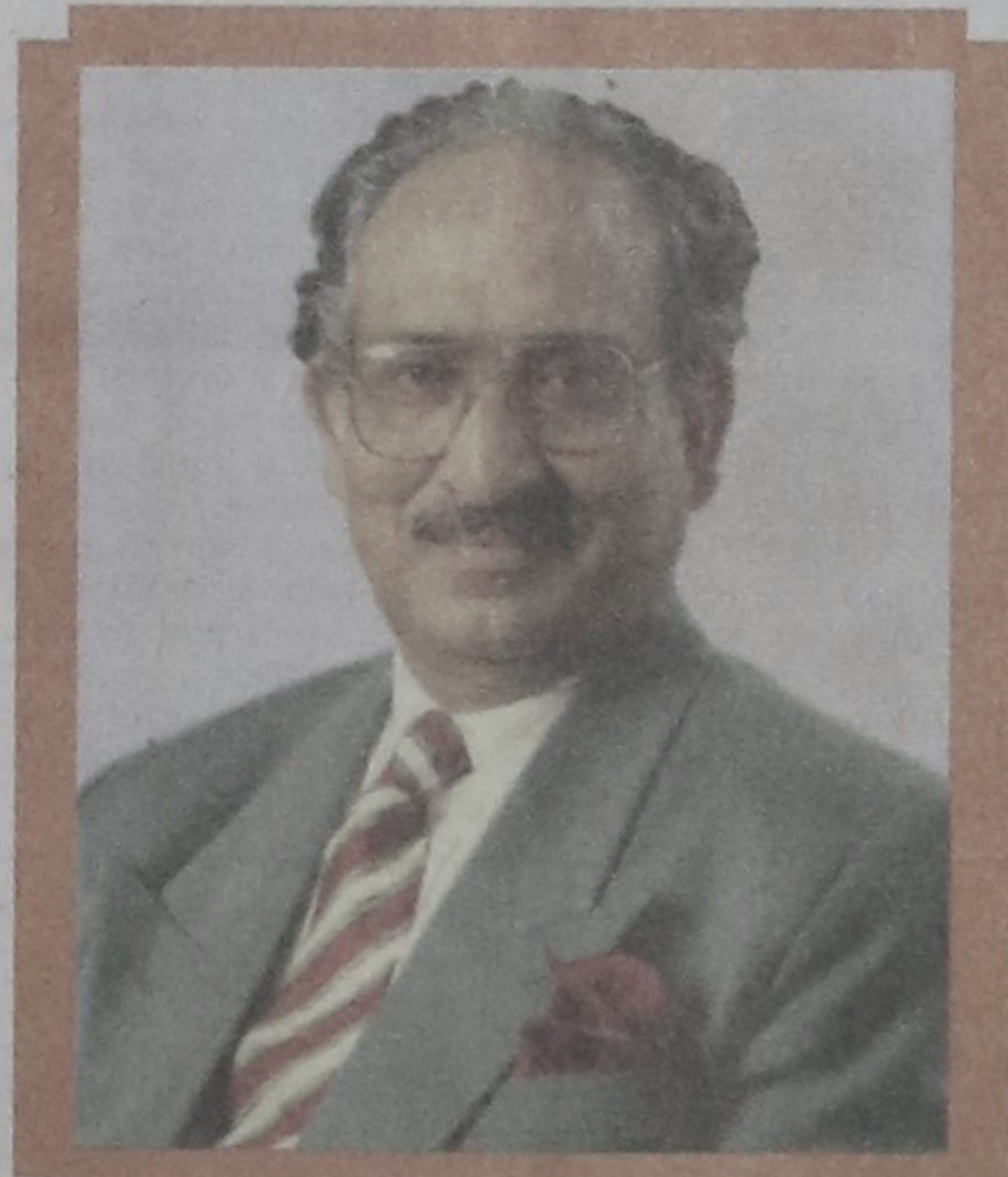
সোয়াইন ফ্লু সচেতনতায়



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M. Saifur Rahman FCA
(1932 - 2009)

We are deeply shocked at the sudden demise of Mr. M. Saifur Rahman, a founder partner of Rahman Rahman Huq which was founded in 1962.

We pray to Almighty Allah for resting his soul in peace.

Partners and staff

Rahman Rahman Huq, Chartered Accountants
(Member Firm of KPMG International)
9 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka.