

# Dhaka Test

**FROM PAGE 1**  
was a long hard day for the Tigers in the field. But it could have been a different story for Bangladesh had their fielders been alert to the situation or if luck had gone their way.

Bangladesh could have been in a position to fight back if the butter-fingered fielders backed a wholehearted effort from the bowlers, dubbed as the weakest in recent times due to absence of the country's premier pacer Mashafrat Bin Mortaza.

Bowling intelligently, the pacers created enough opportunities but the wickets of openers in the morning session and the last one of Harbhajan Singh was all they could show off at the end of the day.

Dravid survived a close run-out appeal when he was caught short of his ground by Shaiful Islam as the bowler seemed to get a feather touch on a straight drive from Gautam Gambhir to the wicket, but the replay was inconclusive and the decision went in favour of the batsman.

Dravid was on only 9 at that time. 19 runs later, the Wall of India had started walking back to the pavilion, only to be called back as the umpire raised his hand to indicate that the batsman was caught off a no-ball, only to null and void a superbly-grasped low diving catch in the slips by Zunaed Siddiqui.

Tendulkar was dropped twice. The master batsman looked unusually uncomfortable early on against the short-pitched stuff from the Bangladesh pacers. His composure cracked while he was on 27.

But Rinku Bhattacharya dropped the sitter at gully off the bowling of Rubel Hossain. It was the easiest of chances one might expect. Then again on 53, the same fielder floored him at the same location, this time the unlucky bowler was Shahadat Hossain.

Poor form with the bat is starting to have its impact on the catching of Rinku, one of the best fielders in the side.

The pacers came on with a definite plan in the morning and bombarded the Indian openers with well-directed bouncers, which they found hard to negotiate. Virender Sehwag (56) was undone by Shahadat while Gambhir (68) by young Shaiful, both in identical fashion, being squeezed into playing ungainly edges to the wicketkeeper.

Gambhir however equalled the world record of having a score of above fifty for the eleventh consecutive Test set by the West Indian great Sir Vivian Richards. However he missed a sixth consecutive hundred, which is held by the greatest batsman of all time Sir Donald Bradman.

Gambhir will have another chance though in the second innings, of course if India have

to bat again since they have already taken a big enough lead to have the ominous indications that this Test might be wrapped up early on Day Four or even before.

Tendulkar and Dravid, who have close to twenty five thousand runs between them in Test cricket, however left a lesson for the Bangladesh batsmen on how to build an innings in a fourth wicket partnership of 222 runs.

Dravid was removed, at least for the day, when a vicious bouncer from Shahadat Hossain had the batsman in doubt whether to duck or get his head out of the way. In the end, the ball hit the earguard of the uncertain batsman. He struck 12 boundaries.

Then Tendulkar was get rid off by the Bangladesh skipper Shakib Al Hasan as he charged down and chipped the ball to Imrul Kayes at midwicket. His innings featured 13 boundaries and six.

The Bangladesh skipper counted for Murali Vijay too as the batsman presented a simple catch to Mahmudullah Riyad at mid-on after scoring 30.

Shaiful came late to dismiss Harbhajan Singh for 13 for his second wicket of the day on what turned out to be the last ball of the day.

## Amended law

**FROM PAGE 16**  
eligibility to run academic activities."

The Act was introduced in 1992 and last amended in 1998 to ensure quality, eligibility and discipline regarding the appointment of teachers.

The amended Act states that each university will prepare a structure for tuition fees that is consistent with socio-economic conditions and will present it to the University Grants Commission and the government, sources at the ministry concerned said.

They said the Act also requires that each private university has a syndicate comprising its vice chancellor, Pro-VC, treasurer, a dean, a departmental head and a member of its academic council nominated by the VC, an educationist nominated by the government, three members nominated by the board of trustees and a member nominated by the UGC.

Each private university must also prepare a proper wage structure for teachers, officials and other employees and it must be submitted to UGC and the government.

The Act suggested forming a nine-member board of trustees along with a nominated chairman by its members.

The Act requires 20 years teaching or administrative experience or 10 years of teaching and 10 years of administrative experience to become a vice chancellor.

It suggested the formation of an accreditation council, which will evaluate the overall educational activities of private universities and raise the nation's university education to world standards, said the sources.

## 4 cops, 7 robbers

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Kachuridhala around 9:00am yesterday.

Sensing the presence of police, the robbers opened fire on the law enforcers prompting them to retaliate. The injured policemen were admitted to Ukhia Upazila Health Complex.

Police arrested three bullet-hit robbers from the spot while the other injured managed to flee.

Police recovered some looted valuables, a long gun, three sharp weapons and five cartridges from the spot.

In another incident, a fisherman was killed and four others were injured during a gunfight between the coast guard and a gang of pirates at Asharchar of Patharghata upazila under Barguna district early hours on Sunday, our Patuakhali correspondent reports.

The deceased was identified as Joyal Abedin Sikder, 50, of Ghatabacha village under Patharghata upazila of the district.

Abdul Khaleque, OC of Patharghata Police Station, said a gang of 40 pirates in two engine boats came to Asharchar around 2:00am and looted cash and cellphone sets from the fishermen.

The gang abducted 10 fishermen from the area demanding Tk 1 lakh as ransom for each.

Four fishermen were also injured as they tried to resist the gang.

A team of coast guard chased the pirates who were fleeing after looting and abducting the fishermen.

The robbers opened fire on the coast guard prompting them to retaliate.

Abdur Rashid Khan, station commander for coast guard in Patharghata, said around 500 rounds of bullet were exchanged during the hour-long gunfight.

Joydevpur police said a case was filed by Sujan's family while police filed another case in connection with obstructing police in doing their job.

## BNP didn't show

**FROM PAGE 1**  
does not need to stick forever to what they said. Position can change because of a new perspective."

In its election manifesto, the BNP had promised to introduce a provision for cancelling parliament membership of lawmakers for skipping House proceedings on 30 consecutive days. The BNP has been boycotting parliament since the first day of the budget session.

Asked about the rumour within the party that he was appointed to his current post only to keep pressure on Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, Alamgir said it is not true at all.

"The senior joint secretary general and seven joint secretaries general will act under the leadership of the secretary general. He is our leader and we are working under a fantastic coordination in accordance with his directions," Alamgir said.

On the AL-led government's success during the first year in office, Alamgir said, "I appreciate the government's decision to introduce farmers' card. I wanted to do this when I was the state minister for agriculture. The present government has given subsidy, which was also introduced during our rule."

Asked about giving party posts to controversial leaders, he said, "It is true that such allegations have been raised but we cannot say anyone is guilty before the allegations are proved by the highest court."

## 20,000 NGOs

**FROM PAGE 1**  
receiving allegations of irregularities against several NGOs.

According to the ordinance, all volunteer organisations and NGOs, registered under the Department of Social Welfare, need to submit their annual reports and financial records to the department. But many NGOs did not submit reports in the last 10 to 20 years, said a source at the department.

The social welfare secretary said, "Individuals or chiefs of NGOs have to be recommended by district commissioner now to get registered under the department."

High-ups at the social welfare ministry said problems arise over registration as seven other authorities apart from the Department of Social Welfare can register NGOs.

There are about 2,479 local and foreign NGOs under the NGO Affairs Bureau, 55,000 under the Department of Social Welfare, 1.52 lakh under the Department of Cooperatives, 10,000 under the Office of the Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firms, 501 under Micro-Credit Regulatory Authority, 16,030 under the Department of Women and Children Affairs and one lakh under the Department of Youth Development.

## Bird flu again

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Islam said, "Slack maintenance of bio-security would be the cause of the spreading and the authority would observe both the farms and the people involved with culling for a month."

Last year, infection was detected for the last time in the country in August in Bogra. But it was not a massive one, said the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research, Dhaka sources adding that the prevalence of H1N1 virus was lower last year comparing to that of the previous years.

They stressed the need for strict maintenance of the precautions by the poultry workers and the bio-security in the city markets, which are more vulnerable places.

Bird flu killed at least 287 people affecting 467 worldwide since it started ravaging poultry sector in Asia in the late 2003.

## Speaker urges

**FROM PAGE 1**  
parliament on various pretexts the since second session in June.

At the beginning of yesterday's sitting, the speaker congratulated the lawmakers on the occasion of completion of one year of the ninth parliament on Sunday.

He said 91 bills have been placed in parliament till the current session of this parliament and 69 of them have been passed.

The speaker said the House had 95 sittings till last Thursday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was present in 73 sittings while Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia joined only three sittings.

Citing formation of parliamentary standing committees in the inaugural session of the ninth parliament, Hamid said the committees have been playing an effective role. Opposition lawmakers are also playing due role by participating in the committees, he added.

Doctors on duty said Beli Akter's condition was critical.

Monwara said Anisur was threatening Beli, who divorced him on December 26. She said Anisur, a drug addict, used to torture Beli to get money for drugs. Anisur used to live separately as Beli did not like living in a joint family, she claimed.

Of them, one has died while six others are on the run.

# Graft, power abuse

**FROM PAGE 1**  
"Forget the bad practices by the past BNP government. We don't believe in abusing power. There are no shortcuts to getting jobs and everything must go according to the law," AL lawmaker Akram Hossain Chowdhury quoted his party president as saying.

The prime minister said BNP and Jamaat were waiting for issues to wage a movement. "The party must stay alert and united to face any propaganda."

Finance Minister AMA Muhith alleged that a section of party men had joined hands with the opposition leaders to work against the party and the government. They had also been engaged in irregularities in league with the opposition men, meetings sources said.

Hasina, also leader of the House, endorsed a proposal for parliamentary discussions on the joint communiqué signed between Bangladesh and India during her recent visit to New Delhi.

"Discussions on the communiqué will be held in the current session," AL lawmaker Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim told The Daily Star after the meeting.

Talking to The Daily Star, another ruling party legislator Israfil Alam said Tofail Ahmed mooted the proposal, and Hasina gave her consent as it would help counter the opposition's "propaganda" against her India visit.

In around 10-minute speech, the AL chief urged her party colleagues to communicate more with people and keep working for their welfare.

She also called on them to ensure proper implementation of the Tk 15-crore project that every lawmaker would be assigned for local development in the current fiscal year.

She advised them to do something creative with that money and not to forget the pledges they made to their constituents before the election.

A number of lawmakers expressed concern over slow pace of the employment generation schemes that the party pledged in its manifesto.

They urged the prime minister to expedite the MPO (monthly pay orders) process for educational institutions, meetings sources said.

Some lawmakers voiced frustration for not giving party men any favour in recruitment to the posts of health assistants. Atiur Rahman Atik raised the issue and others supported him.

They protested vehemently as Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque was talking about legal procedures in making the appointments.

At that point, the prime minister said all recruitment will be according to laws. One will have to pass the written test and viva voce to get a job. She asked the MPs not to lobby for any candidate.

She assured the lawmakers of finalising a policy in next 15 to 20 days to revive the privilege for them to import duty-free vehicles.

Mentioning the controversy during the BNP-Jamaat rule, she said, "This time no irregularities."

## Beli fighting

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Hospital while her parents struggle to bear the cost of blood transfusions and medicines.

Mirpur Police Station Sub-Inspector Ashok Chowhan, the investigation officer of the case, said police yesterday produced ex-husband Anisur Rahman before a Dhaka court, which sent him to jail.

Monwara Begum, mother of girl, said Anisur severed all five fingers of Beli's right hand, some flesh of her left hand and indiscriminately stabbed her 11 times with a long knife when she was on her way to work on Darussalam Road around 7:30am.

She has three stab wounds in her head and four on her shoulders, hospital sources said. They said eight bags of blood were given to her and she would need more blood.

Beli's mother told The Daily Star, "I gathered all the money I could to buy blood and medicines for my only daughter but we failed to manage the amount required. Beli's life is at stake."

She said, "We managed Tk 5,500 and the authorities of the garment factory she worked in gave Tk 5,000, that's all."

General manager of the factory Ashfiat Hossain said, "We donated Tk 5,000 for the treatment of Beli, who worked here only for the last three months."

Doctors on duty said Beli Akter's condition was critical.

Monwara said Anisur was threatening Beli, who divorced him on December 26. She said Anisur, a drug addict, used to torture Beli to get money for drugs. Anisur used to live separately as Beli did not like living in a joint family, she claimed.

larities in the import of duty-free cars will be tolerated."

Hasina said her government will arrange bank loans for the MPs who cannot afford to buy duty-free vehicles.

She asked lawmakers and ministers to join AL's January 30 extended meeting and make preparations to face the grassroots level leaders and workers. "Grassroots workers may express resentment over your performance in the constituencies. I want you to face them positively."

Some MPs criticised the agriculture and education ministers. They alleged persons with Jamaat allegiance were getting postings in the agriculture ministry, while the education minister was giving transfer facilities to officials who are not loyal to the ruling AL.

Briefing the lawmakers, Finance Minister Muhith said the country's economy has been on the right track and would improve further in the coming days.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Chief Whip Abdus Shahid said the ALPP meeting was held to mark completion of one year of the ninth parliament.

"The prime minister told the meeting that 183 of 317 cabinet decisions have already been carried out and the rest are under implementation," he added.

## Feni BDR trial

**FROM PAGE 16**  
The four who still plead not guilty are -- Habildar Md Ruhul Amin, sepoy Md Mohiuddin Rony, Bashir Ahmed and Mizanur Rahman.

All 62 accused were taken to the court from the Feni jail. Fifty-eight accused, who pleaded guilty, sat separately in the court, headed by BDR Director General Maj Gen M Mainul Islam.

Two other members of the court are BDR officials Lt Col Md Akhteruzzaman and Maj Md Maqsood Alam.

The prosecution said the accused were involved in the mutiny in their battalion at Joylaskar of Dagonbhuiyan upazila following the bloody mutiny at the Pilkhana BDR headquarters.

The accused were allowed to cross-examine witnesses. Maj Awal Uddin Ahmed of Bangladesh Rifles, appointed as "friend of the accused", helped them in cross-examination.

The court adjourned proceedings till March 28.

Lt Col Gazi Md Salahuddin, commander of 19 Rifle Battalion, was present there as prosecutor while Deputy Attorney General Farhad Ahmed helped the court as a representative from the attorney general's office.

## Bangabandhu BB nod

**FROM PAGE 16**  
against its judgement confirming their death sentence.

The apex court yesterday adjourned the hearing till today.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam yesterday told The Daily Star that he has already informed the court order to the information secretary so that the secretary can request the media to refrain from publishing any photo of the Manila rope.

During the hearing, advocate Abdur Razaque Khan, counsel for convict Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan, told the Appellate Division that a popular television channel and a few newspapers recently published reports sensitising this case.

The attorney general told the court that no state-run media has published such reports, but he would communicate the order to the information ministry to take steps in this regard.

During the hearing, Razaque argued before the court that his client's involvement in the incidents of killing of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members was not proved.

He said his client was forced to make confessional statement upon which he was tried and given death sentence.

Razaque concluded his arguments claiming the SC judgement faulty on the ground that this court in the verdict did not accept full statements and cross-examinations of the investigation officer of the case.

Advocate Khan Saifur Rahman, counsel for two convicts Syed Farooq Rahman and Mohiuddin Ahmed, yesterday started arguments saying that the incidents of August 15, 1975, was a successful mutiny, and this case has to be tried under the army act.

The SC on November 19 last year in a verdict confirmed capital punishment of 12 former army officers including the five.

Of them, one has died while six others are on the run.

# Gunmen kill 'thug'

## Businessman shot

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An unidentified man was killed and another one injured when gunmen shot them last night at Dhanmondi in the capital.

Police claim that the 32-year-old deceased was a criminal of Mirpur while the injured was identified as Enayet Hossain, 28, also a criminal.

Witnesses said three to four young men ran away shooting the two when they were talking in front of Junior Laboratory High School around 8:00pm.

A security guard of a nearby building said he heard eight to nine shots and the men running away.

Dhaka Medical College Hospital sources said the deceased received four shots while the injured was shot twice.

Dhanmondi Police Station Officer-in-Charge Shah Alam said the man died on the spot while injured Enayet is in DMCH under police custody.

"The deceased and the injured are extortionists of Mirpur area," the OC claimed. He said they are trying to identify the deceased, his killers and also the reason for the attack.

Meanwhile, two criminals shot at a businessman at Anarkoli Supermarket in Siddheshwari around 9:30pm. Police said Mohammad Mamun, 45, was admitted to DMCH.

## Pinky's suicide

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Murad told reporters on Sunday he had "relation" with Pinky and had saved several telephonic conversations and photographs in his cellphone's memory card as evidence.

Sayed told The Daily Star they have so far found four cellphone numbers used by Murad and sent those to Detective Branch to track call records if he had really talked with Pinky.

The investigator added he would interrogate Sheuly, a domestic help of Murad's employer, who allegedly assisted Murad in the "affair".

The police could not confirm whether the suicide note was really written by Pinky or someone else.

Deputy Commissioner Chowdhury Monjurul Kabir of Tejgazon DMP said, "Murad is giving misleading information regarding his relation with Pinky, but we hope we will be able to find out the real fact behind the suicide."

Pinky's family claims Murad teased and slapped her that led to the suicide, while Murad claims it was "an emotional expression of his love".

## BB nod

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Another BB official said as these banks purchased lands their price in the areas concerned went up in last few years.

The central bank has also received allegations of corruption in the purchase of lands by banks. In many cases owners are selling low quality lands or lands with legal complications to banks at higher prices.

A section of officials of these banks are also allegedly purchasing such lands for personal gains.

## Bribery case

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Officer and Assistant Superintendent of CID Syed Momin Hossain failed to submit the report to the court yesterday.

Babar was produced before the court during yesterday's hearing while Abu Sufian and Qazi Kamal, who were granted bail by the High Court, were absent.

General Recording Officer Ratan Sheikh of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka, said he did not find any documents which show Shah Alam having bail in the case from any other courts or being on the run.

On May 8, 2008, CID Assistant Superintendent Arman Ali filed the case with Ramna Police Station against the accused.

Earlier on May 6 the same year, Anti-Corruption Commission pressed charges against former prime minister Khaleda Zia's son Tarique Rahman, Babar, Saleemul Huq, Shah Alam and his two sons Shafiat Sobhan Sanvir and Sadaat Sobhan, Abu Sufian and Tarique's personal secretary Mia Nur Uddin Apu.

The anti-graft body said the eight were involved with the bribery to save Sanvir from the charges of killing Sabbar.

On July 5, 2006, Sabbar's body was found outside a building in Bashundhara residential area.

Seven joint secretaries general are: Amanullah Aman, Mizanur Rahman Minu, Barkatulla Bulu, Md Shahjahan, Salauddin Ahmed, Mahbubuddin Khokon and Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed.

lost his parents, five sisters and a brother in the atrocity and who continues to require medical treatment for his injuries.

Fadhel Rifat, 27, who now lives in Sulaimaniyah, the eponymous Kurdish province in which Halabja is situated, was also just a young boy at the time of the attack.

"My father and many relatives died because of Chemical Ali," he said. "I am happy that he is dead."

Three-quarters of the victims at Halabja were women and children, in what is thought to be the deadliest ever gas attack against civilians.

The conviction for the gas attack, that came as the Iran-Iraq war drew to a close, was the fourth time that Majid, who was arrested in August 2003, had received a death sentence.

Handing down the ruling, Judge Abud Mustapha al-Hamami branded Majid's offences as "deliberate murder, a crime against humanity" when the verdict was delivered amid muffled applause in the courtroom.

Majid's execution had previously been held up by legal wrangling. It had first been due to be carried out by October 2007 but was delayed so as not to coincide with the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Saddam, his close cousin, was himself hanged in December 2006 for the killing of 148 Shiite villagers after an attempt on his life in 1982.

# Chemical Ali

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Spades in the pack of cards of "most wanted" Iraqis issued by the US military in 2003, and will forever be associated with mass killings.

He was "executed by hanging until death," government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said. "The execution happened without any violations, shouting or cries of joy," in sharp contrast to Saddam's death on the gallows, he added.

State television later aired two still photographs of Majid, in which he was wearing an orange-red jumpsuit and the first of which clearly displayed his face.

The second picture showed him on a platform, with a black hood over his head and with two men wearing balaclavas standing on either side.

The execution, which was welcomed by Kurdish victims, came as three massive car bombs targeting hotels rocked central Baghdad, killing at least 36 people and wounding 71 in an apparently coordinated but as yet unclaimed attack.

Majid was sentenced to death on January 17 for ordering the gassing of Kurds in the northeastern town of Halabja which killed an estimated 5,000 people and was one of the worst crimes of Saddam's iron-fisted regime.

"I was happy to see the news of the execution on television," said Kamal Abdelkadir, 24, who

## Car bombs

**FROM PAGE 16**  
suicide bomber drove his minibus at the hotel seconds later and detonated it.

The first explosion in Abu Nawaz shook ground miles away from the site of the blast and sent plumes of smoke rising hundreds of metres (yards) into the sky.

Monday's attacks differed from recent high-profile bombings in Baghdad in that they targeted hotels rather than government buildings.

Nearly 400 people were killed and more than 1,000 were wounded last year in coordinated vehicle bombings at government buildings, including the ministries of finance, foreign affairs, and justice in August, October and December.

The latest attacks occurred less than two weeks after security forces sealed off Baghdad after being tipped-off that bomb-laden cars had been parked in the city.

Insurgents, weakened in the past year, have in the past six months changed tactics and mounted successful attacks on "hard" targets such as government buildings, rather than so-called soft targets in civilian areas.