

# Living with remains

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Abdur Rahim, 35, left behind his wife Hasina Akhter Lucky, 25, three-month-old son Arafat and 70-year-old mother. The family now faces a welter of uncertainty.

During a visit to the family, Lucky was found weeping with her three-month-old baby on the lap, while her mother-in-law was just sitting beside her lost and speechless.

"We have a few cases of soft drinks stored for the shop but no food or money," said Lucky, who does not know how to brave forward with two children and aged parents-in-law.

In another part of the area yesterday afternoon, A-level student Adeb Rahman, 18, was seen almost going insane in front of the five-storey abandoned building from where the fire broke out.

He tried to storm into the sealed-off building apparently to kill its owners. As he was resisted, he swooped on the members of army, police and Rab and some locals. He desperately kicked them off and tried to beat them up with a chair. At one stage he fell unconscious.

Dhaka City Corporation Ward-69 councillor Mohammad Mahan told The Daily Star, "The boy lost his mental balance after witnessing the catastrophe."

"Adeb rescued his mother Fouzia Rahman, sister Alvi Rahman and domestic help Jyotsna from their house in a three-storey building," Mohan said.

His mother and sister are undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, but Jyotsna died a day after the inferno.

Seventy-year-old Shamsunnahar, who miraculously survived with her 12-

## ACC serves

**FROM PAGE 16**  
On February 7, the ACC began probing the alleged misappropriation of Tk 2.5 crore after receiving an investigation report from parliament.

The four-member team headed by Deputy Director Moniruzzaman Khan had to submit an incomplete report in April, as it could not complete examination of the 784-page parliamentary report in one month time limit that the ACC act permits.

The committee began second phase of its enquiry in April and has almost completed the job, sources said.

The probe has found evidence to bring charges against the three, they added.

According to the anti-graft law, the ACC files cases if enquiry finds enough evidence. And once a case is filed, it goes for full-fledged investigation.

The AL-led grand alliance government formed a parliamentary probe committee led by the ruling party lawmaker Fazle Rabbi Mia on March 19 last year to investigate the alleged corruption in Parliament Secretariat during the seven years from November 2001 and January 25, 2009.

The JS probe body submitted its report with huge documents on July 9.

# Reckless driving

**FROM PAGE 1**  
issued the original order.

Reckless driving and speeding are major causes of road accidents that, according to police records, claim 3,500 lives a year, Prof Shamsul Hoque, director of the Accident Research Institute of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, told The Daily Star yesterday.

He also said a World Bank survey conducted in 2002 found that around 10,000 persons are killed annually in road accidents across the country, which also causes an annual financial loss of Tk 7,500 crore.

According to BRTA, there are over 12 lakh motor vehicles in the country, and the agency will not be able to install the speed monitoring device in all those vehicles by the current deadline.

So it will go to the court again before June 30 seeking an extension of the deadline, and permission for installing the device in all motor vehicles in phases, starting with 71,505 trucks.

"We already held a meeting with representatives of five companies that are equipped to provide vehicle speed monitoring services, and discussed how we can start installing the device in trucks," Director (Engineering) of BRTA Saiful Haque told The Daily Star recently.

Although it is not yet fixed how much it will cost to install the device in a vehicle, BRTA sources said the cost will probably be between Tk 10,000 and Tk 12,000, and there will also be a monthly

member family, was mummbling continuously at the ruins of her house. She was seen narrating how they escaped the devastating blaze.

"It was a storm with waves of fire. We all 12 were in the house when the fire started. Suddenly we sensed danger and just ran out of the house and through a narrow lane. I cannot say how I could run so fast at the age of 70."

She added, "Though I have lost my house and everything we had, it does not worry me. But I cannot bear the pain from seeing the dead bodies of my neighbours and their children," said Shamsunnahar, sobbing.

Meanwhile, the army have set up a counselling centre in the Ponchayet Committee office to counsel the survivors suffering psychologically. Two doctors from the Army Medical Corps were found counselling there.

DCC councillor Mohan said so far four survivors were counselled at the Ponchayet Committee office where the army personnel set up a coordination centre.

Officials from the coordination centre say they are also continuing supply of food to the survivors.

Two burn victims were released from the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, while 23 others were still undergoing treatment.

Besides, 12 others are also receiving treatment the Combined Military Hospital (CMH).

## Sisters'

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time, as groom Jamil's family was in two minds about timing of the ceremony after losing nine family members in the fire that killed 119.

Talking to The Daily Star late last night, PMO Director General Deena Huq said Jamil's family has given their consent and the weddings will be held at Gonobhaban tonight.

"Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is very sincere about the weddings and she will do everything for them," she added.

Deena said a team from the PMO has bought almost everything necessary for the wedding.

Former Awami League lawmaker Haji Selim, a member of the shopping team, said they have spent around Tk 8 lakh on gold ornaments, cosmetics and wedding clothes.

"Around 500 people, including family members and relatives of the brides and grooms and local dignitaries will attend the ceremony to be held according to old Dhaka customs," Selim added.

The fire broke out during Runa's engagement ceremony on June 3.

Ratna's wedding had been planned for June 22. Local youth Saidur Rahman Suman is her bridegroom.

service charge of around Tk 600.

The device is the size of a cigarette packet, the sources added.

Data about a vehicle's location and speed are computed by the unit using signals received from global positioning system via satellites. It processes the data, and transmits it via a communication network to a web server, and a control room retrieves the data from the server. The system cannot control the speed of a vehicle.

As the incidents of speeding will be recorded in the control room, the authorities will later fine the owners of the speeding vehicles.

Currently the penalty for speeding is Tk 500 fine, and if caught by police sergeants with yellow vests the fine is Tk 1,000.

The details of the penalty system for speeding following installation of the device in all motor vehicles, is yet to be worked out.

Five companies are now providing the speed monitoring service, and the device in the country.

The companies informed BRTA that each of them has the capacity of installing the device in three lakh automobiles.

According to the Motor Vehicle Ordinance 1983, the maximum speed for light vehicles like cars and motor cycles is 113 kilometres per hour (kmph), for buses and minibuses it is 56 kmph, for heavy vehicles like trucks it is 40 kmph, and for fire brigade vehicles 48 kmph.

## Full-fledged National HR Commission by this month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will constitute a full-fledged national human rights commission (NHRC) through appointing a new chairman and six members within this month, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed said yesterday.

As per provision of the law concerned, the NHRC will be comprised of a chairman, one permanent member and five non-permanent members, the minister said.

"I have already talked to the Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad, who is the chief of the NHRC selection committee, about appointment of its chairman and members."

Shafique said this while talking to newsmen after a meeting with Swedish Ambassador Britt Hagstrom at his Secretariat office.

The law minister said the NHRC's incumbent chairman Justice Amirul Kabir Chowdhury will go into retirement on June 20, and its two members (Prof Niru Kumar Chakma and Munira Khan) have already retired.

So, all the posts of chairman and members of NHRC will become vacant after June 20, the minister said, adding that the selection committee would soon hold a meeting to select the chairman and members of the commission.

The government would appoint an ombudsman to probe the allegations against any governmental, semi-governmental or statutory body, Shafique said.

The government is now looking for a suitable person for the post, he added.

He also said that Tk 10 crore would be allocated in the next budget for the expenditure of holding the trial for crimes against humanity and war crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

Referring to his recent visit to Uganda, Shafique said all the representatives from the participating countries, who attended the review conference on international criminal court in Kampala, have extended their support to the Bangladesh government for holding the trial.

Replying to a question, he said the investigation into the crimes against humanity has been going on smoothly. The investigators will say when they would submit the charge sheets, he added.

## Mahmudur

**FROM PAGE 1**  
With this, Mahmudur Rahman was remanded for twelve days' in four cases filed with different police stations on different dates.

Biman Bandar police on Monday filed the sedition case against Mahmudur Rahman and 15 other government high officials in connection with a "secret meeting" at a private firm office at Uttara, Dhaka on November 2006.

In his forwarding report, Sub-Inspector Azizur Rahman Sarkar, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, said that Mahmudur Rahman was holding a meeting with various government officials of different levels on November 24, 2006 at his Artisan Ceramics in the city's Uttara area.

They were conspiring against the caretaker government ahead of the national elections, which was at that time scheduled for January 22, 2007.

Of them, Mahmudur Rahman was the patron of the secret meeting. So, he needs to be remanded for ten days to find out the purposes of conspiracy and to arrest the absconding accused mentioned in the case, the IO said.

On the other hand, Mahmudur Rahman termed the allegations brought in the case false and fabricated. He thought that his dead body would come out from the jail.

He was brought to the court on a prison van with general prisoners at 9:30am. But he was not provided with water.

Mahmudur Rahman was also placed on a four-day remand in another case filed with Uttara Police Station for creating subversive activities across the country. But police sought a ten-day remand.

In the forwarding report, Detective Branch Inspector Nurul Amin, also the IO of the case, said that Mahmudur Rahman has a link with Hizb ut-Tahrir leaders including its chief Prof Mohiuddin Ahmed.

Moreover, Amar Desh printing press printed leaflets of banned Hizb ut-Tahrir organisation. So, he needs to be remanded to find out the clues about his links with the militant organisation, the IO said.

On Monday, he was remanded for four days in two cases filed with Kotwali and Tejgaon police stations on charges of obstructing policemen from discharging their duties on June 2.



Doctors inspect Irshad Ahmed at the ICU of Birdem Hospital in Dhaka after transplanting his liver on Thursday. This is the first successful surgery of its kind in the country.

PHOTO: COURTESY

## Local doctors

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Patients suffering from Hepatitis B, liver cancer or liver cirrhosis would soon be able to have liver transplantation at Tk 30 to 35 lakh, said experts.

Prof AK Khan said after procuring some sophisticated equipment within four to five months, Birdem would go for full-fledged liver transplantation.

A 24-member team conducted the surgery for long 17 hours and both the patient Irshad Ahmed, 42, and donor his uncle Khaled Abdullah, 29, are now in good condition.

Irshad Ahmed is kept in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) while Khaled had been shifted to a cabin from the ICU, said the doctors.

The transplant cost Irshad only Tk 16 lakh as the instruments used for the surgery were provided free of charge by different organisations.

Dutch Bangla Bank provided a huge amount of money to the DAB while Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, National Heart Foundation of Bangladesh, Gastro liver Hospital and

Research Institute and Popular Diagnostic Centre provided support with their equipment.

Since a person can live with 700 grams of liver, the right lobe of the donor's liver was taken and transplanted into the recipient. The liver of the donor will grow to its former size within six to twelve weeks, said Prof Ali.

A successful liver transplantation increases 85 percent chances of living for a year, 69 percent chances for five years and 61 percent for ten years, the experts said.

In developed countries, liver transplant from a living donor started from the 1980s. But it is still highly expensive. Even in India it takes about Tk 1 crore.

Bangladesh could not go for liver transplantation for lack of trained manpower. So a significant number of patients with liver cirrhosis were going to Singapore, Bangkok and India for transplantation.

There are more than one lakh liver patients in Bangladesh who need immediate transplantation, the experts said.

## Power project

**FROM PAGE 16**  
The construction of a 0.84 lakh tonnes capacity new food godown at Halishahar CSD Compound in Chittagong at a cost of Tk 218 crore will start in July 2010 and it is scheduled to be completed by June 2012.

Under the project, 77 food silos each of 1,000 tonnes capacity and 14 food silos of 5,000 tonnes capacity each will be set up.

Under another project 1.35 lakh tonnes capacity new food godowns will be set up at a cost of Tk 283 crore.

A total of 108 food silos of 1,000 tonnes capacity each and 54 food silos of 500 tonnes capacity each will be set up on the land of the food directorate at different areas of Bangladesh. The project will be completed by 2013.

According to the project documents, the food storage capacity of the country was 15.57 lakh tonnes in 1990 and now it is 14.73 lakh tonnes.

The projects have been taken to ensure food security and control market of food grains with addition of five lakh tonnes food storage capacity in next five years.

The other approved projects include Shunt Compensation at Grid Substation (132KV) by capacitor Bank Phase-1 (revised) project involving (Tk 54 crore), Ishwardi-Baghabari-Sirajganj-Bogra 230KV Distribution Line (revised) project (Tk 483 crore) and Rural Electrification Up-gradation project (Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna and Barisal Divisions) (Tk 1,322 crore) under the power division.

The other projects are Integrated Protected Area Management (IPAC) Nishorgo project under the environment and forest ministry.

## 13 die

**FROM PAGE 1**  
had sanctioned Tk 2,000 to each family of the deceased for burial.

About 30 students of Badshaganj Girls' High School and Badshaganj Pilot High School were on the boat on their way to school, said Shamsuddin Ahmed, principal of Badshaganj Degree College. The boys managed to swim ashore, he said.

Contacted, Dharmapasha Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Babul Mia said 13 bodies had been recovered till 5:00pm yesterday. The strong current in the haor is making the rescue job harder. However, the sunken trawler had been salvaged, he added.

Three girl students, a 22-year-old youth and a two and a half-year-old girl had been admitted to the upazila health complex, said the UNO.

try (Tk 61 crore), construction of 11 Regional Passport Offices in different districts and divisional cities under the home ministry (Tk 54 crore), Joydevpur-Mymensingh Road Improvement Project under the communications ministry (Tk 902 crore) and Skills & Training Enhancement Project under the education ministry (Tk 634 crore).

## Anti-stalking Day

**FROM PAGE 16**  
he told reporters after the meeting.

The programmes include processions, meetings, oath-taking ceremonies, and leaflet and poster distribution. People including students, teachers and parents, civil society members and celebrities are expected to gather at Central Shaheed Minar that day. A colourful procession will also be brought out from Muktangan which will march to Central Shaheed Minar, the minister said.

Nahid urged all to observe the day to ensure an education-friendly atmosphere in the country for female students.

The minister himself will conduct an oath-taking ceremony at the Shaheed Minar, sources said.

## Outline Taliban reintegration plan

### US to Afghanistan

AFP, Madrid

The Afghan government must outline how international funding for a plan to reintegrate Taliban fighters who renounce violence will be overseen before it can begin operating, US special envoy Richard Holbrooke said Monday.

"The details of how it will be administered and overseen are quite important to the donor governments so there is no question of the diversion of funds," he told a Madrid news conference.

The US envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan said he expected the details of how the so-called Afghanistan Peace and Reconciliation Programme will be run to be announced before an international conference in Kabul on July 20.

"We emphasize the absolute essentiality of the programme actually being signed into law, in detail, and up and running by the time we get to Kabul. This is much too important a programme for delays," he said.

## Jubo League men hack RU journo

A CORRESPONDENT, RU

A group of Jubo League activists hacked a journalist at Binodpur Bazar near Rajshahi University yesterday.

Witnesses said Binodpur Bazar unit Jubo League cadres, led by Sujan and Suman, hacked Belal Hossain, the Rajshahi University correspondent of the Financial Express at around 12:30pm.

Belal was rushed to the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.

He was collecting information about a protest programme by several hundred RU students against load-shedding.

Sources said agitating students blocked the Dhaka-Rajshahi highway at around 11:30pm. The Jubo League activists confronted the agitation and chased them and hacked Belal with machete.

RU Proctor Chowdhury Zakaria said that the authorities would take strict action after investigation.

## Creative questions in class-10 exams

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to introduce creative question method in pre-test and test examinations of class ten this year.

The examinations in five subjects -- general science, social science, geography, chemistry and business introduction -- will be held under the new method with uniform question papers.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the chairmen of all education boards at the education ministry yesterday with Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid in the chair, meeting sources said.

The creative method was already applied in this year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations in two papers -- Bangla 1st paper and religious studies. And next year SSC examinations in five subjects will be held under this method.

According to this method, each question in the narrative section has four segments of a particular topic.

Textbooks do not contain any sample question about the segments, and students who have thoroughly studied the books can answer those questions.

The government intends to introduce the method in pre-test and test examination to familiarise students with it at an early stage, meeting sources noted.

The method will be applied in SSC examinations in all subjects in phases to stop students' dependence on memorisation.

The meeting also decided to take punitive action against teachers of government schools, especially reputed ones, if they refuse to examine answer sheets of public examinations, and to perform duties in the examination halls, the sources said.

And it decided to transfer 13 teachers of such schools in the capital for doing so.

Students of unregistered schools can take part in Junior School Certificate Examinations through nearby registered schools by paying additional fee of Tk 50, the meeting decided.

## 20 injured

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Police arrested four activists -- Arif Ahmed, Shafi Ahmed, Rahman Ali and Selim Mia -- during the half-an-hour clash.

The BCL activists later blocked Kin Bridge area in the city around 3:30pm demanding release of the arrestees.

They, however, left the area after Rab-9 personnel had arrived there.

# Magistrate, SP

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the crime.

It directed the deputy commissioner of Rangpur to shift the victim, now in Rangpur central jail, to safe custody under a government or non-government organisation.

Besides, the court issued a rule upon the government to explain why sending the victim to jail should not be declared illegal, and why it should not be directed to ensure proper custody for her.

An HC bench comprised of Justice AHM Shamuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Md Delwar Hossain issued the orders and the rule.

The daily Jugantor on June 4 published a report saying that local Jubo League leader Md Bullet Miah of Kawnia upazila in Rangpur violated the 22-year-old woman, keeping her confined for 10 days last month.

The HC ordered the chief judicial magistrate to explain to it why he sent the woman to jail custody on May 31.

And it asked the chairman of forensic department at Rangpur Medical College (RMC) to produce the medical report on the victim.

Respondents to the HC orders and rule include the secretaries to the ministries of home, law, social welfare and women and children affairs, inspector general of police, the DC, SP, OC and chief judicial magistrate concerned, superintendent of Rangpur jail, RMC chairman of forensic medicine department and accused Bullet Miah.

The court came up with the orders and rule following a writ petition filed by three Supreme Court lawyers -- Mahbub Shafique, KM Hafizul Alam and Imranul Hye Sajib -- seeking its directives on the government to take action concerning the incident.

They filed the petition as a public interest litigation on the basis of the newspaper report.

The petition stated that the victim filed a case with Kawnia police on May 31.

But police have not yet arrested accused Bullet Miah, it mentioned.

The petitioners themselves moved the petition, while Deputy Attorney General Nazrul Islam Talukder repre-

sented the government.

A UNB report says: In compliance with a High Court order, a rape victim kept in Rangpur central jail was shifted to an NGO-run safe home at 5:00pm yesterday.

Contacted over phone, BM Enamul Huq, deputy commissioner of Rangpur, confirmed this, and said the safe home is run by Rangpur-Dinajpur Rehabilitation Service.

## Girl hacked

**FROM PAGE 16**

The victim girl was rushed to the district Sadar Hospital where her condition was not out of danger, said its residential medical officer Dr Kashem Ali.

Local people caught stalker Jahedul Islam Rana, son of another employee of the railway, of Bonarpura village in Gaibandha and handed him over to police after giving a good beating.

Police said the girl, a class-iv employee, reached the bus stand by a bus around 8:30 am for going to her railway mechanical engineering office while Jahedul was waiting there for her.

Jahedul asked her to go with him but she declined his proposal. Being angered, the stalker hacked her indiscriminately, including her head and back, in presence of local people.

The thumb of her right hand was chopped off in the attack and she became senseless, witnesses said.

"Jahedul had been stalking me for the last six months. He went to our house on Monday night and offered to marry me. I and my parents have refused his proposal," said the girl to The Daily Star.

Victim's mother said parents of Jahedul are known to them, as his father Abdur Rouf is also a railway employee.

Jahedul tried to marry her daughter several times, she said adding the stalker did not stop in his attempt though they and their daughter refused the proposal.

Jahedul claimed that he had an affair with the girl for five years but she refused his proposal as she has developed a new affair with a railway staff of Lalmonirhat station.

A case has been filed with Sadar Police Station in this connection, police said.

# Chinese vice president

**FROM PAGE 16**

Chinese leader holds a very important position of Communist Party of China (CPC) and is expected to hold the Presidency in 2012," said a high official at the PM's Office.

Official sources said the visit by Xi Jinping is apparently the return visit against our PM's visit to China in March.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Qin Gang at a press conference in Beijing yesterday announced that Vice President Xi Jinping will pay official visits to the four countries--Bangladesh, Laos, New Zealand and Australia--from June 14 to 24. He is coming to Bangladesh at the invitation of Bangladesh premier.

This is the first visit by a Chinese state leader since the Awami League-led grand alliance assumed power in January last year. The Chinese vice president will lead a 35-member high profile delegation.

"Bangladesh puts great emphasis on Chinese vice president's visit and believes it is a good opportunity to promote our bilateral relations," said a high official at the Foreign Ministry.

"We hope to enhance political mutual trust, boost mutually-b