



Three newlywed couples pose with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the wedding ceremony at Gano Bhaban in the city yesterday. On her left are Asma and Alamgir and on her right are Jamil, Runa, Sumon and Ratna. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR

BNP trying to make CCC polls an issue: Mohiuddin

Help develop Ctg as planned city, Manjur tells voters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Ruling Awami League-backed mayoral candidate ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury yesterday criticised the opposition BNP leaders, saying that they were trying to make the Chittagong City Corporation election an issue for an anti-government movement.

He made the comment as the BNP leaders have been warning that they would launch an anti-government movement if the election is rigged.

Addressing a press conference at the Nagerik Committee office at Nandankanan, Mohiuddin urged all to foil any conspiracy against a free and fair election.

Meanwhile, local leaders of the Jatiya Party carried out campaign for Mohiuddin at Amin Jute Mills area.

At a street rally, the speakers urged the people to cast vote for Mohiuddin to ensure planned development of the port city.

Former JP lawmakers Majharul Hoque Shah Chowdhury, Sirajul Islam Chowdhury and Nazrul Islam spoke at the rally.

Two AL lawmakers Engineer Mosharraf Hossain and ABM Fazle Karim Chowdhury also conducted mass contact in support of

Mohiuddin in different city areas, including Sadarghat, Madarbari, Banglabazar, Majhirhat, Firingibazar, Alkaran and Lalidighi.

Mohiuddin's wife Hasina Mohiuddin conducted a campaign at Bakalia ward.

On the other hand, BNP-backed mayoral candidate Mohammad Manjur Alam Manju carried out a campaign in ten wards, including Alkaran, Firingee Bazar, Patharghata, Asadganj and Anderkilla.

He urged the people to vote for him to help develop Chittagong as a planned city and make Chittagong City Corporation free from corruption and nepotism.

BNP vice-chairman Abdulllah Al Noman carried out mass contact and campaign for Manjur in Kazir Dighi, Sagarika Road, Murgi Farm, Pathanpara, Alonker intersection and other areas under South Kattoli Ward.

Addressing a street rally, Noman said Chittagong can be developed as a modern city under the leadership of an honest and competent candidate like Manjur.

BNP standing committee member Salauddin Quader Chowdhury and Chittagong city BNP president Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, also conducted mass contact for Manjur.

CANTONMENT HOUSE

Hearing adjourned till July 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

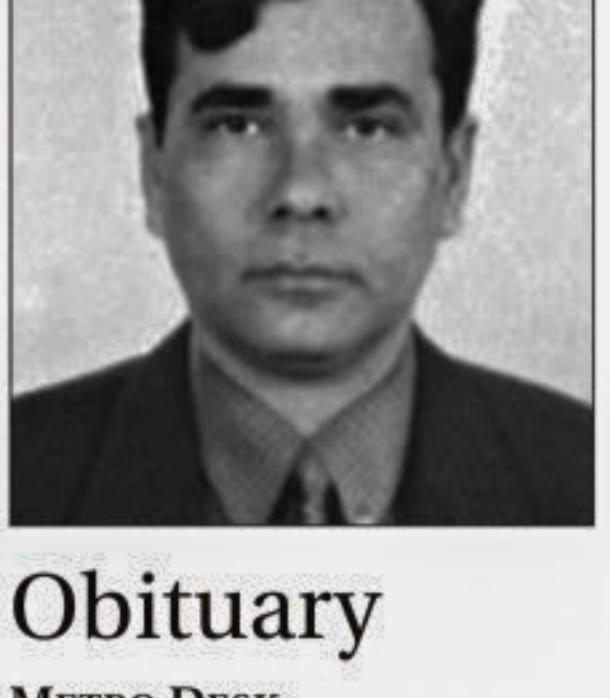
The High Court (HC) yesterday adjourned till July 6 the hearing on the writ petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia challenging the legality of a government notice concerning the cantonment house.

The bench of Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Sheikh Hasan Arif fixed July 6 for further hearing on the matter, following a time prayer moved by Advocate TH Khan, a counsel for Khaleda Zia.

TH Khan prayed to the court to adjourn the hearing since this court will go for a three-week vacation from next week.

The bench began hearing on the petition on June 6.

On May 27 last year, the HC stayed the government notice asking Khaleda to vacate the cantonment house and issued a rule upon the government to explain why its notice should not be declared illegal.



Obituary

METRO DESK

AFM Mozammel Huq, executive director of ETBL Holdings Ltd. and ETBL Securities & Exchange Limited, passed away on Tuesday at the age of 61, says a press release.

He was laid to rest in the Azimpur (Old) Graveyard the same day after namaz-e-janaza after Asr prayers at Staff Quarters Mosque of Green Road.

He left behind his wife and two daughters and a host of friends and relatives to mourn his death.

Mozammel was the second son of late Moulvi Sirajul Huq of "Niloy" at Rammala Road in Comilla.

JMB MAN KILLING

Maulana Saidur shown arrested, remanded

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Maulana Saidur Rahman, current chief of banned Islamist outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), was shown arrested and remanded yesterday in a case filed for his alleged involvement with killing of a JMB activist in the city's Uttara area in February.

JMB activist Rashidul Islam was kidnapped from his Uttara residence at about 9:45am on February 1 and killed by a group of his previous party members as he refused to take part in JMB's activities.

Metropolitan Magistrate Ismail Hossain placed Maulana Saidur on a three-day remand after Detective Branch (DB) Inspector AKM Mizanur Rahman, also the investigation officer (IO), produced him before it with a seven-day remand prayer.

In his forward report, Mizan said Rashidul Islam was killed by a group of JMB men as per directive from Maulana Saidur as he (Rashidul) refused to continue JMB's activities. So, Saidur needs to be remanded to find out vital clues behind the killing, he said.

Police arrested the JMB chief, a female member and three other top leaders from the city and Narayanganj on May 24 and May 25.

Following his arrest, Maulana Saidur was placed on 13 days remand in a case filed with Kadamtoli Police Station on charge of creating subversive activities across the country.



Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Sylhet division and at one or two places over Rajshahi,

Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions in next 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:46pm today and rises at 5:10am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 37.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and lowest 22.3 degrees Celsius at Mymensingh.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	35.5	26.5	67	62
Chittagong	32.8	27.5	70	82
Rajshahi	36.5	25.0	76	71
Khulna	37.5	25.5	64	65
Barisal	35.1	27.7	77	71
Sylhet	34.4	24.0	92	87
Cox's Bazar	34.0	26.6	70	74

South Africa

FROM PAGE 16

"I have never experienced this type of vibe in my life before, not even for the 1994 elections," said Brenda Barratt, a 59-year-old, referring to the country's first democratic vote.

Toddlers, students, construction workers, business executives and some in wheelchairs lined the packed streets to get a glance of their Bafana Bafana players as they trundled through the crowds in an open bus.

"Look at these crowds! This is what reconciliation is all about," said Simon Muthelo, 48, waving his "11 players, 1 heartbeat, 1 trophy" placard.

The cacophony of hooting was echoed across the country as other fans, celebrities and politicians, joined the "United for Bafana" campaign, two days before the team kicks off the one-month tournament in a match against Mexico.

Ranked 83rd in the world and once tipped to be the worst host team yet in the 80-year history of the World Cup, Bafana Bafana surprised critics with a run of 12 unbeaten matches owing to intensive training by wily Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto Parreira.

Most say the team have a good chance of at least advancing to the next round after facing Mexico, Uruguay and France in the Group A matches.

"I've got confidence that they can make it. I need them to go as far as the finals," said Moses Ngube, an advocacy worker from Johannesburg.

Football fever has been building up in South Africa and the team is attracting sell-out crowds. Musicians beat steel drums and marimbas, others formed spontaneous orchestras using their vuvuzelas, plastic trumpets cherished by local fans.

"This is big history, I can't believe it," Alice Satege, a 45-year-old domestic worker said, shaking with tears.

The squad has been overwhelmed by an unexpected outpouring of national fervour after years of indifference and scepticism about South Africa's ability to host the World Cup.

Even President Jacob Zuma said on Monday the soccer bonanza, the first held on the continent, was uniting South Africa much like the 1995 Rugby World Cup victory which helped break down racial barriers and would leave a legacy for decades to come.

Many foreigners, often victims of attacks in the country where they compete with locals for limited jobs and scarce social services, joined the Wednesday crowds.

"I love the energy. It makes you want to be South African," Elsa Oliveira, an Angolan-American student said.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 18th death anniversary of journalist Faruq Hossain, says a press release.

Faruq, a Nawapara correspondent of the Daily Star and the Daily Purabi, was killed by a gang of miscreants on this day in 1992.

On the occasion, a mild and Qurankhwani will be held at his village home in Sarkhola village under Nawapara municipality in Jessor.

Furnace blast in N'ganj re-rolling mill: 8 injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eight workers of a steel re-rolling mill at Fatulla in Narayanganj were injured seriously after a massive explosion in its factory yesterday morning.

Five of them were brought to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in a critical condition. They are Alamgir, 22, Sheikh Shahid, 40, Bakul, 25, Shabuj, 20, and Md Shahid Hossain.

The explosion ripped through the Rajdhani Casting factory at Aliganj with a big bang due to low voltage of electricity at around 6:30am, workers said. Rajdhani Casting is a sister concern of Nabi Steel Mill in the area, our Narayanganj correspondent

reports.

Corrugated roofing sheets of the factory were blown away and its walls collapsed by the force of the explosion, which created panic in the locality.

The condition of Alamgir, who sustained 45 percent burns, and Sheikh Shahid are critical, the doctors said.

Bakul, who sustained 12 percent burns in the back, arms and chest, told this correspondent at the hospital that the furnace exploded while they were working.

"We tried to run away but our dresses caught fire," he added.

Alamgir joined the factory only two days ago and has been staying in the

factory at night, his relatives said.

A farmer in Netrakona, Alamgir came to Narayanganj in search of a job as the harvest season is over.

At the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of DMCH, shortage of staffs makes it difficult for the authorities to manage all the patients.

"The 50-bed unit has only 21 regular doctors and 11 nurses and it is difficult for them to manage more than 200 patients every day. Although the prime minister on June 2 asked some 14 nurses to join the unit on deputation, only four of them have joined the unit so far," said Project Director of the unit Dr Samantal Sen.



Civic reception to Musa Ibrahim today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Musa Ibrahim, the first Bangladeshi Everest conqueror, will be accorded a civic reception at Rabindra Sarobar at Dhanmondi in the city at 4:30pm today.

Musa reached the summit of the Mount Everest on May 23.

Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury will preside over the reception ceremony where renowned personalities will felicitate Musa. A musical programme will also be held.

Former chief adviser to the caretaker government Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, Prof Abdullah Al Sayeed, Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Syed Abdul Maqsood, Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Asaduzzaman Noor MP, The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, Nasiruddin Yusuf and Faridur Reza Sagor will join the reception ceremony.

Singers Rezvana Chowdhury Bannya, Ayub Bacchu, Kumar Biswajit, Mahmuduzzaman Babu, Shuvra Deb, Asif and Meherin will perform at the musical programme.

North Alpine Club, Prothom Alo Bandhu Sabha, The Daily Star, Channel i, ABC Radio, Young Writers and Artists Initiative, Bangladesh Maths Olympiad Committee and Chhobon Haat have extended their support to the programme.

Musa Ibrahim Reception Council has requested all to participate in the programme.

28TH BCS EXAM

Aggrieved docs demand jobs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of aggrieved doctors, who passed the 28th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examination, yesterday demanded immediate appointment to the vacant health cadre posts.

They called for relaxing quota reservation system in the 28th BCS, as there was no such provision at its circular.

The doctors placed the demands at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city.

Reading out a written statement, Dr Md Ashfaqul Islam and Justice SM Emdadul Hoque issued the rule following a writ petition filed by Koko challenging the legality of the proceeding of the case against him.

Koko, who was earlier released on parole and is now abroad for treatment, recently filed the writ petition through his lawyer Barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokon.

Deputy Tax Commissioner of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) Shahin Akhter Hossain filed the case against Koko with the Senior Special Judge's court of Dhaka on March 1 on charges of evading tax on his income of Tk 52.39 lakh between 2002-2003 and 2006-2007 fiscal years.

According to the case statement, Koko repeatedly provided false information about his real income and expenditure.

Earlier on March 1, the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka issued arrest warrant against Koko in connection with the case.

Barrister Rafique-ul Huq appeared for the petitioner.

KOKO'S TAX EVASION