



METROPOLITAN

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, left, takes Iftar, on the first day of Ramadan, with the orphans, physically challenged children, wounded freedom fighters and officers of the Prime Minister's Office at Gono Bhaban in the city yesterday. BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, right, also hosts an Iftar party for orphans and ulemas at Ladies Club in the city

#### BANGABANDHU MURDER

## Call to punish plotters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League leaders yesterday at a discussion demanded that the government punish those who conspired to kill Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and patronised the killers of the father of the nation.

They said the defeated forces of liberation war tried to eliminate the pro-liberation force from the country but their ploy did not succeed.

The AL leaders were speaking at a discussion held at Mahanagar Natyamanch organised by Awami Jubo League to mark the National Mourning Day.

State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Jahangir Kabir Nanak, also AL organising secretary, said some killers of Bangabandhu have been hanged and some are on the run. The Nanak said.

Ziaur Rahman and Khaleda Zia rewarded the killers of Bangabandhu at different times and placed obstacles to the trial of the killers, the AL leader said.

Nanak alleged that BNP wants to launch movement so that the trials of war criminals, Tarique's corruption, August 21 grenade attack and Chittagong arms haul case can't take place.

Whip of parliament Mirza Azam, also Jubo League general secretary, said the patrons of the killers of Bangabandhu should be punished.

Those who rewarded the killers by making them ambassadors to different countries have

gone unpunished, Azam added. Jubo League acting Chairman Md Omar Faruk Chowdhury chaired the discussion where journalist Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury,

#### Rab knows whereabouts of Chowdhury Alam

yesterday.

Claims Barrister Khokon STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokon, MP, yesterday claimed that Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) has involvement in detaining BNP leader,Chowdhury Alam who is missing since June 25 this

He was addressing a press conference at South Hall of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA).

Khokon said whereabouts of Chowdhury Alam, also Dhaka City Corporation ward councillor, will be known if some Rab officials are interrogated in this connection.

He said a general diary (GD) filed by Mohammad Ali, a Sub-Inspector of Gulshan Police Station, on June 20 this year regarding an attempt of RAB personnel to arrest Chowdhury Alam is an evidence of detaining him.

According to the GD, the Rab has failed to arrest Chowdhury Alam on June 20, but they detained him on June 25, he said.

Khokon, also a lawyer of Chowdhury Alam, placed photocopy of the GD, saying that the police has kept information about the GD and it proves that the RAB has arrested him.

He urged the government to take steps to release Chowdhury Alam immedi-

Golam Mohammad Chowdhury Alal and Jamil Akhter Elahi, among others, were present at the press conference.

CARNAGE IN '71, AUG 15, AUG 21

# Killers and militants linked to each other

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable meeting yesterday said the killers of 1971, August 15 in 1975, August 21 in 2004 and militants are linked to each other.

The speakers told the meeting on 'National Mourning Day: August 21 Grenade Attack and Arms Haul in Chittagong: Who are Behind August 21 and Arms Smuggling' at Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) auditorium in the city's Dhanmondi.

Chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on the law ministry Suranjit Sengupta said the nation is passing through a critical time as it is trying to hold trial of the war criminals.

He said the anti-liberation forces are hidden in the administration.

conspiracies from different quarters continued to obstruct the process of the trial of war criminals.

"But the government is committed to bring all the war criminals behind bars. Four of the war criminals are already produced before the tribunal court and the rest will be taken after collection of documents and evidences," said the home minister.

Sahara said the circle of the killers of Bangabandhu is still active, but diplomatic activities are on to bring back those killers who are hiding abroad.

State Minister for Law Kamrul Islam said BNP founder late Ziaur Rahman was "an intruder" in the Liberation War in 1971 and his participation in the war was controversial, as after the independence he

Home Minister Sahara Khatun said became a commander of the defeated forces.

> "I may be criticised, but I must say that Zia was a patron to the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Zia was indirectly involved in the killing," said the state minister for law.

> He also said after only three and a half years, Zia had rehabilitated all the killers of Bangabandhu and the anti-liberation forces.

> Prof Farhad Hossain and journalist Mamun or Rashid read out separate papers at the meeting organised by Bangladesh Heritage Foundation (BHF).

> Justice Golam Rabbani, former state minister for foreign affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury and former secretary Rezaul Hayat and BHF chairman Waliur Rahman, among others, spoke at the meeting.

# Indian cloths worth Tk 3cr seized in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion seized a large consignment of Indian cloths worth around Tk 3 crore from Moitree Express, a passenger train from Kolkata, at Cantonment Railway Station in the capital Wednesday night.

The elite force also held 15 people on suspicion, nine microbuses and one taxicab from the spot in this connec-

Acting on a tip-off, Rab-1 searched Moitree Express and found illegal clothes brought from India, said Rab at a press briefing in its headquarters at

tained Indian saree, three pieces and cloth for shirt, pants and Punjabi.

Rab-1 said on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, smugglers have upped their activities.

They are illegally bringing in foreign garments and clothes at the cost of local garment factories, Mustaque said.

A huge amount of Indian clothes has been smuggled to Bangladesh by Moitree Express depriving the government of huge revenues, he added.

The arrestees were paraded before the journalists at the press conference but none of

interrogation.

Of the arrestees, seven were microbus drivers. They were Major Mustaque Ahmed of hired from the Shahjalal International Airport.

Major Md Rafiqul Islam of Rab-1 said the consignment of clothes was heading for big brand shops in the capi-

Each saree might cost Tk 10,000 to 15,000, Rafigul said.

Seeking anonymity, some employees of Cantonment Railway Station said Moitree Express comes to Dhaka twice a week-- Wednesday and Saturday.

They said passengers have them confessed to their been carrying huge luggage The consignment con- involvement with the crime on over the last two weeks.

Customs officers at the railway station rarely scan luggage coming from India, they added.

The employees said none of the customs department was available at the station yester-

Locals said they [customs officers] come to the station only when the Moitree Express arrives and go away when the train leaves the station.



Tathya Adhikar Andolon (Right to Information Movement) brings out a youth rally from Shahbag in the city yesterday demanding implementation of Right to Information Act to ensure transparency, accountability and good governance.

### Court asks DB DC to appear Aug 30

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked Deputy Commissioner of Detective Branch (DB) Monirul Islam to appear before it on August 30 in a case filed against him for giving misleading information to the media.

Mehedi Hasan Talukder, metropolitan magistrate of Dhaka, passed the order after Court Reporters' Association yesterday filed the criminal case.

The case statement alleged Monirul on Tuesday told journalists that the Detective Branch on the same day had submitted a charge sheet in a case in connection with recent suicides of Farzana Kabir Rita and her two children at Jurain. But the charge sheet was actually submitted on Wednesday, the statement said

Advocate Chaitanya Chandra Halder moved the case on behalf of the reporter's association.



#### Memoriam

Major Gen. Dr. Anis Waiz (28.03.1935-13.08.2002)

Today marks the 8th death anniversary of Major General Anis Waiz, MBBS Dhaka 1958, FCPS Bang 1989, FRCP Edin 1991, FRCP Lon 2000. Waiz was one of the most well-respected and admired doctors in Bangladesh, as well

as being the former Consultant Physician of the Bangladesh Armed forces and the former Principal of Bangladesh Medical College. Today Waiz is mourned by a host of family and friends around the world. To his children (Dr. Aslam Anis, Dr. Reyan Anis and Mr. Azmat Anis), he was an inspiration, a role model and a mentor. All three of them display their father's qualities of being a hard working professional as well as a kind-hearted family man. Waiz is also remembered fondly by his grandson and five granddaughters, to whom he was the best grandfather anyone could have ever dreamed of, they were the true love of his life and they all miss him very much. Baba, we miss you very much and your spirit lives inside us all.





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