

Aug 15 buried plan to build exploitation-free society

Speakers tell roundtable

UNB, Dhaka

Termining the month of August a period of 'sorrow and pain' in the country's history, speakers at a roundtable yesterday said there was a certain link between the August 15, 1975 and August 21, 2005 carnage aimed to undermine the forces that had brought the nation independence in 1971.

"We find a link between August 15 and August 21...both were attempted to bury the spirit of the War of Liberation and to halt the pace of development," renowned economist Dr Qazi Kholiuzzaman Ahmad said.

Society for Development and Cooperation organised the discussion titled "Vision 2021: Economic and Social Thoughts of Bangabandhu" at Cirdap auditorium in the city.

Chairman of Krishi Bank and former deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank

Khondker Ibrahim Khaled presented the keynote paper in the discussion.

Dr Kholiuzzaman, who chaired the discussion, said a conspiracy of the anti-liberation forces was there always and it is still on to foil the pace of development.

Referring to a discussant's suggestion, he said young professionals, who were born after the liberation war should be brought into such discussions so that they can know about Bangabandhu's philosophy for the social and economic development of the country.

Ibrahim Khalid in his speech said Bangabandhu had formulated a revolutionary plan aimed at ending exploitation and eliminating discrimination from the society and started work to achieve this objective, but his plans got buried by the events of August 15 in 1975.

"It not only drew an end to his revolutionary plan, it also pushed the country to a different economic path, which was capitalism," he said.

He said Bangabandhu's thoughts on the distribution of income throughout different segments in an economy were also buried through the assassination of founder of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

"After a long time, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is getting a chance to coordinate economic growth with income distribution by adhering to vision 2021," Ibrahim Khalid said.

Economists, educationists, journalists, development activists, government and non-government officials took part in the discussion moderated by chief coordinator of Society for Development and Cooperation Kashem Humayun.



Students of the 11th batch of the business studies of Dhaka University stage a demonstration in front of the dean office on the campus yesterday demanding a new grading system formulated by the University Grants Commission. (Story on Page 5)

AUGUST 21 GRENADE ATTACK

Trial of perpetrators soon

Says education minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday said the perpetrators of the August 21 grenade attack on the Awami League rally will face the trial as soon as possible as the nation is eagerly waiting for it.

He said the incidents of August 15 and August 21 are linked to each other as the incidents were the part of a deep rooted conspiracy against the nation as well as the family of Bangabandhu.

Nahid said this while he was speaking as the chief guest at the publication ceremony of a book titled 'Shah Abdul Karim: Path O Pathikrit'

at the Sylhet Zila Parishad auditorium in the city. Poet Shuvendu Imam edited the book.

The minister said the poor but legendary figure had sung songs for the common people at home and abroad. None got such a rare honour, he said, adding that Shah Abdul Karim was our pride. As a devoted soul, he has been in the field of folk and mystic songs since his early age, he said.

Shahjalal University of Science and Technology Vice Chancellor Prof Md Saleh Uddin chaired the function while Additional Secretary, Ministry of Establishment, Dr Muhammad Sadique, also spoke at the function as

the special guest.

Dr Sadique said Shah Abdul Karim had devoted his life and works for inspiring the common people. These are assets of the nation which should be, he said. A poet of soil and people Shah Abdul Karim, known as 'Baul Samrat', influenced the rural people in Sunamganj from his very boyhood. His songs touched heart of the people of all stages, from common men to the elites, he added.

Prof Dr Suresh Ranjan Basak, Mainuddin Ahmed Jalal and son of late Shah Abdul Karim, Shah Nur Jalal also spoke at the publication ceremony.

Advance rail tickets from August 31

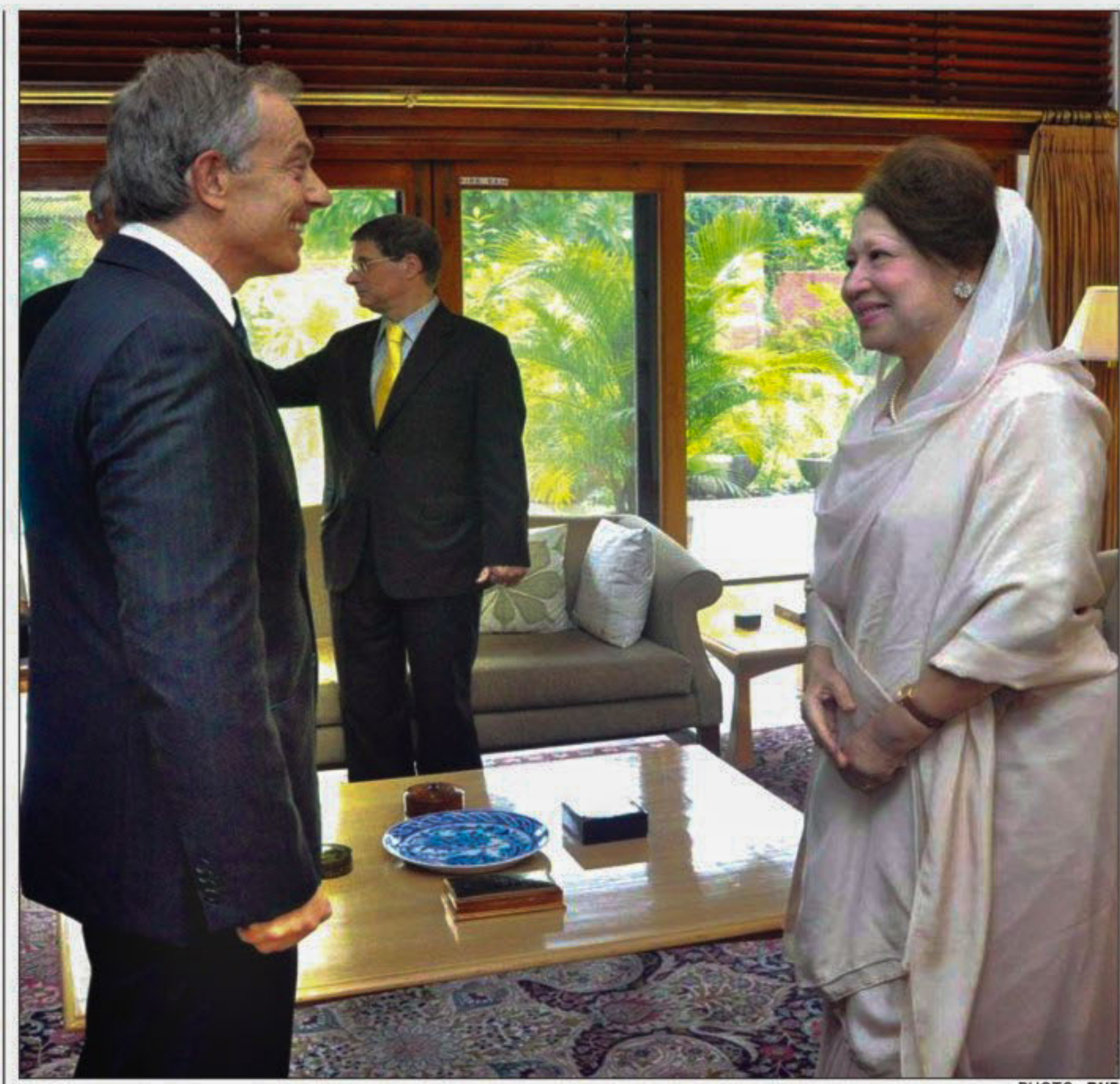
BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Railway (BR) will start selling advance tickets from August 31 on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

The BR took the decision considering the convenience of homebound Eid passengers.

Md Shajahan, Joint General Manager (Operation) of BR, yesterday told the news agency that advance tickets for different destinations would be sold from Dhaka, Chittagong and Rajshahi stations from August 31 and it would continue for the next five days.

Tickets for journey on September 5 would be sold on August 31, September 6 on September 1, September 7 on September 2, September 8 on September 3 and September 9 on September 4.



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia calls on former British prime minister Tony Blair at Sonargaon Hotel in the city yesterday.

4 car lifters held with stolen car

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested four car lifters along with a stolen car from different spots in the port city and Satkania upazila in the district on Friday and yesterday.

The arrestees were identified as Shamim Uddin, 28, Mohammad Shafi, 33, Mezbah Uddin alias Rassel, 31 and Asgar Ali, 31.

On Thursday night, car lifters took away the car of Dr Sumedh Deway of Pahartali Eye Infirmary from the parking area of his private chamber in Jamal Khan area. Dr Sumedh filed a case with Kotwali Police Station accusing his driver Shamim in this connection.

On information, a team of police, including Sub Inspector (SI) Sadip Kumar Das and Mohammad Mohsin of Kotwali Police Station, arrested Shafi, brother-in-law of Shamim, from city's Terri Bazar area at around 4:30pm on Friday.

Acting on his confessions police arrested Shamim with the lifted car from Keochia area under Satkania upazila in the evening.

Later Russel, leader of the gang and a cloth trader of Terri Bazar and Asgar, a driver of Laldighi area and buyer of stolen cars, were arrested from Terri Bazar and Khalifapatti around 2:00am yesterday.

SI Sadip said the arrestees held a meeting at Russel's shop three days before the incident as Shamim had kept a set of keys of the car around three months back. It was decided that Russel would receive the car from Shamim and manage Tk 4 lakh from the buyer. Shamim would get Tk 3 lakh while Shafi and Rassel Tk 50,000 each.

"As Russel did not come to receive the car, Shamim brought the car to Satkania upazila and called Dr Sumedh over phone demanding Tk 1 lakh for information regarding the car," Sadip said. He said police have got more names of the gang and are trying to arrest them.

UZ chairmen blame UNOs for non-cooperation

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Upazila Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen Oikya Parishad yesterday blamed the Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs) for non-cooperation in upazila activities.

"The UNOs don't coordinate with the chairmen and vice-chairmen for accomplishing any work of the upazila and this attitude undermines the image of the elected representatives," Abdul Mazid Photo, convenor of the Oikya Parishad and chairman of Satoria Upzila under Manikganj district, said to a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the city.

Replying to a question, Abdul Mazid Photo said the upazila system has become more dysfunctional after enactment of the Upazila Act under Article 25(1) (2) of the constitution.

The UNOs are doing all development works of the upazila consulting with the local Member of Parliament and the role of the upazila chairman and vice-chairman are only the audience, he alleged.

Expressing disappointment over the present situation of the upazila administration, Mohammad Hossain Faku, member secretary of the Parishad, said, "We are sitting idle for about 20 months, which is not a good sign for democracy."

They will hold a grand rally on October 2 in the city to press home their 10-point demand, Faku told the newsmen.

Parishad leaders Muhammad Mohibur Rahman, Bishwanath Upzila chairman under Sylhet, Anwarul Huq Bablu, chairman of Akkelpur Upazila under Joypurhat, Ataur Rahman Ata, chairman of Manikganj Sadar, Obaidur Rahman, vice-chairman of Sreebordi upazila, Jesmin Ara, vice-chairman of Dinajpur Sadar upazila and Rehana Ferdous, vice-chairman of Anwara upazila under Chittagong district were present at the press conference.

KOKO'S PAROLE JCD to stage nationwide protest today

UNB, Dhaka

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of BNP, yesterday announced country-wide rallies and processions today to protest the government decision to cancel the parole of Arafat Rahman Koko, youngest son of the party chairperson Khaleda Zia.

Arafat Rahman, popularly known as Koko, is currently in Bangkok receiving treatment.

JCD president Sultan Salahuddin Tuku announced the programme at a post-procession gathering in front of the BNP Nayapaltna central office yesterday afternoon.

The rallies and protest processions will be held at district headquarters across the country.

Earlier, JCD brought out a protest procession from the city's Bijoynagar-Kakrail crossing to protest the Home Ministry's decision on Thursday to cancel Koko's parole.

ঢাকা আহছানিয়া মিশন
জাকাত আদায়

যে সমাজ সঠিকভাবে জাকাত আদায় করে সে সমাজে দুঃস্থ পরিবারের অভাব, দুঃস্থ, কষ্ট লাঘব করে সমাজ পরিবর্তন করা সম্ভব। জাকাতের বিধান সকল মুসলিমের জন্য অবশ্য কর্তব্য। জাকাত প্রদানের মাধ্যমে ধনসম্পদ পবিত্র হয়। জাকাত প্রদান করলে ধনসম্পদ কমে না বরং বাড়ে। আল্লাহর তরফ থেকে সংসারে আরো বরকত বৃদ্ধি পায়।

সকলে আলাদা আলাদাভাবে জাকাত প্রদান করলে গরীব দুঃস্থী সমাজের সামগ্রিক মঙ্গলের জন্য বড় কোন কাজে হাত দেয়া সম্ভব হয় না। তাই প্রয়োজন সকলের জাকাত একত্র করে যে কোন বড় আকারের প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন করা। ঢাকা আহছানিয়া মিশন আপনাদের সকলের সাহায্য সহযোগিতা নিয়ে একের পর এক দুঃস্থ মানুষের জন্য উন্নয়ন কার্যক্রম বাস্তবায়ন করে চলেছে।

আপনারাও আমাদের সাথে জাকাত প্রদানের মাধ্যমে একত্রে গরীব দুঃস্থী সমাজের সামগ্রিক কল্যাণে বড় কোন কাজের পরিকল্পনা ও বাস্তবায়নে শরীক হতে পারেন। সাথে সাথে দুঃস্থদের মানবিক উন্নয়ন যথা শিক্ষা, স্বাস্থ্য, জীবিকা উন্নয়নের কাজও বাস্তবায়ন করা সম্ভব হবে। জাকাত দাতা ও আলেমদের সমন্বয়ে গঠিত কমিটি স্বচ্ছ প্রক্রিয়ার মাধ্যমে তাদের কর্ম পরিকল্পনা প্রণয়ন ও বাস্তবায়ন করবে। মুসলিম বিশ্বের অনেক দেশে এ ধরনের প্রক্রিয়া চালু রয়েছে। জাকাত আদায়ের নিয়মাবলীর জন্য দেখুন - www.zakatdonation.org

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