



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presides over the ministerial meeting at Bangladesh Secretariat in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

# Indo-Bangla ties worsened after Bangabandhu's death

DU CORRESPONDENT

Relations between India and Bangladesh worsened after the death of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975, as political parties instilled anti-India sentiment in people to gain political advantage.

Such practice by the political parties even adversely affected the economic development of both the countries, said speakers at a discussion yesterday on "Bangabandhu: Relationship with India under present perspective" at the city's Engineers' Institute organised by Shaheed M Mansur Ali Smriti Sangsad. The organisation arranged the discussion to mark the August 15, 1975 tragedy. They also said Bangabandhu had established a strong bilateral relationship

with largest neighbouring country India considering its economic potentials.

Without mentioning any political party, Golam Sarwar, editor of Dainik Samakal, said political parties were reluctant to identify India as a friend in fear of losing public acceptance during elections.

He however said the situation has changed for the last one and a half years and bilateral relations have improved.

Manjural Rahman Khan, president of Bangladesh Communist Party, said Bangabandhu had never compromised on anything that went against the country's interests.

Rashed Khan Menon, president of Workers Party of Bangladesh, said there were fears after the country's independence as to whether it would be a right decision to build a good relationship with

India, but Bangabandhu had made it clear that there was nothing to be ashamed of having good relations with a friendly state.

Speakers have expressed frustration saying that even 39 years into the Liberation War, no memorial has been made in Bangladesh in memory of Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives in 1971.

They praised the ruling Awami League-led alliance government for signing contracts with India and hoped that the contracts would be implemented accordingly.

At the programme, Commerce Minister Faruk Khan said it is expected that people of both the countries will start getting benefits of the bilateral agreements from next year.

# Chowdhury Alam's nephew held with arms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested on Sunday a nephew of the missing Dhaka City Corporation ward councillor and BNP leader Chowdhury Alam at the city's Gulistan with illegal firearm and narcotics in his possession.

Rab-3 officials said they arrested Mohammad Shamim and recovered two foreign made pistols, including 12 9mm bullets, 90 Yaba tablets and 49 bottles of Phensidyl from his possession.

Shamim is son of Alam's sister, Shamsunnahar and hails from Alipur village of Begumganj upazila in Noakhali.

Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, son of Chowdhury Alam and also the arrestee's cousin told The Daily Star that Shamim is a garments trader in Bangabazar and lives in the city's East Goran.

He said they did not know the reason behind Shamim's arrest.

Morshed Alam, senior assistant superintendent of police said Shamim is a listed criminal involved in various activities including mugging and smuggling illegal firearms and drugs.

Meanwhile, Chowdhury Alam still remains missing since he was reportedly abducted by some men late in the evening of June 25.

# CHILD-LIFTING REMOUR Two injured in mob attack in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Locals beat up a child abductor suspect on Sunday night and handed another over to police yesterday morning in Chittagong city.

Sub-inspector Anam Ahmed of Khulshi Police Station said Zakir Hossain, 29, also known as Bhandary, was beaten by a mob in Lalkhan Bazar.

SI Anam said Zakir had no involvement in child abduction and people driven by rumour beat him up.

Police rescued Zakir and sent him to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for treatment.

Locals of Firingee Bazar handed an unidentified man over to police yesterday, suspecting him to be child abductor too.

SI Mahmud of Kotwali Police Station said people caught the man for stealing shoes and accused him of being an abductor. The man was released later, said the SI.

# 8 more infected with Anthrax

Free medical aid, vaccination given at Pabna and Sirajganj villages

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna/Sirajganj

Eight more people have been allegedly infected with Anthrax in different villages of Pabna and Sirajganj, health officials said yesterday.

The number of Anthrax affected people increased by five more in the Santhia upazila in Pabna, raising the total to 24, and by one more in the Belkuchi upazila and two more in the Kamarkhand upazila in Sirajganj, health department sources said.

Free medical aid including antibiotic treatment is being given to the alleged anthrax affected villagers, upazila health officials of Pabna and Sirajganj said.

Dr Saiful Islam, the district livestock officer (DLO) of Pabna, said, to prevent

possible spreading of Anthrax, the livestock department of Pabna is conducting urgent vaccination for the dairy farms in Santhia upazila's five adjoining villages, namely Choto Pathail Hat, Boro Pathail Hat, Nagdemra, Narinda and Sholanda.

Almost half of the 5,000 animals brought under the vaccination programme have been immunized so far, and the remaining is to be covered by Tuesday, said the DLO.

The DLO also said through the vaccine programme people are made aware not to take animals to their farm without vaccination.

Dr Nurul Islam Talukder, civil surgeon of Sirajganj, said vaccinations are also being given to the dairy farm animals in the different villages of Belkuchi, Kamarkhand and Shahzadpur upazilas of Sirajganj.

# Nationalise all private primary, community schools

Recommends JS body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

All privately run primary and community schools will have to be nationalised, a parliamentary body recommended yesterday.

In a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhabna, the public accounts committee of the parliament also asked the railway authority to take actions against its officials responsible for their failure to get the concrete railway sleeper done between 1987 and 1998.

"There are nearly 19,700 privately run schools in the country including primary level and the government bears maximum expenditure of those schools.

"The government also helps to set up

those schools. Therefore, it would not take much money for the government to nationalise them," Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, chief of the committee said.

Emerging from the meeting, Alamgir said, "Our constitution declares that there will be no discrimination in the primary level education. Keeping this in mind, the committee today [yesterday] made the proposal."

About irregularities and damage of public money in railway, he said, "The committee asked the railway authorities to come up before it within next thirty days with a detailed report on why the target of making concrete railway sleepers could not be achieved between 1987 and 1998."

Taka 26.43 crore was lost for not achieving the target," added Alamgir, also a ruling Awami League lawmaker.

The committee asked the railway authority to resume operations of concrete sleeper plant as soon as possible.

Replying to a separate issue of the Supreme Court verdict of scrapping his membership in parliament, Alamgir said, all should obey the verdict of the court.

He also said all charges brought against him during the past caretaker government were proved false in the court.

Alamgir did not make it clear whether he would file review petition in the Supreme Court against the verdict.

# TAX EVASION Partex Group chief sued

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued an arrest warrant against Partex Group Chairman MA Hashem hours after the National Board of Revenue (NBR) filed a case against him for tax evasion.

Judge (In-charge) Mohammad Ismail Hossain of the Senior Special Judge's Court passed the order after a case was filed for evading tax of Tk 4,76,09,845 from 1977-1978 to 2005-2006 fiscal years.

The court also directed officer-in-charge of Gulshan police station to submit report by September 19 on execution of the arrest warrant.

In the case statement, NBR Deputy Tax Commissioner Kabir Uddin Mollah said Hashem evaded Tk 4,76,09,845 in income tax on Tk 18,93,42,380 earned from different sources. He repeatedly provided false information about his income and expenditure, the statement said.

Hashem, during submitting his tax returns, said he did not conceal any information about his income and expenditure. But NBR rejected his claim.

Hashem was arrested during the tenure of caretaker government on different charges including graft and later he was released on bail.

# KHALEDA'S CANTT HOUSE HC asks govt to submit records on lease

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed the government to produce all the records regarding the lease of cantonment residence of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to this court by September 27.

An HC bench passed the order following a petition filed by Khaleda Zia seeking its direction on the government to file the relevant papers and documents on the lease and registration of the cantonment house.

The HC bench of Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Sheikh Hasan Arif also adjourned till September 27 the hearing on the writ petition filed by Khaleda Zia challenging the legality of a government notice to vacate her cantonment house.

Attorney General Mahbub Alam yesterday told The Daily Star that the military estate officials concerned of the cantonment will produce the records of the lease of the cantonment house, in which Khaleda Zia is living, before the court.

Barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokon, a lawyer for Khaleda Zia, said his client has filed the petition for producing the records of the cantonment house to prove that the lease of the house for her was legal.

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

Advocate TH Khan and Barrister Moudud Ahmed appeared for Khaleda Zia.



Teachers of Dhaka University form a human chain wearing black badges at the base of Aprajeyo Bangla on the campus yesterday on the occasion of the 'Black Day' to mark the atrocities by law enforcement agencies during the last caretaker government.

# B Ed: Online admission in Sept

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The online admission process of B Ed (professional) course of the academic year 2010-2011 under the National University will start next month.

The university authority has decided to consider the academic year from January to December in coordination with the academic calendar of secondary schools, said a press release yesterday.

# CORRUPTION HC scraps conviction against Manju

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday overturned a trial court judgment convicting Jatiya Party (JP-Manju) Chairman Anwar Hossain and sentencing imprisonment to seven years in a corruption case filed in 2007.

An HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice AKM Zahirul Hoque pronounced the verdict after granting an appeal challenging the trial court judgment.

A Special Court on June 10, 2008 convicted Manju in this case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission.

The ACC filed the case with Dhanmudi Police Station on July 25, 2007 on charge of taking Tk 75 lakh from a Chinese construction company in 2000 when he was the communication minister.

Manju's lawyer Ahsanul Karim said his client has been acquitted in all the cases against him as the HC overturned Manju's conviction in two other corruption cases on August 10 and 22.

Deputy Attorney General Md Salim stood for the government in the case.

# GULISTAN FLYOVER Govt to take army help to relocate utility lines from site

UNB, Dhaka

The government yesterday decided to take help from the army to relocate utility lines to suitable places from the Jatrabari-Gulistan flyover project area to implement the project within the preset deadline.

The decision came from a review meeting on the project held at the conference room of Local Government Department with State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Jahangir Kabir Nanak in the chair.

Nanak in the meeting directed the Local Government Division to take necessary steps for quick approval of the development project proposal to shift the lines of utility services (Wasa, Titas Gas and BTB lines) from flyover project area.

He suggested the concerned engineers and officials to maintain quality of construction keeping pace with the work.

The engineers and officials were also asked to take steps so that other future projects like elevated expressway, metro rail and flyovers would not face any problem in the implementation process.

Earlier, on June 23, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina formally inaugurated the Jatrabari-Gulistan flyover project, the biggest so far taken up under public private partnership.

The Jatrabari flyover would be named after the first Dhaka City Corporation mayor late Md Hanif, declared the prime minister in the inaugural function at city's Golapbagh playground.

Belhasa Accom and Associates Ltd, an associate company of the Orion Group and concessionaire of the project, will implement the project at a cost of Tk 1,350 crore on build-own-operate-transfer basis.

The investor will transfer the facility to the government after a concession period of 24 years.

In 1996, the then Awami League government initiated the Jatrabari flyover project and conducted a feasibility study but the succeeding four-party alliance government could not implement the project.

Principal Secretary to the PM M Abdul Karim, Local Government Secretary Manjur Hossain, Dhaka City Corporation Chief Executive Officer M Abul Kalam Azad and Orion Group Chairman M Obaidul Karim, among others, attended the meeting.

# Construction worker found dead at Mirpur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Imran Hossain Imu, 25, a construction worker, was found dead at the bedroom of his residence at Mirpur 6 on Sunday night.

Officer-in-charge Iqbal Hossain of Pabna police station said they rushed to Imu's residence on information at around 11:00pm and recovered his bullet-hit body. Police sent the body to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Police said they also recovered an unlicensed revolver along with two rounds of bullets besides the body.

Sources in police said Imran was a listed mugger of the area.

However, Imran's father Ali Asgar said his son was working as a mason with him.

OC Iqbal said Imran might have committed suicide but he failed to give details in this connection.

Family sources said Imran got married six months ago with Luna Begum, 18. Asgar said he does not know whether Imran had any quarrel with his wife or not.

Luna Begum said she heard a gunshot when she was in the bathroom at about 11:30pm.

Other members of the family were in a grocery shop. After hearing the gunshot, they rushed to the house and found Imran lying on the floor.



# Obituary

METRO DESK

Syeda Shaista Kha-num, wife of former diplomat late Altaf Hossain Khan and daughter of late Syed Abu Zafar, passed away on August 22 at the age of 78, says a press release.

She left behind her one son, two daughters, five grandchildren and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn her death.

Her namaz-e-janaza was held at Azad Masjid in Gulshan in the city the same day.

Her qulhwani will be held at her Gulshan residence at House # 19, Road # 55, Gulshan # 2 after Asr prayers on August 26.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the qulhwani and pray for salvation of the departed soul.



# Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet divisions, met office said. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:24pm today and rises at 5:37am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 35.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Barisal and lowest 24.6 degrees Celsius at Ishwardi.

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	33.8	27.6	81	67
Chittagong	32.5	27.1	78	76
Rajshahi	34.0	25.2	89	79
Khulna	34.0	27.5	79	65
Barisal	35.5	27.3	80	84
Sylhet	31.9	25.4	92	80
Cox's Bazar	33.5	26.5	79	78

**DHAKA TODAY**

**Discussion**  
Nou jan Sramik League will arrange a discussion on National Mourning Day. Venue: Sadar Ghat, Time: 5:00pm.

**Exhibition**  
INIFD will inaugurate an "Eid exhibition". Venue: Drik Gallery, House # 58, Road #15A, Dhanmondi, Time: 12:00pm.

**Meeting**  
Bangladesh Swatantra Ibtedia Madrasa Shikhhak Oikya Front will hold a meeting. Venue: National Press Club VIP Lounge, Time: 10:00am.

**Inauguration**  
The High Commission of Pakistan will organise a trade exposition. Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Time: 10:00am.

**Meeting**  
National Forum of Organisations Working with the Disabled will hold a meeting. Venue: Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies, 1/46, Old Elephant Road, Time: 3:00pm.

**Contest**  
Dhakabashi will organise an inter women's hall mehedi contest. Venue: Shamsunnahar Hall, Dhaka University, Time: 3:00pm.

**Memorandum**  
Dhaka City Corporation Rickshaw-Van Malik Oikya Parishad will submit memorandum. Venue: Secretariat, Time: 11:00am.

**General Meeting**  
Milk Vita will hold its annual general meeting. Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Time: 10:00am.

**Seminar**  
Ain O Shalish Kendra and Bangladesh National Women's Association will hold a seminar. Venue: LGED Bhabna, 12th Floor, Agargaon, Time: 4:00pm.