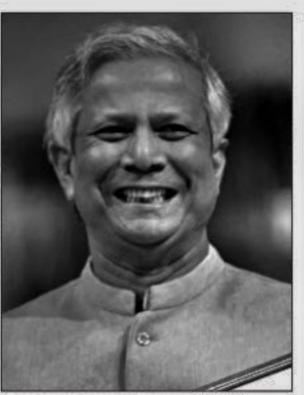
# METROPOLÎTAN/NEWS



### Obama okays law to award Congress gold medal to Yunus

AP, Washington

President Barack Obama signed off on legislation Tuesday to award Congress' gold medal to Muhammad Yunus, Bangladeshi economist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

Yunus is credited with developing the microcredit concept that has improved the lives of poor people around the world.

The legislation said Yunus merits the medal because his system of lending can help bring about "a historical breakthrough in the fight against poverty."

The Congressional Gold Medal dates from before the United States.

The Continental Congress awarded the first one to George Washington, the first US president, three months before the members proclaimed independence from Britain.

The presentation ceremony for Yunus has not yet been scheduled.

## Koko's parole verdict on October 11

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday fixed October 11 for delivering the judgment on the writ petition filed by Arafat Rahman Koko challenging the legality of government decision to cancel his parole.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka court vesterday fixed November 7 for hearing of a tax evasion case against Koko.

An HC bench of Justice MA Wahab Miah and Justice Quazi Reza-ul Hoque yesterday wrapped up hearing on the writ petition of Koko and fixed the date for judgment.

Earlier on August 26, the HC issued a rule upon the government to explain why its decision to cancel the parole of Koko should not be declared illegal.

The court also stayed the government decision of cancelling the parole of

The ministry of home on August 19 cancelled the parole of Koko, now in Bangkok for treatment, and asked him to surrender before the court. The National Board of

Revenue (NBR) on March 1 this year filed the case against Koko on charge of dodging income tax on his income of Tk 52.39 lakh between 2002-2003 and 2006-2007 fiscal years.

The lower court on March 1 issued arrest warrant against Koko and directed police to submit report on execution of arrest warrant.

## CU admission test begins today

A CORRESPONDENT, CU

Around 31 candidates will vie for each seat in the admission tests for honours courses under 2010-2011 sessions that begins today at Chittagong University (CU).

Atotal of 1,11,560 forms were sold against 3,660 seats of eight units this year, said sources.

On the first day, the tests for A unit of the Faculty of Science and F unit of the Institute of Forestry and Environmental Sciences will be held at 10:30am

and 2:30 pm respectively. A total of 22 candidates will contest for each seat of A unit

while 24 for each seat of F unit, said the sources.

The university authorities took necessary steps to hold the examinations peacefully, said CU Assistant Proctor

Mohammad Akter Hossain. On the other hand, CU authorities suspended all classes from October 7 to 18 on the occasion of the admission tests and Durga Puja, the largest religious festival of Hindu community.

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CHINA

## Dhaka iterates support to 'One China' policy

**DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT** 

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni yesterday said Bangladesh and China are supporting each other in the international arena and cooperating for socio-economic development.

Reiterating Bangladesh's support to "One China" policy, she said the two countries are enjoying excellent relations.

The FM was addressing the celebration programme of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Bangladesh and China.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chinese Embassy in Dhaka jointly organised the programme at the Sonargaon Hotel yesterday

evening. She said China has been deeply engaged in Bangladesh's development endeavours and continues strong support in various sectors,

especially economic development. Bangladesh and China established diplomatic relations on October 4, 1975.

During Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit in March this year, the two countries decided to establish and develop a closer comprehensive partnership from strategic perspectives, based on principles of longstanding friendship, equality and mutual benefit.

The FM in her speech recalled continued Chinese assistance in Bangladesh's infrastructure development and hoped that China will further increase its support in socio economic development of Bangladesh.

She mentioned that Chinese cooperation in the field of agriculture, education, health, tourism, civil aviation and many more areas are remarkable.

Dipu Moni said both the countries have been supporting each other in various global issues and hoped that they would work together and strengthen the relationship in the days to come.

Chinese Ambassador in Dhaka Zhang Xianyi said China has always been supportive to Bangladesh's development and the bilateral relations have been cemented over the years.

He lauded Bangladesh's supportive role towards China in various international issues, especially "One China" policy.

The envoy assured that China would continue its assistance and cooperation for the overall socio-economic development of Bangladesh.

He announced that a series of delegations would visit Bangladesh, including a hospital ship of the army in November.

Former and serving diplomats, civil and defence officials, academics of the city attended the programme with several former Bangladesh ambassadors in China present.

Former foreign secretary Farooq Sobhan, President of Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies Muniruzzaman and Secretary General of Bangladesh-China Friendship Association Anwarul Amin, among others, addressed the function.



A Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) mobile court seizes sub-standard drinking water and penalises the bottling factories in Motijheel and other areas in the city yesterday.

## KOTALIPARA BOMB RECOVERY Next hearing Oct 11

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday recorded statement of Mohammad Zakir Hossain, the 41st prosecution witness in the Kotalipara-76 kg bomb recovery case.

The 76kg bomb was recovered at the Sheikh Lutfor Rahman Ideal College under Kotalipara upazila in Gopalganj district on July 21 in 2000 which was planted aiming to assassinate the then prime minister Sheikh Hasina, who was to address a rally there the next day.

Judge Kaniz Akhter Nasrina Khanam of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-3 recorded statement of Zakir, a shopkeeper who had run his business adjacent to the area where the bomb was planted. Later, he was cross-examined by defence lawyers of the accused.

The court fixed October 11 for the next hearing of the case. The court also summoned other witnesses.

Harkatul Jihad al Islami (Huji) chief Mufti Abdul Hannan and seven others,

Bangladesh Power Develop-

ment Board will organise a

workshop. Venue: Bidyut

Bhaban, 1, Abdul Gani Road,

North South University will

arrange a seminar. Venue: NSU

campus, Bashundhara, Time:

Jatiya Pratibandhi Forum and

Bangladesh Shishu Academy

will jointly organise an art

competition. Venue: Shishu

Academy premises, Time:

Light rain likely

next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Celsius at Chittagong and Tangail.

Art competition

Workshop

Time: 9:00am.

Seminar

11:00am.

11:00am.

UNB, Dhaka

5:53am tomorrow.

City/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Dhaka

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

now in jail, were brought before the tribunal yesterday amid tight security.

Accused Anisul Islam, now on bail, was also present in the court yesterday. Sixteen other Huji leaders and activists have been absconding since the case was filed.

Sub-Inspector Nur Hossain of Kotalipara police filed a case under the Explosive Substances Act following the incident of July 21, 2000. Criminal Investigation

Department submitted the charge sheet against Mufti Hannan and 24 others on April 8 in 2001, showing 83 people as prosecution witnesses. Gopalganj District and

Sessions Judge's Court framed charges against Hannan and 24 others on July 2, the same Later, the court recorded

statements of 40 prosecution witnesses, including complainant of the case. Then the case was shifted to the Speedy Trial Tribunal from Gopalganj District and Sessions Judge's Court for its quick disposal.

Shuddhaswar will arrange a book

fair. Venue: Public Library premises,

Ain O Salish Kendra (Ask) will

arrange a certificate giving cere-

mony. Venue: 4, Sobahanbagh,

Kapaeeng Foundation and

Manusher Jonno Foundation

will jointly organise a meeting.

Venue: Cirdap auditorium,

**Certificate giving** 

**Book fair** 

Time: 11:00am.

ceremony

Time: 3:00pm.

Meeting

Time: 10:00am.

WEATHER

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by

temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over

Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna and Dhaka divisions and at a

few places over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet divisions in

over southern part of the country, Met Office said.

in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Max

29.5

25.0

32.2

27.1

27.0

29.2

25.1

Temperature in

Celsius

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the

The sun sets in the capital at 5:40pm today and rises at

Country's highest temperature 32.2 degrees Celsius was

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded

Min

25.4

23.2

24.7

25.4

25.2

23.9

24.0

**Humidity** in

percentage

Morning

71

95

90

92

83

96

Evening

91

97

89

recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 23.2 degrees

## Khaleda's cantt house on Oct 13 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Verdict on

The High Court (HC) yesterday fixed October 13 to deliver judgment on the writ petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia challenging the government notice asking her to vacate the cantonment residence.

After holding hearing for 22 working days, an HC bench of Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif set the date for delivering verdict.

On May 24 last year, the government issued a final notice asking Khaleda Zia to hand over her cantonment house to the Military Estate Officer by June 30 of that year.

Following a writ petition filed by Khaleda Zia, the HC on May 27 last year stayed the operation of the notice for three months. The court also issued a rule upon the government to explain why this notice should not be declared illegal.

Later, the stay order was extended several times.

The HC bench headed by Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana started final hearing on the writ petition on June 6 this year.

Earlier, on May 23, the then chief justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim sent the writ petition to this bench for its hearing as Khaleda expressed no trust in another bench of Justice Md Imman Ali and Justice Obaidul Hasan.

Advocate TH Khan appeared for the petitioner, while the Attorney General Mahbubey Alam argued for the state.

## Atiqullah acquitted of graft charge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday acquitted Atiqullah Khan Masud, editor of the daily Janakantha, of a corruption charge in which he was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment during the last military backed caretaker govern-

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed the case with Motijheel Police Station on September 30, 2007, against him on charge of constructing a 15-storey building in the capital's Segunbagicha on the basis of an unauthorised building design.

A special court on March 20, 2008, convicted and sentenced Atiqullah to seven years' imprisonment in the case.

An HC bench comprised of Justice Shamsul Huda and Justice Abu Bakar Siddiquee passed the verdict after granting an appeal filed by Atiqullah Khan challenging the special judge's judgement.

Earlier, the Janakantha editor got released from jail on bail granted by this court.

Barrister M Amir-Ul Islam appeared for Atiqullah, while advocate AKM Ali argued for ACC and Assistant Attorney General Bashir Ullah stood for the state.

# BNP changes stance

Ruling MPs hail PM, blast

thon discussion.

BNP for past 'misrule'

SC Order on Eighth Amendment

Says Suranjit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led government reinstated two articles in the constitution in 1991 following cancellation of the eighth amendment by the Supreme Court. But the party is now opposing such action

after scrapping of the Fifth Amendment by the apex court. Suranjit Sengupta, co-chair of the parliamentary special committee for constitutional amend-

ment, said this at a press briefing yesterday. Suranjit showed the preface tagged with the constitution printed in 1991.

He also showed copies of the constitution reprinted in 1994 and 1996 during the then BNP regime with the reinstated articles.

The parliament passed the constitution's eighth amendment, changing the articles 100 and 107 for setting up High Court Division's permanent bench, each at Barisal, Chittagong, Comilla, Jessore, Rangpur and Sylhet.

The apex court in 1989 declared the amendment act illegal and void, as it destroyed the basic features of the constitution.

Following the partial cancellation of the eighth amendment act, the law ministry on October 10, 1991 reprinted the constitution dropping the changes brought to the two articles.

IS DISCUSSION ENDS

Ending a marathon discussion, the House

yesterday passed a resolution on thanks giving

to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for receiving

UN award for Bangladesh for its remarkable

achievements in attaining the Millennium

Development Goals (MDGs), particularly in

their deliberations also blasted the main oppo-

sition BNP for their past 'misrule' and present

League (AL) led ruling alliance lawmakers

highly lauded the premier's role in leading the

country towards prosperity what they men-

Samjtantrik Dal lawmaker Mayeen Uddin Khan

Badal, MPs stood up to honour the premier, who

Sheikh Hasina, also the leader of the House,

was present in the House during the discussion.

who was present almost whole of the time

during the discussion, was seen to go through

The treasury bench lawmakers castigated

the BNP leaders who claimed that it is the credit

of past BNP government led by Khaleda Zia for

getting the UN award for attaining remarkable

Speaker Abdul Hamid, who could not join

In his concluding speech to the sixth ses-

"We are proud of the unique success [UN

Wrapping up the discussion that lasted for

"Country's people and the Jatiya Sangsad

formally in the discussion, also congratulated

sion, Hamid said the Leader of the House

Sheikh Hasina is working tirelessly to meet the

award] of the grand alliance government under

three hours with participation of 28 lawmakers,

are sincerely congratulating Hon'ble Prime

Minister Deshratna Sheikh Hasina on receiving

the UN award for attaining unthinkable suc-

cess in achieving MDGs," said the motion

unanimously passed by the House amid huge

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina accepted the

Printed copies of answers to all questions

award in a colourful function at a hotel in New

were placed on the table to save time in discus-

sion. According to scheduled business of yes-

terday's sitting, one and half an hour was allo-

cated for question answer session including

half an hour for the prime minister to reply

AL lawmaker Apu Ukil placed the motion for

aspiration of entire country and its people.

her competent leadership," Hamid said.

tioned as success achieved in different sectors.

However, the treasury bench lawmakers in

Participating in the discussion, Awami

In response to an instant proposal of Jatiya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

reducing child mortality.

'anti-people' activities.

different official files.

the premier.

success in achieving MDGs.

the House passed the motion.

desk thumping by lawmakers.

York on September 20.

lawmakers' queries.

"The articles 100 and 107 (3) were kept unchanged, as the constitution's eighth amendment act 1988 was declared void and out of jurisdiction by the honourable court," wrote Md Sirajul Islam, the then acting additional secretary of the law ministry, in the preface of the printed constitution.

At that time, the parliament did nothing on reinstating of the two articles, said Suranjit at the briefing. But since February this year when the

Appellate Division upheld the High Court landmark verdict declaring the Fifth Amendment illegal and void, the BNP leaders started questioning the court's jurisdiction to declare void any constitutional amendment act passed by the parliament. "It is the BNP that created the precedence in

1991, but they are now taking an opposite stance for political gain," said Suranjit, also ruling AL lawmaker.

Asked about reprinting the constitution with the articles following cancellation of the Fifth Amendment, he said the special committee at its next meeting on October 12 would decide on how those will be inserted in the constitution.

Suranjit said the day the judges signed the verdict on the Fifth Amendment case, it has been a part of the country's constitution.

holding the discussion and thanks giving to the

premier. "She is one of the greatest leaders of

the world," said Apu who kicked off the mara-

encourage country's people to take the country

ahead. "A new Bangladesh will be built under

competent, efficient and intelligent leadership

Alamgir said the premier has brought rare

urged the premier to take stern actions against

those who are engaged in misdeeds to tarnish

eulogising Hasina said, "The way she ran the

country in past and is running now makes her a

minutes," Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, chief of the

parliamentary standing committee on the

communications ministry, said citing his time

mier's generosity, AL lawmaker Abdul Mannan

said on return the prime minister portrayed the

achievement of the UN award belongs to the

Israfil Alam, who is also chief of the parliamen-

tary standing committee on labour and

employment ministry, however, said credit of

achieving the UN award actually goes to the

They said Hasina received some interna-

The treasury bench lawmakers also lauded the

tional awards and honorary degree for her role

in poverty reduction, attaining food suffi-

ciency, empowering women and other sectors.

present government under the leadership of

Hasina for taking steps to hold trial of war crimi-

nals, completing trial of Bangabandhu killing case

and freeing the country from stigma of militancy.

lawmakers for the thanks giving motion. She

said people are the partners of the achievement

as they voted her party to power to achieve the

Later, Hasina expressed her gratitude to the

prime minister no matter what others say.

Joining the discussion later, AL lawmaker

In an apparent effort to describe the pre-

successful statesman and she is a wonder."

allocated for speaking on the motion.

honour for us by receiving the UN award.

AL presidium member Mohiuddin Khan

AL lawmaker Abdul Matin Khasru, however,

AL lawmaker Rawshan Jahan Sathi

"It's not possible to praise her in only five

of Sheikh Hasina," Suranjit said.

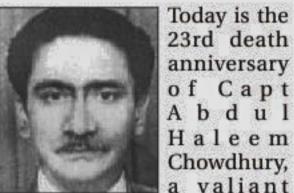
the government's image.

entire nation.

success, she said.

### Death anniversary of Capt Haleem today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



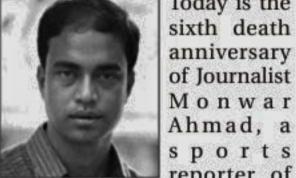
Chowdhury, a valiant freedom fighter and former minister, says a press release.

On the occasion, a commemorative meeting and doa mahfil will be held at Capt Abdul Haleem Chowdhury auditorium in Manikganj

around 3:00pm today. Besides, wreaths will be placed at his graveyard.

Monwar Ahmad

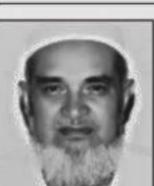
STAFF CORRESPONDENT Today is the sixth death



of Journalist Monwar Ahmad, a sports reporter of

the daily Manobzamin, says a press release.

Hamidur Rahman METRO DESK



anniversary of Hamidur Rahman, an organiser of the War of Liberation

Today is the

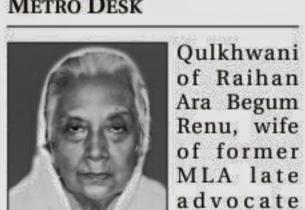
sixth death

and former chairman of Tangail pourashava, says a press release. On the occasion, a milad

Participating in the discussion, AL senior leader Abdur Razzaq said Sheikh Hasina is the and doa mahfil will be held at winner of the UN award as she has become his Tangail residence after Asr symbol of people's hopes and aspirations of the prayers today.

#### AL MP Suranjit Sengupta said the award will Qulkhwani

METRO DESK



of Raihan Ara Begum Renu, wife of former MLA late advocate Faizur

Gandaria in the city after Asr prayers tomorrow (Friday), says a press release.

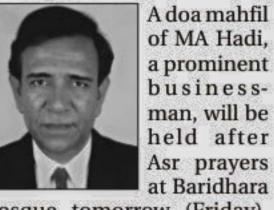
Relatives, friends and wellwishers are requested to attend the programme.

She died after prolonged illness on October 3 this year

at the age of 75. She left behind her three sons, one daughter and seven grandchildren.

#### Doa mahfil

METRO DESK



held after Asr prayers at Baridhara

the programme and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

He died at his apartment at Baridhara in the city on October

sons and daughter-in-laws

a prominent businessman, will be Mosque tomorrow (Friday), says a press release. All are requested to attend

3 this year at the age of 64. He left behind his wife, two

uted to reduce child mortality. "I dedicate the award to the country's people," Hasina said in her winding up speech to the sixth session of the parliament.

and grand children.

She also thanked field level health officials, physicians and others whose works contrib-

## Rahman Khan, will be held at 57, Satish Sarkar Road at