

## Manisha Dutt passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Manisha Dutt, wife of Sector Commander Major General (Retd) CR Dutt, passed away due to cardiac arrest at around 2:30am yesterday at the age of 75, says a press release.

She left behind her husband, three daughters and one son to mourn her death. She will be taken to Dhakeshwari Jatiya Mandir (National Temple) in the city at 1:00pm tomorrow for admirers and relatives to pay their last respect.

She will be cremated at Sabujbagh Rardeshwari Smashan Ghat (cremation ground) in the afternoon the same day. Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Parishad President Subrata Chowdhury and General Secretary Mangal Chandra Ghosh and Mahanagar Sharbojanin Puja Committee General Secretary Bires Chandra Shaha condoled the death.

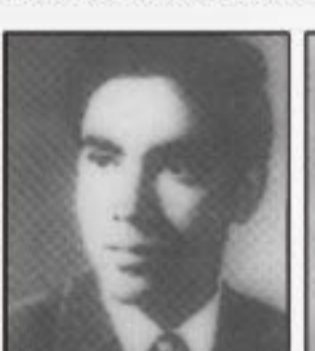
## Nadira Begum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Nadira Begum, mother of Azizul Islam, Rajshahi correspondent of Bangladesh Television, passed away at her residence in the city's Mohammadpur Tikapara on Saturday at the age of 65.

She left behind four sons and three daughters to mourn her death.

Nadira was buried at Tikapara Graveyard in the city after Zohr prayers yesterday.



## Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 39th death anniversary of Dr Azahar and Dr Humayun Kabir. Al Badr murdered them during the War of Liberation in 1971 for secretly providing treatment to injured freedom fighters.

Pro-Jamaat Al Badr men picked Azahar and Humayun on November 15 from Hatirpool in the city and their bodies were later found under a culvert in front of Notre Dame College the next day, says a press release.

In 1997, Ekatturer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee built a memorial plaque on the spot where the bodies were discovered.

On the occasion, Qurankhwani and prayers will be held at their graves in Azimpur graveyard after Asr prayers today.

Friends, relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend.

# Hartal adds to patients' sufferings

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Sixteen-year-old China Khatun broke her left leg two months ago in a motorcycle accident. Adding to her sufferings, she displaced her broken leg at Ershad Nagar in Tongi early hours yesterday.

As she was groaning in acute pain, her guardians decided to rush her to the National Institute of Traumatology, Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation (NITOR), where she received treatment earlier.

A CNG-auto rickshaw ride past midnight was supposed to take her to the hospital, also known as Pongu hospital, within half an hour. But the reality was strikingly different.

China's guardians tried in vain for over two hours to hire an auto rickshaw, as no driver was willing to take any risk the night before the hartal day.

It took two and a half hours of a rickshaw journey to cross the 25-kilometre distance and they finally reached the hospital at 5:30am.

"By the time we reached the hospital, her pain took a severe turn as her broken leg jerked due to the bumpy rickshaw ride on such a long distance," China's brother-in-law Ismat Ali told The Daily Star at the hospital.

Many other patients, who were compelled to visit hospitals during hartal hours, had to undergo the same ordeal as the countrywide strike almost brought down a halt to most of the motorised vehicles.

The main opposition BNP yesterday enforced the hartal, protesting 'eviction' of Khelada Zia from her cantonment house.

Visiting several hospitals, including NITOR, Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), Dhaka Shishu Hospital, Shaheed Suhrawardi Hospital, National Institute of Ophthalmology and Kidney and Urology Hospital, this correspondent found a thin presence of patients.

Even doctors and other staff at NITOR and DMCH, where the emergency units always remain tremendously busy, were seen passing leisure, as they had to attend small number of patients.

The outdoor units remained almost empty by 12 noon, excepting the on duty doctors, nurses and other staff.

NITOR sources said some 150 patients took treatment at the outdoor yesterday, which stands around 350 on any other day. Only six patients were admitted till 1:00pm as compared to about 22 patients in normal instance.

The outdoor department of Dhaka Shishu Hospital served 150 patients yesterday, while on Saturday 373 patients took treatment, said a hospital staff.

A DMCH register shows 238 patients took emergency treatment yesterday, which was 370 the previous day. The hospital usually provides outdoor treatment to 2000 patients, but only around 800 turned out yesterday.

Officials at the hospitals observed apart from hartal, the imminent Eid-ul-Azha is the other reason for this lower number of patients.

"We see comparatively less number of patients ahead of Eid every year," said officials at the hospitals, adding only the emergency patients visited the hospitals yesterday due to hartal.



Police charge baton on hartal activists in front of Titumir College at Mohakhali in the city yesterday.

## Bombs hurled at city cattle market, 4 hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some unidentified people hurled bombs at Nayabazar cattle market in the city last night, leaving four people wounded.

Golam Mostafa, Jahangir Hossain, Mohammad Adnan, and Mohammad Bayezid were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The victims said they received injuries when a bomb was thrown in the cattle market at about 9:00pm. They said they didn't know from where the bomb exploded in front of the dais of a money collection counter.

Katwali police said the bomb might have been thrown from the Second Buriganga Bridge and soon after the bombing, five to six bombs were also hurled at the market.

## BSCNEP conference held

METRO DESK

The first national conference of the Bangladesh Society for Clinical Neuro-Electro-physiologists (BSCNEP) was held at the Sasakawa Auditorium, ICDDR,B in the city on Friday.

Technicians, technologists and clinicians from across the country who are providing EEG and other neurophysiological investigations to children with neurological disorders.

The conference provided a unique opportunity for multidisciplinary professionals to discuss advancement and dissemination of applied biophysics and biomedical engineering technologies to remote populations in Bangladesh, said a press release.

Prof Naila Zaman Khan, president of the society, presided over the inaugural session. Dr Selina Husna Banu, secretary general of BSCNEP, gave the keynote address.

Special guest Prof Rabbani, chairman of Biomedical Physics and Technology department of Dhaka University, described how technology developed in the university was being disseminated to other countries and the possibility of manufacturing of home-grown EEG machines.

National Professor MR Khan was the chief guest at the session.

## Turkish PM pays tributes to martyrs

BSS, Dhaka

The visiting Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday paid rich tributes to the martyrs of the War of Liberation by placing wreath at the National Memorial in Savar.

After placing the wreath, the Turkish prime minister stood in solemn silence for some time as a mark of respect to the memory of the valiant sons of the soil who embraced martyrdom during the country's War of Liberation in 1971.

A smartly turned out contingent drawn from three services of the armed forces gave a salute on the occasion.

Erdogan, who arrived here on Friday on a two-day official visit to Bangladesh, also planted a sapling and signed the visitors' book there.

Commerce Minister Muhammad Faruque Khan and State Minister for Housing and Public Works Advocate

Abdul Mannan Khan were present on the occasion.

Meanwhile, Erdogan's spouse Emine Erdogan visited the 'Arong', an exclusive shop for handcrafts and boutique products, on the Manik Mian Avenue in the city.

## Korean varsity team meets DU VC

UNB, Dhaka

Prof Dr Jin Ho Choi, Dean, Graduate School and Professor of Sociology, Ajou University, Suwon Korea, called on Dhaka University (DU) Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique at his office yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters of mutual interest specially possibilities of exchange of teachers, researchers and students between the two universities.

## Air chief leaves for China

UNB, Dhaka

Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal SM Ziaur Rahman yesterday left Dhaka for China to attend the "8th China International Aerospace Exhibition".

Air chiefs from eight countries are participating in the air show.

During his eight-day stay in China, Ziaur Rahman will call on Chinese PLA Air Force Commander General Xu Qiliang and discuss matters of bilateral issues.

He will attend "Zhuhai International Air Show 2010" and also visit some civil and military establishments there.

The air chief, who is leading a six-member delegation, is expected to return home on November 23.

## Chinese hospital ship leaves Ctg today

A CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

'Peace Ark', a hospital ship of China's People's Liberation Army (PLA), will leave Chittagong Sea Port for its healthcare services to the armed forces and general people.

The hospital ship anchored at the port on November 9 after travelling five countries.

Chinese naval doctors and Bangladesh Navy jointly started providing medical service for free on November 10.

On the occasion, a large number of locals arrived at Chittagong naval hospital Banovja Patenga and in the ship.

With ultramodern medical technology, 'Peace Ark' is one of the biggest and most modern hospital ships in the world.

According to ISPR, the week-long tour of the ship will strengthen relations between China and Bangladesh Navy.



Participants at the inaugural session of the first national conference of the Bangladesh Society for Clinical Neuro-Electro-physiologists held at the Sasakawa Auditorium, ICDDR,B in the city on Friday.

## Justice BK Das Press Council chairman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice BK Das joined Bangladesh Press Council chairman on November 10, says a press release.

He was appointed for three years by the president.

During his career, justice Das worked as a lawyer in the Supreme Court for 32 years. He was the judge of the appellate division of the Supreme Court for 12 years since 1998. He was also one of the advisers to the first caretaker government in 1991.

He was born in 1943. Justice Das obtained his law degree from the University of Dhaka.

## 'Cantt house was centre of conspiracy'

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Home Affairs Shamsul Hoque Tuku yesterday alleged that the cantonment residence of Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia was a centre of conspiracy against democracy.

"She hatched conspiracies against the hard-earned democracy at different times while staying in that residence for the last three decades," he told journalists at his secretariat office in the city.

Tuku said Khaleda held the entire nation hostage to stay in that house illegally and exposed the people to immense suffering ahead of Eid-ul-Azha by calling hartal.

"She wants to stay there to hatch conspiracies against the government as well as the people and protect her corrupt son Tarique Rahman," he said adding that this is not an issue at all and the people of the country have already rejected their issueless hartal call.

Tuku said Khaleda has been crying for a particular house, whereas Bangabandhu's daughter Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has already donated her father's Dhanmondi residence on Road #32 for the welfare of the common people.

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