

NEWS IN brief

'Torturers' of Tarique to be tried: BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Termining Tarique Rahman "future statesman," BNP leaders yesterday said those who were responsible for torturing Tarique after his arrest during the immediate past caretaker government will be punished if the party comes into power.

They told a meeting organised by the main opposition party at Mahanagar Natya Mancho to mark the fourth anniversary of the arrest of Tarique, senior vice chairman of BNP, who was arrested for different charges, including corruption, and later released on bail.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia was present in the meeting as the chief guest but did not speak. Party standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan presided over the meeting.

Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Moudud Ahmed, Mirza Abbas, Goyeswar Chandra Roy, Sadeque Hossain Khoka, Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and Ruhul Kabir Rizvi, among others, also spoke.

Trader shot, robbed of Tk 8.20 lakh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj
A gang of muggers snatched away Tk 8.20 lakh from a fuel trader after shooting him at Duptara bazar in Araihasar upazila yesterday.

Injured Mosharraf Hossain, owner of Ahmed Traders, said around 2:30pm six muggers riding on two motorcycles waylaid his CNG-run auto rickshaw about 150 meters away from his shop and fired on his leg and snatched away the money. Later, locals rushed him to the Upazila Health Complex.

BNCC training starts today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Central Training Exercise (CTE) 2011 of Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC) starts in Baipal Training area of Savar today.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid will inaugurate the event.

Some 600 cadets of the army, navy and air wing will participate in the 11-day long training programme, says a press release.

CPB's 63rd anniversary observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Leaders of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) yesterday urged the people to forge a movement against communalism, price hike, violence, corruption, tender-manipulation and unemployment.

The leaders made the call at a discussion marking the 63rd founding anniversary of the party at the Mukti Bhaban in the city.

The discussion was organised by the Dhaka committee of the party that was addressed by central leaders of the party Shahidullah Chowdhury, Shamsuzzaman Selim, Morshed Ali, Ruhin Hossain Prince, Ahsan Habib Lablu, student leader Manabendra Dev.

Ashraf Hossain Ashu, president of Dhaka committee chaired the discussion.

Proshika officials claim success

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Officials of Proshika, one of country's non-government organisations, yesterday claimed that the new managing committee achieved significant success in developing mutual relationship with the government and different donor agencies.

Proshika Chief Executive Mahub-Ul-Karim told this at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity yesterday. The governing body removed Proshika's founding chairman Qazi Faruque Ahmed after a meeting in May 2009.

30 doctors get SK+F-Olitalia award

METRO DESK
Some 30 doctors received SK+F-Olitalia Health Award 2010-11 for their outstanding contribution to health care sector in a ceremony at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city on Saturday.

Health Advisor to the Prime Minister Syed Mudassar Ali and State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mazibur Rahman Fakir were present.

Managing Director of Fair Distribution Ltd Ruhul Alam Al-Mahbub thanked all the physicians for their outstanding contribution.

Varun Gandhi marries Yamini

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi
India's opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Varun Gandhi married Bengali graphic designer Yamini Roy at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh state yesterday. The wedding took place at the Shri Kashi Kaamkotishwar Temple according to Hindu rites. Varun is the youngest of the Gandhi family.

ROOM ERECTION BY SCBA
HC directs PWD to stop construction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday issued a suo moto order directing the Public Works Department (PWD) to immediately stop constructing structures on the roof of Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) office building.

An HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain came up with the order following a report published in The Daily Star headlined -- SCBA erecting rooms on old building 'illegally'.

Dr Belal Hossain Joy, a Supreme Court lawyer, placed the report, seeking an HC directive to stop the construction on the over 50-year old building.

The court observed that construction of tin-shed rooms on the roof of SCBA building was going on without any planning and permission from PWD. If the rooms are constructed, the building would become vulnerable to the life of the lawyers, it said.

According to The Daily Star report, SCBA is erecting the rooms defying objections from PWD.

On February 7, PWD lodged a general diary (GD) with Shahbagh Police Station, saying it is too risky to build the structures.

In the GD, PWD argues that the three-storied building would become vulnerable, be at risk of collapse and unable to stand an earthquake.

Meanwhile, SCBA Secretary Bodruddoza Badal, in a statement, expressed surprise with the report.

He said the previous pro-Awami League (AL) SCBA executive committee constructed and rented out about 100 shops on the building's roof to their favourites.

At that time nobody objected. But now the new committee, dominated by BNP, constructing some cubicles for lawyers facing acute sitting problems, is being questioned, he said.

"A pro-Awami League quarter is trying to stop the construction out of jealousy as they think that this act will increase the popularity of the present executive committee," the statement said.

He also stated that the need for the construction is purely for the benefit of SCBA lawyers and not for commercial purpose.

ALPP to sit Thursday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A w a m i League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) is scheduled to sit on Thursday to discuss socio-economic and political situations.

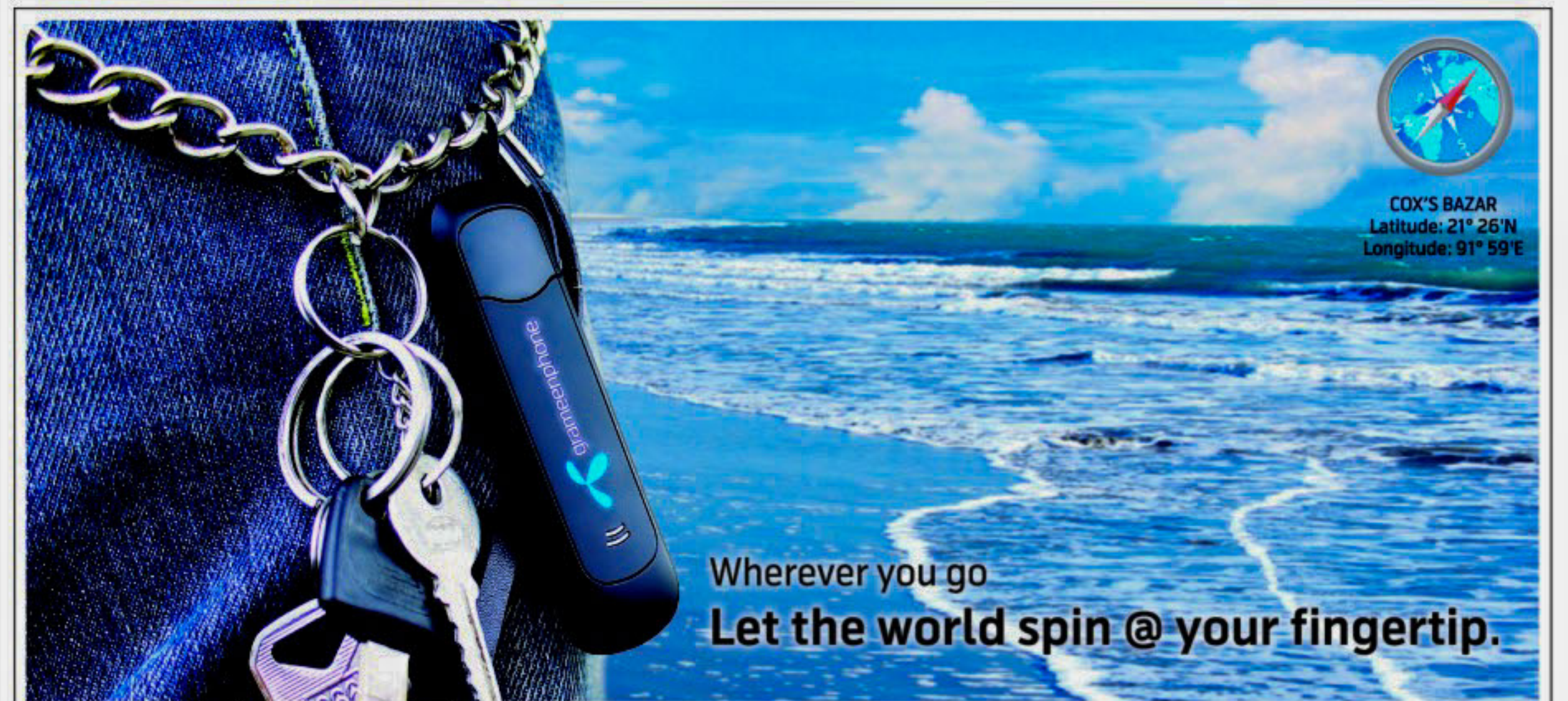
The issues of discussion will include removal of Dr Muhammad Yunus, UP polls and BNP's movements.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, chief of the ALPP, will chair the meeting at Gono Bhaban.

Bengal Foundation Chairman Abul Khair and SKIRA Asia Pacific Publications and Projects Manager Rosa Maria Falvo exchange copies of an agreement at Bengal Foundation in the city yesterday while Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, founder and chairperson of Brac; Begum Jahanaara Abedin; and Giorgio Guglielmino, Italian ambassador to Bangladesh; look on.



PHOTO: STAR



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STARS official visits IFB today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



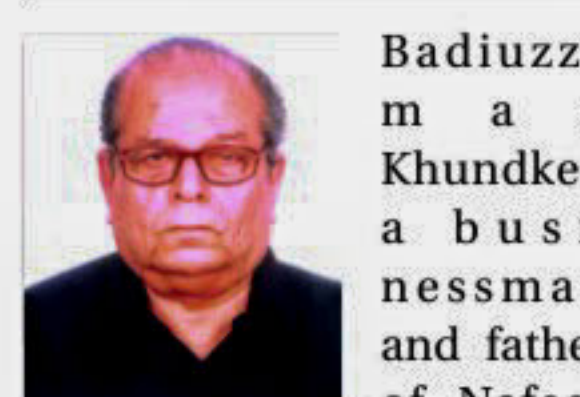
Hyafil will visit Impact Foundation Bangladesh (IFB) today.

IFB, a non-government organisation, received an award from the UK-based charity organisation STARS, said a press release.

The award, which consists \$100,000 in unrestricted funding, tailored consultancy support and media benefits, is presented to six NGOs in Africa and Asia each year recognising excellent standards in criteria such as improving lives of disadvantaged children.

Obituary

METRO DESK



Badiuzzaman Khundker, a businessman and father of Nafees Khundker, a director of Bank Asia, passed away at the United Hospital in the city due to cardiac arrest at the age of 78 on Saturday, says a press release.

He left behind his wife and two sons.

Badiuzzaman Khundker was laid to rest at Banani Graveyard after namaz-e-janaza at Gulshan Azad Mosque after Johr prayers yesterday.

His qulkwani will be held after Maghrib prayers on Tuesday.

A Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of Bank Asia, condoled his death.

Abdur Rahim Shikder

UNB, Dhaka

Mohammad Abdur Rahim Shikder, father of UNB sports reporter Mostafa Kamal, died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital early yesterday. He was 80.

Rahim Shikder, a businessman and philanthropist, was suffering from asthma and diabetes for long. He was taken to the hospital with severe head injuries after falling on Saturday night.

He left behind his wife, two sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death.

The Daily Star NEW ADVERTISEMENT RATES Effective from 15th March-2011. Advertisement rates table with columns for Display Advertisement, Rate, and various ad formats like Front Page, Back Page, etc.



Winners of Ruposhi Bangla Photo Contest organised by Bangladesh Photojournalists Association pose for photograph with guests after the awarding ceremony at the association's auditorium in the city yesterday.