



**Abul Mansur's 32nd anniversary of death today**

**METRO DESK**  
Today is the 32nd death anniversary of Abul Mansur Ahmad, a renowned litterateur, journalist and politician of the sub-continent, says a press release.  
One of the greatest satirist of Bengali literature, Abul Mansur Ahmad was also a renowned politician, lawyer and a very powerful journalist. He worked for Krishak, Nabajug and was editor of the Ittehad published from Kolkata in 1946 in undivided Bengal. He was a pioneer in modern and progressive journalism.

A very successful politician, Abul Mansur Ahmad was the provincial education minister in the United Front Cabinet under Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq and the central commerce and industries minister of the Awami League government of prime minister Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardy in 1957. He was known for his strong stand in matters of interest of East Bengal.

Abul Mansur Ahmad's publications include great satires like Aina, Asmani Purdah, Gulliverer Safar Nama and Food Conference. His works also include great writings on social and political history of Bengal. He has two autobiographical writings -- Atma Katha (about myself) and Amar Dekha Rajnitir Panchash Bachar (50 years of politics as I saw it).  
Abul Mansur Ahmad always propagated secularism in a manner unparalleled in the forties, fifties and sixties. His contribution towards opposition movement in the early days of Pakistan was extremely significant. He was one of the early leaders of Awami League.

He wrote about the language issue from early forties and contributed to the Language Movement as editor of Ittehad.

He was the author of the famous Ekush Dafa (21 points programme) election manifesto of Jukta Front (a grand coalition of the three giants of our politics, Sher-e-Bangla Fazlul Huq, Moulana Bhashani and Shaheed Suhrawardy) in 1954 election through which Muslim League was ousted from power. The Ekush Dafa was the first comprehensive articulation of the political, economic and cultural demands of the Bengalis of the then eastern part of Pakistan. For his political work, he suffered jail terms on several occasions during Gen Ayub Khan's Martial Law in the late fifties and early sixties.

Bangla Academy has recently published three volumes of Abul Mansur's collected works. Three more volumes are under print.

**Bangabandhu**

**FROM PAGE 3**  
Gobeshana Parishad organised separate discussions. Marking the day, Patua Kamrul Hasan Art School organised a painting and reciting competition and award giving ceremony for children in the city's Central Public Library premises.

Aparajeyo Bangladesh, an organisation working with disadvantaged children, held a meeting and cultural programme at Anwata Udyan in the city's Farmgate, calling for policymakers' attention to ensure child rights.

Bangladeshi missions across the globe also observed the day. The Bangladeshi Embassy in Kuwait organised an art competition and a discussion, a press release said.

**Building tilts in Narayanganj, cracks in another**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj**

Cracks developed in a one-storey building after a seven-storey under-construction structure leaned to one side at Nitaiganj in Narayanganj town Wednesday night.

The incident happened at BK Road around 11:30pm, creating panic among the locals.

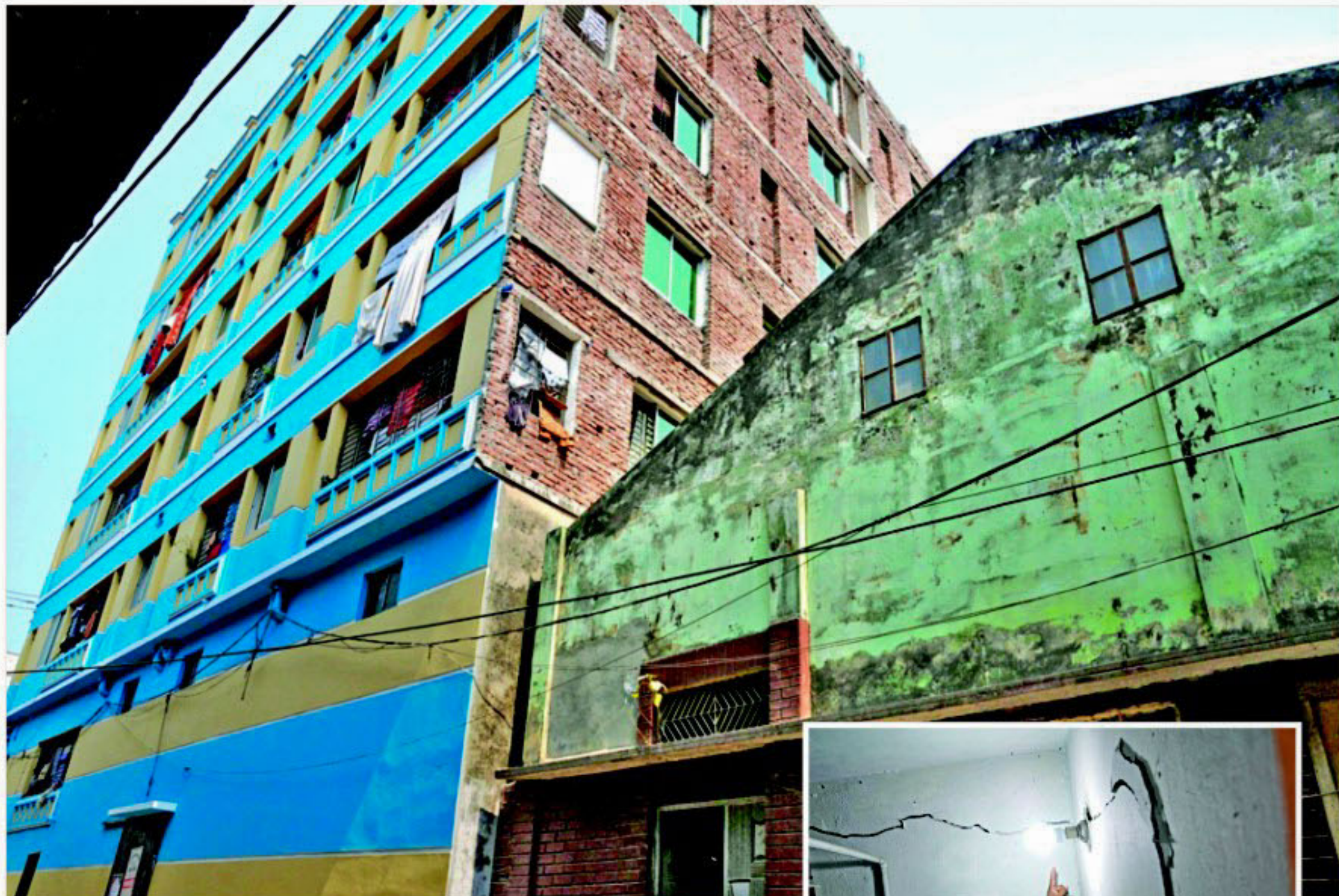
The residents of the one-storey building have already been evacuated. No casualties have been reported.

Engineer Abdul Aziz of Narayanganj municipality said, owner Mofizul Islam was erecting the seven-storey building without proper piling work on his plot, which has the approval for a two-storey structure.

Necessary steps will be taken in this regard on Sunday, he added.

Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani, owner of the one-storey building, said, "Cracks developed in different parts of my building when the seven-storey structure leaned to one side."

Akter Hossain, officer-in-charge of Narayanganj Sadar Model Police Station, said no one filed any complaint about the incident.



**PHOTO: STAR**  
The seven-storied under-construction building on the left tilted, inducing cracks (inset) to develop on the one-storied adjacent building at Nitaiganj in Narayanganj town on Wednesday.



**JP to stay with grand alliance in next polls: Ershad**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad here yesterday said he is still with the grand alliance and wants to participate with it in the next parliamentary elections, which could be his last.

Ershad said he criticised some decisions of the present government, including the way of removing Prof Dr Yunus from Grameen Bank, but that does not mean he is against the alliance.

He was replying to queries of journalists after attending a view-exchange meeting with the director of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) at CCCI conference room.

Ershad said, "Though some grievances were reflected in the extended meeting of the party, it was not the expression of my mind.

I formed the grand alliance risking my life and have commitment towards it. I want the alliance to be elected again."

Ershad said he usually criticises the government only to remind the prime minister of the past, not to dishearten anyone.

He said he at first criticised the removal of Dr Yunus as it is not fair to treat such an honourable person in that manner.

Mentioning the arrival of a representative of the US State Department in this regard, Ershad hoped that the issue would be solved in an honourable way.

On BNP joining the parliament, he said it was their duty to join since people voted them to do so.

**Facebook group also stands by Dr Yunus**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A facebook group will form a human chain in front of the National Museum at Shahbagh in the city today to protect the honour of Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus.

The group "Unite for Yunus", created online recently by people of different ages and professions, called upon all to attend the hour-long protest programme at 4:30pm.

Bangladeshis from across the world have formed different Facebook groups including "Support for Yunus" to rally around Dr Yunus and Grameen Bank, says a press release.

Protest programmes have been so far held on March 16 in New York, Berlin, and Paris and on March 17 in Seattle and Hongkong.

**SCBA continues construction on its office flouting court orders**  
*Attorney general terms it gross violation*

**ASHUTOSH SARKAR**

Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) continues to erect tin-shed rooms on the roof of its office building defying restrictions from Supreme Court (SC) and High Court (HC).

Former SCBA secretary SM Rezaul Karim yesterday said the SCBA leaders are not paying any heed to the restrictions and continuing with the construction.

The SC authorities on March 14 in a letter asked the SCBA president to take steps immediately in removing all unauthorised structures from the roof, which Public Works Department (PWD) claimed would make the building vulnerable.

On March 11, the SC authorities in another letter prohibited SCBA leaders from any further construction on the roof and adjacent areas of the building.

On March 12, the HC in a suo moto order directed SCBA, dominated by pro-BNP lawyers, not to allocate the rooms to lawyers and not to conduct any money transactions in this regard for the next three months.

Attorney General Mahbub Alam yesterday told The Daily Star that the pro-BNP lawyers are constructing the rooms to please a section of lawyers ahead of SCBA election on March 30 and 31.

He said he, along with other senior lawyers, would soon request the government to construct a new building at SCBA premises to solve the accommodation problem.

"I have never seen such gross violation of the orders of the Supreme Court and the High Court by the Supreme Court Bar Association leaders, who practice law," the attorney general said.

Meanwhile, SCBA President Khandker Mahbub Hossain said they already constructed the rooms and would not remove them before the election.

The next executive committee will decide on the removal, as many of those were constructed 10 to 15 years ago, and are running business, he said.

Khandker said the structures should not be removed without arranging an alternative accommodation for lawyers. He added that they would reply to the SC's letter this week.

SCBA Secretary Bodruddoza Badal said they already spent around Tk 50 lakh for the construction and collected Tk 40,000 from each of the 117 lawyers on payment orders for allocating the rooms to them.

"We have already stopped collecting money and allotment of the rooms following the High Court order," he said.

**RMG worker kills herself**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A female garment worker allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling at Namapara of Khilkhet in the city yesterday.

Police said Shanta Begum, 19, a worker of Karuna Garments, took her life in their

rented house after her husband Saidul Haq, also a garment worker, went for work around 10:00am. On information, police recovered the body around 11:00am.

Quoting her neighbours, police said the couple locked into an altercation last night following a family feud.

**AL leader**

**FROM PAGE 3**  
Earlier on February 26, Rapid Action Battalion arrested two others, Javed alias Prince, 19, and Arif Hossain, 20. The two have already given confessional statements before the court.

Deputy Commissioner (South) Monirul Islam said Kala Ameer, now staying in South Africa, and Imon, in India, had been hired to carry out the killing of the AL leader. The two lead a gang here over the phone to execute crimes like murder and extortion.

Detained Sharif coordinated the killings as per

the directives of Ameer and Imon, he added.

Monirul said a dispute to gain supremacy in the area to carry out extortion and illegal trade is the reason behind the double murder.

Asked who had hired Ameer and Imon, he said, "We identified him but are not willing to disclose the name for the sake of investigation."

Sharif told The Daily Star that ward-89 unit AL president Haji Nur Hossain, general secretary Raihan Khokan and Mohammad Ullah, senior vice president of

Shyampur-Kadamtali AL unit, were leading separate groups as they wanted to contest the councillor post for the same ward.

The detainee was working for Raihan as Masud, an activist of Mohammad Ullah, killed his father eight months ago.

Detained Zakir said they did not know the AL leader and killed him on orders of Imon.

DB officials said, over Tk 2 crore was spent for the murders. But Jummon said he was given only Tk 4,000 after the killings.

**Entrust lower court judges to SC: SCBA**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) leaders yesterday demanded of the government to restore Article 116 of the constitution of 1972, which had empowered the Supreme Court to deal with posting, promotion, and grant of leave of lower court judges.

Article 116 of the 1972 Constitution is now missing due to its drafting and reprinting by the government. SCBA President Khandker Mahmud Hossain said, adding that a standstill and disappointing situation has been created in the activities of lower courts.

He said this at a press conference at his SCBA office room yesterday afternoon. SCBA Secretary Bodruddoza Badal and Assistant Secretary Morshed Al Mamun Litan, among others, were present there.

Khandker Mahbub Hossain said that as per the provision of Article 116 of existing drafted constitution, the president of the country deals with the posting, promotion, and grant of leave of lower court judges.

Therefore, the control of lower judiciary has gone under the executive, which is against the SC directives in the verdict of Masdar Hossain case popularly known as separation of judiciary case.

Attorney General Mahbub Alam told The Daily Star that there is no confusion in exercising Article 116 of Constitution, since the government is dealing with posting, promotion, and grant of leave of lower court judges in consultation with the SC as per the directive of Masdar Hossain case.



**PHOTO: STAR**  
Lawmaker Asaduzzaman Noor views a painting on display after inaugurating a weeklong exhibition "Women in Nature" at Drik Gallery in the city yesterday.

**Know Bangladesh Better**

Read Star Insight, a fortnightly publication of The Daily Star  
Insight Cover Story on "Celebrating the Gifts of Nature & the Rivers of Bangladesh". Exclusive Short Story by Purobi Basu. This issue also covers news from Moulvibazar and Jhenidah.  
Grab your copy now!



Send your comments & contribution to

**Star Insight**  
Rafi Hossain  
64-65 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh  
Fax: 880-2-8125155 email: starinsight@thedailystar.net  
www.thedailystar.net/insight



**PHOTO: STAR**  
Children busy drawing at a competition organised by Patua Kamrul Hasan Art School at the National Museum in the city yesterday marking the 91st birthday of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.