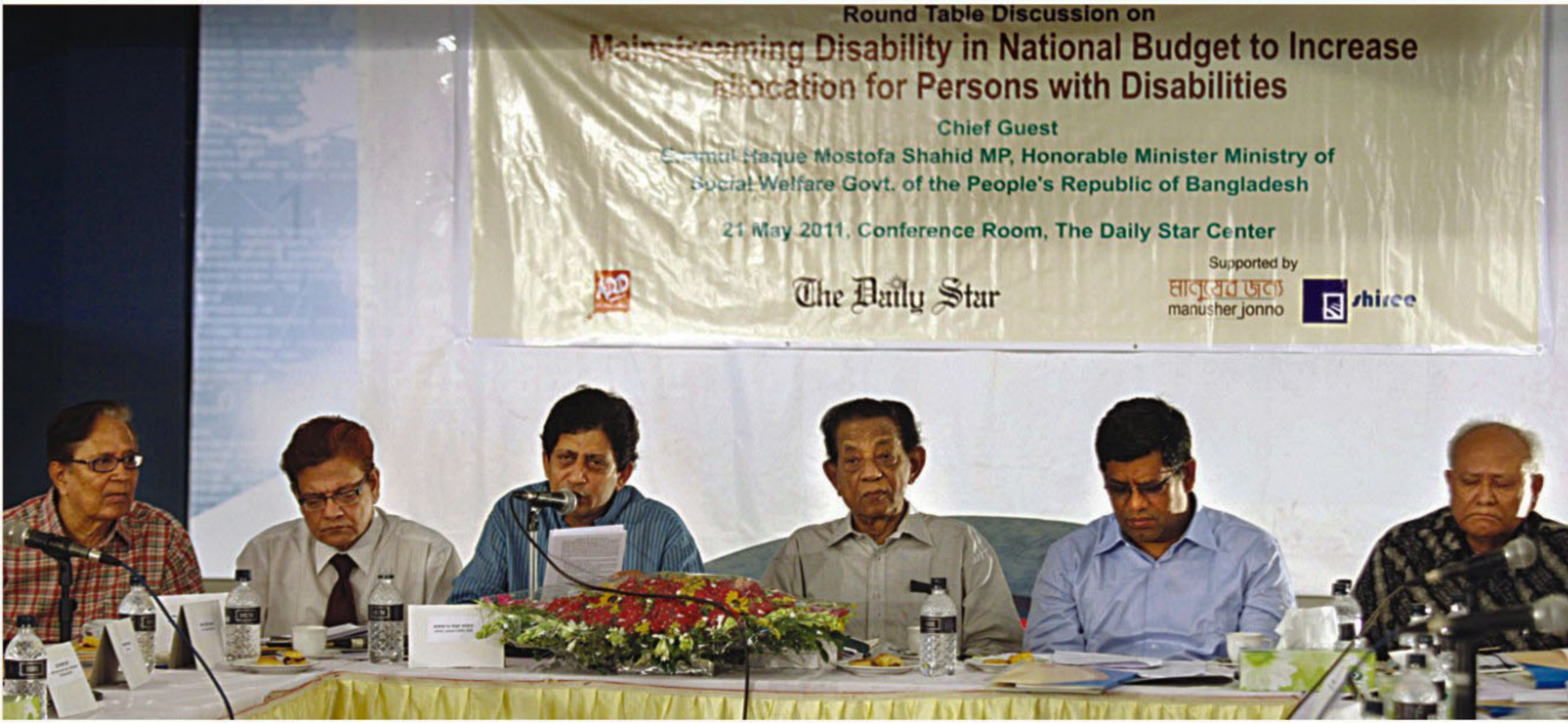


Adventure fest begins tomorrow

North Alpine Club Bangladesh (NACB) is going to organise a seven-day-long programme for adventure loving people at several universities in the city from tomorrow marking the 1st anniversary of Musa Ibrahim's Everest conquest. The fest titled "Shah Cement Adventure Fest 2011" will begin with a five-day-long adventure fair at Teacher Student Centre (TSC) of Dhaka University. Musa announced the programmes at a press conference yesterday in the city's Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium. Shah Cement will sponsor the whole programme. NACB President Anisul Hoque, Vice President Pallab Mohaimen, Extreme Bangla President Kazi Hamidul Haq and Shah Cement Deputy Brand Manager Mohammad Ibrahim Khalid spoke to journalists there. Musa said the programme will pay tribute and coincide with the date Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay first conquered the Everest on May 29, 1953. He hopes these programmes would encourage the young generation to grow their mind into doing something great to achieve success. Adventurous people do not take drugs and our goal is to make the young generation hate drugs, he said. In the adventure fair at TSC, Musa Ibrahim's Nepalese teammates Som Bahadur Sherpa and Lal Bahadur Jirel will provide visitors with guidelines on mountain climbing.



Noted economist Prof Abul Barakat, third from left, addressing a discussion on "mainstreaming disability in the national budget" at The Daily Star centre in the city yesterday. On his left is Social Welfare Minister Enamul Haque Mostofa Shaheed. (Story on Page B1)

Gen Zia let Jamaat in politics Says law minister

UNB, Dhaka Law Minister Shafiqe Ahmed yesterday accused late president Gen Ziaur Rahman, the founder of BNP, of dissecting the basic structure of the constitution by reviving religion-based political parties through martial law proclamation. Secularism, one of the four state principles, was deleted along with the Article 38 that prohibited religion-based politics by the martial law proclamation. "As a result, outlawed Jamaat-e-Islami which had opposed Bangladesh's international recognition, returned to politics," he told a seminar titled "Freedom of expression: Conflicting rights in Bangladesh and in some other countries." Centre for Practical Multimedia Studies (CPMS) organised it at Dhaka

University (DU) senate bhaban conference yesterday. Dr Fahmidul Huq, associate professor of mass communication and journalism department of DU, chaired the seminar while Kristin Skre Orgeret, associate professor of Oslo University, Norway, presented the keynote paper. The law minister alleged that Gen Zia had given scope to the rise of militancy as well by changing the constitution. Those who enjoyed the state power after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in August 1975 had changed the constitution in an unconstitutional way through martial law proclamations, he said. Shafiqe said there is no provision of martial law in the constitution. As the

Programme for turtle conservation

A photo exhibition and seminar celebrating "Year of the Turtle 2011" will be held at Teacher Student Centre in Dhaka University on Wednesday to create awareness for the conservation and research on turtles. Centre for Advanced Research in Natural Resource and Management in collaboration with ICUN-Bangladesh will organise the function from 9:00am to 6:00pm. The celebration will include a rally by school-children and a bird exhibition, says a press release yesterday. According to a Turtles Conservation Coalition report, the three species of turtles present in Bangladesh are facing major threats to their existence due to destruction of their habitats and illegal hunting for food and export. The campaign aims at creating awareness among people to take action and help keep turtles as a part of the ecosystem.

T-shirts worth Tk 47 lakh recovered in Ctg

Police recovered 21,920 pieces of T-shirts worth Tk 47 lakh along with a container truck in the port city last night and arrested six people in this connection. The arrestees are Md Abdul Ghani, 32, Md Ibrahim, 20, Md Shahabuddin, 32, Md Rashed, 28, Md Selim, 25 and Sarwar Uddin, 25. Babul Chandra Banik, officer-in-charge of Pahartali Police Station, told The Daily Star that a gang of muggers looted the consignment of Mohammodi Group from Sagorika on Friday morning. Former FBCCI president Anisul Haq is owner of the garments that were being brought to Chittagong Port from Dhaka for export, said Babul. Acting on a tip-off, police arrested three people during their drive at Chandgao and recovered the T-shirts around 3:00am. On the basis of their information, police conducted drive at different parts of the city including Asadganj, Sagorika, and Humjarbagh and recovered the readymade garments.



The six arrested thieves and the stolen garments with a container truck seized at Pahartali Police Station in Chittagong city yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

MEGHNA TRAWLER CAPSIZE 2 more bodies recovered; death toll rises to five

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj Saturday morning, she added. Narayanganj district administration has distributed Tk five thousand each among the victims' families, said UNO of Arahazarpazil. It is mentioned that the engine trawler with 30 to 35 passengers aboard sank in the river near Bishanadi village under

Divers stop rescue mission after salvaging the trawler

Arahazarpazil of the district at around 6:00pm on Friday after it hit a sand-laden bulkhead. Acting Officer-in Charge (OC) of Arahazarpazil Station Sayed Nazrul Islam said five bodies have been recovered so far. The body of a child was handed over the relatives immediately after the incident. "We are carrying on our search operation though strong current is hampering the efforts" the OC added.

Only a few drivers charge extra fare Claim auto-rickshaw owners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Only a few drivers of compressed natural gas (CNG)-run three-wheelers harass passengers demanding extra fare while police harass most drivers in the name of punishment for such offence. Police disguised as passengers insist drivers to go on contract rather than by metre to create an excuse to arrest them and seize vehicles to extort money from the vehicle owners. The claims came at a press conference organised by leaders of an organisation "Dhaka Mohanagar CNG Autorickshaw Owners Association" in Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium in the city yesterday.

When asked on their role against harassment by drivers, the leaders said they are concerned but have nothing to do unless Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) takes steps. They alleged BRTA demands bribe for fitness certificates. They placed some demands including increasing the fare rate and rent for owners once more, denying the government's revised rate. With price hike of CNG, the government on May 13 increased the fare rate from Tk 7 to Tk 7.50 per kilometre (km) and waiting charge from Tk 1.25 to Tk 1.30 per minute. The owners demanded a fare rate of Tk 9 per km and a waiting charge of Tk 1.50 per minute, increasing the rent from Tk 600 to 800 and increasing the vehicles' valid lifetime from 10 to 13 years. They warned of tougher agitation programmes if the government fails to meet the demands within June 5. The association President ATM Nazmul Hasan and General Secretary Harun Or Rashid also spoke.

Azad for using local raw materials in industries

Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad yesterday called for establishing industries based on local raw material through public-private partnership for development of the country. He said this while visiting an industry, KBC Agri Products Private Limited, a joint venture of Bangladesh and India at Dhamrai here. Azad called upon the rich section of the society to come forward to establish industries and using local raw materials. Earlier, the minister attended a prize giving ceremony and reception accorded to the students who scored GPA 5.00 in the SSC examination this year.



Noukhat Rakha Jatiya Committee stages a candlelight vigil at TSC of Dhaka University yesterday commemorating the victims killed after MV Bipasha sank into the river Meghna in Brahmanbaria 30 days ago. PHOTO: STAR

Al Amin Group GM shot

STAFF CORRESPONDENT The general manager of Al Amin Group was seriously injured after a gang of 3-4 unknown miscreants fired shots at him in front of Al Amin Super Market at Postogola in the city yesterday. The injured, Gazi Maqsudur Rahman, 45, was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). The hospital sources said four bullets hit different parts of his body. Momin Ali, another general manager (GM) of Al Amin Group, said he did not have any idea about who could be responsible for the shooting. Police are trying to find clue to the incident, said Sub-inspector Abir Mohammad of Shyampur Police Station.

Advertisement for Prof. Dr. AKM Fazlul Haque, a colorectal surgeon. It lists various conditions treated such as Piles, Constipation, Dysentery, and Cancer. It also includes contact information for his clinic and the Japan-Bangladesh Friendship Hospital.