



# The Daily Star

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## BRING BACK THE SCOUTS

A look at Scouting in Bangladesh and the need for its resurgence

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## HARTAL & CARETAKER GOVT

Brig Gen Shahedul Anam Khan points out two major parties' amnesia about the issues

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A bipartisan group of US lawmakers allege operations in Libya are "illegal"

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### CARETAKER ISSUE

# Together, let's take next step

PM warns Khaleda of power-grabbers, calls for unity to prevent such elements

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has warned Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia that a vested quarter was harbouring a plan to capture power through backdoor.

She also requested Khaleda to prevent such elements unitedly.

"Let us [the elected representatives] set together the next course of action regarding the caretaker government," the premier said.

Only elected representatives of the people should decide what to be done to resolve the dispute over the caretaker government system, she said.

"This vested quarter, who has no chance to come to power through contesting polls, is trying to find the loopholes of the elected government in a bid to capture power," she said while inaugurating a three-month-long Tree Plantation Campaign-2011 of Bangladesh Krishak League at Gano Bhaban yesterday.

Hasina said the decision of holding three elections under non-party caretaker government was taken in the light of the charter of three parties after the political changeover in 1990.

But the people had bitter and strange experiences from the past three caretaker governments, she said.

After coming to power in 1991, BNP had "betrayed" with the decision of the three political parties. Later BNP was compelled to accept the demand of caretaker government following vigorous movement launched by

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As a part of Hatirjheel water body reclamation project in the capital, an underground connecting channel is being built under the train tracks near FDC rail crossing to connect two sections of the water body. But trains still run on the tracks, during the construction underneath, risking accidents.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# Caretaker must for two polls

BNP asks govt to take steps

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the main opposition BNP said yesterday the prime minister and the ruling Awami League must take necessary steps to hold the next two parliamentary elections under non-party caretaker government.

"The court (Supreme Court) suggested holding two more elections under non-party caretaker government. But the ruling party leaders distorted the verdict to hold elections under the present government which will not be acceptable to people," said Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, BNP standing committee member.

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## Tragic

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A female college student committed suicide at the city's Mirpur Tuesday night, a day after her boyfriend committed suicide in Malaysia.

Rimi Parvin, a second year student of social work of Mirpur University College, hanged herself at her brother-in-law Nuruzzaman's house at Pirebagh around

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# Boy not killed by Rab

Family insists criminals did it; locals, N'ganj leaders flay Rab for the way drive conducted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

It was a bullet of the drug peddlers that claimed the life of schoolboy Shuvo Tuesday night at Pagla of Fatullah in Narayanganj, family members of Shuvo said.

Rahima Begum, mother of deceased Swadhin Ahmed Shuvo, in a case statement said a group of 10-12 local drug peddlers shot her 14-year-old son from a short distance as he screamed seeing them with firearms.

She filed the case with Fatullah Police Station yesterday. Rab too filed two other cases in connection with the incident that also left Shuvo's friend Badal and bother Sohag injured.

The descriptions of the incident that Rapid Action Battalion provided in its two cases were almost identical to the one Rahima gave.

Meanwhile, the Rab's covert operation in the densely populated area has triggered an outcry as many believe Shuvo's death could have

been averted had Rab been more careful.

Locals told The Daily Star correspondent during a spot visit yesterday that the boy was indeed killed by the criminals' firing.

Sergeant Shafiqul Islam of Rab-10 in one of the cases said the three boys were hit when criminals started indiscriminate fire to get away during their covert operation to catch the drug peddlers.

He said Rab only fired one shot

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Rab told to be careful with firing JS body worried

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday expressed concern over the death of a schoolboy at Fatullah of Narayanganj during a Rab operation and asked the elite force to use firearms cautiously, especially in residential areas.

"We told Rab personnel that you [Rab personnel]

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# Torturer Sumon caught

Claims wife Rumana cheated on him; her friend says doctors in India found grievous injuries to cornea, retinae of both eyes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested Hasan Sayeed Sumon, who tortured and damaged the eyes of his wife Rumana Manzur, an assistant professor of Dhaka University, 10 days ago.

Sumon was arrested at his relative's house in the capital's Mugda area around 2:10pm, soon after he came back to Dhaka from his hideout in Chittagong, said Md

Monirul Islam, deputy commissioner of Detective Branch (DB South), at a press briefing in DB headquarters on Minto Road.

Just two hours before the arrest, the High Court had summoned police officers concerned to explain their failure in catching Sumon.

In the press briefing at DB headquarters, Sumon denied the allegation of torturing his wife.

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Shuvo, 14, top, who was killed during a shootout in Narayanganj on Tuesday. Right, Shuvo's friend Badal who was also wounded by a bullet during the shootout. Shuvo's younger brother Sohag (not in the pictures) was injured as well.

PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: STAR

Rumana Manzur, left, in a hospital bed after being brutally assaulted by her husband. Right, assaulter Hasan Syeed Sumon after being arrested by police yesterday.

# Illegal housing projects to get into Rehab fair

5 organisations serve notice on govt, body of realtors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five organisations yesterday served a legal notice upon the government and real estate developers' association asking them not to allow any unauthorised housing project in the housing fair.

Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh (Rehab) is

scheduled to launch a four-day fair at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre today.

The High Court in a verdict delivered on June 8 declared 77 housing projects in and around the capital illegal and asked the government to remove their ads.

The notice referring to the verdict said many private housing compa-

nies have undertaken illegal housing projects and they make sales using flashy advertisements.

There is virtually no effective mechanism in place to stop an illegal housing project from taking part in the fair, it said. They also hold such fairs abroad to attract the expatriate Bangladeshis.

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# 3 sites chosen for new int'l airport

BSS, Dhaka

In a fresh bid to find a suitable site for building Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib International Airport, the government has primarily selected three locations for the mega project.

"We have primarily selected three new sites in Madaripur-Gopalganj,

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