

**Funeral held in Naogaon**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

The funeral of journalist Dinesh Das, who was run over by a bus in the capital's Kakrail on Sunday, was held at his village home at Baniapara of Raninagar upazila in Naogaon yesterday.

After the rituals and mukhaghni, the senior reporter of Bangla daily Amader Shomoy was cremated and his ashes laid to eternal rest at Baniapara cremation grounds at 11:00am.

His wife Poly Rani Sarkar, daughter Othoi, relatives, local journalists and people from all walks of life attended the funeral and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Also paying their last respects were former lawmaker Ohidur Rahman and Raningar upazila parishad Vice Chairman Mohammad Shahidullah.

**Enforce traffic rules to cut accidents**

**Urge Bangladeshi expats from South Africa**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A five-member team of Bangladeshi expatriates of South Africa stressed the need for implementing traffic rules, proper infrastructure development, vehicle fitness and skilled driving to curb road accidents.

Visiting 30 countries by road, the team members being imbued with the campaign styled "We Demand Safe Road" raised the issue at a 'Meet The Press' programme at Barisal Reporters' Unity yesterday afternoon.

They stressed implementation of existing traffic rules and timely updating that by changing systems compatible with increasing load and rush of vehicles and passengers.

The planning, infrastructures and quality of road development works mostly unsuitable for road safety, they observed.

Creating mass awareness among the people against running unfit vehicles and reckless driving is also necessary, they opined.

The team dedicated their tour to journalists Nikhil Bhadra and Dinesh Das, who fell victims to road accidents recently.

Mizanur Rahman Wahed, the team leader, Nahid Mollah and Mohammad Bellal Howlader, the team members, advocate Hiron Kumar Das Mithu and AK Azad, local leaders of Road Safety Movement, among others, addressed the programme.

**Dinesh's family to get Tk 10 lakh**

**Free schooling for child, job for wife**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday decided to provide Tk 10 lakh to the family of journalist Dinesh Das.

Of the total, Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader and Dhaka District Commissioner's Office will each provide Tk 1 lakh. The rest will come from the government's relief fund.

The senior reporter of Bangla daily Amader Shomoy was killed in a road accident in the capital's Kakrail on Sunday.

The decision came at a meeting between the ministers attended by Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists' President Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury and Secretary General Abdul Jalil Bhuyian and other leaders.

The meeting also decided to provide Dinesh's daughter, a student of Viqarunnisa Noon School, free schooling from class three to nine and his wife a job as per her educational qualification, says a press release.

Jatiya Press Club President Kamal Uddin Sabuj and General Secretary Syed Abdal Ahmed demanded the government to quickly provide Dinesh's wife with a job and provide for his children's proper upbringing.

Nirapad Sarak Chai (We Demand Safe Road) led by its Chairman actor Ilias Kanchan organised a human chain before Jatiya Press Club in the city demanding stern punishment of reckless drivers.

Bangabandhu Shangkrikrit Jote also held a human chain there where lawmaker Tarana Halim demanded minimum qualification of a driver to be fixed at SSC.

**CTG ARMS HAUL CASE Recording of deposition deferred**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday deferred the recording of prosecution witnesses' (PWs) deposition in connection with 10-truck arms haul case as seven accused could not be produced before the court.

The court of Chittagong Metropolitan Sessions Judge SM Mojibur Rahman fixed January 24 as the next date for recording of deposition.

"The accused were scheduled to appear before Dhaka courts in connection with war crimes trial today (Monday) and in connection with August 21 grenade attack case tomorrow (Tuesday), so they could not be produced here," said Kamal Uddin Ahmed, prosecution lawyer and public prosecutor.

Sources said Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami Amir Motiur Rahman Nizami appeared before the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday and Dhaka Central Jail authorities informed the Chittagong court that he could not be produced before it.

Nizami and three others including former state minister Lutfozzaman Babar are scheduled to appear before a Dhaka court for hearing on August 21 grenade attack case.

The trial in the 10-truck arms haul cases started on November 29 last year. Depositions of three PWs were recorded on the first day of the trial.

**DHAKA TODAY**

**Meeting**  
Gonoforum will hold a meeting on Bangabandhu's Homecoming Day; Venue: the party's central office at Eden Complex, Arambagh; Time: 4:00pm.

**Discussion**  
Bangabandhu Parishad will arrange a discussion; Venue: the organisation's Kalabagan central office; Time: 9:00am.



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleida Zia addresses a BNP rally on Polo Ground in Chittagong yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR



Dhaka Reporters Unity forms a human chain before Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday protesting the death of Dinesh Das who was run over by a bus in Kakrail on Sunday.

PHOTO: STAR

**TALKS WITH PRESIDENT Bikalpadhara for CG**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpadhara Bangladesh (BDB) yesterday asked President Zillur Rahman to restore the caretaker government system prior to the formation of a new Election Commission.

In its talks with the president, Bangladesh National Awami Party (NAP-Mozaffar), however, stressed the need for enacting a law to form a new EC.

BDB and NAP yesterday had separate meetings at Bangabhaban in the capital with the president on the formation of a new EC.

Emerging from the meeting, AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, chief of BDB, told reporters, "The government must restore the caretaker government system in line with a court order as well as people's demand."

The party told the president that the tenure of the incumbent EC could be extended until the next caretaker government was formed by formulating necessary rules.

The Supreme Court in its ruling had said the next two general polls could be held under a caretaker government, said Badruddoza, who

led a 14-member delegation. "We have demanded that the president take steps in this regard."

"We have also asked him to take measures to publish the SC verdict within 15 days."

At its meeting with the president, a nine-member NAP delegation led by its Secretary General Enamul Haq said the EC must have its own secretariat, manpower and budget to hold elections.

Asked about the caretaker government issue, NAP leaders told reporters that it was a parliament-related matter and that was why they had not discussed the issue with the president.

Enamul Haq said they would submit names to the president after rules were formulated for the formation of a new EC.

President Zillur Rahman on December 22, last year started holding dialogues with the political parties having their representatives in parliament and other political parties registered with the EC to seek their opinions on the formation of a new EC as the tenure of the incumbent EC is going to expire by mid-February.

**Help save Ashish**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Ashish Kanti Muhuri, a small trader of Chittagong Port Colony, has been suffering from Hepatitis C virus for long.

A huge amount of money is required for his treatment which his family cannot afford.

Ashish, aged around 38, is also a member of Sechcha Blood Donors Forum. He donated his eyes posthumously.

The generous and well-off people of the society are requested to come forward with financial help for the treatment of the philanthropic person.

His savings account No. 675, Islami Bank, Halishahar Branch, Chittagong and cell phone No. 01199285999.

**Obituary**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Aiub Reza Chowdhury, coordinator of Communist Union, passed away due to cardiac arrest at a city hospital yesterday morning.

He was organizing secretary of Chattra Union of undivided Bangla, says a press release.

Aiub played vital role in the independence war.

Leaders of Communist Union expressed deep shock and sympathy to the bereaved family members.

The body will be taken to Central Shaheed Minar today at about 11:00am to pay him last tribute.

**Man stabs teenage 'friend' over picnic**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 45-year-old man hacked his teenage "friend" with a kitchen knife in the city yesterday as the latter decided to go to a college picnic without him.

Hemayet Hossain, 18, a student of Ideal School and College, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with slashes on his chest, left thigh and left hand.

The man, Billal Sunny, kept waiting in front of Hemayet's Natunbagh residence in Khilgaon and jumped on him with the knife just as Hemayet was boarding the college bus bound for the picnic around 6:00am.

The victim's sister, Nazma, said Hemayet met Billal around two-and-a-half-years ago in a local mosque.

Billal claimed to be a singer living in Khilgaon's Ansary Camp and wanted to be friends with Hemayet who, he said, resembled his deceased brother, said Nazma.

Since then Billal began following Hemayet wherever he went, she said.

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**21st Anniversary of The Daily Star**

**BANGLADESH THE YOUNG AND THE FUTURE**

On the occasion of our 21st anniversary, we at The Daily Star have planned to dedicate our anniversary supplement to recognise both the achievements and visions of the youth of Bangladesh. The supplement which will be titled 'BANGLADESH, THE YOUNG AND THE FUTURE' will aim to highlight and bring to national attention the work of young achievers from every corner of the country. But to do so we need the help of our readers. If you know of any young people who have managed to set themselves apart with diligent work for the greater good, please drop us a nomination. We will run a tooth-comb over it and if the work is indeed exceptional we will share the story with a national audience. The categories under which the nominations will be sorted are:

1. Technology (also science)
2. Public Service (also professionals)
3. Politics
4. Entrepreneurship
5. Academia (also vocational learning, skill development, etc.)
6. Labour (including young workers inside garment factories)
7. Arts (music, film, etc.)
8. Agriculture
9. Sports
10. Environment
11. Gender

If you are willing to share a story please e-mail us at **elita@thedailystar.net** with the name of the individual or group and a brief write-up (no longer than 400 words) of what they are doing. Deadline for submissions is **January 15, 2012**. This is your chance to get recognised. So get your nominations in.