## PM cannot avoid responsibility

Says Mirza Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina cannot avoid responsibilities for the death of five people, who were killed in police firing centring the opposition's mass procession programme, Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, acting secretary general of BNP, said yesterday.

Fakhrul was addressing a protest rally at BNP's central office premises at Nayapaltan in the capital.

Four persons were killed in police firing on BNP processions at Chandpur and Laxmipur on Sunday while a Jamaat man was killed on Monday as police opened fire on a procession of Jamaat-e-Islami at Rajshahi.

Dhaka city unit BNP organised the rally as part of the party's countrywide demonstration protesting the killing of five opposition men.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia had declared the programme from a mammoth rally on Monday before leading a mass procession in the capital. Fakhrul said the government has started to fire openly

after being isolated from people due to its misdeeds. "The

government showed absolute failure in each sector of the country. It destroyed the economy [of the country], and no electoral pledge was implemented." Rejecting the allegation made by the prime minister after the disclosure of a failed army coup that Khaleda Zia

gave an ultimatum to oust the government by December last, the BNP leader said the party chairperson never gave any timeline to oust the government. "Rather it was Awami League who always backed and

supported army coups in the country and gave deadlines and ultimatum to oust democratically elected BNP government," he added. Referring to the media news on Lt Col Ehsan, who was

one of the schemers of the failed army coup, BNP city unit convener Sadeque Hossain Khoka said Ehsan was sent into retirement during last BNP regime, but he was reappointed and got promotion during the present government. "As a defence minister, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

can not avoid responsibility for what happens in the cantonment," he said.

BNP leaders Moudud Ahmed, Shamsuzzaman Dudu, Amanullah Aman, among others, spoke on the occasion.



**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj** 

At least 20 people were injured in a clash between two groups of people over ownership of market land at Siddhirganj in the district yesterday.

Police said the clash ensued early in the morning at Mitali Market in Signboard area when more than 100 people led by Kamar Ali attacked the market and knocked down a part of it claiming its ownership.

At one stage, shop owners and employees and people of Mitali Cooperative Association launched a counter attack that led to the clash.

A case was also filed. Police arrested five persons in this



Acting Secretary General of BNP Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir addresses a rally in front of the party's central office at Nayapaltan in the city yesterday to protest the death of five people, killed in police firing centring on the opposition's mass procession programme. PHOTO: STAR

#### This is for the first time hat Bangladesh has been lected head of this presti-STAFF CORRESPONDENT Academy Bhaban, the academy officials Mother Language Day.

Dr AK Abdul Momen

UN PEACE BODY

Dhaka

elected

vear 2012.

31,2012.

chairman

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has been

elected chairman unani-

mously of the United

Nations (UN) Peacebuilding

Commission (PBC) for the

Dr AK Abdul Momen,

ambassador and permanent

representative of

Bangladesh to the UN, will

lead the PBC till December

that Bangladesh has been

elected head of this presti-

gious UN body, according to

a press release received

yesterday from

Bangladesh's Permanent

2005, is an intergovernmen-

tal advisory body that sup-

ports peace efforts in coun-

tries emerging from conflict.

The election was held on

Assuming the Chair of

PBC, Dr AK Abdul Momen

yesterday pledged that he

would pursue "the path of

inclusion" throughout his

tenure to enhance the six-

year-old body's ability to

mobilise resources and align

key actors in assisting the

populations of countries

In another press release,

Dr Momen said under his

chairmanship, the commis-

sion would work to bolster

its "field-centric" approach

to mobilising resources,

while encouraging flexible

and adaptable instruments

of post-conflict engage-

The new PBC chair said

he would also work through-

out the year 2012 to bring

global and regional stake-

holders together for a more

coherent approach to

achieving the objective of

He would "narrow gaps"

and promote better coordi-

nated responses with the

aim of improving the way in

which the commission did

business so that it could take

the global peacebuilding

agenda forward.

sustainable peacebuilding.

emerging from conflict.

The PBC, established in

Mission to the UN.

January 30.

Ending a yearlong wait, booklovers of all ages are ready to a make beeline for the Bangla Academy premises throughout this February as the month-long Amar Ekushey Boi Mela 2012 begins today. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is

expected to inaugurate the fair, one of the biggest national events, around 3:00pm. As the guest of honour, William Radice, a British poet as well as a Tagore researcher, will grace the inaugural session.

The academy has been organising the annual event since 1984 to commemorate the martyrs of the Language Movement of 1952.

Apart from 37 new books from the academy, around 4,000 titles from other publishers are expected to hit the fair this year as an attraction for the readers, publishers, booksellers, media personnel, authors, cultural activists, and celebrities.

After declaring the fair open, Prime Minister Hasina will visit several bookstalls and also inaugurate Bangla said yesterday. The opening sessions will be broad-

cast live on BTV and Bangladesh Betar. Bangla Academy Director General Prof Shamsuzzaman Khan said all prepa-

rations for the fair were complete. A total of 630 units (space for stalls) have been distributed among 425 institutions. Alongside the publication houses, several voluntary organisations, govern-

ment and non-government organisa-

tions and media houses will participate

in the fair. Nine corners of the fair have been dedicated in the names of noted litterateurs, language movement martyrs, poets and intellectuals while a corner has been dedicated to children, said Murshiduddin Ahmed, deputy director of the academy.

The fair will keep open from 3:00pm to 9:00pm everyday. On holidays, it will be open between 11:00am and 9:00pm. The fair will open at 8:00am and continue till 9:00pm on February 21, the International

Everyday, a seminar will be held on the language movement and the Liberation War. In addition, cultural events will mark the winter evenings throughout the month on the academy premises. Apart from sponsor's expenditure, the

Bangla Academy has budgeted around Tk 40 lakh for this year's fair, said Deputy Director Murshiduddin. One of the publishers participating in

the fair will be awarded the Chittaranjan Saha Smrity Purashkar for best book in terms of quality in 2011 while three publishers who will bring out the maximum number of quality books in the fair will receive Munier Chowdhury Smrity Purashkar.

Surveillance cameras and security arches will be set up at the two entry points while police, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), and intelligence agencies and members of Bangla Academy's security unit will be in place to ensure

Worchester, Pontypool and Merthyr Tydfil in South Wales, Exeter, Paignton and Commandant of Newton Abbott in Devon, Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST) **Major General** Hameed-Al-Hasan, ndc observes photographs at a

"Etihash Kotha Bole - Sangram Theke Swadhinatai Bangabandhu" at **MIST in Mirpur Cantonment in the** city yesterday.

photography

exhibition titled

PHOTO: ISPR



# Woman dies after Free 8 killing fields from grabbers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ride collapse

A housewife died after falling from a ride at Dhaka International Trade Fair in the capital on Monday night.

The deceased is Morsheda Sultana Ila, 35, wife of Saidul Islam Talukder, an Agrani Bank official.

The victim's maternal uncle Nazmul Hossain said Ila along with her mother, cousins and two daughters went to the fair from their house at Dakkhingaon in the city's Sabujbagh in the evening. They rode on a toy train and when the ride went up from the ground, Ila's scarf got stuck with the wheels of the train.

Losing control, she fell down on the ground and her head was hit by an iron bar while falling.

She died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital around 10:00pm.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The residents of the capital's Mirpur yesterday called on the government to free and preserve eight killing fields of the Liberation War of 1971 from the occupation of grabbers.

Demand Mirpur residents

Among a total of 10 killing fields, Jalladkhana at Mirpur-10 and Buddhijibi Smritishoudh at Mirpur-1 have been protected against grabbers.

Mirpur Sangskritik Oikya Forum, a cultural organisation, made the call following a celebratory procession brought out from the mass grave of Mirpur Bangla College to the mass grave Jalladkhana yesterday in observance of Free Mirpur Day (January 31).

Participants of the programme said a lawmaker built a market in 1997 by demolishing an age-old Shaheed Minar (memorial monument for martyrs of language movement) in Mirpur. They demanded re-establishment of the Shaheed Minar at Mirpur-1.

The speakers also urged the government to declare January 31 as a holiday for different organisations and institutions including schools and colleges situated in Mirpur. The forum also organised street plays and screened films at different places to mark the day.

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**UK arrests 25** 

Bangladeshis

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-five Bangladeshis

have been arrested in several

enforcement operations on

businesses across the UK on

change of "working illegally"

committed immigration

offences, including entering

the UK illegally and over-

staying their visas, said a

press release of British High

Commission in Dhaka yes-

now working to remove

them from the UK as soon as

arrested in enforcement

operations by UK Border

Agency and police officers in

The workers were

possible, it added.

The UK Border Agency is

The arrested workers had

in last seven weeks.

terday.

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- Monitoring websites of other local and international newspapers and news agencies.
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Interested candidates are requested to submit their complete resume with (One) recent passport size photo to The Daily Star, 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, alternatively candidates can also send their resume to hr@thedailystar.net Please mention the name of position at the top of the envelope or email subject line.

Last date of Application: February 8, 2012.

www.englishinschools.com.bd





From the 6th of February till the 27th of February, Anan & Zerin's favourite englishinschools page is taking a break! See you after the SSC exam on the 5th of March, 2012.



সাফল্য আমবেই