

**DHAKA TODAY**

**Discussion**  
Ekattorer Muktijoddha will hold a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

**Human chain**  
Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) will form a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

**Meeting**  
Bangladesh Chhatra Federation will organise a meeting; Venue: Dhaka University; Time: 11:00am.

**Discussion**  
Deshpremik Jonogoner Mancha will arrange a discussion; Venue: Gono

# Develop Indo-Bangla ties

## Parliamentary group meeting told

BSS, Dhaka

The second meeting of Bangladesh-Bharat Parliamentary Moitree Group was held at Sangsad Bhaban on Sunday.

Newly elected president of the group Chief Whip Md Abdus Shahid presided over the meeting, said an official release.

Members of the parliamentary group Shahariar Alam, Md Abdul Wadud, Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, Md Abdul Majid Khan, Mostafa Faruk Mohammad, Zafar Iqbal Siddiqui, Shadhana Halder and BAM Obaidul Mukhtar Chowdhury attended the meeting.

The meeting called for developing relations between the two countries, especially in social, culture and politics. It sought coop-

eration of the ministry of foreign affairs to strengthen the activities of the Moitree Group.

In the beginning, the meeting condoled the death of First President of Bangladesh-Bharat Parliamentary Moitree Group, Abdur Razzak.

It observed one-minute silence and offered Fateha for the peace of the departed soul.

The meeting also elected Mostafa Faruk Mohammad as vice-president and BAM Obaidul Mukhtar Chowdhury as general secretary.

Foreign Secretary Mizarul Kayes, Additional Secretary of Parliament Secretariat Pranab Chokroborty and other officials were also present in the meeting.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina talks to Mahir Sarowar Megh at her official residence Gono Bhaban yesterday. Megh's father Sagar Sarowar, news editor of Maasranga TV, and mother Meherun Runi, senior reporter of ATN Bangla, were murdered at their West Rajabazar residence in the city early Saturday.

PHOTO: PMO

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JOURNO COUPLE MURDER

## PM assures early arrest of killers

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said that her government would do everything possible to arrest the killers of Maasranga TV news editor Sagar Sarowar and ATN Bangla senior reporter Meherun Runi and put them on trial soon.

She iterated the assurance when family members of the victims met the prime minister at her official residence Gono Bhaban.

The prime minister also assured the family that she will bear the living and educational expenses of Mahir Sarowar Megh, the only son of Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi, as long as Megh lives.

Special Assistant (Media) to the Prime Minister Mahbubul Hoque Shakil briefed the reporters after the meeting.

Sagar's mother Saleha Munir and brother-in-law Abul Hasan Chowdhury, and Meherun's mother Nurunnahar Mirza, brothers Nawshad Alam Razon, Nawsher Alam Roman and Nawajish Alam Rimon, and sister Roksana Javed Belim were present during the meeting.

# DIGNITY OF CENTRAL SHAHEED MINAR HC summons cultural affairs secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the cultural affairs secretary to appear before it on February 16 for not complying with most of its directives to protect the sanctity and dignity of the Central Shaheed Minar.

The Central Shaheed Minar was set up in Dhaka to maintain the spirit of the 1952 Language Movement and pay tribute to its heroes.

According to the court order, Cultural Affairs Secretary Suraiya Begum has to appear before the HC by 10:30am on the day to explain why contempt of court proceedings should not be brought against her for not executing the directives.

In response to a contempt of court petition filed on Sunday, an HC bench yesterday ordered Secretary of Housing and Public Works Khandker Shawkat Hossain to immediately hang two signboards containing HC directives at the Central Shaheed Minar premises.

The bench of Justice Naima Haider and Justice Farid Ahmed also asked the housing and public works secretary to submit a report to it by February 16 after carrying out the order.

Petitioner's counsel Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star that the government

has not complied with most of the HC directives except appointing a security guard and a sweeper.

This amounts to contempt of court, he said.

Following a writ petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh, the HC issued the directives upon the secretaries of cultural affairs and housing and public works on August 25 of 2010.

It ordered them to set up a museum and a library at any side of the Shaheed Minar and to prevent unsocial activities from taking place there.

The court also directed them to take effective steps so that no function or meeting can be held at the original Bedi (main part) of the Minar except in February.

It ordered the officials concerned to form a committee that would prepare a list of language heroes and publish it in a gazette notification by January 31 this year and appoint three security guards to protect the Minar.

Lastly the authorities were directed to honour the language heroes, both dead and alive, with posthumous and other awards for their contribution to the language movement and publish brochures containing the history of the movement in both Bangla and English and distribute it to those visiting the country.

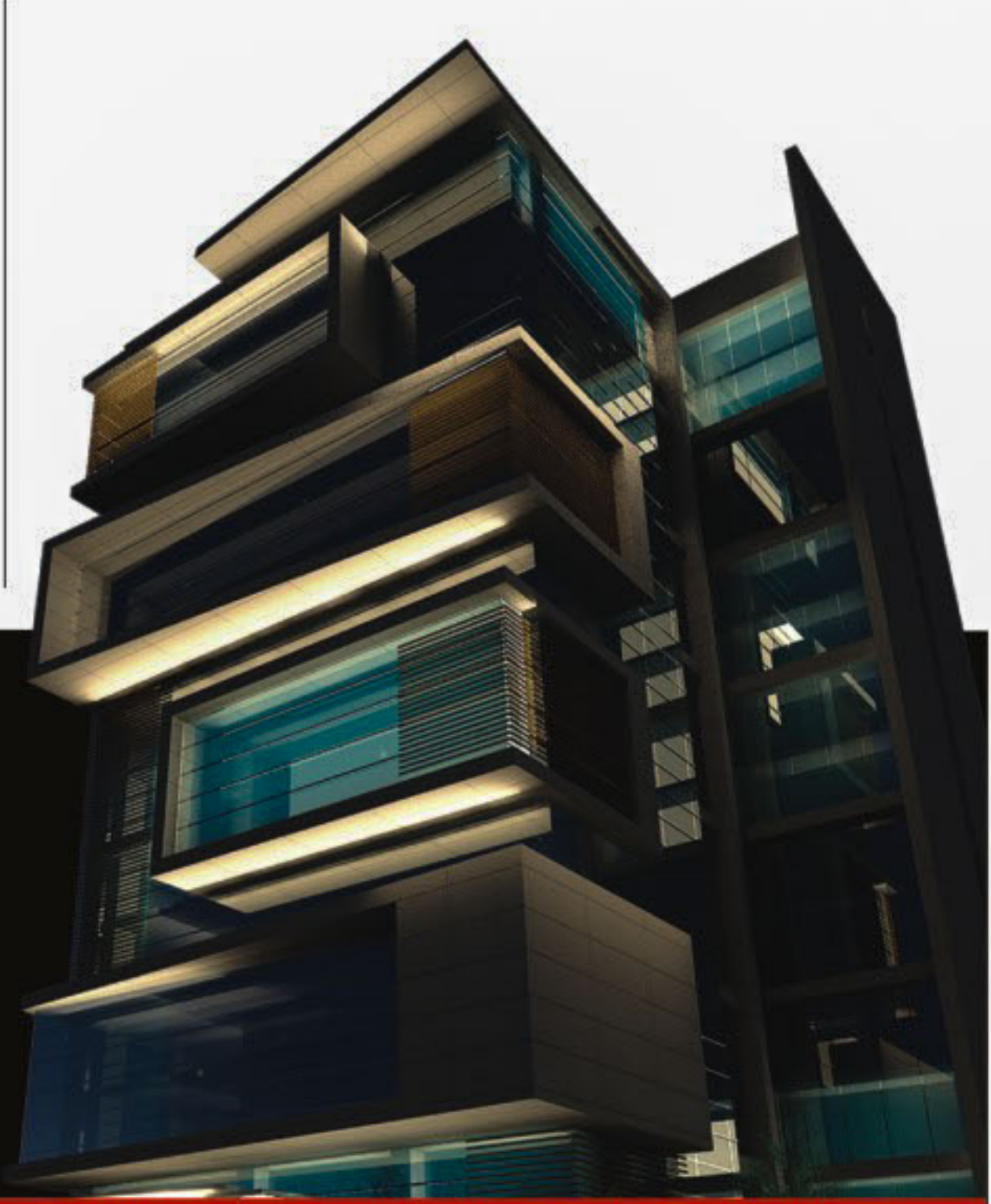
## Road crashes kill 3

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Three people were killed in separate road accidents in the district yesterday.

In an accident, a pick-up van ran over Abdur Rob Baperi, 60, of Binni village in Nesarabad of Pirojpur, near Tentulia Bridge in Rampal upazila while crossing the road.

In another accident, a motorcycle was hit by a bus in C and B Bazar of Bagerhat Sadar upazila at around 12:45pm, leaving motorcyclist Ujjal Sheikh, 30, dead on the spot and his friend Sohel kazi, 30, injured. Sohel died at a clinic in Khulna.



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