

Housewife 'commits suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife allegedly committed suicide at her Jurine residence in the capital yesterday.

The deceased Rokeya Begum, 28, second wife of Md Alauddin, lived with her husband in a rented house at East Jurine.

Alauddin was missing since the incident, police said.

Being informed by the victim's brother-in-law, Md Barek, Kadomtoli police recovered the body which was hanging from the ceiling fan of the house in the morning.

Police suspected that Rokeya might commit suicide due to family feud.

Last respects to Mosharref

UNB, Dhaka

Leaders and workers of BNP and its front and associate organisations yesterday paid their last respects to party leader and former state minister for religious affairs Mosharref Hossain Shahjahan.

The coffin of late Mosharref was taken to BNP central office at Naya Paltan around 5:15pm, where his second namaz-e-janaza was held.

Leaders and workers of the BNP as well as of other components of the 18-party alliance took part in the funeral prayers.

Mosharref died at a hospital in the capital yesterday morning.

After that, BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed flanked by other senior leaders wrapped up Mosharref's coffin with the party flag and laid a wreath at it on behalf of the BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

Earlier, the first namaz-e-janaza of Mosharref was held on the South Plaza of Jatiya Sangsad around 4:00pm.

Speaker Abdul Hamid, lawmakers and leaders of different political parties attended the janaza.

He will be buried at his family graveyard in Bhola, the party sources said.

Death anniversary

METRO DESK



Today is the sixth death anniversary of Siddiq Begum, former principle of Kishoreganj Girls' High School and wife of Deputy Magistrate Shamsuddin Ahmed, a noted martyr of the Liberation War.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held at 'Deputy House' in Kishoreganj, the paternal home of the deceased, said a press release.

Captain Salauddin Ahmed Shelu, the eldest son of Siddiq, has requested all to attend the programme to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



Poribesh Bachao Andolon forms a human chain in front of Faculty of Fine Arts of Dhaka University yesterday demanding sufficient number of buses, taxis and rickshaws and control over transport fares.

PHOTO: STAR

Retro reflective number plate for motor cars likely

UNB, Dhaka

Motor vehicles in the country are likely to get retro reflective registration number plate with radiofrequency identification (RFID) system as a proposal in this regard is likely to get the approval of the Cabinet Purchase Committee.

According to official sources, the Communication Ministry has already moved the proposal to the Cabinet Division for placing it in its next meeting tomorrow.

As per the proposal, the Army-run Bangladesh Machine Tools Factory (BMTF) will execute the project as a contractor of the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA).

The BMTF will build, operate and maintain the RFID system on build-own-operate (BOO) basis for the next 15 years. For the first five years, the BRTA will pay Tk 600 crore to the BMTF. The system also includes provision of smart registration certificate for the vehicle owners.

Under the system, each vehicle will have mandatory special kind of number plate containing its registration number that will be visible in both day and night time.

The motor vehicle will have radiofrequency system for easy tracking by the law enforcing agency.

The BMTF will provide retro reflective number plate from Poland, associated security devices to be incorporated with number plate, RFID tags from the USA, and vehicle ownership card from EU, all servers and other hardware from Dell, smart card infrastructure with biometrics and all related software from Evolis of France.

Police charge baton on Jubo Dal rally: 5 injured, 13 held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

At least five people were injured in DIT commercial area of Narayanganj yesterday when police charged batons on a Jubo Dal rally organised to protest the filing of cases against the organisation's central leaders including its president and general secretary.

The police also arrested 13 people, including two Narayanganj city Jubo Dal joint conveners Monwar Hossain Shokan and Anwar Hossain Anu, on charges of vandalism and obstructing police from discharging duties during hartal, said Officer-in-Charge of Narayanganj Sadar Model Police Station Monzur Quader.

City Jubo Dal former president Jahangir Alam presided over the rally which was addressed by the district BNP President Advocate Taimur Alam Khandker, city BNP General Secretary ATM Kamal and district Jubo Dal former president Prof Mamun Mahmud.

Nat'l planning to stop unplanned dev stressed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a programme in the capital on Friday said it was very necessary to formulate a national physical planning to stop the ongoing unplanned development throughout the country.

Bangladesh Institute of Planners (BIP) organised the inaugural function of a professional skills development programme at BIP conference room where 50 professionals would participate in a two-month course named "application of geographic information system".

"We have been doing development planning for different cities but there

is no plan for overall country for which in future there will be no arable land in the country," said Dr M Rahmatullah, member of advisory council of BIP.

"Everyday we have been losing 220 hectares of arable lands," said Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) Chairman Nurul Huda.

If the situation continues then government will have to spend most of the money to import food which now has been spending in development work, he said.

State Minister for Science and Technology, Yeafesh Osman, who inaugurated the programme as chief guest, said to get a positive result for a

national physical planning three organisations BIP, Institute of Architect and Institute of Engineers would have to work together.

He said they should organise a rally on it inviting the prime minister to press their demand.

"If we want to see a vision of 50 years than it is needed to go to the process of national physical planning," said BIP General Secretary Khondoker M Ansar Hossain who moderated the programme.

The programme was chaired by BIP President Prof Dr Golam Rahman while UNDP Country Director Dr M Aminul Islam addressed the programme.



Alamgir Md Kabir passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alamgir Md Kabir, son of former Dhaka University chief engineer late Dabir Uddin Ahmed, passed away due to liver complications at Upstate University Hospital, Syracuse, New York, USA recently at the age of 69.

Alamgir, the third brother of late Sultana Kamal, wife of late Sheikh Kamal, left behind his wife, two daughters, four brothers and two sisters to mourn his death.

He was also a former Bangladesh Chhatra League leader of Dhaka University unit.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Prof Solaiman Miah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Prof Solaiman Miah, founder and former head of English department at Pabna Edward College, died of cardiac arrest at United Hospital in the capital on Friday at the age of 75.

He left behind his wife, two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

He was laid to rest at Shalgaria graveyard in Pabna town.

State Minister for Home Advocate Shamsul Hoque Tuku, Lawmaker Golam Faruk Prince, District Board administrator Saidul Haque, President of Pabna Press Club Shibojit Nag and different organisations expressed deep shock at his death.

SATKHIRA ATTACK ACCUSED

One HC bench denies bail, another grants it

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

A High Court bench has granted bail to 23 accused in a case filed for attacking some Hindu people and damaging their property in Satkhira last month, although another bench earlier refused to hear their bail petitions "considering the case as sensitive".

Adv Abdul Matin Khasru, a lawyer of the 23 petitioners, said as there were no specific allegations against his clients, the HC bench of Justice Siddiqui Rahman Miah and Justice AKM Shahidul Huq granted them anticipatory bail for four months on May 3.

The previous day the bench rejected a bail prayer of Nazrul Gazi, another accused of the same case.

On April 1, some Muslims allegedly

attacked the houses of Hindus in Kaliganj upazila, saying that they had disrespected Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) in a play. Several houses were vandalised, looted and set afire during the attack, says the case statement.

A sub-inspector of Kaliganj Police Station filed the case against 28 people on April 5.

Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Zahid Sarwar Kazal told The Daily Star that he had opposed the bail petitions, which were also rejected by the HC bench of Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury and Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan a few days ago.

The DAG said he also prayed to withdraw the bail order on May 3.

He said Justice Siddiqui's bench asked him to call Abdul Matin Khasru and Mostafa Golam Kibria, two lawyers

of the 23 accused, to appear before it by 4:00pm on May 3 to give an explanation. But they did not appear, and the bench has not withdrawn the bail order, he added.

The DAG said he had given his opinion to the attorney general to move an appeal before the Appellate Division for cancelling the bail order of the 23 accused.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star that he had already taken steps to move an appeal before the Appellate Division to stay the HC bail order.

Meanwhile another HC bench in a suomoto order on April 23 directed the law secretary to form a committee to conduct an enquiry into the Kaliganj incident and submit the report before the bench by May 29.

Five alleged Tahrir operatives held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested five alleged members of banned outfit Hizb ut-Tahrir as they were trying to bring out a procession at the capital's Nilkhet yesterday in protest of US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's visit to Dhaka.

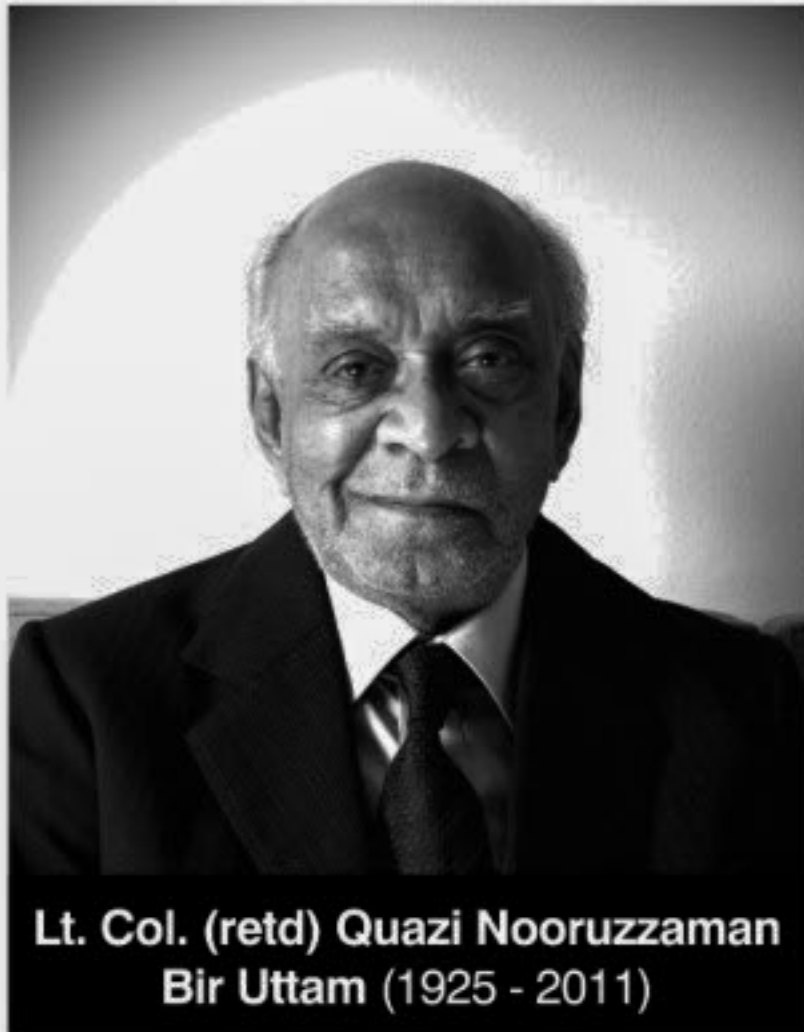
The arrestees, as police claimed, are Mainuddin, student of finance at Dhaka University; Faysal Khan, student of finance at Jagannath University; Shafiqur Rahman, student of Eastern University; Imran Ali of BIMS; and Mamunur Rashid of ICMAB.

Sub-inspector Shafiqur Rahman of New Market Police Station said a group of 25-30 youths gathered near Nilkhet intersection with banners and leaflets, containing anti-state statements and provoking speeches against the visit of Hillary Clinton and Indian Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee, and were preparing to bring out the procession around 5:30pm.

They were also distributing leaflets among the traders and pedestrians in the area, he added.

Later traders informed police of their presence and chased the youths, capturing the five, the SI said. They gave the five youths a good beating, he said, and police rescued them and sent Faysal and Mainuddin to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment.

Police will file case against them under anti-terrorism act.



Lt. Col. (retd) Quazi Nooruzzaman Bir Uttam (1925 - 2011)

Through the wars that you fought, first with arms and then your pen; the dreams that you weaved, with conviction and spirit; the life that you lived, simple and exemplary; and the love that you gave, joyous and abundant...we draw inspiration and belief. And we miss you, every step of the way.

Professor Sultana Zaman
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