

NEWS IN *brief*

SAGAR-RUNI KILLING  
**CRAB forms probe committee**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Crime Reporters' Association of Bangladesh (CRAB) yesterday formed a committee to investigate the killing of journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi as law enforcers have yet to solve it after four months.  
The CRAB's leaders met with leaders of other journalists' organisations on June 7. The committee was formed following decision in the meetings, said a press release.  
Sagar Sarowar, news editor of private TV station Maasranga, and Meherun Runi, a senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were murdered at their flat in the capi-

**Mobs beat 3 in capital**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Two alleged extortionists and a mugger were beaten up by mobs in two separate incidents in the capital yesterday.  
A mob beat up two of gang of extortionists for demanding toll from a businessman at Scout Market in the city's Paltan area around 1:00pm, police said.

Police rescued the duo, identified as Hanif, 30, and Nasir, 28, and admitted them to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.  
Some miscreants demanded Tk 3 lakh from the businessman on Wednesday. Hanif and Nasir came to realise the money on behalf of the criminals yesterday, police said.

Meanwhile, locals beat up a mugger, identified as Humayun Kabir, 28, while fleeing after snatching Tk 2 lakh from a man in Kawran Bazar area around 1:00pm. Police could not recover the snatched money yet.

**Sayedee's trial adjourned**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday adjourned the trial proceedings against Jamaat leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee for three days considering his poor health condition.  
Sayedee's defense counsel Mizanul Islam earlier in the morning submitted his petition with medical report for the adjournment.  
The tribunal, headed by Justice Md Nizamul Huq, adjourned the trial proceedings till Wednesday. Sayedee is facing trail of crimes against humanity



**Garment workers pass their idle time playing ludo, a board game, with their families as garment factory owners in Ashulia closed the plants for an indefinite period from yesterday due to an ongoing labour unrest there. The photo was taken at Jamgarh area in Ashulia yesterday.**

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

MUNSHIPUKUR  
**No structure on the pond: HC**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to maintain status quo on earth filling, construction and encroachment on Munshipukur, a century-old pond in Chittagong city, for the next three months.  
In response to a writ petition, the court also issued a rule upon the government to explain in four weeks why the initiative of earth filling, construction and encroachment on the pond should not be declared illegal.  
In the rule, the HC bench of Justice Naima Haider and Justice Farid Ahmed also asked the government to explain why it should not be directed to protect the pond.

**TIB concerned over prevalence of corruption**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
With a call to intensify the anti-corruption movement for upholding democracy, good governance and human rights, speakers stressed on collective measures of the government, political and civil society members in this regard.  
Speakers made the call at the annual meeting of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) at a hotel in the capital on Saturday, said a press release.

TIB trustee board Chairman Sultana Kamal said TIB could assist in preventing institutional corruption of different government service providers through constructive instructions.  
The meeting ended with a declaration expressing deep concern over the increase in the intensity of corruption in the country.  
It emphasised on increasing institutional efficiency of the Anti-Corruption Commission to fight against corruption and on political consensus to solve all disputed matters.

Speakers also demanded proper investigation into the alleged corruption in the Padma Bridge construction and in the recruitment processes in railways and other public services.  
They demanded formation of a special bench to dispose off corruption cases.  
TIB trustee board former chairman M Hafizuddin Khan and its members Rokia Afzal Rahman and Dr ATM Shamsul Huda addressed the meeting that was moderated by TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman.

**Matia for food autarky**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury yesterday put emphasis on use of local resources to achieve self-sufficiency in food in the country.  
"We should ensure the best use of our own resources instead of depending on foreign aids," she said adding, "I request scientists to develop such species of paddy that can survive in the country's flood-hit areas".

Matia was addressing at a workshop titled "Southern Delta Master Plan" jointly organised by Ministry of Agriculture and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Centre (BARC) in the capital.  
Water Resources Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Md Abdul Latif Biswas, and FAO Representative to Bangladesh Dominique Burgeon, among others, addressed the programme.

**No forest land for shrimp cultivation**

**Orders HC**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to refrain from leasing out any coastal reserved forest land in Cox's Bazar for shrimp cultivation.  
In response to a writ petition, the HC also ordered the chief conservator of forests to submit a report in this regard before it in four weeks and prohibited the authorities from leasing out the land till then.

The HC bench also issued a rule upon the officials concerned of the government to explain why their decision to lease out the land should not be declared illegal and against the people's interest.  
Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (Bela) filed the petition yesterday seeking HC directives on the authorities to protect 7793.54 acres of the reserved forest in Cox's Bazar.

Bela stated in the petition that the Cox's Bazar deputy commissioner (DC) leased out 5,000 acres of the land to 153 people for shrimp cultivation, saying that there are no forests in the land.  
Despite objections from the Department of Forests, the DC office continued to lease out the land and sought approval from the Ministry of Land, which gave its permission without holding any scrutiny, read the petition.

**Shift Rampal power plant**

**Demand green activists**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Green activists yesterday demanded efforts to save the biodiversity of the Sundarbans by shifting to another place the proposed coal-based thermal power plant from Rampal in Bagerhat which is next to the forest.  
The demands were placed at a rally before the Jatiya Press Club organised by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa), Save the Sundarban and Centre for Human Rights Movement, said a press release.

The leaders of the organisations said if the power plant is installed it will destroy the forest's normal character. As a result, random tree felling will be common.



**Change in temperature unlikely**

**UNB, Dhaka**

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over  
Khulna, Dhaka, Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions till 6:00pm today.  
Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions, Met Office said.  
Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.  
The sun sets in the capital today at 6:48pm and rises tomorrow at 5:12am.  
Country's highest temperature 36.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 22.2 degrees at Rangamati.  
Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.8	25.3	78	93
Chittagong	30.8	23.0	90	80
Rajshahi	33.0	26.7	85	73
Rangpur	26.2	24.2	98	91
Khulna	36.2	24.4	72	64
Barisal	33.5	26.2	94	90
Sylhet	32.5	23.2	87	73



**This pothole riddled road near Community Centre Adarsha High School in Tejgaon Industrial Area in the capital has been in the sorry state for quite sometime. The photo was taken recently.**

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

**Minister blames opposition for Ashulia unrest**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

BNP-led opposition parties are involved in the ongoing turmoil in Ashulia on the outskirts of the capital, Environment and Forests Minister Hasan Mahmud said in parliament yesterday.  
"Even the opposition leaders who have recently been released on bail are involved in the garment unrest," he said while speaking on a budget discussion.  
However, he did not name any opposition leader or elaborate on how they were provoking the garment workers into violence.  
The minister said the opposition parties were envious of the government's success and that was why they were creating unrest to slow down the pace of the development works.  
Most of the factories in the industrial area have kept their productions suspended for the last six days as the workers have been clashing with police during demonstrations demanding a



**Roundtable**

Shushil Forum will organise a roundtable; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 10:30am.

**An art exhibition**

An art exhibition will be inaugurated; Venue: Gallery Cosmos-2, New DOHS, Mohakhali; Time: 5:30pm.

**Closing ceremony**

Real Estate and Housing Association in Bangladesh will hold a closing ceremony; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 7:30pm.

**Views exchange meeting**

Health Rights Movement National Committee will organise a views exchange meeting; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

**Protest rally**

Bangladesh Adivasi Forum will hold a protest rally; Venue: at the base of Shoparjito Swadhinata, Dhaka University; Time: 10:30am.

**Discussion**

Millennium Human Rights & Journalist Foundation will organise a

**CREINSE**  
new pathways | a macomm concern  
presents  
first time ever in Bangladesh

**MLTR**  
MICHAEL LEARNS TO ROCK  
Live in Dhaka

and the historic moment, where the winner of **Sing with MLTR** contest will be performing a song with MLTR and become the first music performer from Bangladesh to perform with one of the leading international bands of the world.

**Friday, 22nd June, 2012**  
**Bangabandhu International Conference Centre**  
(Hall of Fame)  
**Gate opens at 5.00pm**

**Ticket price: Gallery (Side): Tk. 5,000 |**  
**Gallery (Centre): Tk. 7,000 | Silver: Tk. 9,000 |**  
**Gold: Tk. 20,000 | Platinum: Tk. 30,000**

*(Platinum Package includes Meet & Greet with MLTR + Autograph & Photograph Session with MLTR + Autographed Original CD of the upcoming MLTR album)*

Tickets can be purchased through bKash only. If you do not have a bKash account, please register now at any nearby bKash Agent (including Robi Customer Care Center).  
Once you have deposited the required amount in your account, dial **\*247#**, select **3** for "Payment", follow the simple interactive steps and pay the ticket price amount to **01811443838**.

**Collect your tickets from Creinse MLTR Ticket Booth at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, June 17th onwards to June 21st, 2012.**

For Ticketing details, visit [www.bkash.com/MLTR](http://www.bkash.com/MLTR) or [www.facebook.com/bkashlimited](http://www.facebook.com/bkashlimited) or call **16247** for assistance.

www.facebook.com/mltrliveindhaka

Hotline: 01190 62 26 66

Co Partner: Motrix

Ticketing Partner: bKash

Airline Partner: QATAR AIRWAYS

Radio Partner: radio today

Television Partner: CHANNEL 9

Organizing Partner: macomm