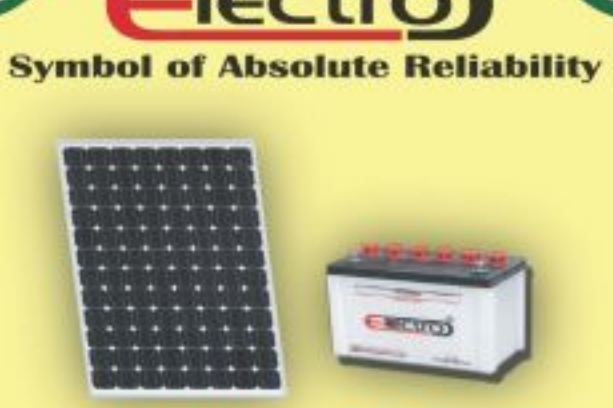


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IMAGES OF BANGABANDHU

On the mourning day eve, article portrays the Father of the Nation in various moods
PAGE 14

TO HUMAYUN AZAD

A recitation evening in Chittagong commemorates the plucky writer
PAGE 10

'MORALLY, FINANCIALLY, MILITARILY'

Ex-Syrian PM who defected to Jordan says how Assad regime is collapsing
PAGE 7

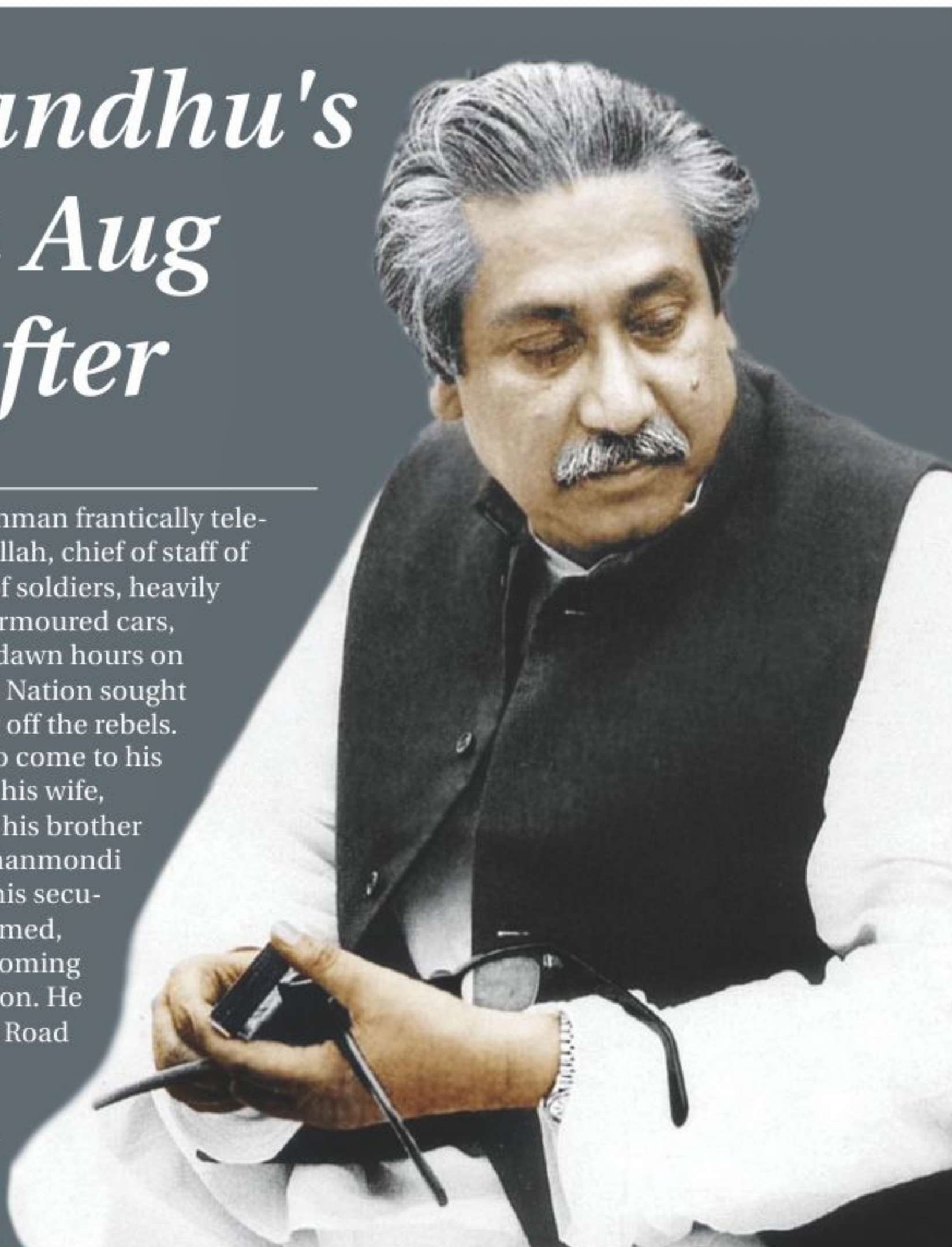
Bangabandhu's men - on Aug 15 and after

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman frantically telephoned Major General KM Shafiullah, chief of staff of Bangladesh army, when a group of soldiers, heavily armed and backed by tanks and armoured cars, attacked his residence in the pre-dawn hours on August 15, 1975. The Father of the Nation sought Shafiullah's assistance in warding off the rebels.

In the event, Shafiullah failed to come to his aid. Minutes later, Bangabandhu, his wife, three sons, two daughters-in-law, his brother and others lay dead at Road 32 Dhanmondi in Dhaka. Among the others was his security chief Brigadier Jamiluddin Ahmed, the only individual to have tried coming to the aid of the Father of the Nation. He was murdered as he tried to enter Road 32 after getting a call from Bangabandhu.

Thus did terror seize the country on this day thirty seven years
SEE PAGE 5 COL 4
MORE ON PAGE 14, 15, 19



6 killers still out of reach

4 untraced, 2 living in US, Canada

REZAUL KARIM

Despite all out effort, the government has failed to bring back any of the six fugitive killers of Bangabandhu over the last three years.

Of the six, Maj (ret'd) Noor Chowdhury and Maj (ret'd) Rashed Chowdhury have been located to be residing in Toronto, Canada and in Los

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

FIFTH AMENDMENT Opposition bluffed in passage of bill

Shah Aziz told them in 1979 parliament it was needed for withdrawing martial law

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The now void fifth amendment to the constitution was passed in parliament in 1979 as a "precondition" for the withdrawal of martial law presided over by General Ziaur Rahman.

Shah Azizur Rahman, then leader of the house, used the ruse to try to have the opposition lawmakers join the treasury bench members in rubber-stamping the amendment bill.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

MEDICAL ADMISSION WITHOUT TEST Protesters create traffic mess

Commuters suffer as roads blocked in Dhaka; HC asks govt to explain its decision

WASIM BIN HABIB and ASHIF ISLAM SHAON

Hundreds of students blocked traffic in the capital's Shahbagh intersection yesterday, protesting against a new government policy on admission to medical and dental colleges.

All four roads of the key intersection had been barricaded for about five hours starting from around 1:00pm.

The protesters say they have postponed their agitation till Eid, considering the sufferings of the people, National

Mourning Day and festival vacation.

They will start fresh demonstrations at Central Shaheed Minar on August 27 if the government does not scrap its decision to enrol students in medical and dental colleges on the basis of SSC and HSC results.

On Sunday, a meeting with Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque in the chair decided that there would be no admission tests for public and private medical colleges this year.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

Shab-e-Qadr tonight

BSS, UNB

Muslims across the country will observe the holy Shab-e-Qadr or Lailatul Qadr tonight.

The Holy Quran was revealed on this night to show mankind the path of worldly and eternal emancipation.

The night is better than 1,000 nights as the angels and the spirit descend therein, by the permission of Almighty Allah with all decrees, according to the Holy Quran.

The devout Muslims traditionally observe the
SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

GRAMEEN BANK Hunt for new MD soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday said the government will soon publish advertisements in the press seeking applications from internationally renowned candidates for the post of managing director of the Grameen Bank.

Many persons with international reputation and recognition have made known their interest in becoming the MD of the micro lender, he told newsmen at his secretariat office.

The post fell vacant after Prof Muhammad Yunus stepped down as MD in May last year to protect the Grameen Bank (GB) from any outside interference.

A search committee would be formed to pick the next MD when the move to amend the Grameen Bank Ordinance, 1983, takes final shape. The committee will invite the
SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

NEWS ANALYSIS

Where lies the truth?

INAM AHMED

In the world of civility, it needs quite a bit of brazenness and strong reasons to accuse somebody of propagating lies, which in effect is to call him a liar. But in the strange sphere of politics, all you need is some condescending attitude and wafer thin facts to make such a statement.

When AMA Muhith, our finance minister but also an economist and technocrat, accuses Professor Muhammad Yunus of lying, we know he has been totally swaddled in the cocoon of politics. And also that he is pretty desperate, especially when facts and events are staked against what the minister says.

Muhith virtually called Yunus a liar because the microfinance guru has been airing the notion that the government has been

trying to take over Grameen Bank, the co-winner of the Nobel Prize with Yunus. But is there any basis for Yunus or for that matter many others to think like that? Let's have a reality check.

The strategy goes like this: when you want to wrench an organisation from a globally highly respected person like Yunus, you first malign that person in the most vicious way. When the human shield has been pitted and weakened, you stretch your arms into the organisation. It is easier to take it over then.

The tirade against Prof Yunus began with the sudden airing of a documentary on a Norwegian TV channel, titled "Caught in Micro Debt", that claimed that Grameen Bank had illegally transferred ...

Suddenly the Bangladesh media went up in arms, splashing
SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



Students block Shahbagh intersection in the capital yesterday in protest against medical college admission based on HSC and SSC results. Inset, the agitators obstruct traffic in the area, triggering huge congestions all across the city. PHOTO: STAR

Dhaka least liveable city

Says EIU study

STAR REPORT

Dhaka has been rated as the least liveable location among the 140 cities surveyed by the Economist Intelligence Unit.

The Global Livability Survey released yesterday
SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

SELLING UNREGISTERED SIMS

Telcos fined Tk 6cr

ABDULLAH MAMUN

The telecom regulator yesterday fined six mobile phone operators more than Tk 6.29 crore for selling unregistered SIM cards.

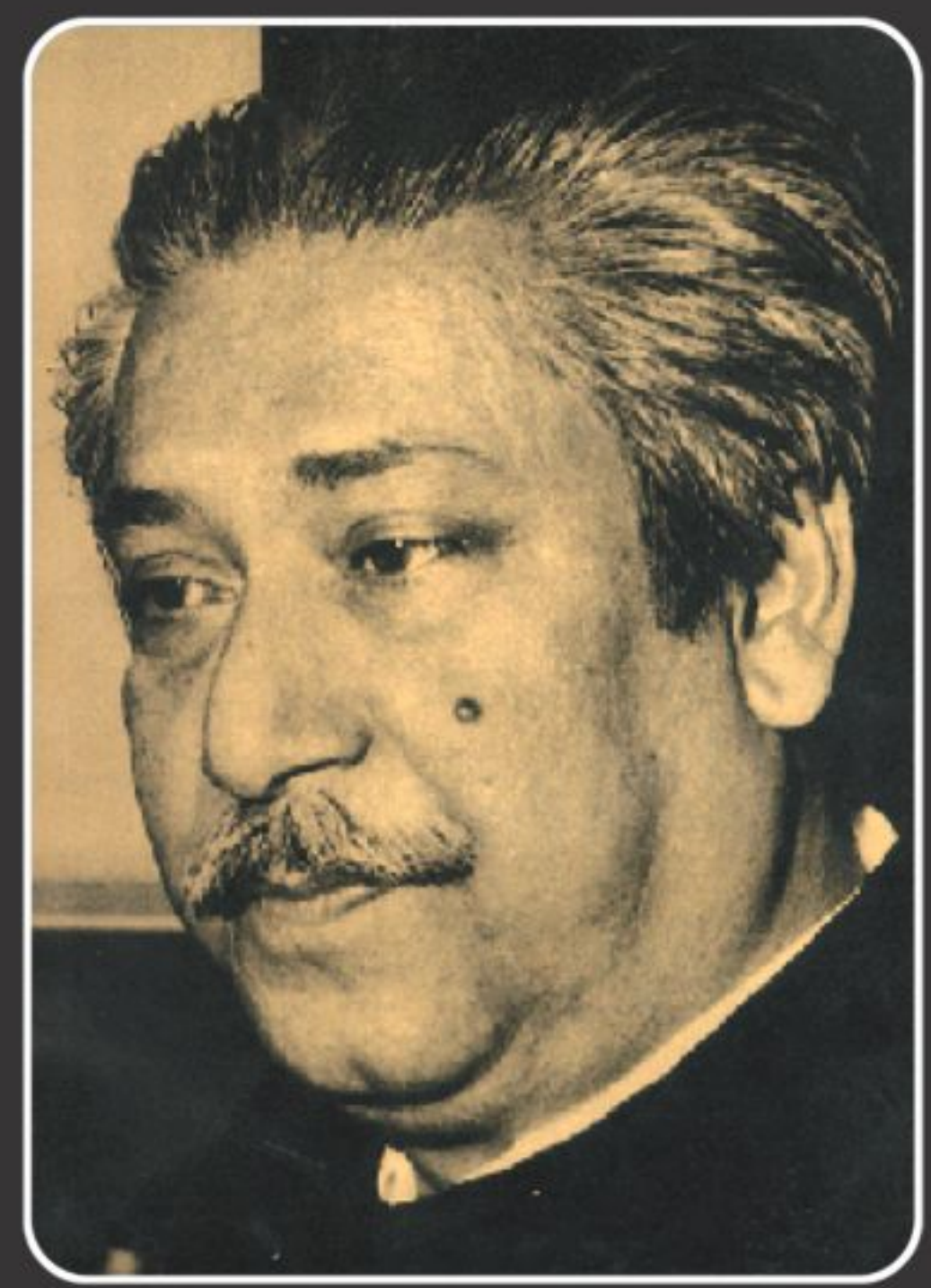
Airtel Bangladesh will have to pay the biggest fine -- Tk 2.55 crore -- followed by Banglalink, Grameenphone, Robi, state-

run Teletalk and Citycell within a month.

Law enforcement agencies seized at least 15,254 unregistered SIM (subscriber identity module) cards of the six operators over the last few months. Those SIM cards had been used for illegal call termination or Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP).

Zia Ahmed, chairman of Bangladesh
SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

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