OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

The wife of a Narayanganj policeman, who succumbed to his burn injuries at DMCH on December 17, yesterday sought permission from a judicial magistrate's court to file a murder case with it accusing four people, including an OC.

Laila Saju, wife of late sub-inspector Md Shahjahan Miah of Bandar Police Station, submitted her case statement accusing the police station's Officer-in-Charge (OC) Nur Mohammad, second officer Sub-inspector Binoy Krishna Roy and two unidentified men.

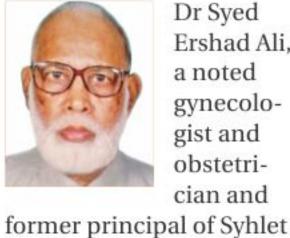
Police said Shahjahan suffered 90 percent burns in an "explosion" before his quarters inside the police station compound on December 13.

But Shahjahan's brother claimed that the OC, over a previous feud, was behind an attack in which the two unidentified men threw an object at Shahjahan, causing him to suffer the burns.

Yesterday, Judicial Magistrate Court Judge Chandni Rupam asked for the report of an unidentified death case, filed earlier by police, to examine it and give further directives.

### Obituary

METRO DESK



Ershad Ali, a noted gynecologist and obstetrician and

Medical College, passed away on Friday. He left behind his wife,

two sons, a daughter and grandchildren, says a press release. His qulkhwani will be

held today after Asr prayers at his residence at House No-26, Road No-6, Dhanmondi in the capital.

#### Death anniversary A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Today is the ninth death anniversary of Anower Hossen, a poet in Bogra.

On the occasion, Bogra Lekhok Chakro arranged a commemorating meeting at CDLS auditorium in Sutrapur of Bogra town yesterday.

Born on March 13, 1941 Anower continued writing on different topics of Bengali literature till his death.

He is survived by a host of relatives, friends and well-wishers.



The Dhaka city unit of the BNPled 18-party alliance holds a rally in the capital's Nayapaltan yesterday protesting, what it said, corruption and misrule by the ruling Awami Leagueled government and demanding release of BNP Acting Secretary **General Mirza** Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, who is now under arrest.

PHOTO: STAR

#### **BGB-BSF FLAG MEETING**

## Dispute over using Dibir Haor resolved

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and Indian Border Security Force (BSF) at a flag meeting yesterday agreed to maintain peaceful coexistence at Jaintapur border in Sylhet.

Both of the sides decided to equally use 53.3 acre of land in Dibir Haor along the border.

After the meeting, Lt Col Md Shafiul Azam, commanding officer of BGB battalion 5, Sylhet, told The Daily Star that a long-standing dispute was over through the decision.

The inhabitants of neighbouring villages on both sides had been using the 53.3 acre of land, considered as adversely possessed land (APL) for long, he added. The meeting was held near the sub-pillar 1 of border

pillar 1285 where Col Md Shafiul Azam led the BGB team while Commander Devendra Bist led the BSF team. A tense situation had been prevailing on the border as about 100 Indian nationals were forced to go back from

Bangladesh territory. The Indians intruded into Bangladesh and started fishing in Dibir Haor on December 20.

Following the dispute, a company commander level flag meeting between the Indian BSF and BGB was held the following day but ended without fruitful result.

Arman Ali of village Kendri said the Indians attempted to fish on the water body several times during the last two weeks.

# 7 killed, 6 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Seven people were killed and six others injured in separate road accidents in Magura, Moulvibazar, Netrakona, Gaibandha and Khulna yesterday. Our Magura correspondent reports,

a man and a boy were killed in separate road accidents in Moghi and Ramnagar areas in Magura Sadar upazila yesterday. Shakib Hasan, 10, son of Akram

Hossain of Islambagh area in Magura town, was killed and a motorcyclist was critically injured at around 11:00am when a human hauler hit them on Magura-Jessore highway in Moghi area yesterday.

Magura Sadar Hospital.

upazila, died as a pickup hit him on Magura-Dhaka highway in Ramnagar area at around 11:45 yesterday. Our Moulvibazar correspondent

65, of Arpara village in Magura Sadar

reports, a motorcyclist and a truck helper were killed instantly as the truck hit the motorbike from the opposite direction in Varaora area of Sreemangal upazila in Moulvibazar at around 6:00pm yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Babul, 20, and Sohel, 18, of Kakiabazar village in the upazila.

Our Netrakona correspondent reports, a man was killed and five others were injured as a human hauler fell Injured Mitul Mian was admitted to into a ditch beside Kendua-Atharobari road at Roailbari in In another accident, Abdus Sattar, Kendua upazila of Netrakona district

yesterday morning. The dead was Abdur Rashid, 60, or

village Maska in the upazila. Two of the injured were sent to

Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. Our Gaibandha correspondent

reports, a man died as a microbus ran him over on Rangpur-Bogra highway in Ekbarpur area yesterday. The victim was Afsaruddin

Chowhury, 65, of village Ekbarpur in Sadullapur upazila. A correspondent from Khulna

reports, a bicyclist died as a bus hit him in Char Battala area of Paikgachha Pourasabha in Khulna yesterday morning.

The victim was Shajahan Morol, 50, son of Zaved Morol, of village Raruli in the upazila.

## Saarc slow in making progress

Seminar told

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday said Saarc, the South Asian regional bloc, has been "very slow" in making progress in many areas and would have made faster developments if member states had more confidence in each other. They also recommended revisiting the

Saarc Charter as there is no direction in it for implementing decisions and for strengthening the capability of the Saarc Secretariat. They made the remarks at the seminar

styled "Saarc and its future", organised by the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS). The participants of the seminar said

despite having so much potential, the regional body has "miserably failed" to move forward because of the mistrust between member states. However, they pointed out that in the last

27 years, Saarc has made progress in areas like free trade, environment, fighting terrorism, and said the bloc should revisit its priorities given the unique development challenges the region faces at the moment. Three papers were presented at the seminar by Prof Ainun Nishat, vicechancellor of Brac University, CM Shafi Sami, former foreign secretary, and Mahfuz Kabir, senior science fellow at BIISS.

Prof Ainun Nishat said Saarc meetings should not be fun but very serious to make the body more effective and dynamic. CM Shafi Sami stressed the need for easing

movement across borders and strengthening

people to people connectivity to remove mistrust among the member states. He said Saarc has high potential and called for exploring those for the benefits of

the region's people. However, Ambassador QAMA Rahim, former secretary general of Saarc, said in the

last 27 years, the regional body has made "very substantial progress" in many areas like trade, disaster management, curbing terrorism and people to people contact, and carried out many studies. "I think we have had considerable degree

of success, so it is not true that Saarc has not done anything. But whatever we achieved, we achieved very slowly...miserably slowly because implementing decisions is a major problem in Saarc," he said. Stressing the need for revisiting Saarc

Charter, he said there is no direction or mechanism of implementing decisions in the Charter.

The Charter also does not say anything about the concrete role of the Saarc secretariet, he added. Director General of BIISS Major Gen

Muhammad Imrul Quayes, among others, addressed the seminar.

Death trap

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Garbage, collected during the cleaning of storm sewers, has been lying heaped up along Water Works Road in the capital's Lalbagh for the last one week. Dhaka South City Corporation has showed no sign of removing the garbage and alleviating the sufferings of locals. PHOTO: STAR







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