

An unauthorised cattle market in Sobhanighat in Sylhet city allegedly being run by activists of Jubo League, a pro-Awami League youth organisation. There are three more unauthorised ones -- in Shahi Eidgah Playground, Masimpur Koyedir Playground and Lakkatura. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



## 90-YEAR JAIL SENTENCE Ghulam Azam discusses appeal with counsels

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

War criminal Ghulam Azam's defence counsels yesterday morning visited him at the prison cell of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University to discuss the appeal against the sentence given to him by the International Crimes Tribunal.

Coming out of the prison cell around noon after the half-an-hour visit, Barrister Abdur Razzaq, Ghulam's chief counsel, told The Daily Star, "We informed him of the hearing and discussed other legal matters."

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## SYLHET-BOUND CATTLE-LADEN TRUCKS Extortionists preying on three routes

4 unauthorised cattle markets in city

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Police and Jubo League activists are allegedly extorting trucks carrying cattle over three routes leading from Dhaka, Sunamganj and Zakiganj to Sylhet city, where four unauthorised makeshift cattle markets have been set up till yesterday.

Bringing two such trucks from Narsingdi on Friday, trader Mahmud Ali said the extortionists took from Tk 500 to Tk 1,000 at each of 10 points on the Dhaka-Sylhet route, including at Rampur Bridge, Ashuganj, Madhabpur and Sherpur.

Another trader, Anwar Hossain, said he had to pay Tk 1,000 at each of two points, Gobindaganj and Lamakazi, on Sunamganj-Sylhet route.

Traders also mentioned of two points, Kaliganj and Charkhali, on the Zakiganj-Sylhet route where trucks were being extorted.

Sylhet Metropolitan Police (SMP) Additional Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Ayub said they "needed specific

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## Ctg cattle market sales gain momentum

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

With Eid-ul-Azha, one of the Muslim community's biggest religious festivals, just around the corner, Chittagong city's eight cattle markets are abuzz with buyers and traders while sales are gaining momentum amid claims that prices this year are "reasonable".

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) leased out for around Tk 2 crore six makeshift markets in Dhanialapara, Patenga, Salt Gola, Karnaphuli Haat, Steel Mill Bazar and Kamal Mahazan Haat.

Moreover, two permanent markets, in Sagarika and Bibirhat areas, were leased out for a year for Tk 5.17 crore and Tk 2 crore respectively.

CCC Estate Officer Ahmedul Haque said police and Rapid Action Battalion were giving their foremost effort to maintain

security in the markets while Bangladesh Bank and some private banks provided machines to detect fake currency.

Leaseholder of the Bibirhat market, Md Shahjahan, said around 5,000 traders with over 70,000 cattle had arrived there from Kushtia, Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi, Bogra, Jhenidah, Meherpur, Faridpur, Comilla and Pabna.

Sales gained momentum since Saturday with prices ranging from Tk 20,000 to Tk 1 lakh, he said.

Leaseholder of the Karnaphuli market, Rafiq Saodagor, said a significant portion of the around 10,000 cattle of some 1,000 traders there were from India, Nepal and Myanmar, each priced between Tk 50,000 and Tk 1 lakh.

With supply abundant, cattle prices are relatively low, he said.

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## Singer Rumi held for 'torturing' his wife

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested singer Arefin Rumi at his Kaderabad Housing residence in the capital's Mohammadpur early yesterday in a case filed over torturing his first wife for dowry.

His elder brother SM Yasin Rony was also held and they were sent to jail after being produced before a Dhaka court, said Md Azizul Haq, officer-in-charge of Mohammadpur Police Station.

Rumi's first wife, Lamia Islam Ananya, filed the case against Rumi, his mother Nasima Begum Rozi, and elder brother Rony under

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The state-run Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) sells onions for Tk 55 per kilo from a truck in the capital's Abdul Gani Road near Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. The move came after a sudden jump of the price by Tk 30 to Tk 105 yesterday from Tk 75 a kg on October 4 on retail markets, according to the TCB.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

## EPZ dedicated for Chinese investors can boost export

China's Ambassador Li Jun  
tells seminar

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Chinese Ambassador in Dhaka Li Jun yesterday stressed the need for a comprehensive and sustainable partnership between Bangladesh and China for mutual benefits.

Creative thinking and innovative policy are badly needed now, he said, expressing the necessity for an exclusive Export Processing Zone (EPZ) for Chinese investors, which will help Bangladesh increase its export to China.

Drawing an ambitious picture to upgrade China-Bangladesh cooperation, he said, "I agree that an EPZ for Chinese companies will facilitate Chinese investment and enlarge Bangladesh's export to the Chinese market."

The envoy was addressing a seminar on "Bangladesh-China relations: Potential of growing partnership in the coming decades" at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

Li said the cooperation between Bangladesh and China was a mutually awarding process, and it would not develop at the cost of any other country.

"The two countries are neither hurdled by problems left over from history nor troubled by dispute of interests at present," he said. "Our cooperation is neither interrupted by respective internal political changes nor influenced by the changes of world or regional situation."

Quoting recent comments by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, the ambassador said, "What we have is only trust, friendship and co-operation". The other is "closer comprehensive partnership", he added.

China shows respect to Bangladesh's international standard

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## Death anniversary

CITY DESK



Today is the sixth death anniversary of Obaidul Huq, former editor of the English daily the Bangladesh Observer (now defunct).

He joined the Pakistan Observer (later called the Bangladesh Observer) in 1951 as a joint editor and later served as its editor for 12 years since 1972.

Huq, a former chairman of the Press Institute of Bangladesh, received the Ekushey Padak in 1983.

He was the first Bengali Muslim to make a feature film "Dukkhe Jader Jibon Gora" in 1946. He was born in Feni on October 31 in 1911.

## Obituary

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Morshed Alam Mollah, general secretary of Jubo League Daudkandi upazila unit in Comilla, died of a cardiac arrest at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University in Dhaka yesterday. He was 45.

He left behind his wife and two sons.

## NEWSIN brief

### Moudud leaves for London for treatment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed left for London yesterday morning for treatment.

The 74-year-old BNP leader was admitted to the coronary care unit of United Hospital in the capital's Gulshan on October 6 with severe chest pain, said AKM Ehsanur Rahman, an associate to Moudud.

He might return home on October 19 or 20, he added.

### Beheaded body recovered in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the beheaded body of an unidentified man from East Shewrapara in the capital yesterday morning.

A blanket was wrapped around the body found at an empty plot, said Kafrul police.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for an autopsy. The man was killed sometime on Friday night, police suspect.

### Muggers hack 2, rob Tk 1 lakh in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers snatched Tk 1 lakh from two youths by hacking them in the capital's Mirpur last night when they were heading towards the Gabtoli cattle market to buy sacrificial animals.

Rajib, 22, and Yousuf, 24, of Mirpur-1 came under the attack by a gang of three around 8:00pm near Sony Cinema Hall, said the victims, who were being treated in Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Mirpur police said they were looking into the matter.

### Attack on RMG workers' rally condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several eminent citizens yesterday condemned the attack on a rally of Garment Sramik Oikkyo Forum, and Garment Sramik Sangram Parishad Thursday.

In a statement, they demanded that the government must bring the attackers to book.

The organisations were staging the rally in front of Aswad Composite Mills at Maona in Sreepur of Gazipur protesting the "callousness" that caused a fire burning around seven workers of the factory to death on Tuesday.

The signatories of the statement include Prof Anu Muhammad of Jahangirnagar University; columnist Rahnuma Ahmed; rights activist Khushi Kabir; and actress Bonna Mirza.

### Workers confine RMG factory manager for Eid bonus in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, GAZIPUR

Workers of a garment factory in Gazipur yesterday confined their manager to her room for five hours demanding their festival bonus, 10 days of vacation for Eid-ul-Azha instead of four days, and the salary for the first 10 days of October.

In the face of their demonstration and confinement of the official, Shaheena Akter, the authorities of Fine Stitch Knit Composite in Malekerbari of the sadar upazila announced to extend the Eid holiday to seven days and pay the bonus today.

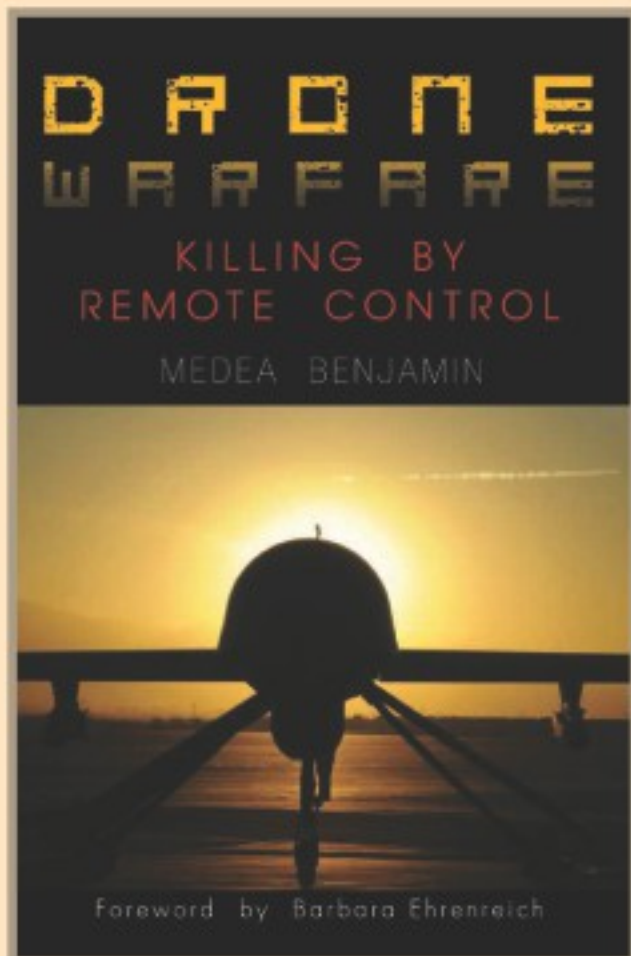
Meanwhile, Gazipur industrial police denied the confinement of any official even though Shaheena Akter herself and locals confirmed the incident.

### Private university student's body recovered in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Police recovered the body of a private university student, who sustained bullet injuries, from his house in Ambarkhana area of Sylhet city early yesterday.

The deceased, Shahadat Hossain Emon, 24, of Laxmipur, was a BBA first semester student at Sylhet International University. Police also recovered a gun from the spot. Ejaz Ahmed, deputy commissioner of Sylhet Metropolitan Police, said it was still unclear whether it was a murder or suicide.



Medea Benjamin

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