



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

A Weekly Publication of The Daily Star  
**theSTAR**  
stories behind the news

**NUKE DEAL BY JULY?**

Rohani hopeful about success of Iran's talks with world powers

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**FURY OF THE STORM**

Syed Badrul Ahsan writes on the occasion of Kazi Nazrul Islam's 115th birthday

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THAILAND IN TURMOIL

**Army takes over**

REUTERS, Bangkok

Thailand's army chief General Prayuth Chan-ocha seized control of the government in a coup yesterday, two days after he declared martial law, saying the military had to restore order and push through reforms after six months of turmoil.

The military declared a 10:00pm until 5:00am curfew, suspended the constitution and told outgoing cabinet ministers to report to an army base in the north of the capital by the end of the day. Rival protest camps were ordered to disperse.

Thailand is locked in a protracted power struggle between

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Prayuth Chan-ocha

**2 ex-Rab men now accused of 7-murder**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following days of dillydallying in arresting ex-Rab officers Lt Col (retd) Tareque Sayeed Mohammad and Major (retd) Arif Hossain, the law enforcers finally accused the duo of involvement in the Narayanganj septuple murder case yesterday, five days after their arrest.

Yesterday was the last day for the investigation officer of the case to respond to a court



Tareque Sayeed



Arif Hossain

order asking him as to why the two suspects had not been arrested in connection with the murder case.

They were arrested at Dhaka Cantonment on May 17 under the Section-54 of the CrPC, not in the murder case.

On April 27, Narayanganj panel mayor Nazrul Islam and his three aides -- Tajul, Liton, and Swapan -- and Nazrul's driver Jahangir and senior lawyer Chandan Sarker

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MOZENA FOR PROBE -- PAGE 2

**FORMALIN: FREE TO USE?**



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH



Traders clash with the police as a joint team of the BSTI and mobile courts goes to Mohammadpur Town Hall Market in Dhaka yesterday to check if the products are free of formalin. The traders threw stones and chunks of ice at the officials, prompting police to fire shots in the air. At least 10 people, including policemen and journalists, were injured. The apex trade body, FBCCI, supported by banks, had supplied formalin detection kits to the capital's 11 kitchen markets, including the Town Hall Market. The use of the toxic chemical goes on unabated as the kits are hardly ever used. *Inset*, officials checking for formalin in fish.

'HURLING BOMBS AT COPS'  
**Fakhrul, Moudud among 29 BNP leaders charged**

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Senior BNP leaders Moudud Ahmed, Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, Mirza Abbas along with 26 others hurled crude bombs and attempted to kill police last year, claimed the Detective Branch (DB) of police.

The detectives made the claim in a charge sheet submitted to a Dhaka court and prayed for bringing BNP Standing Committee member Moudud, acting secretary general Fakhrul and the other accused under trial.

Later yesterday, Metropolitan Magistrate Anwar Sadat took cognisance of the charges. He also forwarded the case documents to the chief metropolitan magistrate (CMM) appealing to begin the trial.

Now, the CMM may himself begin the trial or send it to another court to this effect. Then the charges will be framed against the accused BNP leaders.

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KILLINGS, ABDUCTIONS  
**Khaleda for probe commission**

**Police lock down venue of BNP's programme**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday demanded that the government form a "credible and effective" commission to investigate all incidents of abduction, forced disappearances and killings till date.

"Headed by a former chief justice, the commission could comprise senior lawyers, journalists and human rights activists," she said, adding that the commission should also probe incidents in which law enforcers themselves broke the law to create an "anarchic situation".



The programme was held at Khaleda's Gulshan office four hours after the scheduled time as police barred the BNP from holding it at the planned venue - Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB).

Referring to the brutal seven-murder in Narayanganj, Khaleda said the members of the Rapid Action Battalion were working as "hired killers and abductors".

In the written speech, the former premier again demanded that the Rab be disbanded and replaced with a "disciplined force with transparency, accountability and ethical

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**Mother raped, son murdered**

**Culprits dump body of 3-year-old in pond**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A group of four to five men gang-raped a woman and killed her son at a village of Gangachhara upazila in Rangpur yesterday.

The men abducted the 30-year-old woman and her three-year-old son from their home, took them to a maize field nearby and raped her there, police and family sources said.

When the baby started crying, the men strangled him in front of his mother and then continued taking turns on her, they said.

Police later recovered the body of her son from a pond nearby.

The victim was able to identify one of her attackers as Hasan Ali, 28, a neighbour. He allegedly led the rape. She could not exactly say how many others were with him.

Police have arrested Hasan.

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**Knee op puts Suarez in WC doubt**



AFP, Montevideo

Liverpool star Luis Suarez is remaining upbeat after the Uruguayan Football Association (AUF) said that his participation at the World Cup "is not ruled out" following knee surgery on Thursday.

In an email sent to Uruguayan journalist Federico Buysan, and which the latter posted on Twitter, Suarez wrote: "I'm doing great and am ready to run. Thanks to everyone and stay calm, I'll make it".

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BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir talks to a police official at the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) in the capital yesterday as he learns that permission for a meeting called by the party at the IEB auditorium was cancelled. *Inset*, the locked gate of the IEB auditorium.

PHOTO: STAR

EKRAM MURDER IN FENI  
**Jainal Hazari knew it all**

**Claims Nizam, blames BNP again**

RASHIDUL HASAN and PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE from Feni

Two days after the brutal murder of Phulgazi upazila chairman Ekramul Haq in Feni, local Awami League lawmaker Nizam Hazari yesterday once again blamed the BNP for the killing.

The Feni-2 MP claimed that Jainal Hazari, former AL lawmaker from the same constituency, knew about the murder. He demanded that the police take Jainal Hazari on remand to find out the culprits.

But as Nizam spoke at a press conference at a hotel in Feni town, AL and Jubo League leaders demonstrated against him in Phulgazi. They demanded capital punishment for him, saying it was Nizam who was involved in Ekram's murder.

Ekram, who was also president of Phulgazi upazila AL, was shot and then burned alive in his car in Feni town on Tuesday morning.

About 35 assailants took part in the killing mission, and at least four of them are known to locals.

One of these four, Abid, is Nizam's cousin. The three others are Jahidul Islam Jahid, joint secretary of Phulgazi AL, Ziaul Haq Mista, a Jubo League leader of Feni

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**Criminals kill 2 Laxmipur AL leaders**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

Unidentified assailants murdered two Awami League leaders in Sadar and Raipur upazilas of Laxmipur on Wednesday night.

The dead are Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, 52, president of Charshahi union unit AL in Sadar upazila, and Abdul Majid, 47, general secretary of ward-2 of Raipur municipality.

Mannan's wife Hosne Ara Begum said her husband got a phone call around 11:30pm and went out of house in Rampur village and never returned.

Locals found the body of her husband near their house yesterday morning. His throat was slit, she said.

Meanwhile, police recovered the body of Majid by Harun-Ur-Rashid road at Raipur upazila in the morning.

Victim's cousin Jamal Uddin said Majid went to a local bazar on Wednesday evening and did not come

