

## CU CLASH

## Police sue 60 BCL activists

CU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday filed a case against 60 BCL activists who were detained at Shahjalal and Shah Amanat halls of Chittagong University on Sunday following numerous chases and counter chases between two factions of the dissolved committee of Bangladesh Chhatra League's CU unit.

Hathazari police filed the case against 48 members of Varsity Xpress (VX) and 12 of Choose Friends with Care (CFC) under section 151 of penal code and they were sent to jail after being produced before a court.

On Sunday, the whole incident started as VX members went to Shahjalal Hall to establish supremacy following which CFC members hacked two VX activists and also assaulted a teacher while verbally assaulting the assistant proctor's family at his house, claiming that they were patronising VX members, said witnesses.

The university authorities formed a four-member committee to investigate the assaults and hacking, said CU Proctor Siraj-ud-Dollah.



Jaywalking over the Dhaka-Archa highway continues unabated at the Savar bus stand despite the presence of a footbridge just metres away. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHAD AHAMAD

## Terrors can't topple any government

Says Raushan Ershad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-Jamaat alliance has been resorting to terrorist activities in the name of hartal and blockade in a bid to topple the Awami League government from power, said Opposition Leader Raushan Ershad yesterday.

"But she [BNP chairperson] will have to keep it in mind that no government can be toppled through terrors," she told the parliament on a point of order discussion.

Raushan urged BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to instead drum up public support as the BNP chairperson had said that a government could only be ousted through public support and votes.

She also urged Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to contain the ongoing violence with an iron fist, and made a promise that opposition Jatiya Party would cooperate in this regard.

The opposition leader said the economy suffered a loss of Tk 91 lakh crore due to the ongoing countrywide hartal and blockade.

Regarding the opposition's cooperative role with the government, she said as there is no example of an opposition that helps the government in the country's development; many people misunderstand the role of the current opposition party.

JP lawmaker Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu said violence and dialogue never go hand in hand.

He urged the prime minister to take a tough stance to contain violence, and also to take measures to protect lives and property of the common people.

## HC directs police not to harass Partho

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the police not to harass or arrest Bangladesh Jatiya Party Chairman Andaleev Rahman Partho till he surrenders before the trial court in connection with six cases, after returning to the country from Thailand.

The court passed the order a hearing a writ petition filed by Partho's brother Wasiur Rahman who pleaded for its directive on the government not to disturb Partho on his arrival.

Petitioner's lawyer Ahsanul Karim told The Daily Star that the cases were filed against Partho with Paltan and Motijheel police stations on January 4 and 6 on charges of arson attack, bomb blasts and vandalism.

However, Partho along with his wife left the country for Bangkok on December 30 last year, he added.

## BIRTH, DEATH REGISTRATIONS

## Certificate seekers suffer for server overload

HELEMI ALAM

A server overload has suspended the countrywide issuance of birth and death certificates for the last 10 days, causing suffering every day to thousands who need the legal documents for at least 16 public services and official purposes.

The server, built under the "birth and death registration" project of the Local Government Division and financed by Unicef Bangladesh, is connected to 5,300 centres in unions, municipalities and cantonments, reports our Savar correspondent.

Birth certificates are a prerequisite for getting passports, TIN certificates and national ID cards and building plan approvals and for admission in educational institutions, appointments in different government, semi-government and autonomous bodies; export, import, driving and trade licenses; marriage, car and land registrations; and opening bank accounts.

The 10 zonal offices of the Dhaka north and south city corporations are each turning down around 50 to 100 people every day for being unable to access the server.

This correspondent met Zannatul

Nayem Mitu seeking a birth certificate at the zone-2 office of Dhaka north city corporation (DNCC). An MSC student of United International University, she needs a passport to apply for higher studies abroad.

Business student Kazi Mehrab Noor was there too; he urgently needs to open a bank account.

Laboni Akhter says she is in dire need of the certificate to apply for a job at a private firm.

In the Savar municipality office, Secretary (in-charge) Md Saifuddin said every day several thousand people were returning empty handed.

"Birth certificates are sought more during this time of the year when admission tests at educational institutions begin," he said.

The project director, AKM Saiful Islam Chowdhury, said they needed at least 90 days to get the server up and running.

Meanwhile, they were working on a network-attached storage to temporarily provide the service. When that would be available could not be said for certain, he added.

## Suppression of democracy to fuel extremism

SCBA chief tells press

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Denouncing the "confinement" of Khaleda Zia, Supreme Court Bar Association President Khandker Mahbub Hossain yesterday said closing down all democratic avenues would make way for the rise of extremism in the country, which nobody wanted.

"We feel that the government has taken a very sly and condemnable move to destroy the life of ...Khaleda Zia.... we demand immediate removal of the restrictions on food supply to her Gulshan office and the leaders and activists' audience with her," he said.

Addressing a press conference in SCBA's auditorium, the adviser to Khaleda said she had been confined and held incommunicado, while the government denied she was arrested. "Even the leaders and distinguished people are detained at the gate."

On Sunday, police detained singer Baby Nazneen for one hour when she went to the office to meet Khaleda Zia.

The SCBA boss also slammed the police chief for denying that the cops were barring food supply to the office.

Both "electronic and print media have published the footage and photos of the police restriction," he said. "We believe that the police chief has undermined the entire police force before the public by making an untrue and misleading statement."

Accusing the government of trying to kill Khaleda, the SCBA chief sought help of the human rights bodies and the United Nations.



Despite being parked by the Moulvi Pukur (pond) in Chittagong city's Chandgaon area, this bus was targeted by arsonists while the BNP-led 20-party alliance's blockade continued yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Badsha laid to rest

FROM PAGE 3

Jatiya Press Club and in Kushtia's Eidgah Math yesterday, said Aminul's brother Rashidul Haq.

During the Liberation War, Aminul was one of the key organisers of "Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra" and the director of the External Publicity Division of Bangladesh Mission, Mujib Nagar. Born on January 28, 1942 at Kushtia, Aminul got involved with Chhatra League in the 1960s while studying in Dhaka University. He was the general secretary of East Pakistan Chhatra League and was incarcerated for his role in the anti-Ayub Khan movement.

His journalism career started as Kushtia correspondent of the Dainik Azadi in 1957. In 1969, he was made Bangabandhu's press secretary. He went to the UK after Bangabandhu's assassination in 1975 and worked as a freelance journalist. He also worked for a number of dailies in India, Bangladesh and England and for electronic media including ATN Bangla.

## First US-funded shaheed

FROM PAGE 3

acknowledging Bangla's multicultural significance.

Bangladesh Consul General in New York Md Shameem Ahsan, ndc, unveiled the monument as chief guest while Deputy Mayor of Paterson Pedro Rodriguez, Council Vice-President Ruby Cotton, councilmen, Passic County Office representatives and elected US representatives were present.

সবাই জানে, শিক্ষায় বিনিয়োগই আদর্শ বিনিয়োগ  
আর তাই ভবিষ্যৎ গড়ে উঠছে এখন আশুলিয়ায়...

আমিন মোহাম্মদ ফ্রপ  
আমিন ফ্রপ  
আমিন ফ্রপ

বিস্মিতাধির রাহমানির রাহিম

সম্পূর্ণ নিষ্কটক জমিতে গড়ে উঠা শিক্ষা, পরিবেশ এবং পর্যটন বান্ধব শহরটি এখন আপনার অতি নিকটে। কারন 'বিরুলিয়া ব্রীজটি' উদ্বোধনের অপেক্ষায়। উদ্বোধন হলে শহরটি হবে উত্তরা এক্সটেনশন।

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- প্রাকৃতিক ভাবে সম্পূর্ণ উঁচু জমি
- কিস্তিতেও পুট কেনার সুযোগ আছে
- এখনই বাড়ী করার উপযোগী
- এখনও ক্রয়সীমার মধ্যে

বিরুলিয়া ব্রীজ উদ্বোধনের আগেই আপনার পুট নিশ্চিত করুন

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NEWSIN  
brief

## India hands over 1971 Dakota aircraft to Bangladesh Air Force

BSS, Dhaka

Indian Air Force (IAF) has handed over a Dakota (DC-3) aircraft, which was used in the Liberation War, to Bangladesh Air Force (BAF).

Air Marshal SB Deo, Eastern Air Command, IAF, formally handed over the aircraft to the BAF, said an Indian High Commission press release. The Dakota aircraft, which was used in paradrop operations in Tangail on December 11, 1971, was installed yesterday at BAF Museum in the capital's Tejgaon.

## Italian deputy minister due tomorrow

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Benedetto Della Vedova will arrive in Dhaka tomorrow on a three-day visit, said a foreign ministry official yesterday.

A bilateral meeting between Vedova and State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam will be held at the foreign ministry on Thursday.

## Woman dies as train hits her in Jessore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A woman died after she was hit by a train near Benapole-Jessore rail track in Sarsa area of Jessore yesterday.

Khadija Khatun, 50, wife of Abdur Rahman of Magura, was a worker of Afil Jute Mill.

Police said the train hit Khadija when she was going to her workplace along the track around 1:30pm. She was declared dead at Jessore Medical College Hospital.

## Consensus must

FROM PAGE 4

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique, journalist Kamal Lohani, and theatre artist Mamunur Rashid yesterday issued a signed statement, urging the BNP-led alliance to immediately withdraw the blockade and hartal, which are destroying the economy and education, and claiming innocent lives.

Separately, Bangladesh National Alliance (BNA) Chairman Nazmul Huda yesterday said the rigid stances taken by Awami League and BNP had rendered every effort for peace futile.

"Pressing for dialogues will bear no fruit," he told BNA's national convention at the Institute of Engineers in the capital. "The only way to end this impasse," the former BNP leader said, "is to ensure a method of holding free and fair elections, which will be the sole means to transfer power."

## ACC charges two

FROM PAGE 3

against the five accused to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka, showing 17 people as prosecution witnesses.

The IO showed all five accused as fugitives and appealed to the court to issue arrest warrants against them.

The case was filed with Shahbagh Police Station on March 6 last year against Alamgir and four others on charge of allocating seven acres of land of Rajuk to a journalists' cooperative society at a rate lower than the actual.

## REMAND OF RIZVI

Metropolitan Magistrate Maruf Hossain passed the order after Bashir Ahmed, a sub-inspector of Detective Branch of Police, produced Rizvi before it with a 10-day remand prayer.

The BNP leader has been accused of instigating his party men to carry out the petrol bomb attack on the bus that left one dead and 28 others burnt on January 23.

Rizvi was arrested in the capital's Baridhara on January 31.

## FALU IN JAIL

Metropolitan Magistrate Mahbubur Rahman rejected a bail petition of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's adviser Mosaddek Ali Falu and sent him to jail in a case filed over torching of a vehicle in the capital's Mirpur 1 on January 28.

Mirpur police produced Falu before the court on completion of his five-day remand in the case.

Detectives picked up Falu on February 1 from in front of Khaleda's Gulshan office.

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