

Death anniversary of Kazi Aref, four others today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Today is the 17th death anniversary of Kazi Aref Ahmed, a Liberation War organiser and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) leader.

On this day in 1999, Kazi Aref and four of his party men were killed after a rally in Kalidaspur of Kushtia.

Other slain leaders are Lokman Hossain, then JSD's Kushtia district unit president, its General Secretary Yakub Ali and activists Israil Hossain and Shamsheer Mandal.

Families and different socio-political organisations have taken different programmes to observe the day.

The programmes include a doa mahfil in Kalidaspur village in the morning, an art competition for children, a rally and a memorial discussion at the Kushtia public library in the afternoon.



Abdul Karim Mia treating the teeth of a man with a syringe. His business is good; the daily income amounts to around Tk 700. He has been doing this for the last 14 years in a self-styled manner he learnt from his father. Unfortunately, nobody has questioned him in all these years while his clients seem to be totally ignorant of the fact that the "service" they receive might even cause death. The photo was taken recently under the foot over-bridge at Zirani Bazar in Ashulia, on the outskirts of the capital.

PHOTO: MD KAWSAR



NEWS IN brief

Mirza Abbas gets bail in arson cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted ad-interim bail to BNP standing committee member Mirza Abbas for six months in two vandalism and arson cases.

The cases were filed with Paltan and Motijheel police stations on December 29 in 2014 and on January 4 last year respectively on charges of vandalising and setting fire to vehicles.

Abbas cannot get released from jail following the HC orders, as he is arrested in a corruption case filed by the Anti Corruption Commission, his lawyer Sagor Hossain Leon told The Daily Star.

5 members of doping gang held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch of police on Sunday evening arrested five of a doping gang in the capital's Dakkhin Kamalapur Rail Station area and recovered three containers of halva and four bags of dates used for doping the victims.

The arrestees are Babul, Al Amin, Maruf Hossain, Rana Miah and Samidul.

They target passengers at rail and bus stations and crowded places at Kamalapur, Motijheel, Paltan and Shahjahanpur area, said Maruf Hossain Sarder, deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

Biometric SIM registration to stop criminal activities: Speaker Shirin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury yesterday said biometric registration of mobile SIMs will stop criminal activities through cellphones.

"Public security will be ensured by this," she said at the inauguration of the registration of mobile SIMs of the MPs, organised by the post and telecom ministry at the Jatiya Sangsad Media Centre.

Tarana Halim, state minister for post and telecommunications, said finger prints will not be stored and will be deleted if it matches the national ID. "People should not panic or be afraid of this initiative," she said.

Iqbal Hossain of PHP Group made honorary consul of Rwanda

CITY DESK

The government of the Republic of Rwanda conferred the post of its honorary consul on Mohammad Iqbal Hossain, managing director of PHP Family, on January 18, said a press release.

He completed his Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from North Eastern University, Boston, USA in 1997. He is the second son of industrialist Muhammad Mizanur Rahman.



Rajuk's parking lot reclamation on

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three teams of Rajuk cleared illegally occupied car parking spaces at over a dozen buildings in Gulshan, Dhanmondi and Uttara in the capital yesterday.

They also fined building owners and got undertakings for removal of the illegal structures occupying parking spaces in the basements and on the ground floors.

The Gulshan team penalised two building owners Tk 7 lakh for illegally occupying parking lots on Gulshan Avenue and removed illegally built access ramps blocking footpaths and encroaching upon the road width in front of the five other buildings on the avenue.

The buildings penalised included Bay Galleria and Suvastu Imam Square, said Md Abdul Hamid Mian, executive magistrate. The first was fined Tk 5 lakh and the latter Tk 2 lakh.

Md Nasir Uddin, executive magistrate, who led the mobile court for Dhanmondi drive, said they penalised Comfort Diagnostic Centre and Hospital Tk 4 lakh and another adjoining building Tk 3 lakh for occupying car parking spaces for commercial purposes.

The mobile court gave the hospital authorities a two-week notice with an undertaking to dismantle all the warehouse, shops and offices built illegally on the basement and the semi-basement, he said.

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NARAYANGANJ-7 MURDER CASE ACC starts probing Nur Hossain's wealth

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

The Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday started conducting inquiry into the wealth statement of Nur Hossain, the prime accused of the sensational seven-murder case in Narayanganj.

An ACC team led by ACC Deputy Director Zulfikar Ali started the inquiry around 11:00am by visiting Haji Badaruddin Market, owned by Nur, at Shimrail Intersection of Siddhirganj.

The team later visited a number of places, including Nur's house at Tekpara as well as his wife, elder brother, and younger brother's houses and 21 abandoned buses of ABS Paribahan, owned by Nur.

The team was, however, barred from entering the six-storey building of Nur's younger brother Nuruzzaman Joj as its security guards locked the gate seeing the

ACC officials.

Nur's wife Ruma Akhter also refused to talk to the officials.

The officials denied making any comments on their findings saying that they will talk to journalists as soon as the investigation is completed.

Nur submitted the wealth statement to the ACC last December 13 through the jail authorities mentioning his wealth worth Tk 1.78 crore.

In its investigation started on May 19, 2014, ACC found his property and wealth worth about Tk 8 crore.

On April 27, 2014, seven people, including Narayanganj City Corporation Panel Mayor Nazrul Islam and senior lawyer Chandan Sarkar, were abducted from Lamapara area of Dhaka-Narayanganj Link Road. Their bodies were later found in the Shitalakkhya River.

Martyred Sergeant Zahurul Haque's death anniversary observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To mark the 47th death anniversary of Shaheed Sergeant Zahurul Haque, Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) held different programmes at its Chittagong base yesterday.

The programmes include a milad and doa mahfil attended by Air Officer Commanding of the Base Air Vice Marshal Ehsanul Gani Choudhury, says an Inter Service Public Relations Directorate (ISPR) press release. Zahurul, an accused of the Agartala conspiracy case, was killed by the Pakistan military at Dhaka Cantonment in 1969.



Illegal structures being demolished in Dhaka Udyan area yesterday. Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) conducted the eviction drive.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

End diplomatic

FROM PAGE 3

Pakistan officially questioned the war crimes trials in Bangladesh last year, especially after the execution of Jamaat leader Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed and BNP leader Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury.

Bangladesh warned Pakistan against further interference.

Tension between the two countries heightened after Bangladesh asked Pakistan to withdraw two of its diplomats last year in connection with terror financing, and Pakistan, without giving any reason, asked Bangladesh to remove a Bangladeshi diplomat earlier this year.

AL leaders told the human chain that Pakistan and its "spy" Khaleda Zia were trying to destabilise Bangladesh.

They also asked Khaleda to go to Pakistan.

Man links 9 of Jessore to killing

FROM PAGE 3

Bazar and overheard the meeting."

Gaziur said Shakhawat and his associates knew from him the way to the ferry ghats. At one stage, Shakhawat wanted to know who the president of the local Awami League was, Gaziur said, adding that as he said he did not know, they left.

In mid-Bhadra, Shakhawat, along with 20 to 22 Razakars including the eight accused, went to Chingra Bazar searching for his father, and failing to find him, they came to their house and detained his cousin Momin Gazi, the witness said.

Accused Ibrahim tortured him as he could not tell anything about his father's whereabouts, Gaziur said. Shakhawat and his men then looted their house, he added. "I witnessed the incident from behind a bush."

Gaziur said when his mother requested Shakhawat not to torch their house, he kicked her and his 18-month-old brother Atiar fell off his mother's arms. Three ribs of his brother were broken and he died after 17 days due to lack of treatment, he added.

On the 28th of Ashwin, the nine accused, along with 15 to 20 Razakars, besieged their house and detained his father before taking him to Chingra Razakar

camp, he said. "I saw it from a bamboo bush."

Gaziur said his father had been tortured in the camp for three to four days before Shakhawat shot him dead on the bank of the Kopotakho River on the first day of Bangla month Kartik.

He later learned about his father's killing from another detainee, Nur Uddin.

The tribunal adjourned the proceeding until today after defence counsels completed his cross-examination.

KISHOREGANJ

Meanwhile, the tribunal ordered its registrar's office to publish ads in a Bangla and English national daily, asking fugitive war crimes accused Syed Mohammad Hussain alias Hossain of Kishoreganj to appear before it within two weeks from the day of the ads' publication.

Hussain is one of the two accused in a case filed for allegedly committing crimes during the Liberation War in Kishoreganj. The other accused, Muhammad Moslem Pradhan, is now in jail.

The tribunal fixed March 27 for passing the next order.

The prosecution on December 3 last year pressed six specific war crimes charges against the duo.

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THE LAST DATE FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS IS 5TH MARCH 2016.