

## Mass Upsurge Day today

BSS, Dhaka

The historic Mass Upsurge Day will be observed today to commemorate the 1969 movement for autonomy of the then East Pakistan -- a movement that eventually led to the 1971 Liberation War and emergence of Bangladesh.

On this day in 1969, Matiur Rahman Mallik, a grade-IX student of Nabakumar Institution, and Rustam Ali, a rickshaw-puller, were killed in police firing on demonstrators in Dhaka as the Pakistani rulers tried to suppress the uprising.

The killings sparked protests across the country that eventually saw the fall of the regime of General Ayub Khan.

To mark the day, different political, social and cultural organisations have chalked out programmes including paying tributes to martyr Matiur Rahman by placing wreaths at his monument at Nabakumar Institution in the capital's Bakshibazar.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday issued separate messages expressing

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With looks of uncertainty, two non-government primary school teachers participate in a "symbolic hunger strike" in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday. They along with several hundred others have been demonstrating there for the last three days demanding nationalisation of their institutions.

PHOTO: STAR

### AUG 21 GRENADE ATTACK

## Tarique's acquittal sought His lawyer concludes closing arguments

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The defence lawyer for BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman yesterday concluded closing arguments and sought acquittal of his client in cases filed over the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally in 2004.

State-appointed lawyer AKM Akhter Hossain argued for Tarique for one and a half hours saying that the charges brought against his client were not proved.

The prosecution completely failed to prove the charges of criminal conspiracy and other charges, including killing, against Tarique, the lawyer argued.

After his arguments, Moinuddin Miah, another defence lawyer for Mufi Yahiya, started his closing arguments in the cases.

Later, Judge Shahed Nuruddin of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka set up adjacent to Dhaka Central Jail, adjourned the hearing till today when the defence counsel will resume his arguments.

In his arguments, Akhter said police filed a case with Motijheel Police Station on the following day of the attack, but his client Tarique's name was not there and even

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### SATKHIRA MAN'S DISAPPEARANCE IN 2016

## Take action against 3 cops for negligence

HC directs police chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the inspector general of police to take necessary actions against three of the then police officials of Satkhira Sadar Police Station for their negligence in recording a general diary in connection with the incident of disappearance of Mokhlesur Rahman Jony in August, 2016.

The court said Mokhlesur's wife Jasmin Nahar can file a complaint case with a court in this regard. It also ordered the police to record the GD, if she (Jasmin) wants to file it.

The three are the then Sadar Police Station officer-in-charge Emdadul Haque Sheikh, sub-inspector Himel and Emdaddul's suc-

cessor to the post Firoz Hossain Mollah.

The HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice Mohammad Ullah gave the order after holding a hearing on the writ petition filed by Jasmin, and examining the probe report submitted by the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI). The bench also fixed February 25 for passing further order.

The PBI in the report said the police including the three officials showed serious incompetence and negligence as they did not record any case or GD over the disappearance of Mokhlesur.

The mystery of the incident was not

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### 3 held over DU student killing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Police arrested three youths in Narayanganj's Rupganj area last night over the killing of Dhaka University student Parvez Ahmed Joy.

They are Shohagh, Jahangir and Shahinoor, said Rupganj police.

Parvez, a second-year student of political science, went missing on Sunday. Locals found his body floating in the river Shitalkhya on Monday.

According to the case filed yesterday by his mother Parul Bagum, seven people were involved in killing her son over a dispute regarding distribution of money collected for a cooperative.

### ENSURING SECURITY ON MYANMAR BORDER

## Ecneec approves Tk 141.65cr project

UNB, Dhaka

The Executive Committee of National Economic Council (Ecneec) yesterday approved a project for improving security along the Bangladesh-Myanmar border in Cox's Bazar.

The project titled, "Rehabilitation of Polders (67/A, 67, 67/B and 68) along Naf River at Ukhia and Teknaf upazilas for improving the security on Bangladesh-Myanmar border in Cox's Bazar", will be implemented at an estimated cost of Tk 141.65 crore by June 2020.

The approval came at the regular Ecneec meeting, held at the NEC conference Room, with Ecneec Chairperson and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said the project cost will come from the national exchequer.

The minister said there is a 47.60-km-long flood control embankment and 46 water extraction infrastructures under polders 67/A, 67, 67/B and 68 built by Bangladesh Water Development Board along the right bank of the Naf river.

The flood control levee and water extraction infrastructures were damaged by natural disasters in 1991, 2007, 2008 and 2010.

"Border Guard Bangladesh has been using the embankment to resist the influx of Rohingya. It has become difficult for BGB members to continue their border patrolling works as the dam remains damaged," he said.

The project was taken following the proposal of a technical committee formed by WDB in 2015.

In total, the meeting cleared 14 projects, also including Implementation of Value Added Tax and Supplementary Duty Act 2012 (VAT Online) (2nd revised) project, involving an overall estimated cost of Tk 6,228.49 crore.

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