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## MAN KILLED IN FEB 19 'GUNFIGHT'

# A trucker, not a drug dealer

Family claims rejecting Rab version, says he remained missing since Feb 14

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and MUNTAKIM SAAD

A man, who was killed in an alleged gunfight with Rab-10 in Dhaka's Keraniganj on Friday, was the driver of a truck that ran over and killed a Rab member in Mymensingh's Bhaluka on February 14.

Four days after the so-called gunfight, family members of the deceased identified the body at the Dhaka Medical College morgue around 1:00am on Tuesday.

The deceased was Shafiq Sheikh, 35, son of Abed Sheikh of a Jamalpur village, his brother-in-law Mohammad Manik told The Daily Star yesterday.

He said Shafiq worked as a technician at the Tongi truck stand and was behind the wheels of the truck that killed the Rab man in Bhaluka.

Manik claimed that Shafiq had been missing since the accident on February 14.

"Shafiq was not a drug peddler. He had been traceless since the accident."

After police informed them about his death and that the body was kept at the DMC morgue, Shafiq's wife and other family members went there for identification, Manik added.

On February 19, Bachchu Mia, inspector of a police outpost at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said members of Rab-10 took a man with

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Students of seven colleges affiliated to Dhaka University stage demonstrations blocking the Nilkhet intersection in the capital yesterday, demanding continuation of their ongoing exams and reopening of dormitories. The protest caused traffic tailback on many city streets, bringing sufferings to people.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## 7 DU-AFFILIATED COLLEGES

# Commuters suffer for daylong demo

Authorities meet students' demand for continuing the examinations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University authorities have decided to hold all ongoing and previously announced exams of its seven affiliated colleges in the wake of student protests.

The decision came at an emergency virtual meeting between Education Minister Dipu Moni and the university authorities yesterday afternoon.

Meanwhile, demonstrations by students blocking the city's Nilkhet intersection caused sufferings to commuters as they had to endure long tailbacks on streets throughout the day.

Traffic was badly disrupted on Mirpur Road and Elephant Road, and also on streets in Shahbagh, Bangshal, Nayabazar and some other adjacent areas.

Many people had to walk to their destinations after getting off vehicles.

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## TRIBUTE TO SYED ABUL MAKSUD

# Demise of an authentic voice of dissent

MAHFUZ ANAM

He was a journalist, turned writer, turned columnist, turned public intellectual -- meaning he devoted all his intellectual and physical abilities to promoting public causes. It was as if his world was that of social issues, and what he did from morning till the day's end was to lend his voice and his writings to articulate what he felt needed to be said to uphold people's rights. Always a highly conscious man, a thinking man, and emotionally involved in issues of public concern. Never hesitating to become a part of a protest, a roadside demonstration, a placard holding gathering of a few or taking part in an awareness campaign that he felt that people needed to be made aware of, like climate change. Thus, he was an ever present figure in all sorts of protest marches concerning political, social or economic challenges.

He was a stalwart of our movement against forced disappearance, abuse of power, child marriage, violence against women, etc. He was always present in movements demanding road safety, safe drinking water, against slum eviction, etc. He would give most generously his time to promote every social and volunteer group in which he could see a trace of humanity and patriotism.

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## PADMA RAIL LINK PROJECT

# Chinese firm raises fund crunch alarm

In a rare press release, it alleges it hasn't been paid for 7 months' work; project director casts doubt on the release

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Chinese contractor for the Padma Bridge Rail Link Project yesterday alleged that it has not been paid for work done in the last seven months and this was slowing down work.

The slowdown threatens cost escalation and meeting the deadline has become

challenging, the contractor said.

China Railway Group Ltd, the contractor for the biggest project of Bangladesh Railway (BR), said the government owes it \$400 million and the payment delay rendered it unable to buy sufficient construction materials and pay subcontractors and suppliers timely.

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"The fund crisis seems to have emerged as an impediment to completing the construction process."  
CREC - THE CHINESE CONTRACTOR

## PADMA BRIDGE RAIL LINK PROJECT

- 169km line to connect Dhaka and Jashore
- Project cost Tk 39,246 crore
- Completion deadline June 2024
- Govt wants to open the line partially next year when Padma bridge will open



KHONDKAR IBRAHIM KHALED (1941-2021)

## A bold voice against financial fraud no more

AKM ZAMIR UDDIN

In his famous book titled "The Old Man and The Sea", US writer Ernest Hemingway said, "But man is not made for defeat. A man can be destroyed but not defeated."

Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled is the same, having fought until he breathed his last in order to build a strong, corruption-free and well-governed financial sector.

He was a rarity person because of his bold voice against financial scammers at a time when anyone has hardly lambasted the vested groups, which are connected with the financial scams.

Although there are many financial experts in the country, only a few have so far shown the courage to take a strict stance against habitual defaulters.

He became a torchbearer by way of giving his valuable recommendations to protect financial institutions from delinquent borrowers.

In most of the cases, the authorities concerned did not accept Khaled's suggestions due to pressure from influential quarters, but his stubborn stance helped create a strong opinion against fraudsters in society.

The woes of the banking sector are still ongoing due to a continuous relaxation of rules and regulations in helping large borrowers at a time when many scammers are enjoying a culture of impunity.

A question has commonly surfaced: what is the source of Khaled's strength to

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## SHOOTING IN BAGHAICHHARI

# UP member killed at upazila office

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A union parishad member was shot dead inside the Baghaichhari upazila office in Rangamati yesterday.

The victim, 42-year-old Samar Bijay Chakma of the upazila's Boradam village, was also a member of Jana Sanghati Samity (MN Larma).

Quoting witnesses, police said a masked assailant sneaked into the project implementation officer's room around 1:00pm and opened fire at Samar, leaving him dead on the spot.

The killer who came along with another assailant fled immediately, they said.

In a statement, Joshi Chakma, general secretary of Baghaichhari JSS (MN Larma), blamed Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) for the killing.

The PCJSS, however, denied its involvement in the incident. Tridiv Chakma, organising secretary of the party's upazila unit, said the murder was "a result of the JSS faction's internal feud".

The victim was a member of Rupkari Union Parishad. He left behind his wife, daughter and son.

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STUDY IN INDIA

Ministry of Education  
Government of India

STUDY IN INDIA

EDUCATION MEET 2021

Date : 26th & 27th February 2021  
Time : 10:00 AM - 06:00 PM  
Venue : Grand Ballroom Hall, The Westin Dhaka

HOSTED BY EDUCATION EXCELLENCE, DHAKA, BANGLADESH

## আমরা গভীরভাবে শোকাহত

বিশিষ্ট ব্যাংকার ও অর্থনীতিবিদ, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের সাবেক ডেপুটি গভর্নর, পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেডের সাবেক ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক (২০০০-২০০৬)

## শ্রোদ্ধকার ইব্রাহিম খালেদ

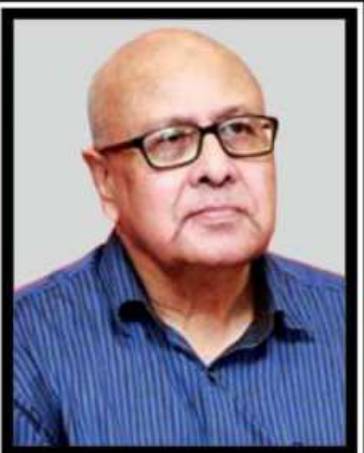
গত ২৪ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২১ বুধবার সকাল ৫.৩০ ঘটিকায় বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিব মেডিকেল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে (বিএসএমএমইউ) চিকিৎসাধীন অবস্থায় ইন্তেকাল করেন (ইন্না লিল্লাহি ওয়া ইন্না ইলাইহি রাজিউন)। তাঁর মৃত্যুতে পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর পরিচালনা পর্ষদ এবং সকল স্তরের নির্বাহী, কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারীবৃন্দ গভীরভাবে মর্মান্বিত ও শোকাহত।

আমরা মহান আল্লাহ রাক্বুল আলামীনের কাছে মরহুমের বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনা করছি এবং মরহুমের শোকসন্তপ্ত পরিবার পরিজনকে প্রতি গভীর সমবেদনা জ্ঞাপন করছি।

মহান আল্লাহ রাক্বুল আলামীন যেন তাঁর পরিবার পরিজনকে এই অপূরণীয় ক্ষতি সহ্য করার ক্ষমতা দান করেন।



পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড  
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