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## HOMAGE TO BANGABANDHU



Floral wreaths covered the memorials of Bangabandhu across the country on National Mourning Day. The day's events started with President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paying tributes to Bangabandhu at the capital's Dhanmondi-32. Afterwards, people from all walks of life including lawmakers, political leaders and activists, high officials and diplomats went to the site to pay their respects towards the Father of the Nation. PHOTO: STAR, PID

### Anti-liberation forces still active: Quader

UNB, Dhaka

Anti-liberation forces under the leadership of BNP are still plotting against the country, Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader said yesterday.

He urged the countrymen to stand firm against the conspirators and resist them.

The minister said this after paying tribute to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

### Beware of BNP, Jamaat Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami are engaged in politics of conspiracy, said Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday.

"They never walk near the truth and put the blame on others' shoulders after committing murders. I can cite at least five examples to this effect. People must be careful of them," he said.

He was speaking at a meeting organised by Brahmanbaria's Akhaura upazila unit of AL.

### Zia behind August 15 killings Says info minister

UNB, Dhaka

Information Minister Hasan Mahmud yesterday said BNP founder Ziaur

Rahman was behind the August 15, 1975 killings and Tarique Rahman carried out the grenade attack on August 21, 2004 with the consent of Khaleda Zia. He said this after paying homage to Bangabandhu's family members at Banani graveyard in the capital.

### MAYOR ANNISUL HUQ ROAD

## Still under truckers' control

Menace of illegal parking continues, separate rickshaw lane 'a waste of money', says expert

SAJJAD HOSSAIN

Trucks parked on both sides, unused rickshaw lanes devoid of their intended vehicles while office-goers, students, and ambulances transporting critical patients stranded in a gridlock - this is what one will observe upon reaching Mayor Annisul Huq Road, specially during office hours.

Despite repeated efforts by Dhaka North City Corporation,

lanes essentially non-functional.

During a recent visit to the spot, this correspondent found around 55 dividers broken, while iron grilles were stolen from at least 10 others spots. Around a dozen others, partially damaged or stolen, remained unrepaired.

DNCC officials and traffic police personnel did not do enough to prevent illegal parking, which resumed merely two weeks after the dividers were installed, claimed

workers. It has thus become an embodiment of the late mayor's tireless efforts to bring down traffic congestion.

However, the road, which was named Annisul Huq Road following his death in 2017, has continued to suffer from the same problem.

What's worse is that some claim the separate lanes have made gridlocks even worse, as it made the road narrower.

"There's no space anymore due



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

this persistent issue of traffic congestion caused by unlawful truck parking raises questions about their authority over transport workers and the effectiveness of their interventions.

DNCC installed iron dividers this February to create separate lanes for rickshaws on the road, but the move also proved to be fruitless.

Trucks and pick-ups parked on the road have extensively damaged the dividers, leaving the separate

locals. The road connects Tejgaon, Farmgate and Karwan Bazar with Mohakhali, and Banani-Gulshan-Niketon. Many people use this road, including students from at least 10 educational institutions, and employees of government and private offices.

In December 2015, late DNCC mayor Annisul Huq cleared the road of these vehicles, overcoming strong opposition from transport

to the separate lanes and I keep getting stuck in traffic jams," said Raju Hossain, a rickshaw-puller, adding that the situation has made it difficult for him to earn a good income.

For thousands of daily commuters like school student Sinthiya Akter, traffic congestion on the road takes twice the time needed for a regular commute to her school.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



**DNCC should build alternative parking spaces and pick-up drop-points for trucks, and dismantle the transport syndicate that facilitates illegal parking.**

ADIL MOHAMMAD KHAN  
Executive Director, IPD

### REPORTING ON SAYEDEE'S DEATH BFUJ, DUJ condemn attack on journo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists and Dhaka Union of Journalists yesterday strongly condemned the attack on journalists while they were covering the news of war criminal Delawar Hossain Sayedee's death on Monday.

They also demanded that the attackers be identified and brought to book, said a joint statement.

BFUJ President Omar Faruq and its Secretary General Dip Azad, DUJ President Sohel Haider Chowdhury and its General Secretary Akhter Hossain issued the statement.

Those who have attacked journalists are enemies of independence, they said.

According to the statement, individuals associated with Jamaat-e-Islami carried out the attack on journalists, who in their report called Sayedee a war criminal.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

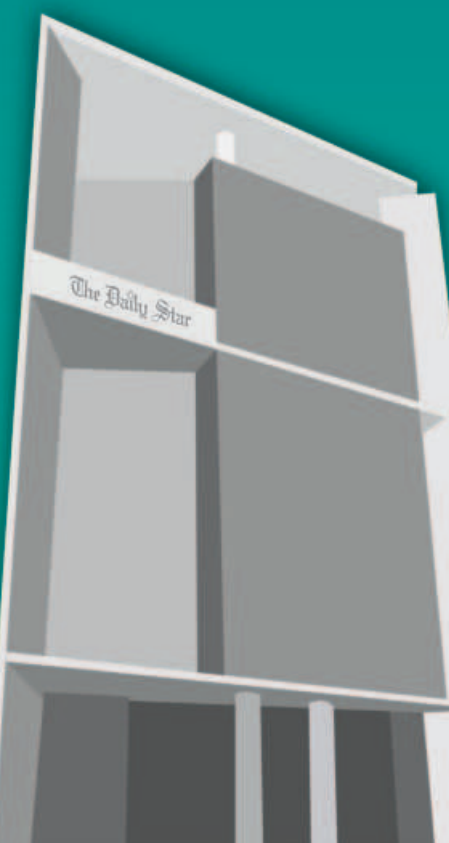
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