

**Panasonic**  
DIGITAL FAX/INTERCOM  
COPY, FAX & C.C. TV



**TRICOM ELECTRONICS LTD.**  
25, Parkside, (Dhaka Tower) 11th Fl, Dhaka.  
Tel: 91586224, 91583924  
9171-820778, Website: www.tricomel.com

# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION  
TODAY'S ISSUE 20 PAGES

**PIXEL PLUS**



29" PIXEL PLUS TV  
More Pixels. More Details

COMMITTED TO  
People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

REGD. No. DA 781

VOL. XIII No. 278

DHAKA SUNDAY OCTOBER 26, 2003

KARTIK 11, 1410 BS

SHABAN 29, 1424 HJRI

20 PAGES PRICE: Tk 7.00

## Over 100 hurt in clash over rock concert

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A mob clashed with police yesterday in Barisal city, leaving scores wounded, 13 shops and 50 vehicles damaged when a rock concert was cancelled for the second time.

Antar Showbiz, organiser of the show, rescheduled the concert featuring Nagar Baul and Prometheus at Bangabandhu Uddayan venue. Performers of the show fled the city after the stage collapsed on Friday afternoon injuring eight persons, fans alleged.

Fans started to flock to the venue from morning. Agitating fans damaged shops, trucks, cars and minibuses along Katpatti Road, Band Road, Port Road, Amtala crossing, Sadar Road finding the stage empty. Later, truck workers put up road barricades to protest damage to trucks and clashed with fans and police.

Police clubbed to control the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

## FM slams Indian river-link plan

'Scheme to spell disaster for entire region'



M Morshed Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan yesterday criticised India for undertaking a giant river-link project and planning other barrages on international rivers raising the spectre of a disaster in the region.

"If they proceed with the projects, it can spell disasters of unforeseeable proportions. It will adversely impact not only on Bangladesh, but on the region as a whole," he said while addressing a seminar on Bangladesh's foreign policy.

Referring to the mega river-link project that has already got support from Indian president and prime

minister, Morshed said: "It could threaten the integrity of our river system, deny water to most areas of Bangladesh, bring irreparable damage to our ecology and intensify the arsenic contamination process."

It was first such speech by the foreign minister against the Indian plan that has come under fire in India and beyond, especially in the neighbouring countries that share the common rivers.

Morshed said that the project could destroy the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, trigger widespread population displacement and cause imma-

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



PHOTO: STAR  
Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority's drive against illegal structures encroaching on the Buriganga reduces the once bustling Alam Market to rubble yesterday.

## Giant encroachers knocked down

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some 100 shops of eight markets including Alam Market by the river Buriganga under the Keraniganj Police Station were knocked down on the last day of a Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority's (BIWTA) demolition drive yesterday.

The authorities also partially demolished other structures including some four-to-seven-storey buildings.

The Alam Tower, built just opposite to the Sadarghat launch terminal a few years ago, was the most conspicuous among illegal structures encroaching upon the river.

The other partially bulldozed markets are Haji Anwar Market, Khasru Mollah Market, Haji Nannu Market, Rafiq Market, Rifat Market, Ahsanullah Market and Zilaparishad Market -- all built in recent years opposite to the terminal.

The BIWTA tore down 575 illegal structures under Shyampur, Sutrapur, Kotwali, Lalbagh and

Keraniganj police stations during the six-day drive. The razed structures were among the 810 freshly identified illegal establishments on the Buriganga, according to a BIWTA survey.

The drive began two hours behind schedule since police and magistrates did not show up in time. After demolishing some 100 shops, BIWTA officials postponed the drive on written commitments from shop owners that all illegal structures will be removed after the Eid-ul-Fitr.

Sources said authorities are planning to file cases against the encroachers.

A plan is underway to build a walkway by the Buriganga and a road along the river connecting Gabtali with old Dhaka.

In 2001, the caretaker government took the initiative to save the Buriganga from encroachers and conducted a demolition drive. A similar drive was also conducted last year.

## Govt in talks for \$205m to axe over 1 lakh SOE, NCB staff

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government is negotiating with the World Bank (WB) and the UK Department for International Development (DFID) for \$205 million to retrench 110,000 staff -- 95,000 from state-owned enterprises (SOE) and some 15,000 from

banks -- in the next three years. According to a WB plan, these employees of 100 SOEs and four nationalised commercial banks (NCBs) would be offered voluntary retirement and rehabilitation. The WB is willing to provide \$230 million and DFID \$75 million. However, the government will

have to tap other sources for another \$85 million to foot the retrenchment bill.

Earlier, the WB submitted an aide-memoire to the government titled Enterprise Growth and Bank Modernisation, which is likely to be finalised in December to make the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## Physically challenged to get 1pc job quota

PM announces at hospital opening

UNB, Jhenidah

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday declared a one percent reserved quota for the physically challenged in the first class cadre services of the government.

"The selection of suitable candidates will be through Bangladesh Civil Service examinations," she said.

The prime minister made the declaration while inaugurating Eye

Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre for the visually disabled at Jhenidah in the afternoon.

Built at a cost of Tk 5.03 crore on 1.5 acres of land, the hospital has 80 beds and 20 cabins.

The prime minister said rehabilitation of the visually challenged is a moral responsibility.

She cited the constitutional commitment to ensure the rights and welfare of the physically challenged.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

## Witness in ex-BNP MP murder trial threatened

COURT CORRESPONDENT

One of the accused in the murder trial of former BNP MP Shahjahan Howlader Sujon has threatened a witness not to identify him in the court.

Humayun Kabir alias Phool Miah, now free on bail, threatened Mohammad Badsha Miah, a witness in the case, 30 minutes before Badsha Miah was due to give his

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

## JS body on CHT to seek PM help

Serious lack of coordination in admin observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Poor coordination in administrative affairs is hampering the maintenance of law and order in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) and putting a drag on the uplift of the region, a parliamentary body observed yesterday.

It pointed out that serious lack of

coordination in administration, especially among the CHT affairs minister, secretary of the ministry, lawmakers and the district administrations are holding back development in the highlands.

To find a solution to the problem, the parliamentary standing committee on the CHT affairs ministry decided to

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

## MP Nasser Rahman rejects extortion accusation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP lawmaker Nasser Rahman yesterday rejected the allegations of corruption brought against him by Md. Nuruzzaman, chief of a construction firm, and blamed a senior lawmaker of his own party for masquerading what he termed a smear

campaign. The press, including The Daily Star, on Friday published a report based on a press conference organised by Nuruzzaman where he accused Rahman of influencing the authorities to cancel the work orders for road development in Sylhet

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## England rise to the occasion

SPORTS REPORTER

It all ended in anti-climax fashion an hour after lunch as England raced to a seven-wicket victory over Bangladesh on the last day of the first Test at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

With the whole nation charged up for an eventful final day with the Tigers 153 runs ahead and four wickets still in hand, the touring side had to do something special and that's exactly what they did.

Pace duo Matthew Hoggard and man-of-the-match Stephen Harmison bowled with accuracy and put the ball in the right places as Bangladesh crumbled to 255 all out after beginning the day on 245 for six. It was over in 40 minutes with Hoggard and Harmison sharing the remaining four wickets.

Left with an easy target of 164, England captain Michael Vaughan and fellow opener Marcus Trescothick set off in one-day like pace. Although they lost three wickets, Vaughan scored his first fifty since becoming captain and saw England to victory with an unbeaten 81 as the tourists finished their job in just 39.2 overs.

The morning rot began for Bangladesh when skipper Khaled Mahmud returned to the pavilion with a shot that was most inappropriate under the circumstance.

In the last ball of the day's fourth over, the 33-year-old went across to a Harmison delivery on the stumps and tried to turn it to leg and was caught plumb in front for 18.

Mohammad Rafique, Mashrafe-bin Mortuza and Enamul Haque Jr. contributed just two between themselves as all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman haplessly watched from the other end.

The batting of Mushfiq was a revelation. He hung in there in the middle for over four hours and remained unconquered with 46 (170 balls, six boundaries).

Harmison and Hoggard both had four wickets in the innings but Harmison's match haul of nine for 79 under trying conditions earned him the man-of-the-match award.

When England batted, left-arter Rafique made the first breakthrough by having the in-form Trescothick stumped for a quickfire 27 off 35 balls.

Mark Butcher (8) completed a

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

## KEEP YOUR STAR SHINING



The Second Service Campaign for the Mercedes-Benz Passenger Vehicles will be held by Rancon Motors Ltd under the guidance of a German Technical Expert.

- Date - 8 to 13 November '2003.
- Time - 9:00 am- 3:30 pm.
- Venue - Rancon Service Center Ltd. 215, Tejgaon Industrial Area. Dhaka-1208.
- Contact - Manager (After Sales)
- Phone - 8814180-1, 9891004
- Mobile - 0171-882345, 0171-198602



Mercedes-Benz

The Future of the Automobile

## Rancon Motors Ltd.

General Distributor for DaimlerChrysler AG

215, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 TEL: 8814180-1, 9891004 FAX (88-02) 8824393, Email: ranconmotors@rangs.com

## MBA for Executives (IIUC Dhaka Campus)



(Hon'ble Speaker of the Parliament was present as Chief Guest on the occasion of MBA 8th Batch Course Completion Ceremony)

IIUC Dhaka Campus offers MBA Program for Executives (Evening shift) for the coming semester.

Graduates with two years of working experience or holding Master's degree are eligible to apply for admission into the program. Total cost of the MBA Program is Tk. 90,000/- only. BBA graduates can complete MBA program within 1 year (36 credit hours) and for them the cost is Tk. 60,000/- only. Last date for applying is 19 November 2003 and the viva voce will be held at 10:00 am on 21 November 2003. Admission form may be collected up to 8:00 pm everyday.

IIUC Dhaka Campus maintains international standard of education. Textbooks are provided to all the Students. Separate and secure arrangements are also available for female students.

To improve the efficiency of English Language of the MBA students "English for Professionals" Course has been introduced.

Admission forms are also available for BBA and CSE programs as well.

For details, please contact the Dhaka Campus of IIUC, House-23, Road-3, Dhanmondi, Dhaka or call-9670220, 8629947, 9670193 Ext. 211, 228.

**TOSHIN**



PURE FLAT COLOUR TV

21" Tk. 18,500 21" Tk. 18,500 21" Tk. 18,500 14" Tk. 8,300

RANGS GROUP

The one time paint for many seasons...



BERGER Weather Coat

- anti-fungal
- anti-fading
- anti-flaking