

Metropolitan

Here and There

Three airlines to resume Dubai-Jeddah flights

Three airlines are contemplating resumption of flights in the Dubai-Jeddah where air traffic was suspended after eruption of the Gulf war.

Foreign Office sources in Dhaka said on Wednesday the flight resumption was being planned to enable foreigners to return home from Saudi Arabia, the host of the multinational forces warring on Iraq. The airlines, which put off flights in the route on January 16, are Biman Bangladesh, Saudia and Emirates.

Anti-war rally in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Jan 23: A colourful peace rally organised by Rajshahi city and District Red Crescent Society was held here today appealing to stop Gulf war immediately, reports BSS.

Over two thousand volunteers and Red Crescent youths, boys and girls of 14 different schools of Rajshahi city along with the members of Red Crescent Society took part in the rally. After the rally they paraded the main city streets singing anti-war song, an official handout said.

Tobacco-free polls campaign hailed

National Professor Nurul Islam and founder President of Adhunik, has hailed Bangladesh Peace and Development Mission's (BPD) programme for tobacco-free polls campaign and observance of no-tobacco day on February 27, according to a press release.

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THE DAILY STAR

According to a survey of the mission free distribution of bidi and cigarettes during election campaign will make 64 lac boys, girls and poor women tobacco addicts. Dr Islam invited government, all political parties, journalists and all conscious people to support the BPD programmes to prevent free distribution of bidi and cigarettes during the election campaign.

Engineers urged to work sincerely

Power, Energy and Mineral resources adviser Prof. Wahiduddin Ahmed Wednesday in Dhaka called upon the engineers to work with dedication and sincerity for building a happy, prosperous and democratic society, reports BSS.

"The country is entering into a new horizon of democracy and rule of law and you must do your best for making it a success". The adviser urged the member of Bangladesh Water and Power Development Boards Engineers Association while inaugurating the 24th Annual Conference of the association.

Presided over by its President Arifur Rahman Khan the conference was addressed by the General Secretary of the Association and Chairmen of Bangladesh Power Development Board and Bangladesh Water Development Board.

Terming the engineering profession as a noble one, Prof. Wahiduddin said the engineers had made the life comfortable by applying their merit and intellect.

Regarding association's manifold demands, the adviser said that the Interim Government has no scope to resolve all the issues rather it would recommend those to the elected government.

Mr. Arifur Rahman Khan, demanded immediate cancellation of the model service rule and inclusion of the engineers in the cadre service.

Pension seal sale fetches Tk 5,88,437

Bangladesh Retired Government Employees Welfare Association has collected Taka 5,88,437 through the sale of association's pension seal, during 1990, reports BSS.

This was announced by the General Secretary of the association in a press release Tuesday.

Tk 35 cr allotted for city infrastructure

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) on Tuesday approved five projects involving a total expenditure of Taka over 420 crore, including Taka 250 crore in foreign exchange, reports BSS.

The meeting held at NEC Bhaban with Presidential Adviser for Planning, Prof. Rehman Sobhan in the chair, earlier considered the projects relating to the Ministries of Shipping, Works, Health, Education and Local Government, a PID handout said.

Inland Shipping Package Project-3 is the largest project involving an expenditure of Taka 356 crore, including a foreign exchange component of Taka 231 crore.

A project of the Works Ministry for the development of the infrastructure of Dhaka city and the strengthening of institutional base of the Directorate of Housing and Settlement has been allotted Taka 35 crore, including Taka 19 crore in foreign exchange.

Reunion of DU Islamic History Ex-students

The Annual General Meeting and Reunion of the Ex-students of the Department of Islamic History and Culture of

Dhaka University will be held tomorrow at 9.30 in the morning at Scouts Camp, Mouchak near Gazipur, says a press release.

The interested members have been requested to contact Mr. Anwarul Haq Khan Majlish, BANHAIS, 1 Sonargaon Road, Nilkhet, Dhaka (Ph.507244 off.) and Dr. Habiba Khatun Chairman, Department of Islamic History and Culture, Dhaka University (Ph.311509/311180)

Texan Barbe que at Sheraton

Dhaka Sheraton will hold its traditional Texan Barbe que at its poolside today. The attractive feature of the evening will be a whole roasted Savaar bull, according to a press release.

The entire pool side will be decorated and a Texan touch will be given to the evening. Exotic food, dance and a lot of fun will be the other highlights of the night.

Taka 15 crore has been approved for a Dhaka Dental College project under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The water supply and sewerage project of Dhaka city under the Ministry of Local Government was approved by the meeting for which Taka 14 crore 14 lakh, including Taka 4 crore in foreign exchange, has been earmarked, the handout added.

Advisers for Communications, Health and Family Welfare, Civil Aviation and Tourism, Shipping, Industries, Jute and Textiles, Women Affairs, Education, Energy and Mineral Resources, Fisheries and Livestock, Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, and Secretaries of Economic Relations Department, Planning Division, Governor Bangladesh Bank, Secretary Cabinet Division and Secretaries of the concerned Ministries were present in the meeting.

Release of Shibir activists demanded

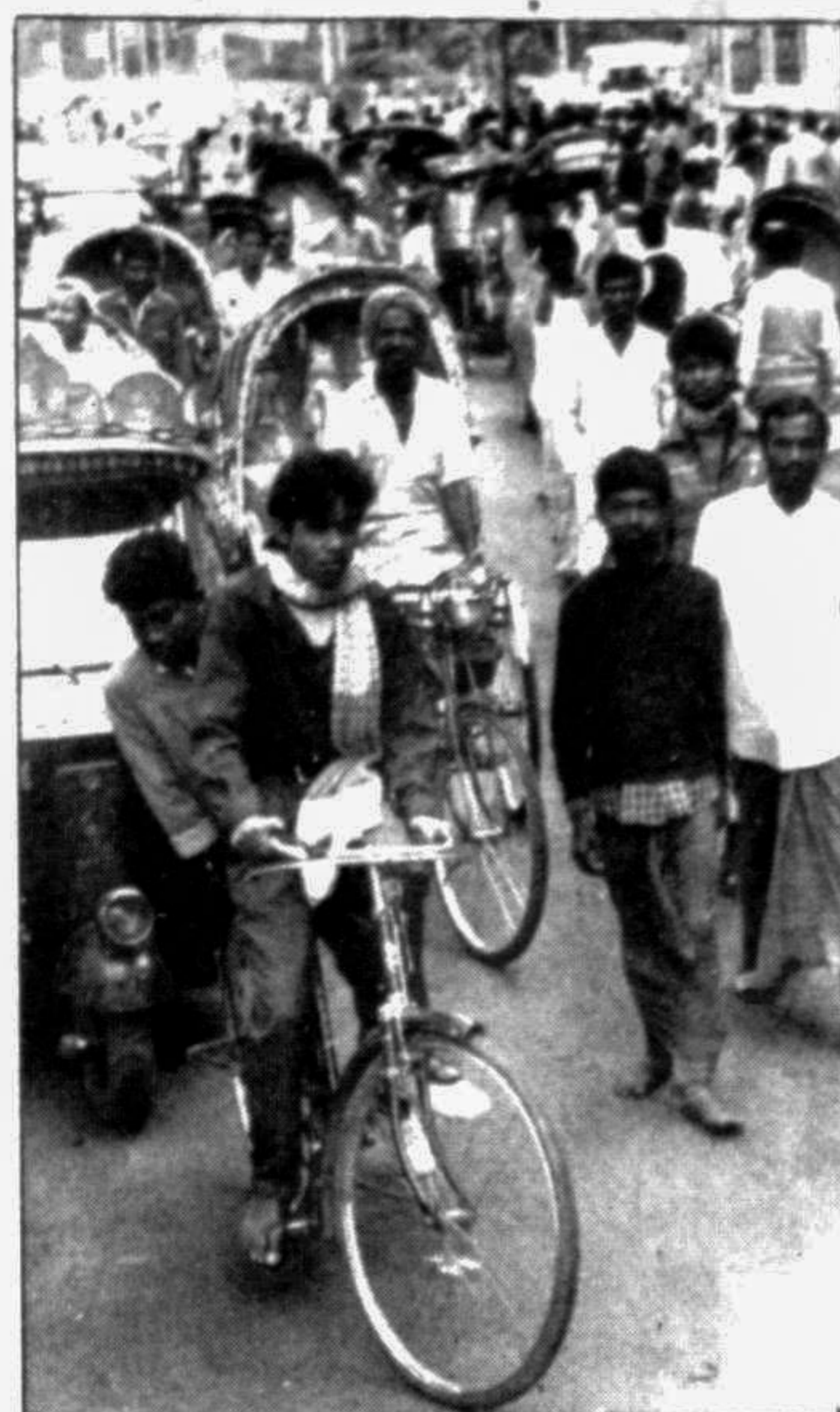
CHITTAGONG, Jan 23: Leaders of the Islami Chhatra Shibir here today demanded immediate release of their activists and withdrawal of show cause notices on 63 shibir member served by Chittagong University Authority, reports BSS.

Addressing a press conference at the local Press Club they also called for arrest of the killers of Aminul Islam and Aminul Hoque and those who were involved in terrorist activities in the campus. They reiterated their demand for removal of the Vice Chancellor of Chittagong University for what they said restoring normalcy in the campus.

Central General Secretary of the Islami Chhatra Shibir A Z M Obaidullah and local leaders Hamid Hossain Azad and Monsur Ahmed addressed the press conference.

Supply position of essentials satisfactory

The first meeting of the Council Committee on emergency management was held on Tuesday at the Secretariat Cabinet room with Adviser for Foreign Affairs, Mr Fakhruddin Ahmed in the chair, says a PID handout.



HAZARDOUS RIDE FOR CYCLISTS — Cycle-riding in the national capital has become extremely risky as the riders ignore the rash drivers of baby-taxis, cars and trucks. Over hundred cyclists had lost their lives last year in road accidents, according to sources on Wednesday. — Star Photo

138 Bangladeshis on way home from Gulf war zone

Some 138 Bangladeshis have entered Iran from Iraq and Turkey on way home from the war zone, reports UNB.

A Foreign Office spokesman said on Wednesday 115 Bangladeshis nationals working in a Korean company in Iraq were among those crossed into Iran through the Khosabi border.

The United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO), International Committee for Red Cross (ICRC) and International Organisation for Migration (IOM) are looking after them. Dhaka plans to airlift them from Tehran, and the Korean company has agreed to bear air passage, the spokesman said. A group of 23 Bangladeshis have also travelled in 15 cars into Tehran after a 2-month stay in Turkey, he said. They fled Kuwait into Turkey after the August 2 occupation. "We anticipate more influx of Bangladeshis into Iran from Iraq," the spokesman added. Meanwhile, more 2,000 nationals of different Asian countries including Bangladesh have crossed into Jordan from Iraq, raising the number of refugees there to 12,000 as the fresh exodus continued since the flareup of war in the Gulf.

Saddam's photos on sale in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Jan 23: Pro-Iraqi and anti-war demonstrations continued for the seventh day here today, reports BSS.

Processions were brought out today in the city streets. The processionists carried banners, placards and portraits of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and chanted slogans for the withdrawal of allied forces from the Gulf areas and establishment of a Palestine state.

Chittagong Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union held a rally at Amtala near Reazuddin Bazar in protest against Gulf war. The rally was followed by a procession. Similar processions were brought out at Agrabad, Chawkbazar, Pahartali and other areas of the city. According to reports reaching here anti-war and pro-Iraqi demonstration were also held at different upazila headquarters.

Anti-American leaflets were also distributed among the members of the public by Saddam supporters.

Iraq-Bangladesh Friendship Association, Chittagong, at a meeting yesterday called upon Islamic countries to resist American-led attack on Iraq, unitedly.

Moulana Bhasani Addayan Samity in a statement called upon the Government to bring back Bangladeshi troops from Saudi Arabia. Chattalair Muslim Janata, a newly formed organisation also brought out procession to deplore the US-led action in the Gulf.

Big size photographs of Saddam and polythene bags with Saddam portrait are on sale in Chittagong market.

Local police administration has taken up measures to check violence here and there. Additional police force have been deployed around US, British, Russian and Saudi interests here.

Tributes paid to Subash Bose

Speakers at a discussion in Dhaka on Wednesday paid rich tributes to Netaji Subash Chandra Bose for his outstanding contributions to the struggle launched by the people of the sub-continent to put an end to the British rule, reports BSS.

Lions' role in blood donation acclaimed

Youth and Sports, Social Welfare and Women Affairs Adviser Alamgir M A Kabir urged the affluent members of the society to contribute their mites towards prevention of eye diseases largely suffered by the underprivileged children, reports BSS.

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Dateline Khulna

Election campaign gets momentum

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Jan 23: After withdrawal of the nomination papers hectic election campaign has started getting momentum here. Different political parties have started polls campaign by holding series of public meetings in different areas of the city.

Ganotantrik Jote

The newly formed Ganotantrik Oikya Jote Tuesday held a public meeting at the local Hadis Bitter.

The speakers bitterly criticised the Awami League for breaking the unity of the forces of movement for its selfish attitude. Later they brought out a procession with a big size sickle, poll symbol of the Jote, and paraded the main streets of the city.

Ganotantrik Oikya Jote Satkhira District Unit held an

emergency meeting on Monday at local Chhatra Maitree office.

Chaired by Assad Hossain Belal, the meeting was addressed by Comrade Azizur Rahman, and NAP central leader Advocate Azizur Rahman. The speakers called upon the workers to identify election campaign in favour of the Alliance candidates.

AL meet

An election meeting organised by Baltiaghata upazila unit of Awami League was held on Monday at Putimari School premises with Babu Pulin Bihari in the chair.

Sheikh Harunor Rashid, an Awami League candidate for Khulna-1 constituency attended the meeting as the chief guest. Mr Harun in his address said, if Awami League was voted to power, all illegal shrimp culture will be stopped

and rights of the people which were snatched by the past regimes will be restored.

ML candidates

Four Muslim League nominated candidates in a joint statement on Monday expressed dissatisfaction over poor recovery of illegal arms from different areas of the district. The leaders apprehended that without recovery of the illegal arms the holding of free and fair elections would not be possible.

Physical Society

Bangladesh Physical Society will hold a seminar on "Physical education in school, college and university level" today (Thursday) at 9 am at the seminar room of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), says a press release.



A.B.M.G. Kibria, Adviser to the Acting President on Ministry of Communication and Post and Telecommunication addressing as chief guest the installation ceremony of Telephone Shilpa Sangstha Sramik-Karmachari Union at Tongi on Wednesday. Muhammad Enamul Huq, Addl. Secretary-in-Charge, Ministry of Post & Telecommunication S. I. Khan, Chairman, T&T Board, and Fazlur Rahman, Managing Director, Telephone Shilpa Sangstha are also seen in the picture.

The Daily Star

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