Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia urged the voters to elect BNP nominees to keep the flag of democracy aloft and ensure welfare of the people, reports UNB.

Addressing two election rallies at Green Road and Mohammadpur in the city Tuesday afternoon, she reiterated her government's resolve to establish an honest and responsible administration and revitalise country's ravaged economy.

Begum Zia, in an oblique reference to Awami League. said that party which does not believe in democracy and people's fundamental rights cannot bring welfare to the

Those who talk big of democracy had buried democracy by introducing one-party rule, curbing press freedom, people's rights and jeopardising rule of law.

Begum Zia lauded people's contribution during the last anti-autocracy movement which removed a corrupt and autocratic regime and said her party would always remain beside the people.

About the local problems, she said all the problems would be solved one by one and urged them to vote for BNP nominees for development of the areas.

The Prime Minister listed successes of her new government, saying despite all odds, it had been making all-out efforts to fulfil the pledges.

In this regard, she mentioned the successful tackling of the April 29 cyclone, passage of the Constitution 12th Amendment Bill and fulfilment of other electoral commit-The government is now

carrying out rehabilitation programme in the cyclone-hit ar-

eas and building cyclone shelters, the Prime Minister said. Begum Zia said the BNP government had its start with a crippled economy, closed

abroad public wealth.

Ershad and his cronies must face trial as per laws for their corruption and misdeeds, she told her audience.

Referring to the government's industrial policy, the Prime Minister said it had encouraged foreign investment, which would speed up industrialisation and create new

Begum Zia said small-scale industries would be set up in the far-flung areas to alleviate

About the current wave of hooliganism in different areas. including Mohammadpur, she said the terrorists would be dealt with severely. She urged the people not to give them any refuge or shelter.

Premadasa offers referendum

rejected by MPs

COLOMBO, Sept 3: A group of 116 Sri Lankan politicians have signed a resolution urging the parliamentary speaker to reject an impeachment motion against President Ranasinghe

Mohamed.

said their signatures on the impeachment motion had been obtained under "false pretences," Wickremasinghe said. He said the speaker would "go into the matter."

"I think the impeachmen motion is not valid any more because we have the majority now," Wickremasinghe said.

AP adds: President Ranasinghe Premadasa, is offering to hold a referendum on trimming presidential power and giving more authority to Parliament.

JCD

From Page 1 Col. 5

beaten up by some Chhatra League activists in the town Monday.

A procession was brought out by the JCD with the body of Meraj at 1.30 pm today and paraded the main thoroughfares of the town. After the procession over, they staged a sit-in in front of the Deputy Commissioner's (DC) office and held a protest meeting there.

A case has been filed with Sadar police against seven Chhatra League leaders including the Sadar upazila Chairman Sheikh Shahidullah Bachchu.

Young man held

From Page 1 Col. 8 the city. The young man was positioned about 25 yards from the dais at the time of the arrest. More than 20,000 people were attending the public meeting in the Town Hall, according to police estimates.

Police identified the arrested person as Muhammad Mustafa (20), son of Muhammad Cherag Sheikh of the Geneva Refugee Camp in Mohammadpur. Police are yet to unveil the motive. However, police are continuing interrogation. A case has been registered with Mohammadpur Thana in this connection.

The public meeting was part of the BNP's campaign in favour of its candidate in the September 11 bye-election in the Dhanmondi-Mohammadpur constituency.

mills and factories, large-scale smuggling and violence in educational institutions patron-

Begum Zia hit at fallen dictator Ershad and his associates accusing them of plundering huge foreign aid and funnelling

ised by the fallen autocratic

the unemployment problem.

She said her government would continue its efforts to boost production, improve communication system and implement 19-point programme of Shaheed Zia to change the lot of the people.

The rallies were addressed by State Minister for Textiles Major (Retd) M A Mannan, State Minister for Labour and Manpower Rafiqul Islam Miah, Jamiruddin Sircar, the BNP nominee for Dhaka-Mohammadpur constituency, Mir Showkat Ali, MP Barkatullah Bulu, MP, Ehsanul Huq Setu and Alamgir Hossain

a speech Monday to

The meeting of 116 of the

"explicit confidence in the

President" and rejected the

"purported clandestine move."

defectors from the ruling party

are supporting the impeach-

ment resolution submitted to

the Parliament speaker last

week. But the names of the

signatories have not been re-

The opposition claims 47

Impeachment move

Parliament members of his United National Party that was reported Tuesday in the staterun Daily News. Premadasa, reports Reuter. ruling party's 125 members unanimously expressed

Industries Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe, the cabinet spokesman, told reporters that the group had submitted the resolution to Speaker Hanissa

In a letter to Mohamed they

The impeachment resolu tion accuses Premadasa of assuming sweeping powers, establishing a police-state regime, reducing the Cabinet to a rubber stamp and strip-

ping Parliament of any weight. It also charged Premadasa with wiretapping the intimidating political opponents, and using bribery, corruption and nepotism. Premadasa has denied wrongdoing.

leased.

The impeachment petition has prompted a mudslinging poster campaign on city walls. Some read: "Death to those who oppose the President."

Case against Dainik Shakti: 3 arrested

Chairman of the Editorial Board of the Dainik Shakti Rashiduzzaman, Chief Editor Habibuzzaman and Chief Reporter A.F.M. Foffullah were arrested by police on Monday night and sent to Dhaka Central Jail on Tuesday according to a press release of the daily, report BSS.

The arrested persons were produced before the court on Tuesday. The Metropolitan Magistrate refused prayer for their bail, the press release

added. Inspector General of Police Tayebuddin Ahmed filed a case against the Editor of Daily Sakti and Secretary General of Bangladesh Editors Council A.Q.M. Joinul Abedin, and the three arrested persons under penal code Sections 500, 501. 505 and 505 (Ka) with reference to news items and editorial published in the daily on July 13 and 21 and August 28 on the basis of which warrants of arrests were issued.

Police searched the residence of the Editor of the Dainik Shakti, the press release said.

When contacted over telephone Motifheel police station confirmed the arrest.

Editor : S. M. Ali

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Leaders of left political parties brought out a procession in city on Tuesday protesting changes in USSR

Left political parties vow to struggle for socialism

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders and workers of six left political parties on Tuesday vowed to continue their struggle for socialism in Bangladesh.

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), United Communist League, Workers Party, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (Mahbub), Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (Inu) and Samyabadi Dal jointly organ ised a rally in front of the National Press Club to express their determination.

CPB leaders Manzur Ahsan Khan, Mujahidul Islam Selim and Morshed Ali, UCL leaders Bimal Biswas and Tipu Biswas, Workers Party leaders Rashed Khan Menon and Haider Akbar Khan Rono, BSD leaders A F M Mahbubul Huq, Abdullah Sarker, JSD leaders Mustag Ahmed and Shirin Akter and

Samyabadi Dal leaders Dilip Barua and Khondaker Ali Abbas were present at the rally.

They said that the struggle for socialism in Bangladesh would continue whatever happened in the Soviet Union. They termed the current Soviet situation as an upshot

of imperialist conspiracy to destroy socialism. The people of Bangladesh want Soviet Union as a powerful socialist state to counter American imperialism and for

freedom and democracy of the Third World, they added. They expressed hope that the movement of socialism democracy and humanism would overcome all conspiracies of the imperialists.

Later they brought out a procession amid rains.

KAFCO

From Page 1 Col. 5 government.

But during talks with the Finance Minister Saifur Rahman on Saturday, the mission raised the question of the letter of guarantee, delay of which was causing sufferings to the contractors of the pro-

Ikeda said that his mission had free and frank discussions with its Bangladeshi counterparts. It had visited the Chittagong Export Processing Zone where Japanese capital was invested, besides Barisal.

Ikeda said those have provided them with the opportunities to examine the prospects of Japanese investments and expansion of trade in Bangladesh.

Ikeda said that no specific investment project was discussed, rather they talked on the general economic picture for a long-term prospective.

Praising Bangladesh's investment policy as 'wellformulated, the mission chief said that more could be harnessed out of it with a view to strengthening the trade ties between the two countries.

Ikeda said efforts should be made for implementation of the policy and only then would they be able to point out any lapses or flaws in it. Replying to a question on

the accident at the Ghorasal Fertiliser Factory being modernised with Japanese assis tance, Ikeda said, 'I have no knowledge about the plant. Regretting the accident in which a number of experts and

said he would look into the matter on returning to Japan. He however maintained that there should be full coordination between the Japanese contractors and the local engi-

factory employees died, he

neering experts. We must have full prepara tory consultations before the taking-off of a project and the maintenance aspects should be fully taken care of,' he said.

lkeda said that it was for the first time that such a large delegation comprising noted persons from the Japanese private sector and officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Industry and Economic Planning Agency visited Bangladesh. Two former ambassadors were also included in the mission, he said.

Replying to a question on the social infrastructure of Bangladesh, Ikeda said such facilities need to be developed in Bangladesh, particularly in power, telecommunication and transport for surviving the 'cut-throat competition' in the world market.

The mission, after going back to Japan, will submit its observations and recommendations for future investments in Bangladesh, Ikeda said.

Rashidul Hasan, General Secretary of the Bangladesh-Japan Society, speaking on behalf of the local private sector. said this was the first time that free and frank discussions between both the sides were held with constructive criticism on the prevailing situa-

A pickpocket escapes mob justice by the timely appearance of a cop. It happened in the city

bus plunge in Rupganj From Our Correspondent

35 injured in

NARAYANGANJ, Sept 3: At least 35 persons were injured, three of them seriously, when a passenger minibus fell into a ditch along the Dhaka Narsingdi road near Kornogope of Rupganj upazila Tuesday.

The driver of the Dhakabound minibus apparently lost control causing it to plunge.

Three of the seriously injured passengers were admitted at the Rupganj Upazila Health complex while the rest were released after first-aid.

A case was registered with the Rupgant thana. However, the driver of the minibus man aged to flee. The minibus (Dhaka-cha-1959) could not be salvaged till filing of this re-

Hasina

From Page 1 Col. 7 ernment to switch over to parliamentary democracy and exempt land tax up to 25 bighas. She demanded agricultural

loan waiver up to Taka 10,000, supply of agricultural input at low cost to farmers and fair price of their products, including jute. She also urged the people trunks, mostly in the folds of

to elect her party nominee and strengthen Awami League's position in parliament to e alise their demands. The meeting presided over

by Bashir Ahmed was also addressed by Tofael Ahmed, MP, KM Jahangir, MP, Kader Siddiqi and Awami League nominee Anwar Hossain Bhutyan. Tofael Ahmed alleged min-

isters were trying to allure the voters with lofty commitments. They were also using local administration to influence the Leader of

the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina today demanded resignation of Education Minister Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury for disorder in educational arena and unabated campus violence. It's for the first time that

the Awami League President raised the demand for resignation of any minister after Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia formed cabinet on March Hasina also chided the Prime Minister, who is at the

helm of the Ministry of Home Affairs, for what she called unprecedented deterioration in law and order. Addressing her student supporters at the Circuit

House premises this afternoon, Hasina alleged the government had failed to improve law and order situation. Hijack, killing and looting have become the order of the

day and continuing armed clashes led to the closure of more than 100 colleges and universities, she added She held the Home Minis-

ter and the Education Minister responsible for breakdown of law and order and campus closures and asked the latter to step down.

-Star photo

The Midnight File

Latvia won't join future Soviet economic union

VIENNA, Sept 3: Latvian Foreign Minister Janis Jurkans said here today that his country "will never join" a future Soviet political or economic union. "I think the Soviet Union will change into a confederation of democratic and independent states," Jurkans said in an interview with Austrian radio. He said the Baltic states did not want to be part of a Soviet Economic Union, but wanted to introduce a market economy and join the European Community, reports

NAM FMs' meet begins today

ACCRA, Sept 3: Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned Movement will begin here from tomorrow three day discussions in an attempt to keep the flag of the movement flying amidst doubts about the relevance of this essentially Third World grouping in the aftermath of the Cold War era while Germany and the Netherlands have been admitted as guests, reports PTI.

Enver Hoxha's statue removed

VIENNA, Sept 3: The last major statue of former Albanain Communist dictator Enver Hoxha in the capital of Tirana was quietly removed from the museum dedicated to him, a journalist said Tuesday. The 40-ton statue of Greek marble was to be removed intact, but the head was accidentally knocked off when the statue was removed Monday evening, reports AP.

Erchad's tria LISHAU

From Page 1 Col. 4 jected the bail petition saying that the objective of this petition was to see his ailing mother, so the accused could seek parole to see his mother.

Just after that Advocate Mozammel Haque Bhutyan appearing in the court on behalf of A H M Gaffar, granted ball from the High Court, prayed for extending the bail for the period of the case. The Attorney General did

not oppose the move. The learned Judge after scrutinising the documents accepted the prayer. The court set September

28 for the formal accusation in the case. The prosecution has so far named 24 persons as its wit-

nesses.

After setting the date Judge Mohammad Habibullah left the podium saying, "Now I am abdicating the chair for my junior colleague Mohammad Ali Khan." After a few minutes Judge

Mohammad Ali Khan of the

Special Judge Court resumed the prosecution in the second case against Ershad. The prosecution produced the witness No 46, Magistrate

A T A M Ismail, a member of the Inventory Committee. Corroborating the prosecution Ismail deposed that Taka 1,90,81,565 was found in

clothes, in the Sena Bhaban. Deposing in the Court A T A M Ismail said that Ershad's representative used to take time to consult Ershad during the preparation of Inventory List to know about some items and whether they belonged to

Ershad or not. Defence Counsel Strajul Haque cross-examined him for a brief period.

Strajul Haque (DL): You gave witness also in arms case? At that time you said about eight arms. Now you have come to give witness on a total

PW: At that time I gave witness about eight arms found without any valid licence.

DL: Have you identified the items in Bangabhavan? PW: No. I did not.

DL: Were the items identi-

Ershad said: "None will be benefited except me. I will get fees if the case continues," he added sarcastically.

jail for the rest of his life.

fied first or did you first pre-

PW: The Inventory List was

DL: Were you present dur-

PW : I prepared the

The court was then ad-

During the hearing Ershad

in the dock was once heard

telling his lawyer Sirajul

Haque, " I have already been

sentenced to 25 years in jail,

what's the use in fighting the

to a recent statement of the

Prime Minister at a public

meeting at Manik Miah

Avenue, where she said that

Ershad might have to live in

Strajul Haque replying to

He was obviously referring

pare the Inventory List?

ing the preparation of list?

journed till 10 am today.

prepared first.

inventory List.

case?"

During the deposition of PW 46, the former Attorney General Barrister Rafiqui Haque met Ershad in the dock for about 22 minutes. He came to the Court at 10 minutes past

one o'clock in the afternoon and sought permission of the Attorney General to allow him to talk to Ershad. The Attorney General did not hesitate in allowing him to do so. But the subject of their discussion was not known.

When he came out of the courtroom he told a Reporter that he had come to discuss about another case. Barrister Rafigul Haque's

talking to Ershad standing near the dock was overlooked by the Court.

By-election

From Page 1 Col. 4 The ruling party ministers will stop campaigning for byelections from September 7 and the initiative may begin after that. Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will go for whirlwind tour from September 8. Sheikh Hasina may do the same. The opposition leaders may accompany the Prime Minister in some of the meetings, said an opposition source.

Human rights

From Page 1 Col. 4 are on hunger strikes.

International human rights groups have criticised Major's trip, saying it bolsters the image of China's authoritarian government. But Major has defended it, saying contacts with China rather than isolation is needed.

But since arriving Monday from Moscow, Major also has stressed to China's hard-line communist leadership that the rest of the world is moving away from communism, leaving China behind. Li has replied that China's situation is not comparable to that in the Soviet Union, where the once all-powerful Communist Party has been suspended. "Li Peng pointed out with

emphasis that it's very natural for China and Britain to have differences due to their different social systems," Wu said. *However, the two sides can exchange opinions on this, so as to enhance mutual understanding." He reiterated China's insis-

tence that leading dissidents Chen Ziming and Wang Juntao, who began hunger strikes last month to protest poor conditions in prison, have received humanitarian treatment. The two men are serving 13-year terms for taking part in the 1989 democracy move-

ment, which was crushed by

the Chinese army. The gov-

ernment has said they are now eating some food, but has not allowed relatives to see them. China has resisted Western pressure to relax its tight political controls and release

jailed democracy activists. After their 2 1/2-hour talk, Major and Li signed the memorandum of understanding on Hong Kong airport. They toasted each other with champagne after signing the document in the Great Hall of the People.

"We have every reason to be fully confident of the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong," the state-run Xinhua News Agency quoted Lt as saying. Xinhua said he also told

Major, 'So long as we respect each other and seek common grounds while setting aside differences, Sino-British relations will have a broad prospect for development."

The airport agreement gives China the right to be consulted extensively on each stage of construction of the US 16.2 billion dollars airport and port project, and on any other major undertaking by the British colonial government.

When the colonial government announced plans two years ago to build a much needed new airport, China said the project would deplete the colony's treasury, leaving it with an impoverished Hong Kong in 1997. Its protests caused private

investors to back away from the project, forcing Britain to invite China to join in the planning. Critics have said the agreement gives China too much say

in Hong Kong affairs before 1997 and throws doubt on whether China will keep its pledge to give the enclave substantial autonomy after the turnover. The signing of the airport

agreement, concluded two months, ago, was the main purpose of Major's three-day

Rural economy

From Page 1 Col. 7 rural areas with the national and regional highway network

JCD demands

Agri Varsity

VC's removal

By Staff Correspondent

University (BAU) unit of

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD)

Tuesday demanded removal of

Vice Chancellor Asadur

Rahman accusing him of

"patronising a terrorist group"

and "deliberately" closing the

university on the plea of vio-

did not warrant closure of the

university, Mirza Mustafizur

Rahman Parvez claimed at a

press conference at the

National Press Club. He blamed

the incidents on Awami League

The general students who

backed Chhatra League ac-

were opposed to the "terrorist

group" had brought out pro-

cessions on the campus to

protest the closure but they

were forced to leave their halls

by calling in BDR, he alleged.

DUCSU General Secretary

Khairul Kabir Khokon and

other JCD leaders of BAU were

present at the press confer-

From Page 1 Col. 5

ing from making such com-

Prime Minister Begum

Khaleda Zia while referring to

corruptions by Ershad and his

government at a recent public

meeting had said that he

would have to spend rest of his

Chairman said healthy demo-

cratic atmosphere could not be

ensured keeping violence alive

in the educational institutions.

educational institutions were

never closed before due to vio-

lence. He said it was shame for

the nation and more so, be-

cause it happened under a

government which claimed it-

self to be democratic, he

removed if political parties

having student outfits decided

Campus violence could be

opined.

to do it, he said.

Chowdhury said so many

The Jatiya Party Acting

life in fail for these.

Mızan

The August 29-30 incidents

lence.

tivists.

Bangladesh Agriculture

along with the re-construction and development of highways. She said Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman had wanted to build up rural economy on a strong footing. The government would do its best to build a wide communication infrastructure to ensure marketing of agricultural products and help flourish the rural econ-

omy, she said. The Prime Minister said with the commissioning of the Meghna-Gomti bridge there would be no river obstacle between Dhaka and the port city

Chittagong. She expressed her gratitude to the Japanese government for their assistance in the construction of the bridge. Begum Zia announced that

steps were being taken to start

construction work of Jamuna

bridge soon to ensure smooth

road communication from

Teknaf to Tetulia. The people have demonstrated their con-

Shantibahini

From Page 1 Col. 8 The date and venue of talks will be fixed after the reply of letter from the Shantibahini, the source said. Another source said, the Shantibahini was now more willing to hold talks with the authorities and geared up their insurgency to draw attention of the present Government.

Over the last two months

Shantibahini gunmen killed at

least 20 non-tribal people of

the area and injured many

viction for the Jamuna bridge by giving surcharges and the government would construct it the soonest, she said.

Mongla port.

Tetsuo Ito expressed the hope that the existing relations between the two countries would be further strengthened following the cooperation of the two governments. He said the Meghna bridge was the largest-ever road bridge, constructed with Japanese grant.

tain good road links with scribed the event as another milestone in the development

of road communications un-

She said the government has also given emphasis on the development of Dhaka-Mawa-Bhanga-Mongla road to main-

Col (Retd) Oli Ahmed dedertaken by the present gov-