Benjedid greets

Biswas

Behjedid has felicitated Abdur

Rahman Biswas on his election

as the President of Bangladesh,

he was looking forward to

work with Bangladesh

President in developing the relations and cooperation be-

tween the two countries and

well-being of the Islamic

good health and progress and

High-tech based

education needed

for uplift'

Biswas Sunday underscored

the need for introducing mod-

ern technology with a view to

promoting national develop-

should be introduced to keep

pace with other advanced

countries, he said while talk-

ing to a three- member delega-

tion of University Grants

Commission (UGC) led by its

Chairman Prof Shamsul Huq

called on him at Bangabhaban.

President Biswas said

Bangladesh has a vast man

power resources which, he

added, should be used for

President Biswas said re-

sponsible behaviour of all

shades of opinion was an im-

portant factor to continue with

democratic process.

Mosharraf Hossain.

achieving national progress.

High-tech based education

ment, reports BSS.

President Abdur Rahman

prosperity of Bangladesh.

Benjedid wished Biswas

In a message Benjedid said,

reports UNB.

Ummah.

Algerian President Chadli

Dhaka Day by Day

Eating Our Guests for Dinner

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

We are known for our poverty, our floods and our unstable governments. But we are also known for our resilience - and our hospitality. Says an enthusiastic American I met the other day, "You guys sure know how to make people feel at home." Such praise no doubt makes any Bangladeshi proud. But what if I were to say that some of us are so inhospitable that we go to the extent of eating our own guests ! Shocked, are you not ? Cannibalism in this country? Not quite, although for many nature lovers it is almost as heinous a crime. What I am talking about is birds. In particular, Siberian wild geese which are on the way to disappear from Bangladesh's landscape because of indiscriminate hunting and killing. As the extreme chill of winter threatens to

freeze the lakes and rivers of Siberia, these

birds leave their homes to start a long journey in search of warmer habitats. Winter in Bangladesh with its mild coolness, offers the ideal climate for these birds. Some of them stay for a while and then leave to lay their eggs somewhere else. Others stay back and nest making a temporary home in this country. Flocks of Siberian wild geese can be seen

Guest birds displayed for sale.—Star photo in the swampy areas of Sylhet, Bartsal and Patuakhali. Smaller groups often pick out their favourite trees, coming back every year to the same trees. One the market. The prices they are willing to pay of the most remarkable traits of these creamakes this a very attractive business. As a contures is their genetic memory. The offspring of sequence the sellers are ready to hunt down these birds will choose only those trees that these birds even at the risk of violating the law their parents had chosen the year before. Simprohibiting the killing of such birds. It is quite ilarly they will instinctively avoid those trees situated in areas where their parents had been accomplishing the objective they were made caught or threatened in any way. As February

find cooler places further south. The sight of these black and white beauties as they fly in flocks over the lakes is truly breathtaking. But it is with great sadness and dismay that I inform you of a fact that most of

approaches and the traces of winter start to

disappear in Bangladesh, these birds leave to

you already know. These birds are being hunted down everyday and slaughtered to be served at the dinner tables of a few self-indulgent hedonists who are more concerned with their palates rather than preserving a rare species of birds. If this goes on it does not take much deduction to realize that soon our guests from Siberia will no longer pay their yearly visits and our lakes and streams will remain barren and sad at the loss of such attractive company. You can see these birds being sold on the streets of Baitul Mukkarram, outside New Market, Elephant Road, Mohakhali etc.

Now one must ask the inevitable - who is to blame? Is it the hunters and sellers of these birds? But can it not be argued that they are just people struggling to make a living? Would they not be just as happy to sell something else

obvious that these laws are fairly redundant in

We can take measures to enforce such laws.

We can make the sellers pay fines or go to jail.

But will this stop the killing of the Siberian

wild geese? The answer is - not unless the

buyers of these birds and in a sense their pre-

for preservation of a rare species of animals.

if the returns were the same? It is quite doubtful that any of these salesmen (if you call them that) sell these birds merely ou of sadistic pleasure!

But what about those who get immense pleasure in cating these birds When asked why, thev answer. "Why shouldn' we cat them if it's available in the market ?" Such

He said the education planning of the country should glib replies can be aimed at productive puronly come from people who are not only without a conscience The delegation also disbut who conveniently forget that they create

cussed with the President various matters of the UGC. The other members of the delegation were Prof Muhammad Ali and Prof

Workshop on VAT

Mahanagar North West held a

workshop on Value Added Tax

(VAT) system for the Rotaracts

of RI Dist-3280. It was jointly

organised with Rapport

Bangladesh Ltd at the Women's

Voluntary Association audito-

President of WVA and past

President of Inner Wheel

Club, District Secretary Rtr

Salim Sazzad and District Joint

Secretary Atiquzzaman Firoz

were present during the whole

Mahabubur Rahman (Director,

Finance, Trading Corporation

of Bangladesh) briefly ex-

30 participants by the chief

guest Shah A Hannan

(Chairman, VAT Cell, National

cluded by vote of thanks given

by the Club President Farzana

Jubo Dal founding

day observed

anniversary of Bangladesh

Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal was ob-

served Sunday in a befitting

the occasion were placing of

wreaths on the mazar of

Shaheed President Ziaur

Rahman, and Milad Mahfil at

Chowdhury, Mayor of Dhaka

and Juba Dal President Mirza

Abbas, State Minister for

Forest and Environment and

Juba Dal General Secretary

Gayeshwar Roy and Salahuddin

Ahmed, MP, were present on

Home Minister Abdul Matin

the mazar premises.

the occasion.

Tuesday at 6-03 am.

The thirteenth founding

The central programmes on

The workshop was con-

Certificates were given to

Keynote Speaker

plained the VAT system.

Board of Revenue).

day programme.

Munira Khan, Vice

rium, says a Press release.

The Rotaract Club of

HERE and THERE



Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal workers brought out a procession on the campus with bodies of two fellow activists, killed in armed clash Sunday . Story on page 1 -Star photo

Plea to declare flood-hit areas as 'famine zone'

Bangladesh Garib Dal has called the government for declaring the country's northern flood-hit region as "famine zone" and demanded adequate supply of relief materials there, reports UNB.

The call was made at a party. meeting here Friday.

The meeting, chaired by Sheikh Zainul Abedin, called on the government to formulate a master plan to create employment opportunities for youths across the country, said a press release.

It expressed concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the country. price-hike of essentials and the unemployment problem.

Bangladesh losing elevation: US expert

Coastal embankment without drainage to cause disaster

A US engineering specialist on flooding in Bangladesh has called upon the experts worldwide to come forward with innovative ways to manage the flood problem in the country, according a message received in Dhaka, reports

He expressed his firm belief that the problem can be managed, according to a USIS press release.

Dr Peter Rogers, a Professor of Environmental Engineering at Harvard University while participating in the worldnet dialogue satellite Television discussion with experts in Dhaka, on October 23, suggested a number of measures to tackle the problem of frequent and devastating flooding in Bangladesh.

He supported Bangladesh government policy to provide low embankments against average types of flooding in the coastal areas. "It is a relatively good one because it couples cyclone protection shelter areas with an early warning system," he said.

Dr Rogers stressed the need for a lowered agricultural population density along the most frequently flooded coastal areas of Bangladesh.

The US expert said a strategy including the Bangladesh government measures already in place, "coupled with pushing very hard in intensification in agriculture elsewhere, which will reduce some of the population pressures and make those problems less serious" was needed.

Questioned about how to handle the sediment buildup in the channels, the Harvard University-based expert said he feared that the engineers who had built the embankments "just simply didn't think about that." He added that the Bangladeshi engineers can do better than that and suggested that "that's where research needs to be addressed."

Rogers explained that Bangladesh was formed from the sediments from the Himalayas that are 10,000-20,000 centimeters thick. Bangladesh is losing elevation, he said and warned again, "I think the technical studies and the technical people have not addressed the issue. The major issue is maintaining the elevation of the land.

He said that, rather than returning to such old theories as the building of giant sea walls, the government of Bangladesh should be encouraging extensive research into the question of how to prevent the "consolidation and settling" of the delta region, of how to get it to build itself up.

"I see that there is a major

issue that is not being adequately addressed, and I would think that the people best capable of addressing this would in fact be the Bangladeshi scientists and engineers, people who have their own field laboratory right in front of their eyes," Rogers said. The US expert further said

"clearly, if the whole of Bangladesh was covered with embankments, it would be a different country. It would be a country that would be quite dangerous to live in because one would then always be faced with catastrophic failure of embankments, as opposed to the normal flow or rise of flood waters."

Rogers said that most people do not realize that the coastal embankment project in Bangladesh is "the largest engineering project in the

world....bigger than the Great Wall of China, in terms of the amount of dirt that was moved."

But, he said, it has failings; "If you build flood control works and do not provide drainage, you run into trouble." He said that Bangladesh has very high amounts of rainfall, and that the huge pumping stations that would be required to keep the land dry are not

"In a high-flood situation, gravity drainage will not work." the expert said, adding that "the rivers are indeed, higher than the surrounding land. Asked about the possibly

threat to Bangladesh from scas rising as a result of the "Greenhouse effect" caused by pollution from developed countries, Rogers replied that would be "the least" of Bangladesh's worries.

Investigation on against ex-T&T Chairman: Minister

Maksud Ali tapp ed phones of Khaleda, Hasina: Nasim

A total of 27 officials and 326 employees of the a government servant is dis-Telegraph and Telephone Board have been dismissed and forced into retirement under different measures during the period from 1980 to January 1991, the Jatiya Sangsad was informed today, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Rahmat Ali (AL), Post and Telecommunications Minister Keramat Ali also furnished a list of these officials and em-

Responding to a supplementary, the minister sought a separate notice for specifying the officials and employees who had been dismissed and those who had gone into forced retirement.

Answering to a supplementary from ASM Feroz (AL) whether any action had been taken against former T and T Chairman Maksud Ali Khan, who had been known as a "corrupt and collaborator of the autocracy", the Minister said Khan had not been dismissed but investigations were continuing against him.

নং-খ-১৩/বায়রা-১/৯১/৪৬৯

Sub:

DFP(G) 12201-24/10

G-783

missed, the Minister added.

German MPs due tomorrow

A six- member German Parliamentary delegation led by Dr Fritz Hopmeier, Deputy Speaker of the State Legislature or Baden-Wuerttemberg, will arrive in Dhaka on Tuesday on a 3-day visit to Bangladesh, a press release said Sunday, reports BSS.

Chief Whip Khondaker Delwar Hossain will, receive the delegation at the airport.

The other members of the delegation are: Rudolf Decker, Josef Dreier, Karl Goebel, Dr Friedhelm Repntk and Franz

During their stay in Bangladesh, the members of the delegation will call on Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali, Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina and Chief Whip Khondaker Delwar Hossain.

Government of the People's Republic

of Bangladesh

Ministry of Labour and Manpower

NOTICE

Manpower), Election 1992

from intending Managing Director/

firms for CIP (Manpower) Election 1992. It is

by November 4, 1991. No application will be

there are proved to be wrong/false, the

Candidature invitation for Com-

mercially Important Person (CIP-

There are formalities before "shame shame" as the Minister replied to the question on Maksud Ali Khan.

dators stop buying them.

Opposition members yelled Taking the floor Opposition Chief Whip Mohammad Nasim said Khan played a key role in taping the telephones of opposition leaders including that of today's Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Leader of the Opposition in the House Sheikh Hasina during the nine years autocratic rule of former President HM Ershad.

> He said Khan had recently been appointed a member of the Telephone and Telegraph Board and wondered how it could be possible. State Minister for Establishment wanted to say something on this but Deputy Leader of the House Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury said the statement could be given later.

Obituary

Alhaj Abdul Halim of Nabinagar Upazila, Comilla died of old age complications on Saturday at the Holy Family Hospital. He was 85.

Alhaj Ilalim was a retired Asst Registrar of Cooperatives. He left behind his wife, six sons, three daughters and a number of grand children. He was buried at Azimpur

. Begum Zohra Hasan, wife of retired Justice Khandker Mohammad Hasan, died in Dhaka Saturday at her Dhanmondi residence, reports





Graveyard.

Monday

Applications in prescribed form are invited Opening announcement, Al Quran, Managing Partner/ Proprietor of relevant Programme summary requested to collect the form from the office 5.20 News in Bangla. of the undersigned and submit the filled in Yearling form with necessary paper to the same office 6.00 Wrestling Educational acceptable after the prescribed date. If the programme TV debate form is incomplete or informations stated competition

application will be treated as rejected. 8.30 Md. Kamal Reza Senior Assistant Secretary 10.25 Parltament roundup Room No. 420, Building No .7 10.40 Film show: Hot Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

Reading from the Cartoon Film: The Sports Programme:

Some programmes of News in Bangla Health programme Bul Bul (Nazrul songs) 10.00 News in English

Pursuit 11.30 Khabar/The News 11.45 Close down

Nagarik Adhikar Parishad

Bangladesh Nagarik Adhikar Parishad on Sunday slated the bill presented in the Jatiya Sangsad recently for a pay hike of the ministers and members of parliament and also resented the recent price-hikes of essentials.

in a statement the President of the Parishad M A Mohaimen said that the people of the country were disheartened at such pay hike for the ministers and MPs at a time when the country is going through a serious economic crisis and a near-famine situation exists in the northern dis-

JSD (Rob)

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Rob) on Sunday reiterated its determination to resist the anti-people activities of the present government. The two-day meeting of the

standing committee adopted the resolution that the party would be consolidated with specific action programme against the government.

DCC Mayor

The Mayor of the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mirza Abbas MP while inaugurating the reexcavation programme of Titas Cannel at Jatrabari Sunday said water stagnancy created recently at various parts of the city as the past government did not excavate the city cannels in the city and suburb.

Late President Ziaur Rahman first initiated the programme to excavate the Titas Cannel. But the post-Zia governments did not take any initiative in this regard.

Salahuddin Ahmed MP also addressed on the occasion.

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Met office forecast on Sunday that light rain or thundershower is likely at one or two places over the regions of Chittagong, Noakhalt, Comilla, Bartsal, Patuakhalt, Khulna and Faridpur.

Weather will remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country, Met office said adding that the day temperature will remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period.

Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns on Sunday were:

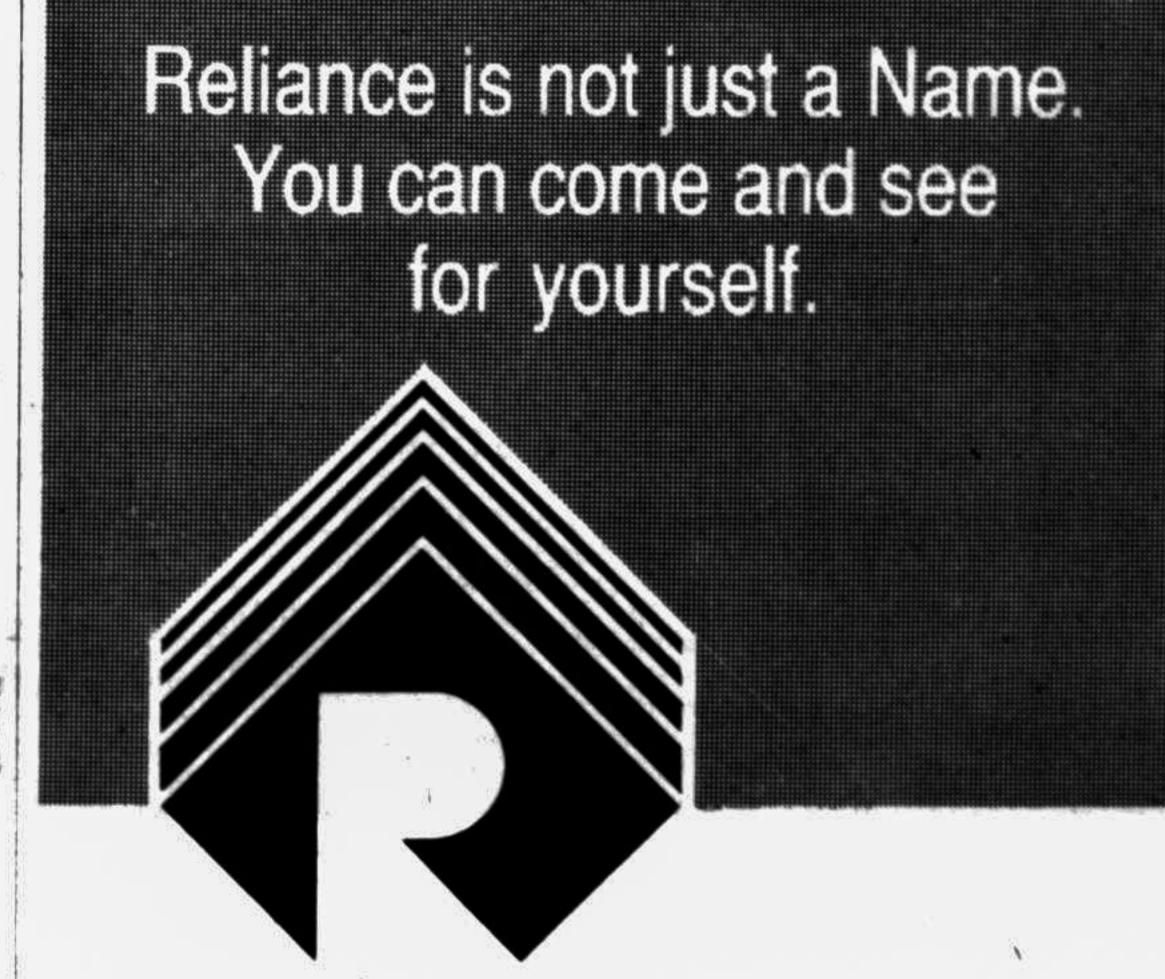
Cities/Towns Temperature in degree Celsius Humidity in 6 pm 31.5 Chittagong Rajshah Khulna 20.0 31.2 23.5 31.8 Sylhet 31.5 22,5 Jessore 30,5 20.0 Dinajpur Bogra 21.4 31.8 24.4 Bartsal 33.5 Teknaf 24.8 77 Cox's Bazar 31.0 20.0 Rangpur Sun sets in Dhaka tomorrow (Monday) at 5-23 pm and rises

FOR KUWAIT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, STATE OF KU-WAIT, IS IN NEED OF FEMALE DOCTORS SPE-CIALISED IN OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOL-OGY. THE AVAILABLE POSTS ARE FOR SEN-IOR REGISTRARS AND CONSULTANTS. CAN-DIDATES SHOULD HAVE AN MRCOG, FRCOG OR EQUIVALENT, WITH AT LEAST FIVE YEARS' EXPERIENCE AFTER OBTAINING THE SPECIALISATION DEGREE. PLEASE APPLY PERSONALLY TO EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT AT SE- (D) 5, 26 SOUTH LINK ROAD, GULSHAN ON ANY WORKING DAY BETWEEN 10 AND TO 1 PM BY THE 14TH NOVEMBER, 1991 ATTACHING ALL REL-**EVANT CERTIFICATES.**

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