THE TEESTA, THE SORROW OF GANGACHARA PEOPLE: The river has eroded vast areas of Alambidhitor and Nachali

unions under the upazila in last three years, rendering many families homeless and causing an acute crisis of food and

The Midnight File

Four militants die in

Kashmir gunbattle

ians were killed in violence linked to a bloody Muslim seces-

sionist campaign in the Indian state of Kashmir. Among the

dead was Hashim Hykal, chief commander of the Islamia In-

quilab Force (IIF), who was shot dead Saturday by security

forces in a gunbattle in Baramulla district, PTI said, report

Army search for Sikh rebels

search operations for Stkh rebels in an insurgency ridden

district of Punjab state. About 11,000 to 12,000 Indian army

AMRITSAR, Nov 3: Thousands of troops Sunday launched

NEW DELHI, Nov 3: Four Muslim militants and four civil-

Ershad's trial

Accounts were maintained by JP office clerk, Tajul tells court

Tajul Islam Chowdhury, MP, a defence witness in the corruption case against the deposed president HM Ershad, Sunday denied having tampered with the register of the Jatiya Party that maintained accounts of members' subscriptions, reports BSS.

Tajul Islam, a former minister and at present office secretary of the Jattya Party, told the Special Tribunal during the cross-examination that the register was maintained by an office (JP office) clerk.

Tajul Islam, first of the several desence witnesses named earlier, was examined for the 7th day Sunday.

In his voluntary statement before the court which called off for the day, he said the clerk used to maintain daily accounts of the money deposited against membership subscriptions.

Reiterating that he did not maintain the register, the defence witness stated that the register was deposited with the court to facilitate the proceedings. The clerk used to keep the accounts on daily basts and the amount was then

DSU demands JS

steps to contain

campus violence

By DU Correspondent

(DSU), an alliance of left-lean-

ing student organisations, held

a demonstration and later

moved towards the Jatiya

Sangsad building in a proces-

sion Sunday afternoon de-

manding restoration of peace

in the educational institutions.

in front of the National Press

Club marched towards

structed by police near the

Bangla Motor crossing.

DSU leaders then addressed

the demonstrators demanding

effective steps by Parliament to

root out terrorism from the

BNP-backed Chhatra Dal (JCD)

and the Awami League-sup-

ported Chhatra League (BCL) of

unleashing terrorism on the

campuses and alleged that the

government and the main

Opposition in Parliament were

not at all cordial in stamping

They strongly condemned

the suspension of BCL activi-

ties on the Dhaka University

campus by the Awami League

chief Sheikh Hasina and said

that such a step would encour-

age those quarters conspiring

since long to stop student poli-

who hailed the suspension.

They also condemned those

Aid utilisation

Bangladesh's problem with the

ADB alone. The World Bank

resident mission chief in

Dhaka CR Willoughby told the

ADB Press Study Team in

Dhaka at a discussion meeting

last week that Bangladesh

could get more aid resources,

particularly in areas of human

resources development, educa-

tion and other social sectors

had the aid utilisation perfor-

mance been better, so

Willoughby reviewed the aid

situation with the ADB Press

Study Team at a briefing ses-

sion at his office. The press

team visited Dhaka last week,

after completing a week's

study of the Philippines situa-

chief said that aid commit-

ments to Bangladesh had been

lower than the pledges made

at the annual Paris Aid

Consortium meetings in the

recent years. Disbursements

are even lower than commit-

ments, he added while noting

that there were at times can-

cellation of committed funds.

This reflects difficulties in aid

utilisation in Bangladesh", he

appointed ADB resident mis-

Dhaka on November 18. In an

interview with The Daily Star

in Manila, he said that he

looked forward to more effec-

tive development cooperation

like to extend allout support to

Bangladesh in its development

priority areas. He indicated

that the Bank would also be

tions for development of the

private sector in the changed

context. The infrastructural'

and social sector projects will

continue to be on the high

agenda for Bank's support in

Vander Linden was in

Dhaka a number of times in

connection with project ap-

praisal works in the health and

education sectors. "I am quite

aware of the situation in

the country, he added.

Star in Manila.

willing to expand its opera-

between the ADB and

Meanwhile, the recently-

added.

Bangladesh.

The WB resident mission

From Page 1 Col. 4

out campus violence.

Speakers accused both the

Parliament building.

campus.

The DSU after a brief rally

The procession was ob-

Democratic Students Unity

From Page 1 Col. 8 from Arakan had recently taken shelter in Bangladesh and their number was on the increase. The Rohingyas are now staying at different places in Cox's Bazar, Alikadam, Teknaf, Ramu and Lama. He regretted that the Bangladesh government had yet to provide shelter or relief to the Rohingya refugees.

The NDP MP alleged that the Rohingan Muslims were being tortured by the Burmese rûlers and urged the government to raise the issue at the United Nations before the Foreign Minister's visit to Rangoon.

In reply to Chowdhury's statement, the Foreign Minister said that the government was watching the situation. He hoped that a diplo matic solution of the problem would be possible since Bangladesh maintained a friendly and neighbourly relationship with Burma.

The minister mentioned that during 1977-78, the Burmese Muslim refugees, who took shelter in Bangladesh, were repatriated after a fruitful discussion between the two

Violent incidents in BUET area: Probe body formed

The Government has constituted a one man inquiry commission with Justice Sultan Hossain Khan, former Chief Election Commissioner to inquire into the violent incidents in the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) area on October 19 by outsiders, reports BSS. The Commission has been

set up under the Commission of Inquiry Act of 1956, an official release said. The terms of reference of

the commission include where the incidents took place, reasons for the incidents, people responsible for the incidents and recommendations to prevent such happenings in the future along with other relevant matters.

The commission will submit its report as early as possible to the Home Ministry and the Education Ministry will extend necessary secretariat assistance to the commission.

Tinbigha

From Page 1 Col. 4 situation in the face of threats by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to send so-called "human waves" to prevent the transfer of the corridor to Bangladesh.

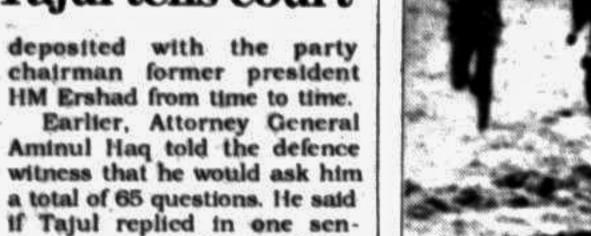
The West Bengal government has taken elaborate arrangements to face the situation on November 12 when Chief Minister Jyoti Basu is scheduled to address a meeting at. Mekliganj, according to sion chief Vander Linden will a report in Calcutta daily The assume his responsibilities in Statesman."

The report said Basu will probably announce the state government decision to implement the Indira-Mujib accord providing for "lease in perpetuity" the Tin Bigha corridor to Bangladesh. Tin Bigha He said that the ADB would is under Mckligani sub-divi-

> Meanwhile, a press release issued by the West Bengal government made it clear that as the accord is an international one, it needs to be implemented.

> The release said the terms of the agreement mentions that sovereignty over the leased area shall continue to vest with India and Bangladesh shall have use of the leased area for connecting Dahagram and Angorpota with Panbari.

- The release published in other newspapers as well, said any Indian will be able to use Bangladesh", he told The Daily the corridor even after its transfer to Bangladesh.



work.

Biswas on Sunday underscored

the need for organising the

youths as a productive force to

remove poverty and illiteracy

from the country, reports BSS.

setting up industries in a large

scale to provide jobs to the of

ing to an 18-member delega-

tion of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi

Sechhcha Sebak Sangstha led

by its convener Kazi

The President also said all

Paying rich tribute to

Assaduzzaman at Bangabhaban.

lands must be brought under

cultivation because Bangladesh

will have to attain self-suffi-

Shaheed president Ziaur

Rahman, who first organised

the youths of the country to

utilise their forces for produc-

tive purposes, President

Biswas said if the present-day

youths were inspired by the

late leader's ideals Bangladesh

youths to help the government

to root out corruption from the

society and raise their voice

against injustice and terrorism.

Engineers' report

Force, Dr. Jamilur Reza

Chowdhury, explained the rec-

The task force constituted

The committees are on

10-subcommittees to tackle

various problems following the

cyclone and other natural

coastal embankments, bridges,

culverts and roads, telecom-

munications, cyclone shelters.

building and housing, power

system, water supply and sani

tation, national disaster man-

agement, industries and envi-

service and professional prob-

thanked them for preparing

task report and recalled their

contributions in other national

look into their problems and

Dr. M Shahjahan, Syed Kamrul

Alam, Ruhul Matin, Dr. Fazle

Rahman, Prof Jashimuzzaman,

Sheikh Hasmat Ali, MAK Azad,

Mujibur Rahman, Jalal Uddin

Mohammad Abdul Hye and

former minister Dr. RA Ghani

They also referred to some

The Prime Minister

Begum Zia said she would

Vice Chancellor of BUET

ronment and energy.

lems to Begum Zia.

try to solve those.

were present.

calamities.

ommendations to Begum Zia.

From Page 1 Col. 8

The President told the

will soon become self-reliant.

ciency in food for its survival.

unemployed youths.

The President called for

President Biswas was talk-

The defence witness denied any manipulation. He however, admitted that there were some corrections on different occa-

tence, he would have nothing

The Attorney General also wanted to know from the defence witness whether he agreed that some words and figures were altered. Tajul replied that it was not a commercial office. Flaws and mistakes were quite possible, he said adding "We had no idea that we would have to face court".

During the cross-examination which continued for more than two hours, the defence witness also agreed that the altered figures were higher than the original ones.

The proceedings will re-

Mostafiz

Parliament passes Organise youths to remove **SPARRSO Bill** poverty: Biswas President Abdur Rahman

The Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organisation Bill, 1991 was passed in the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament) on Sunday night without any resistance to give legal entity to SPARRSO which has been functioning since 1985, reports UNB.

Jail killing issue comes up for discussion in JS By Staff Correspondent

The jail killings of November 3, 1975 were termed as 'inhuman and tragic' in the Jatiya Sangsad Sunday

During an unscheduled discussion on the issue, Opposition members urged the government to publish the report of the enquiry commission on the killing of four national leaders in the Dhaka Central Jail.

Shortly after the questionanswer hour, Shamsuddoha of the CPB took the floor and urged the House to pay respects to the four national leaders - Tajuddin Ahmed, Syed Nazrul Islam, Mansur Ali and Kamruzzaman. He mentioned that the leaders were brutally killed on this day while they were detained in prison. He said that the killings were a violation of Article 32 of the Constitution. The CPB leader asked for a statement from the Deputy Leader of the House on the is-

Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury said that obituary references for the four leaders were made in Parliament in 1979. He maintained that the same obituary references cannot be repeated. He, however, termed the killing of the four leaders a tragic incident and mentioned that an enquiry into the killings was also arranged

Workers Party MP Rashed Khan Menon said that an enquiry commission with three Judges was constituted by the government of Justice Sayem to enquire into the inhuman killings in the jail.

The commission submitted a report to the government, but the report was never published. Menon said that the killers could be identified if the report was made public. He demanded publication of the report and reminded that the government was committed to stop the politics of coup and killing.

31,000 families had been af-

fected due to floods. He also

said that in this upazila the

aman erop had been totally

damaged. He also urged the

government to allocate more

Winding up brief discussion on the bill. Agriculture, Irrigation and Flood Control Minister Majid-ul-Haq said SPARRSO was set up in 1980 by merging two programmes -SARC (Space and Atmospheric Research Centre) and ERTS (Earth Resources Technological Satellite-Lend

Sat). Functions of the organisation include peaceful use of

carrying out research on space.

From Page 1 Col. 7 was also ready to 'teach the

The public meeting foland holding of milad there.

achieved at the cost of blood. But the elected BNP government was instigating terrorism, destroying spirit of the war of independence, rehabilitating the 'rajakars' and resorting to repression on the opposition workers throughout the country in a planned way, she alleged.

Khaleda Zia.

The present government instead of containing terrorism was harbouring it. Workers of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, BNP's student wing were killing those of Chhatra League, Hasina alleged adding, the administration was not being allowed to work independently and being used for partisan interests.

the meeting.

Abdus Samad Azad, while criticising the government for not passing the Indemnity Repeal Bill, also called for publication of the report of the inquiry commission that had been formed after the killing of the four leaders.

Johra Tajuddin said the present government would be accountable to the people if it did not ensure trial of the killers of Bangabandhu and

ure of the people in power to pass the Indemnity Bill would only give the people to understand that they also had involvement in the killings. She also blamed the government for rehabilitating the anti-liberation forces at differ-

condemned the BNP chief for not ordering suspension of JCD activists on the DU campus and commented she had no control over her student activists.

soldiers launched operation "Night Thunder" in Taran Taran district at 7 pm (1330GMT), said a senior police official in the district, reports AP.

Soviet Day without tanks MOSCOW, Nov 3: For decades, Soviet leaders paraded soldiers and rockets through Red Square in a brash celebration of their holiest day: the November 7 anniversary of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution. But no goose steps will pound the cobblestones this year. They have been silenced for the first time since World War II by the rout of the Communist Party and its

hard-liners after the August putsch. reports AP.

Renewed Bodo violence in Assam: 20 killed

GUWAHATI. Nov Renewed violence by suspected bodo extremists has claimed at least 20 lives and injured over 100, several of them seriously, in Kokrajhar, Barpeta, Nalbari and Kamrup districts of Assam during the last 48 hours, reports PTI.

Official reports reaching here Sunday said the election officer of Bijni, R C Kalita, was stabbed to death at Bijni, while a businessman of Basugaon was shot dead by bodo extremists on Saturday

The army and police forces have intensified security mea-

BCL (S-A) memo to Home Ministry on campus situation

By DU Correspondent

Awami League-backed Chhatra League (S-A), Sunday submitted a memorandum to the Home Ministry demanding immediate arrest and trial of the killers of its leader Mizanur Rahman Mizan, release of all party activists and cleansing of the Dhaka University campus of terror-

A five member delegation handed over the memoran-

Before submitting the memorandum it held a rally in front of the Secretariat building where the speakers threatened to 'gherao' the 'Sugandha' office of the Prime Minister if their demands were not met.

BCL President Shahe Alam and other leaders, Golam Mostafa Suzan, SM Kamal Hossain, Momtazuddin Mehedi and Ashraful Islam Maruf addressed the rally.

They accused the Prime Minister and BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia of nurturing terrorists on the DU campus saying activists of BNP's student wing Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal were staying in Mohsin, Suryasen, Jasimuddin and Ziaur Rahman Halls. Law enforcing agencies raided other halls where BCL workers stayed, they alleged.

If further incident of bloodshed take place on the campus, the government would be solely responsible for it, they

They also alleged that the government often dictated the law-enforcing agencies in dealing with campus situation which would affect the democratic atmosphere.

sures in the districts. Among those killed during the period were four Assam Police task force personnel

who died when their jeep was blown up by bode extremists on the Oltapani road in Kokrajhar district on Friday last. The ultras fled with the arms and ammunitions being carried by patrol party. The sources said that two

jawans of the Assam police battalion were injured in Kokrajhar district Saturday.

Two foreigners detained at ZIA with \$1,29,800 Customs at Zia International

Airport (ZIA) Sunday detained two foreign nationals and seized 129,800 US dollars, reports UNB. The two female nationals of

Ghana - Shelly Brown and Thudira - arrived at ZIA by a Thai Airways flight at around 1-15 pm from Bangkok, customs sources said. Customs officials challenged

them and setzed the undeclared amount as they denied having anything to declare while passing through the green channel of the airport.

A foreign national is required to declare the currency if he carries more than 2,500 US dollars.

Malaysia

From Page 1 Col. 8

could be fined up to 10,000 dollars (about 3,700 US) or sentenced to two years in prison, he said.

He also said foreign housemaids who married Malaysians were not excluded from the current campaign by the Immigration Department to register foreign workers who have entered the country ille-

On October 17, the government announced that the relaxed rules governing foreign workers would also apply to domestic maids whose work permits would now be extended on a year-to-year-basis.

"We cannot recognise their marriage if they entered the country illegally," Megat Junid was quoted as saying.

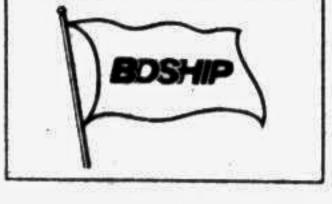
Mcgat Junid said employers preferred to hire illegal immigrants to save the 2,000 dollar (740-US) fee charged by employment agencies.

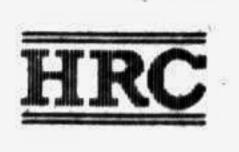
With a view to accommodate all the business divisions on one floor our Dhaka office has w. e. f. Nov/01/91 moved to a bigger premises.

All concerned are requested to kindly note change of our new address:

19/F Sena Kalyan Bhaban 195, Motijheel C/A Dhaka-1000. Tel: 864546, 864547, 864548, 864549 Tlx: 632656 HRC BJ, 632105 BDSHP BJ

632666 BSLL BJ Telefax: 880 2 863734







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River erosion holding the charge of From Page 1 Col. 4 Chairman of this upazila said that in this upazila a total of

He said that in addition effective dredging should be done to increase the depth of the Teesta now carrying bulks of sand, mainly emanating from human activities like deforestation in the upper

catchment area of the river. During the visit to Pirganj this correspondent also found that five unions - Kukria, Bara Alampur, Chatra; Kabilpur and Panchgachi were being eroded by the Karatoa. In these areas about 8000 families have been rendered homeless.

The erosion by the Jamuna is the worst. The people in the local areas say that the river is totally unpredictable.

This correspondent during his visit to Sariakanda upazila under Bogra district saw that thousands of people had been rendered homeless. In the past two years the Jamuna has eroded about two miles of its banks rendering 4500 families homeless. All of them now residing on the embankment.

The river is also eroding at the Dhanut and Kazipur points while the Sirajganj town itself is being threatened by the erosion of the river Jamuna. The UNO of Sariakanda also

relief for the affected people in this upazila. He said that the validity period of special VGD cards should be extended for at least two more months. Besides hundreds of thou-

sands of families in Kurigram, Lalmonirhat and Gaibandha have been rendered shelterless due to river erosion. In all these areas the government should continued relief operations for at least three more months till the harvesting of the 'aus' crop. Local political leaders and

administration officials said that had there not been any erosion by the rivers the people in these areas would not have had to wait for relief to sustain themselves. They said that North Bengal

is the granary of Bangladesh but the people in this area are the most vulnerable to the whims of the rivers that cause tremendous ecological prob-

space and remote sensing technology in the fields of agriculture, forest, fisheries, geology, mapping, water resources, land use, weather, environment, geography, sea, education and different branches of science. Those who took part in the discussion were Nazrul Islam, Latifur Rahman, Kazi Shamsur Rahman, Sheikh Ansar Ali and Maulana Abdus Sobhan of Jamaat-e-Islami, Rashed Khan

Menon of Workers' Party and Shamsuddoha of CPB. Welcoming the bill, the opposition members suggested that adequate funds should be placed to the Organisation of

Hasına

neo-autocrats. lowed other programmes which included hoisting of party flags half-mast and black flags atop all party offices in the city and elsewhere and offering fatcha at the Banani graveyards of the four leaders

Hasina said democracy was

You have become the Prime Minjster but you don't know how to practise democracy. You are still living in Cantonment, Hasina told in an indirect reference to

Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad and other AL central leaders Begum Johra Tajuddin, Begum Sajeda Choudhury MP, Opposition Chief Whip Mohammad Nasim, Amir Hossain Amu, Abdul Momin Talukder, and Mozaffar Hossain Paltu also addressed

four national leaders. Sajeda Choudhury said fail-

ent levels of administration. Mohammad Nasim strongly

Corporation (BCIC) and some organisations of Britain, Japan and Denmark. The loan financing has been obtained from organisations in Japan, Romania

- Star photo by Shaffuddin Bitu

KAFCO

From Page 1 Col. 8

a joint venture private sector

project where the main equity

holders are Bangladesh

Chemical Industries

The handout said KAFCO is

USA and Italy, it added. Negotiations are still going on between the government and the share holders of KAFCO, the handout said.

Meanwhile, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandker Mosharraf Hossain said a four-man committee with Industries Secretary has been formed to examine in detail the points under negotia-

Talking to UNB at his parliament office this evening, the Minister said one of the points is the low price of gas in relation to its current market rate. He said since BCIC has to

supply gas to the project on deserred payment basis as stipulated in the existing agreement, the Bangladesh Gas Fields Ltd will be hard hit fi nancially.

Another point is the question of providing export credit guarantee by the Government of Bangladesh.

Democracy From Page 1 Col. 7

cratic system so that the nation could attain desired economic progress and encourage investors at home and abroad The donors look for stability since this is pre-requisite for development, she said.

Replying to a question Mrs Chalker said she had some "tough discussions" with government leaders here on financial matters and added that certain tough economic measures already taken by the government were necessary. "Absolutely right" was her

answer to a question if the structural adjustment done by the government in August last at the suggestions of the IMF was okay. "But more is needed to be done as there is no option to certain steps necessary for larger interest of the people" she observed.

"We will do everything possible to sustain democracy here" she said adding Britain gave no assistance to Burma as democracy was crushed there.

Details on Page 7