

# Mujahideen fail to agree on political settlement

ISLAMABAD, Nov 24: Afghan Mujahideen commanders have failed to reach an agreement on a political settlement of the war in Afghanistan, guerrilla sources in Pakistani city of Peshawar said today, reports BSS.

They said the commanders, while generally in favour of a political accord to end the 13-year-old war, were at odds over whether to back more talks between the Pakistan-based Mujahideen political leadership and Moscow.

The 200 commanders and their representatives met on Friday and Saturday at the

Zhwar headquarters of commander Jalaluddin Haqqani in eastern Afghanistan.

Mujahideen and Soviet leaders met in Moscow this month for peace talks, boycotted by three hardline guerrilla groups but welcomed by Pakistan, home to some three million Afghan refugees and the main conduit of arms supplies to the guerrillas.

During the talks, the Mujahideen promised to free some of the 60 to 80 Soviets, Moscow believes still held by the rebels three years after it withdrew its last troops from Afghanistan.



Eden College girls rejoicing as the BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal won the college students union election Sunday. — Star photo

# JCD sweeps Eden Girls College election

By DU Correspondent

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of BNP won a unique victory by sweeping all the posts of the Eden Girls College Students Union in peaceful elections held Sunday.

Ileien Jerin Khan, Saimum Begum and Nasima Akhtar of JCD were elected Vice-President, General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary of the students union by scoring 1362, 1162 and 1187 votes respectively.

Their nearest competitors were Rokeya Akhtar, Ferdousi Begum and Shahi Rakiba Irin of Chhatra League (S-A) who scored 498, 622 and 629 votes respectively.

The other office-bearers of the students union are — Basaratul Jannat Luna (1288) — Religion and Social Welfare Secretary, Farhana Ahmed Rana (1254) — Assistant Social Welfare Secretary, Shakila Nazrin Sathi (1292) — Literary and Cultural Secretary, Nilufer Yasmin Nilu (1270) — Assistant Literary Secretary, Shabana Yasmin (1303) — Sports Secretary, Sybil Afrindi (1241) — Assistant Sports Secretary, Shahnaz Mirza Bita (1269) — Auditorium Secretary, Munira Jahan Irin (1301) — Publication Secretary and Fahima Hossain Jubly (1299), Ferdous Ara Khanam (1154), Khondokar Farhana Yasmin (1061) and Shahina Begum Sima (1189) — Executive Members.

Total votes were 6208 of which around fifty per cent votes were cast.

# CU Honours exams begin amid strike

CHITTAGONG, Nov 24: Honours final year examinations began today (Sunday) at the Chittagong University amid an indefinite strike enforced by All Party Students Unity (APSU) since Saturday, reports UNB.

Examinations were kept out of the strike.

# Rajuk restarts demolition from tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

The Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (RAJUK) will start its 'massive demolition programme' of unauthorised houses, roadside shops and other constructions in the city from Tuesday.

The dead-line given by the RAJUK for obtaining its clearance by the owners of such unauthorised constructions expire today.

Along with the private unauthorised (unplanned and unapproved) buildings, some government buildings have also been marked unauthorised, by the RAJUK.

The RAJUK authorities declined to give the number of such unauthorised constructions but said they included buildings of some important government offices and departments. The newly constructed annex buildings of Bangladesh Bank at Motijheel and police department at Rajarbag were constructed without proper approval of RAJUK.

The Building Construction Act, 1952 had provided an owner to take approval from the then city corporation for any construction. Latest amendment to the Act in 1987 required the government constructions also to take approval from RAJUK. "But the authorities concerned hardly get their plans approved by the RAJUK", said a RAJUK official.

Abul Faraz Khan, Chairman of the Building Construction Committee-2 of RAJUK, who is also an authorised officer to carry on the demolition programme, told The Daily Star, government buildings are still being constructed violating RAJUK's rules.

About the newly constructed building of police department at Rajarbag, Abul Faraz Khan said that they asked the authorities concerned to leave ten feet open space around the building as per RAJUK rules, but they left only four feet.

Asked what action will be taken against the unauthorised government buildings, he said, "We informed them and we shall go to them, but we have not yet decided to take any drastic action against them."

# Doctors strike

From Page 1 Col. 8

College Hospital (DMCH), most of the 36 wards were run by the nurses, hospital sources said adding that the emergency squad attended the critical patients.

Professors and Assistant Registrars were present in their respective wards but normal round was not held.

Patients were also admitted in different hospitals, sources said. The out-patients were treated at the out-door and emergency wards.

BSS adds: Internec doctors at the medical college hospital in Chittagong Sunday observed 24-hour work abstention and held a rally in support of their six-point demand.

# Bangabandhu Bhaban

From Page 1 Col. 8

in their possession, bearing Sheikh Mujib's memory, to send them to the museum for preservation.

The Dhaka city museum has extended its cooperation in establishing the museum, the press release said and people have been requested to contact the AL office at Bangabandhu Centre or Advocate Gazul Huq at 67/7, East Hajipara in this regard.

# Upazila Parishad

From Page 1 col 7

"illegal and undemocratic" and said that the promulgation of the "anti-people ordinance" had undermined the power of the sovereign Parliament and its members.

The Association leaders called upon the people of all walks of life to protest against dissolution of the upazila administration.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) President Nur-e-Alam Ziku and General Secretary Prof Humayun Kabir in a joint statement Sunday resented the government step to scrap the upazila administration system.

"The first instance of a politically false step" of the present government had frustrated the people, they said.

The JSD leaders said the decision demonstrated the present government's lack of confidence in Parliament and would increase suspicion towards the newly achieved parliamentary system of government. They urged the people to unite against the move.

Muslim League leaders also resented the decision to abolish the upazila system and said that it was an established system determined by the people.

# Women's workshop on environment begins

From Nazmul Ashraf

COTEHARI(Comilla), Nov 24: Women representatives from various ecological zones of Bangladesh began a three-day workshop here today to identify the country's environmental dangers and recommend ways to avert them.

The workshop on environment, being participated by 121 women representatives of 66 NGOs working in 51 districts, is being held at the Bangladesh Academy of Rural Development (BARAD).

Sponsored by UNIFEM, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the workshop is intended to bring together women involved in development activities at the grassroots levels.

# Govt warns

From Page 1 col 4

"At present, all measures have been taken to build up a self-reliant economy but designs were being hatched to curb the process.

"The government will not tolerate any evil design to create chaos and anarchy, attack on government organisations and private property, disruption of law and order to ensure safety of public life and property, infuse new life into all sectors of economy and restore peace and discipline in all mills, factories, organisations and establishments in the greater national interest. Stern legal actions will be taken against those involved in such activities."

# Parties urged not to hold programmes near Press Club

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The committee, in a statement, also urged the government to take necessary measures considering the gravity of the problem.

It observed with concern that different organisations have been organising meeting, rally, cultural function, demonstration, sit-in-strike and hunger strike impeding smooth traffic movement and creating endless sufferings to the common people.

# Khaleeda visits India

From Page 1 Col. 8

they are a drag on the Indian economy," they said.

Bangladesh has, however, disputed the figure. Four years ago, Dhaka put the number of tribal refugees at 29,000.

India also expressed its grave concern over the alleged "alarming" exodus of Bangladeshis — both Hindus and Muslims — into West Bengal and other states. The officials quoted a weekly as revealing that there are about 50,000 Bangladeshis in Delhi alone. "The influx is continuing," they said.

Asked by this correspondent why the Bangladeshis should prefer to cross the border to India despite growth of democracy in their homeland, the South Block officials agreed that there was no commercial disharmony in Bangladesh now. "Maybe economic reasons are behind their exodus," they suggested. New Delhi deeply appreciates the way Prime Minister Begum Khaleeda Zia handled the situation following the "unfortunate incidents" in Ayodhya recently, they said.

The South Block officials said India is keen to reverse the existing trade imbalance of Bangladesh with India. But at the same time, the Bangladeshis entrepreneurs should make survey of Indian market and gear up their industrial production as per the market needs," they said.

Regarding current drive in Bangladesh against rampant smuggling, the South Block officials said they are equally enthusiastic about it. "Smuggling harms the Indian economy too," they pointed out. "We like all Indo-Bangladesh trade to be routed through official channels," they said.

Mentionably here, India has given a stall to Bangladesh free of all charges in the on-going international trade fair in the Pragati maidan here.

# JCD activist beaten

By DU Correspondent

A Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activist, Murad was beaten up severely Sunday noon allegedly by the activists of Chhatra League (S-A) at the SM Hall of Dhaka University.

Witnesses said he was dragged by the BCL activists from the Palassy crossing near the SM Hall and beaten up. He was later taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment.

# Sugar crushing begins with 46000-ton carryover stock

By S Y Bakht

More than 46,000 metric tons of sugar remained unsold from the previous season's production as the sugar mills under the Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) began the 1991-92 cane crushing season.

According to BSFIC officials, the current season's production target is 2.08 lakh tons of sugar by crushing 24.5 lakh tons of cane.

A record 2.46 lakh ton of sugar was produced, out of a target of 1.99 lakh ton, by the 16 sugar mills under BSFIC last season. About two lakh tons have been sold so far.

About 31.5 lakh ton of cane was crushed during the last season extended till May of this year.

Crushing began in some sugar mills during the first week of this month and by now 14 of the mills are in operation. The crushing season normally continues for about 120 days, but, to help the growers, the mills remain open as long as the supply of cane is there, the officials added.

Sugar cane price this season has been fixed at the last season's Taka 37 per ton.

The record production last season exceeded the previous record of 2.02 lakh tons set in the 1988-89 season and also exceeded the total capacity of 1.99 lakh tons of all the BSFIC units.

The current BSFIC price of sugar is Taka 25,000 per ton, officials said. About 1000 tons are being lifted per day by traders and the remaining stock will be sold soon, officials hoped.

The price of sugar was reduced a number of times during the last season. In April this year the price was reduced from Taka 29,740 per ton to the present price of Taka 25,000 to make it competitive with sugar smuggled from neighbouring countries and boost sales.

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Democratic Students Alliance brought out a procession in the city Sunday in demand for arrest and trial of terrorists stalking educational institutions. — Star photo

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# Sajeda defends Hasina

From Page 1 Col. 4

play our role from our respective positions", she said.

She deplored the comments of some newspapers about Sheikh Hasina's letter and termed the comments as motivated and inconsistent with the contents of the letter.

The AL General Secretary also mentioned that leader of the ruling BNP and Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury also exchanged views with the leaders of different countries including the USA when he visited those countries during the anti-autocracy movement.

In the said letter, Sheikh Hasina informed the foreign diplomats and donors about "some serious developments in the political arena". She mentioned that her partymen have come under physical attack at various gatherings and their safety is seriously threatened.

She held the ruling party responsible for all these attacks. Hasina said that the government has been totally indifferent in this regard and there is ample evidence that those responsible for these activities are either supporters or activists of the ruling party, being encouraged to stifle the voice of the opposition political parties.

She alleged that the law enforcing agencies have failed to provide security against their threats and said, "our partymen and students belonging to Chhatra League are being intimidated in various ways. False charges are brought against them and even their kith and kin are not being spared by the workers belonging to the ruling party. This is the sad scenario prevailing in Bangladesh today."

Sheikh Hasina said that all these developments pose a

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# The Midnight File

## US pressuring Israel to accept Washington as talks venue

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## UN military advisor in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, Nov 24: The United Nations Secretary General's military advisor arrived here today to determine how many troops Cambodia needs to keep its peace. "Our desire is to get UNTAC (the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia) in place as soon as possible said Major General Dimothy Dibusma who arrived in civilian clothes on a UN military transport plane at Pochentong airport. He was accompanied on his 10-day mission by UNTAC's military commander, Australian General John Sanderson, reports AFP.

## Sajeda defends Hasina

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play our role from our respective positions", she said.

She deplored the comments of some newspapers about Sheikh Hasina's letter and termed the comments as motivated and inconsistent with the contents of the letter.

The AL General Secretary also mentioned that leader of the ruling BNP and Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury also exchanged views with the leaders of different countries including the USA when he visited those countries during the anti-autocracy movement.

In the said letter, Sheikh Hasina informed the foreign diplomats and donors about "some serious developments in the political arena". She mentioned that her partymen have come under physical attack at various gatherings and their safety is seriously threatened.

She held the ruling party responsible for all these attacks. Hasina said that the government has been totally indifferent in this regard and there is ample evidence that those responsible for these activities are either supporters or activists of the ruling party, being encouraged to stifle the voice of the opposition political parties.

She alleged that the law enforcing agencies have failed to provide security against their threats and said, "our partymen and students belonging to Chhatra League are being intimidated in various ways. False charges are brought against them and even their kith and kin are not being spared by the workers belonging to the ruling party. This is the sad scenario prevailing in Bangladesh today."

Sheikh Hasina said that all these developments pose a

## Call to create awareness about hypertension

By Staff Correspondent

An open discussion on hypertension held in the city Sunday stressed the need for creating awareness among the people about the dangers of high blood pressure and its remedies.

Identifying hypertension as a health hazard, participants in the discussion urged the physicians, social workers and mediamen to extend their help in this regard.

Organised by the Bangladesh Society of Hypertension, the discussion was participated by, among others, Deputy Leader of the House Dr A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, DAB chairman Dr A K M Kamaruzzaman MP and Secretary General Dr Mohammad Atikur Rahman.

The Prime Minister said steps would be taken to strengthen the free Friday clinic being run by DAB to ensure free healthcare facilities to the downtrodden people.

Begum Zia said the government wanted to make the hospitals more effective in providing healthcare to the suffering humanity. She called upon the doctors and nurses to do their respective duties properly and help the present government to achieve its target in the health sector.

She called upon the physicians to go to the rural people to give proper treatment.

The Prime Minister said the doctors, who would work in the rural areas for mitigating the sufferings of the downtrodden people, would be provided with assistance and help to have higher training from home and abroad on priority basis.

Begum Zia said, "We are working with best of our efforts to solve the existing problems in the healthcare sector but as we have resource constraints it would take time to solve all the problems."

She called upon the physicians to work with more dedication to translate into reality the hopes and aspiration of the general masses.

Begum Zia also urged the members of DAB, the organisa-

## Parties urged not to hold programmes near Press Club