Reexcavation of Zia Khal begins

### Progress hinges on better life of farmers: PM

NAOGAN, Dec 3 : Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today inaugurated the reexcavation work of "Zia Khal" (Zia canal) at Atrai upazila of the district with a call to the people to put in their voluntary abour in development activities, reports BSS.

Addressing a big rally held on the occasion Begum Zia underlined the need for making the rural people especially the farmers self-reliant to achieve all-round development in country's agre based econ-

Begum Zia said Shaheed President Zia had initiated the canal digging programme with the realisation that the country could not progress without ameliorating the condition of the farmers.

The Prime Minister said the present government had chalked out a well drafted plan to make the canal digging programme a success and committees at national level had been constituted.

She said canals would not only increase food production but also help develop numerous fisheries.

The Prime Minister said khas lands would be brought under cultivation to achieve food autarky. Begum Zia also said fisheries would be developed in dereliet ponds all over the country.

Stressing the need for cheeking smuggling the Prime / Minister said industrialisation would be hampered greatly if

the smuggling could not be checked. She sought cooperation of all to help curb smug-

Begum Zia said the mass literacy programme would start soon so that the nation could gradually be freed from the curse of illiteracy.

She said we believe that without the involvements of people in all programmes the country's development could not be achieved as people's in-volvement was the main target of democracy.

Dwelling on the local problems the Prime Minister said the construction work of Naogaon Road was progressing and hoped that it would be completed within the stipu-

The rally was addressed. among others, by Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Minister for Land Kabir Hossain. State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman, State Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Aminul Huq. Alamgir Kabir MP and

The Zia canal which was excavated by Shaheed President Zia on February 22,1980 will be 4,725-km long. With the completion of the project 46,000 hectares of land would be saved from the devastation of recurring floods.

The canal will also facilitate irrigation work during the dry season in lakhs of acres.

# Samphan will return to Cambodia

Campus terrorism

PATTAYA (Thailand), Dec 3: The four Cambodian factions agreed Tuesday to return to Phnom Penh and resume peace processes derailed when a mob attacked Khmer Rouge leaders last week and forced their evacuation to Thailand. reports AP.

"We have settled all the problems," Premier Hun Sen told reporters.

His announcement came after daylong talks involving the Cambodians, UN representatives and the five world pow ers that brokered the peace accord that formally ended 13 years of civil war.

Asked when the Khmer Rouge would return to Cambodia, he replied: "Within the next few days. You can be sure of that. The Khmer Rouge have agreed to return to Phnom Penh.

AFP says, Khmer Rouge leaders will return to Phnom Penh, faction chief Khieu

From Page 1 Col. 5

extend support to offenders if

legal and punitive actions are

taken against any arms hold-

any non-students in any hall or

hostel in order to create

peaceful atmosphere on the

dent organisation will give any

protection to any arms holder

on, the campus. Party or

organisation concerned will

abandon such arms holders

thorities for their allout coop-

eration in cleansing the cam-

Begum Khaleda Zia, in her in-

troductory statement, ex-

pressed deep concern at the

existing situation in the educa-

tional institutions in the wake

tary committee was formed to

review the situation prevailing

in the campuses and recom-

mend measures to ensure

This meeting, the Prime

She said the meeting is

meant to discuss with the po-

the nine years anti-autocracy

movement but some of which

do not have representation in

the Prime Minister's introduc-

tory speech, Awami League

leaders started arguing that

the ruling party must play the

pioneering role in eliminating

campus violence. They also ac-

cused the government of being

partial in arresting the hood-

lums destabilising the aca-

demic atmosphere in the

accusations, said that all the

BNP leaders, refuting the

According to insiders, after

the present parliament.

litical parties who were in-

healthy academic atmosphere.

Minister said, is not an alter-

native to the parliamentary

She said that a parliamen-

7. Asked the university au-

Earlier Prime Minister

politically.

puses of arms.

of armed terrorism.

committee.

country.

6. No political party or stu-

5. Stop giving shelter to

4. No political party will

Samphan said here today.

"We have managed to solve the problem," resulting from last week's attack by an angry mob on Khmer Rouge head quarters in the Cambodian

Khieu Samphan, the faction's nominal leader, declined to say when he and Son Sen. its military chief, who are Khmer Rouge representatives on Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), would return to Phnom Penh.

"We will go back to Phnom Penh." Khieu Samphan told reporters as he emerged from a meeting which brought together Cambodia's 12-member SNC and representatives of the United Nations Security Council's · five permanent members.

Khieu Samphan did not provide details on the arrangement worked out during the meeting which lasted over three hours.

political parties should unit-

edly come forward with equal

responsibility to restore the

parties present in the meet-

ing, however, accused both the

Awami League and BNP for

campus unrest and observed

that these two parties were

capable enough to solve the

presented a draft guideline to

curb campus violence which

sent any proposal in black and

white. The seven-point resolu-

tion which was finally accepted

unanimously by all the political

parties with some amend-

ments was presented in the

20 injured

From Page 1 Col. 5

for about half an hour, wit-

admitted to the Dhaka Medical

College Hospital with serious

injuries including bullet

wounds. All the injured admit-

ted to the hospital were said to

be students of Adarsha College.

They are: Nadim of second

year commerce, Lubnar of sec-

Rahman of second year com-

merce, Zakir of first year arts,

Shamim of second year

science, Matiur Rahman of

second year science, Rafiqui

Islam of second year science,

Aminul Islam of second year

commerce and Enamul Hug of

New trustee

board for Dainik

Barta

tuted a new trustee board to

take steps for the future publi-

cation of Dainik Barta from

Rajshahi, reports BSS.

The government has consti-

second year commerce.

year arts. Habibur

Nine of the injured were

meeting by BNP.

nesses added.

Awami League did not pre-

was rejected by other parties.

Five Party combine leaders

The rest of the political

academic atmosphere.



Streams of people in the capital on this day last year.

- Photo Mohsin

# The day Ershad was forced to resign

By Nazmul Ashraf

Rejection of Ershad's after

by the mainstream opposition

political alliances and parties

steered demonstrations

throughout the country during

the whole day of December 4.

People in lakhs came out of

houses and kept the city

streets occupied during the

whole day of December 4. Civil

servants joined the demonstra-

tors. The protesters also

forced out some officials and

employees from the govern-

ment offices. Mob attacked

government offices outside

some of the donors weakened

the government's base and fu-

elled demonstrations. The

liances announced fresh action

mainstream opposition

Withdrawal of support by

This day a year ago, autocrat President H M Ershad was compelled to announce his resignation after an overnight "package offer" of polls to retain power was rejected by the people.

Surging millions took to the streets in the capital and elsewhere declining his December 3 night offer of simultaneous holding of presidential and parliamentary polls and also of his resignation 15 days ahead to make it fair. But he did not announce the date.

Security forces, deployed under cover of emergency declared earlier on November 27, were silent spectators on the streets vibrating with demonstrations, turning of Ershad's effigies and portraits, demanding his resignation.

groups including teachers. lawyers and businessmen joined the masses for democracy. Publication of bulletins and leaflets inspired the protestors.

People's agitations turned into jubilations when a news caster at the 10 o'clock TV bulletin on December 4 aired the long-waited news - "the President has decided to resign from his office immedi-

The entire nation burst into ecstatic jubilation. Again they thronged the streets and public venues to share the victory through dancing, embracing each other and showing victory signs. Even people asleep, woke up to join the jubilant masses, parading the streets after the TV bulletin.

Gnassingbe Eyadema. "We decided to seize

except for a short interval when troops briefly withdrew from the seaside government offices zone at the weekend. Witnesses reported that two

tanks burst through the main gate and a side-door into the courtyard of the Prime Minister's compound. The tanks opened fire on the main building from a distance of around 150 meters, they said.

guards defending the residence retaliated with machine guns. After several minutes of sustained shooting the gunfire subsided gradually until 8.00 am when a huge plume of black smoke was seen rising from the residence.

## Troops take Togolese PM into custody

Koffigoh. Restraint had gone on long enough. At the time we

Half an hour later General Eyadema ordered the putschists and the Prime Minister's guards to 'lay down their arms.' A presidential statement received by AFP in Abidjan, 'condemned acts of violence and called for 'dialogue to reach a consen-

The troops backed by tanks attacked the Prime Minister's official residence, the Premature, at 6.30 am (0630

GMT). The building ·had been under siege since Thursday

The 60-odd French-trained

Fleets of ambulances and army lorries were rushing to and from the scene. The civilians were hold up in their homes and all intercity and international phone line were

# Shyamoli: Court

From Page 1 Col. 8

Tejgaon police Tuesday sent the recovered revolver, the used bullet and the bullets pellet to the CID for examination for report of finger prints on

the revolver. The body of Mukhter with bullet wound in the head was found in a car parked near Holy Cross College at Tejkonipara on Friday night. Earlier on Monday police got the autopsy report which said it was a suicide.

Shyamoli, immediately after the incident had told police that she and her six-yearold daughter Pincky were with the former chairman in the parked car when he shot himself with a revolver.

Shyamoli, 23, a divorcee, also admitted to police that late Mukhter had an extramarital relationship with her

for two years. Police also recovered some more letters of Mukhter writ-

ten to her. Earlier police also recovered three bank cheques amounting to Taka three lakhs in total which were given to Shyamoli by Mukhter.

Correspondent adds: Mukbter Smriti Sangsad of Fatullah Tuesday cancelled its Thursday's half-day hartal programme at Narayanganj and Fatullah protesting the 'killing' and demanding trial of the 'killers'.

At a condolence meeting in

#### UP nomination filing Dec 7

Election Commission l'uesday announced rules and procedures for the ensuing Union Parishad election, reports UNB.

A total 1,110 returning officers will receive nomination papers from the intending candidates on December 7 from 10 am to 5 pm.

Officers at the upazila level have been appointment as returning officers, said an official handout.

Any voter from wards of the union can propose or support any candidate contesting for chairmanship.

To elect a member of the ward, any voter of the ward in the union can propose or support the name of eligible candidate. A total of nine members will be elected from three wards of each union. No voter can propose or

inations for the post of member of the ward. No voter can support or propose more than one candidate contesting for the post of chairman. No one can simultaneously contest for the post of chair-

support more than three nom-

man and member. All nominations will be cancelled if any one found doing so.

Every candidate for the post of chairman and member will have to submit a treasury chalan, bank receipt or receipt given by the returning officer as security worth Tk 1000 and five hundred respectively along with his nomination paper.

Returning officer will not receive nomination paper which does not accompany such bank chalans or bank re-

#### Malaysian embassy denies report \*

Malaysian embassy Tuesday refuted recent 'press reports that the Kuala Lumpur government was persecuting foreign workers, including Bangladeshis, to force them out of the country.

An embassy official told UNB that the government had extended the deadline to enable illegal immigrants to obtain valid travel documents.

Foreigners without valid travel documents and hired as plantation and construction workers or domestic maids will be allowed to register themselves with the immigration department from December 1, 1991 to June 30, 1992, he said.

Under the circumstances, he said, the issue of taking actions against foreigners on immigration matters did not

About 100,000 workers Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Thailand and Burma are reportedly staying in Malaysia without valid doc-

#### Bimal Mitra

From Page 1 Col. 8

Mitra, who was a prolific writer, wrote more than 500 stories and over 100 novels. His readership spread across the length and breadth of the country as his works began to be translated in various languages and staged.

His other important works are 'Kari Diye Kinlam', 'Bagum Mary Biswas', 'Ekak Dashak Satak,' 'Pati Param Guru. 'Saraswativa' and 'Asami Haiir. which was serialised as 'Mujrim Hazir'.

Bimal Mitra, who was influenced by Dostoevosky, Tolstoy and Dickens and preferred a large canvas with myriad characters, has to his credit other novels 'Mithun Lagna', 'Sesh Pristhay Dekhun' and 'Sab Jhut Hai'. His last novel 'Jasher Mashul', appeared in the annual Puja edition of Navakallol this year. He also wrote scripts for

the cinema. Mitra, who earned a large number of accolades for his

works, was awarded the Rabindra Puraskar for 'Kari Dive Kinlam', the Sarat Puraskar, the Asoke Kumar Smriti Puraskar and the Tarachand Botaria Award from Punjab.

#### Cops clash

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury Inspector General of Police Enamul Huq flew to Chittagong in the morning and visited the barracks. The Home Minister warned them not to indulge in any violent acts in the future and assured them that their demands would be looked into. He urged them to maintain strict discipline.

lice line remained calm throughout the day.

tight-lipped about the details of the incident. However, police personnel on duty at the barracks admitted that the disturbances took place.

# The Midnight File

#### **Next round of Mideast** talks in Moscow

WASHINGTON. Dec 3: The United States and the Soviet Union on Tuesday set a continuation of the Mideast peace talks in Moscow for late January to deal with arms buildups. water shortages and other regional problems. More than twodozen nations are expected to send their foreign ministers to the session. It will follow negotiations scheduled to open here on Wednesday on the Arab-Israeli conflict, reports AP.

#### Mandela for gradual lifting of sanctions

UNITED NATIONS, Dec 3: African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela urged the world community Tuesday to keep economic sanctions against South Africa, lifting them only gradually as apartheid is eradicated, reports AP.

#### 3 Shantibahini men arrested

RANGAMATI, Dec 3: Three members of the outlawed Shantibahini were taken into custody today after exchange of fire with law enforcing agencies at Betchhari in Naniarchar Police Station. Those arrested were identified as Indu Chakma, Minto Chakma and Riko Chakma. One 12-bore pistol, some ammunition. Tk 1.033. Shantibahini uniform and toll receipt books were recovered from them, officials said, reports UNB.

## Khesari dal: No lathyrism if taken within 'safe limit'.

By Staff Correspondent

'Khesari Dal' a widely consumed variety of pulse, does not cause lathyrism if taken within safe limits instead it produces disease resistant micro-organisms that keep man hardy, energetic and labouri-

This was revealed to The Daily Star by an Indian scientist who attended the five-day conference on 'nutrition without toxicity" which concluded here on Tuesday. He also read a paper on lathyrism at the conference. Dr S L Kothan, President of

the Academy of Nutrition Improvement of India said that the only harmful ingredients in the crop is the high level of toxin that causes lathyrism after its excessive consumption for a prolonged period. Otherwise, the toxic ingredients like Beta-N-Oxalyl Amino-L-Alanine (BOAA) inhibits growth of disease producing micro-drganisms Staphyococeus, Escherichia, Canadia, etc and helps consumer to be labourious and hardy in nature.

According to a study conducted by him on the people of Chhatisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh and Vidarbha and Marathwada region Maharashtra. India, the Kheshari-eating-people be came more healthy, laborious and energetic despite their financial limitations.

The study report pointed out that the researchers all over the world were unanimous on three features of 'Kheshari dal'. Excessive consumption of 'Kheshari' dal over 200 grams per day over a prolonged period from 3 to 6 months led to neurolathyrism during famine. But its regular consumption bellow 30% of the total diet ( t.e. upto 200 gm per day) was not harmful, it added.

He noted that it was the only pulse crop which could grow in extreme drought or in excessive rainfall.

It may be mentioned that a large number of people of Bangladesh have been suffering from lathyrism.

#### BA Siddiky

From Page 1 Col. 8 Holy Family Hospital to have a ast look.

Justice Siddiky is survived by three sons, six daughters and a host of relatives, friends and admirers to mourn his

The namaz- e- janaza of Justice B A Siddiky will be held at Baitul Mokarram Mosque after Zohr prayer today, family sources said.

He will be buried at Banani

graveyard. The mortal remains of the deceased has been kept at his residence, House No: 23/K, Road No: 20 Banani. The body will remain there till it is taken for namaz-e-janaza.

BSS adds: President Abdur Rahman Biswas Tuesday expressed deep shock at the death of Justice B A Siddiky.

In a message here, the President said he was greatly saddened by the death of Justice Siddiky whom he described as an able, experienced and knowledgeable per-

His earnest endeavour to establish rule of law, and justice and fairplay, had earned him admiration of all, president Biswas said.

The country has lost a prominent personality in his death, the President said. He prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and con-

veyed his heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family. Muslim League leader Mohammad Ayenuddin while condoling the death said the nation has lost a bold and fearless judge.

The death of Siddiky, who was also the President of Muslim League, is an irreparable loss to the nation, Avenuddin said.

He expressed deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

Chief Justice and former Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed ex pressed his deep condolence at the sudden death of Justice BA Siddiqui.

Justice Shahabuddin, who is also a former chairman of Bangladesh Red Cross Society. highly appreciated the role of Siddiqui as the chief executive of Bangladesh Red Cross Society.

tional field.

In a message of condolence he said that Siddiqui had rebuilt the society in the initial period of country's independence and raised its image and importance in the interna-

#### BCL Student beaten

An activist of Awami League-backed Chhatra League (A-A) was seriously beaten up at the Arts Faculty building of Dhaka University campus Tuesday noon, reports UNB.

Noman, a final year student of History Department, was rescued by police immediately after the incident.

Witnesses said two unidentified youths attacked Noman and snatched his motor cycle. The attackers escaped the spot with the motor cycle at about 12.30 pm.

#### Transport strike

From Page 1 Col. 7 Normal bus services will re-

sume from the Saidabad and

Gulistan terminals today. Earlier, several buses were damaged on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway. Five buses were damaged at Kutubkhali at around 11am and another two were reported to be damaged near Shanir Akhra.

Bus services were also disrupted on the Dhaka-Sylhet route at Habigani and also at Comilla.

Our Staff Correspondent from Khulna adds: The strike by the transport workers has affected all major inter-district routes in the area, causing suffering to thousands of passengers in Khulna, Jessore and other districts.

Our Rajshahi Correspondent reports: The strike severely disrupted the inter-district passenger bus services in most of the 16 northern districts. Prices of essentials have recorded a rise due to lack of . supply in Rajshahi, Rangpur and other districts.

#### Jamuna bridge From Page 1 Col. 7

least up to 1993. But the government has

been pursuing its early implementation and also incorporated it in the three- year rolling investment programme for priority projects. The designed bridge now

has only a power interconnector but will have provisions for a meter gauge railtrack and gas interconnector. The World Bank pledged 100 million US dollar for the

project while ADB and Japan 150 million each. Without rail and gas interconnector, project cost will

stand around 500 million dol-

lar, according to officials. Various technical studies on infrastructural and economic matters on the proposed project began in early eighties, and the government has already spent about Tk 50 erore to pay off the consul-

tants.

Published by the Editor on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at Offset Printing Dialogue Publications Ltd., 19 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Editorial, News & Commercial offices: 28/1, Toynbee Circular Road, Dhaka-1000. Tel: Editorial & News: 863036. Commercial: 863035. PABX-246023-4. Fax No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box No. 3257 GRAM: DAILY STAR, DHAKA.

Editor : S. M. Ali

#### Freedom fighter BCS officers demand promotion

By Staff Correspondent Freedom Fighter civil servants Tuesday urged the Government to fill the vacant posts of deputy secretary or equivalent posts with BCS officers from among them re-

cruited in 1973. Bangladesh Muktijodha BCS Officers Kalyan Samity in a statement also welcome the government steps taken to remove the complications re-

garding promotion of the freedom fighter BCS officers. The statement viewed that only the batch of 1973 should be considered eligible for promotion to the vacant posts

since they had attained the requisite qualifications. The statement alleged that the then autocratic government had illegally promoted the officers, belonging to the last batch of CSP (Civil Service of Pakistan), to the posts of

Deputy Secretary depriving the FF officers. The samity demanded that written eligibility test should be taken by the Public Service Commission, instead of the 40mark viva-voce system as dccided by the present govern-

#### structing the promotion of the freedom fighter officers and misleading the government by providing wrong and motivated information. Committee for monitoring

canal digging

The samity also accused

some top bureaucrats of ob-

programme A central committee headed by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has been formed to formulate policies and monitor the progress of canal digging programme, an official source said Tuesday. reports BSS.

The government has decided to start the programme throughout the country during the current dry season, the source added.

Related story on page 3

# programmes. Professional

LOME, Dec 3: Togolese troops stormed the residence of civilian Prime Minister Josph Kokou Koffigoh today and took him into custody on the fifth day of a putsch by soldiers loyal to president

are speaking, he is completely safe in the hands of the Togolese armed forces," radio Lome occupied by the army, announced at 9.10 am (0910

Narayanganj

at Fatuliah play ground, speakers said that since Shyamoli was still on police remand. they decided to call off the programme. They however said that the autopsy report of Mukhter Hossain was not 'correct'. It was not a suicidal but a 'killing', they claimed. Presided over by M Shajahan the meeting was addressed by M A Sayeed, Aminur Rahman, Giasuddin (birprotik)

Rukonuddin.

From Page 1 Col. 7 Reserve Police to bring the situation under control. Over a hundred rounds of gunshots were heard in the area during the attempt to quell the situation, witnesses said. Gunshots were heard as late as 8 am. they added.

The situation and the po-

Senior police officials were