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# The Daily Star



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Gorbachev has sold his 74-page account of the failed August coup in the Soviet Union for reported 500,000 dollars to the HarperCollins Publishing Company  
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 Political power behind the judge's winning smile  
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### Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Ritu Singh, an Indian artist, painted her impressions of Bangladesh in an exhibition in Dhaka recently  
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Education  
 Higher secondary science education in Bangladesh  
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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Hasina returns home today

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina returns home today (Sunday) from Paris ending a 10-day tour of UK and France, reports UNB.

### 16 killed in Punjab

CHANDIGARH, Oct 5: Nine militants, including two functionaries of an outlawed outfit, and three security personnel were among 16 people killed in Punjab since last night, four militants, including Lt Gen Karaj Singh and Area Commander Amarjit Singh, were killed in a fierce, 24-hour encounter in village Chung in Bikhwind area in Amritsar district.

### 5 Lankan Tamil bases destroyed

COLOMBO, Oct 5: Five major Tamil rebel bases were destroyed by security forces in Sri Lanka's eastern region in a three-day operation, the state-run Lankapuwath news agency said today. The agency said security forces backed by the air force broke through rebel defences in the jungles of Kandikudighiaru and Lahugala in Amparai district. The operation ended on Friday, reports Reuters.

### Bid to kill Akali Dal leader

AMRITSAR, Oct 5: The Akali Dal (Badal) Vice-President, Parkash Singh Majitha today escaped an attempt on his life at his house in Majitha town of Punjab, police said here. Police said two militants, who entered Majitha's house to meet him, fired at one his gunmen, Charanjit Singh, Punjab police constable, wounding him seriously, reports PTI.

## Jamaat decides not to pursue case after repeal of Ordinance

# Hearing of writ begins

By Staff Correspondent

Hearing of the 'stay part' of the writ petition against the Election of President Act, 1991 began at the Single Bench of the Supreme Court on Saturday.  
 Barrister Amirul Islam, who along with other lawyers filed the petition on behalf of Awami League leader Abdus Samad Azad and others was continuing his deposition when the court was adjourned till 2-30 pm today.  
 Making his deposition in the crowded court room of

Justice Habibur Rahman Khan, Barrister Amirul Islam pleaded that the Election of President Act was passed due to inadequate understanding of the spirit of the Constitution. Similarly, an ordinance was promulgated on September 28 amending the said Act even though there was no such necessity.  
 When Attorney General Aminul Haque pointed out that the ordinance had already been repealed, Barrister Amirul Islam retorted: 'I feel

the need of another ordinance to repeal Sections 11 and 12 of the Election of President Act, which provide for an open election.  
 The writ petition had originally challenged both the Ordinance and the Act. With the repeal of the Ordinance the petitioners are now challenging only the Act.  
 Jamaat leader Sheikh Ansar Ali, who also had filed a writ petition against the Act and the Ordinance through his lawyers Barrister Abdur Razzak

and others was not in the court as the party had decided not to pursue the case since the Ordinance had already been repealed.  
 Petitioners Abdus Samad Azad, Motia Chowdhury, Suranjit Sengupta, Awami League leaders, including Amir Hossain Amu, some members of parliament belonging to the BNP and eminent lawyers were present in the court room when the Judge heard the deposition on behalf of the petitioners.  
 See Page 12 Col. 1

## Saifur calls for more help Post-flood situation critical: NGOs

By Moazzem Hossain



An Indonesian girl performs at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium in celebration of the Kendrio Kanchi Kanchar Mela's 35th founding anniversary on Saturday.  
 —Star photo

Local and foreign non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on Saturday presented a grim picture to the government about the "most critical" socio-economic and health situation in the flood-affected districts.

The NGOs in a meeting with Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman reviewed the overall condition in the greater districts of Rangpur and Dinajpur, and parts of Rajshahi and Pabna.

Basing their reports on the field-level experience of their personnel engaged in relief operations in flood-affected areas, the NGOs feared that the existing "near-famine" condition and "diarrhoeal diseases" would worsen without stronger and more effective intervention by the government with support of private voluntary organisations.

The representatives of NGOs including RDRS, ADAB, OXFAM, CDB, CARITAS and other organisations made their observations at the meeting held in the conference room of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) at the Sher-e-Bangla Nagar secretariat. Also present at the meeting were officials of the World Food Programme, the UNDP and other international organisations, Secretary, Economic Relations Division (ERD) Enam Ahmed Chowdhury and Director General, NGO Bureau Shahidul Alam also addressed the meeting.  
 The NGO representatives observed that the economic hardship of the flood-affected people was at its "worst". They feared that acute unemployment and joblessness would lead to extreme pauperisation. They noted that the "acute seed crisis" would make winter cultivation difficult in the flood-affected areas.  
 "What is the most alarming  
 See Page 12 Col. 3

## 5-party leaders meet PM

The leaders of the Five-Party Alliance met Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Sugandha office last night and exchanged views on various issues, reports BSS.

Senior leaders of the BNP and the Five-Party Alliance were present at the meeting. LGRD and Cooperatives Minister and Secretary General of the BNP Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Works and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Environment, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al-Noman, Juig Minister A F M Hannan Shah, Food Minister Shamsul Islam, Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda and State Minister for Shipping Harunur Rashid were present from the BNP.

The leaders of Five-Party Alliance included Bimal Biswas of the United Communist League and Convener of the Alliance, Khalequzzaman of the BSD, A F M Mahbubul Haq of the BSD, Moazzem Hossain of the BSD, Nirmal Sen of Krishak Samik Samabadi Dal, Naim Jahangir of Otkya Prokta, Shari Nurul Ambia of the JSD (Ind) and Haider Akbar Khan Rono of Workers Party.

## More power for Press Council being planned

By Mostafa Kamal Majumder

The government is considering to give more power to the Press Council to cancel accreditation cards of journalists for professional misconduct and declaration of newspapers for repeatedly violating law and rules.

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda told this correspondent that the amendment to a number of laws is being contemplated also to uphold the dignity of the profession of journalism.  
 See Page 12 Col. 1

## Khaleda calls for consensus on all national issues

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Saturday night called for national consensus, irrespective of party affiliations, on all national issues to lead the nation to the path of progress and prosperity, reports BSS.  
 She was addressing a delegation of owners and workers of different organisations of Bangladesh Road Transport Associations when they called on her at her Sugandha office.  
 Begum Zia said the present

government believed in multi-party democracy where there would be many parties and opinions. But on national issues, she said, there should be national consensus.  
 She said after a long relentless struggle, parliamentary democracy had been restored in the country. She sought co-operation of all for consolidating democracy. "We want democracy to have a permanent base," she told them.  
 See Page 12 Col. 3

## Badrul meets PM, refuses to withdraw

Star Report

A midnight meeting between the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Awami League backed presidential candidate Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury on Friday ended without any fruitful outcome. The meeting was held at the residence of the Prime Minister which lasted for over an hour.

Opposition sources told the Daily Star Saturday that Justice Chowdhury did not agree to a proposal by the Prime Minister to withdraw from the presidential race. The Prime Minister recalled her offer to Badrul Haider Chowdhury to contest as BNP candidate in parliament elections in February.

The Prime Minister was learnt to have requested Badrul Haider Chowdhury to think over her proposal and to communicate his decision on Saturday. But an Awami League source said that Justice Chowdhury was determined to contest.  
 See Page 12 Col. 7

When our correspondent went to Justice Chowdhury's residence Saturday night at about 11 pm, he was not available for comment. The correspondent was told that Justice Chowdhury was sleeping.

However, a close aide of Justice Chowdhury confirmed that he met Prime Minister Begum Zia Friday night.

The aide also informed that Justice Chowdhury had a meeting with Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury on Friday at 5 pm at the residence of BNP MP Farida Rahman.

Justice Chowdhury told UNB Saturday that Begum Zia had requested him to pull out from the electoral race in exchange of a diplomatic job like that of the Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

"I'm sorry, I can't withdraw or retire. Nor can I accept any job under the government",  
 See Page 12 Col. 7

## 180 killed as Indonesian plane crashes

JAKARTA, Oct 5: At least 180 people were killed when an Indonesian Air Force transport plane crashed into a building in Jakarta today, according to unconfirmed reports from local journalists at the scene, reports Reuters.  
 An official at Indonesia's search and rescue office confirmed the crash of the US-made Hercules but did not give details of casualties.  
 The police later said the plane was carrying many passengers, believed to be air force personnel. They said it  
 See Page 12 Col. 7

## Ordinance repealed

By Staff Correspondent

The ordinance relating to presidential election was repealed on Friday.

Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed promulgated the Election of President (second amendment) Ordinance repealing the earlier one which barred the members of the Parliament to vote against party whip in presidential election.

The promulgation of the Ordinance on September 30 whipped up political controversy.

## Presidential poll: JP to pray for parole for Ershad, Zafar

By Staff Correspondent

The Jatiya Party will seek permission from the Chief Election Commissioner or the Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad to allow deposed President Ershad and former Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed to cast their votes in the upcoming presidential election.  
 See Page 12 Col. 3

## NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF WORK

We, Mitsui Construction Co. Ltd., as a Subcontractor of Chiyoda Corporation (General Contractor) started the Civil, Building and Jetty work of KAFCO Fertilizer Project under the Contract with General Contractor.

Due to some unavoidable circumstances, however, General Contractor decided to suspend their work as from 1st October, 1991. Accordingly, we, Mitsui Construction Co. Ltd., also decided to suspend our all construction work at site as from 4th October, 1991 and will continue until further notice.

We sincerely believe our efforts to have continued the Project and we would like to thank for our all Sub-Contractors, Suppliers and Local peoples for their good co-operation with us.

We are willing to commence the resumption of the work as soon as the situation allows us to again work together.

D-106 Mitsui Construction Co. Ltd

## Ban on meetings at Laldighi Maidan

From Our Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 5: Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) imposed a ban on public meetings at Laldighi Maidan Saturday to avert possible clashes between supporters of the BNP and the Jatiya Party.

Both the BNP-backed Jubo Dal and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and the Jatiya Party convened a public rally at the same venue Saturday afternoon.

The CMP imposed the ban following the damage to the stage erected for the meeting of the Jatiya Party by some unruly youths at around noon. Several cocktails were also blasted at the time, witnesses

said. Soon after the ban, police cordoned the maidan area but the supporters of both parties clashed in the New Market, Sitakundu, Madarbari, Patia and Kumira areas.

JP sources claimed that two of their workers were injured by the BNP workers. Tension gripped the city on the day.

Later the JP held its rally at Anderkilla square under heavy police guard with Mahbubul Haq Dolon in the chair.

Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Moudud Ahmed, Shah Moazzem Hossain, Antul Islam Mahmud, Maj Gen (ret'd) Shamsul Haq Nila Chowdhury  
 See Page 12 Col. 3

## Alleged attempts on Hasina's life Nationwide movement soon: AL leaders

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League leaders at a public meeting in the city Saturday said that repeated 'attempts' on party chief Sheikh Hasina were aimed at eliminating the pro-liberation forces from the country.

They also announced that the party would soon launch a nationwide movement in protest against the conspiracies to kill Hasina and to repeal the Indemnity Ordinance to pave the way for the trial of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's killers.

Held at Bangabandhu Avenue in the afternoon, the

meeting was convened to protest recent moves allegedly to kill Hasina and for repeal of the Indemnity Ordinance.

Awami League workers from various parts of the city thronged the venue adjacent to the AL central office in intermittent rains.

Chaired by the AL city unit chief Moazzam Hossain Poltu, the meeting was also addressed by its presidium members Abdul Mannan, Zillur Rahman, Sheikh Abdul Aziz, Acting General Secretary Amir Hossain Amu, Organising  
 See Page 12 Col. 8

## 3 elderly leaders seek to succeed Kaifu

TOKYO, Oct 5: Three top members of the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) old guard announced today their candidacies to succeed Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu as party chief and premier, reports AFP.

Kiichi Miyazawa, a former vice-premier who is to be 72 next week, the 68-year-old ex-finance minister Michio Watanabe and Hiroshi Mitsuoka, a 64-year-old former foreign minister have officially announced their intention to stand in the election for party president planned for October 27.  
 Kaifu confirmed Saturday

that he would not seek another term to take responsibility for the failure of his political reform programme, which was abandoned by the parliament before it ended its session on Friday.

The three candidates each head one of the five factions of the LDP and exercise a powerful influence within their wings of the party they were involved in the recruit financial scandal that led to the resignation of former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita in April 1989.  
 Miyazawa, one of the few Japanese politicians of his age

to have a good command of English, made a bid for the top party post in 1987 but was beaten by Takeshita.

Watanabe, seen within the LDP as a man of action, is best known for his blunt speaking and the racist comments he made about blacks.

Mitsuoka, a vet before he became a deputy in 1972, is seen by the local press as having the smallest chance of winning the presidency of the party and hence the post of prime minister.

The faction led by Takeshita, which dominates the LDP with its 106 deputies out of the LDP's total of 394 in

the 512-seat lower house, is expected to back either Miyazawa or Watanabe, according to sources close to the party.

The Takeshita faction had wanted to run Ichiro Ozawa, the 49-year-old former secretary-general of the LDP, as its own candidate but, according to party sources, he declined because of ill health following a heart attack.  
 Kaifu said Saturday he would remain premier until his mandate ends on October 30. He has been head of the Japanese government since August 1989.

## Notice of Suspension of Work

Since November 1990 when we, Chiyoda Corporation as a general contractor started the construction work of KAFCO Fertilizer, we have been exerting our utmost endeavour to consummate the plant within the time period as planned by KAFCO, in cooperation with subcontractors and vendors along with their local staff, in order not to adversely affect the implementation of the project even under the last unexpected cyclone.

In fact, the most serious hardship we have been facing is the delay in payment from KAFCO which started in January of this year and has accumulated to approximately US\$ 50,000,000 as of the end of September 1991. This overdue amount is more than 40% of the paid-in capital of our company. If we continue our work, this burden shall increase by more than \$10 million with each additional month.

Under the aforementioned situation, however, we have managed to continue the work until September 30, 1991 in full compliance with GOB's request through KAFCO with our expectation that, by such date, we will be assured of the release from the present financial hardship.

Beyond that, we are not able to endure any further financial burden, and unfortunately we have done to step into the suspension of the entire work after October 1, 1991 in accordance with the contract.

We sincerely believe our efforts to have continued the project until September 30, 1991 will be known, and we highly appreciate our collaborators have worked together with the full support to us.

Of course, we are willing to commence the resumption of the work as soon as the situations, allow us to again work together.

D-105 Chiyoda Corporation on behalf of the General Contractor