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Our diplomacy has to be more aggressive, says Fakhruddin Ahmed who served as Adviser for Foreign Affairs in the interim government
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BCCI inquiry team's member arrested in UK
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NEWS BRIEFS

PM shifts office

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia moved her office to the Old Sangsad (Bhaban) Monday. On the first day in her new office, the head of the government began her day's work in the morning with a meeting with the teachers and employees of BUET (Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology), reports UNB.

Norway expels 8 Soviet diplomats

OSLO, Oct 21: Norway said on Monday it was expelling eight staff at the Soviet embassy for activities incompatible with their diplomatic status, a term for spying. Five of the diplomats had already left the country and the remaining three would leave by November 15, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement, reports Reuter.

Judicial probe into BUET incident ordered Stern action to restore campus peace : Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Monday instructed to constitute a judicial enquiry committee to probe the October 19 incident at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), reports BSS.

She ordered to take stern action against those responsible for unleashing terrorism on the BUET campus on October 19. She said those who had failed to maintain peace and order on the campus would also be taken to task.

The Prime Minister was addressing the teachers and employees of BUET at her office Monday morning when they came to apprise her of the situation.

She stressed the need for peaceful and congenial atmosphere at all educational institutions of the country including BUET. She said all possible measure would be taken to

achieve the end.

"We are committed to offer a better future to our children," she said, adding "and to bring an end to terrorism we will again sit with teachers and political leaders."

Sounding a note of warning the Prime Minister said our tolerance must not be misunderstood as our weakness. "We will take the most severe action, if need be, to restore proper academic atmosphere on the campus", she said.

Begum Zia also sought co-operation of the teachers and guardians in this regard.

Earlier the Prime Minister was apprised of the incident by the BUET Vice Chancellor Professor M. Shahjahan, Dr. Jashimuzzaman Dr. Iqbal Mahmood and Professor Nooruddin Ahmed.

They said that the government should launch immediate action against miscreant and

terrorist without wasting any time. They opined that there was no need for further consultation in this regard.

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar also spoke on the occasion. Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Syed Hasan Ahmed was also present.

Matin meets DU VC

Meanwhile, Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury held a meeting with the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University, members of the Syndicate and high officials of the Home Ministry and the police.

The Home Minister told the meeting that the government was determined to take all measures to root out terrorism from the educational arena with cooperation of all concerned quarters.

He said prevention of terrorism and establishment of rule of law were the prerequisite for country's development and ensuring happy life for the posterity.

Causes of terrorism in the campus and various measures to prevent it came up in the discussion.

Expressing good intention and sincerity of the present democratic government in tackling terror and violence from the campus, Matin Chowdhury sought cooperation of all concerned including the teachers and students community to restore and maintain congenial academic atmosphere in the educational institutions.

The Vice-Chancellor and Syndicate members took part in the discussion and assured full cooperation with the government in flushing out campus violence.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing teachers, students and officials of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology of Prime Minister's office on Monday. — PID photo

364 bodies recovered from Uttar Pradesh quake sites

LUCKNOW, Oct 21: Three hundred and sixty-four bodies were recovered on Monday from ruins in three districts of Uttar Pradesh hit by Sunday's devastating earthquake that left an estimated 500 dead, officials at the state capital said, reports AFP.

The worst-affected area was Uttar Kashi district where 299 bodies were recovered, they said.

A government team was flying over the area on an assessment mission to report back later in the day to Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, who termed the quake "a national disaster."

"We have confirmed that 1,200 people were injured in Uttar Kashi district, and 250 of those are serious," said State Revenue Minister Brahmduitt Dwivedi by telephone, adding that thousands were homeless.

Dwivedi said 375 villages in Uttar Kashi, a well-known Hindu pilgrimage centre, had been affected and some 3,000 houses damaged and that a major problem had been to transport drinking water to the area, still cut off from all but radio contact.

Communications lines are down, power out and all routes inaccessible because of downed bridges and crevasses caused by the earthquake.

In adjoining Tehri district, 59 bodies have so far been recovered, 345 houses damaged, and another six bodies recovered in Chamoli, Dwivedi said.

Some 200 pilgrims including a large number of foreigners were trapped and awaiting helicopter evacuation in Bhujawasa district, 22,700 feet (6,940 meters) above sea level, he said.

No details were immediately available on the identity or nationality of the foreigners, but Dwivedi said they had not yet been reached by army helicopters which had begun fan-

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Ershad's wealth amassing case Tajul leading immoral life : AG

By Staff Correspondent

They are still living together. However Tajul Islam Chowdhury expressed his surprise and ignorance says that he did not know anything about it.

The defence witness was cross-examined for the fifth day yesterday in the Special Judge Court.

It was evident from the cross-examination that Attorney General Aminul Haque was trying to prove that the defence witness indulged

in immoral activities and that his deposition could not be accepted in the Court.

The cross-examination resumed after six days yesterday, but remained incomplete as the Court was again adjourned at around 1 pm and the next date of hearing was fixed on November 2.

During the cross-examination Tajul Islam also denied enticing Shamshun Nahar Begum away from her previous

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Opposition defeats ruling party in Turkish polls

ANKARA, Oct 21: Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz handed his resignation to President Turgut Ozal today after his centre-right Motherland Party was beaten in Sunday's general election, reports Reuter.

Yilmaz told reporters in Ankara that Ozal had asked him to continue head a caretaker government until veteran politician Sulayman Demirel, whose centre-right True Path Party (DYP) won a narrow vic-

7 am (0500 GMT), gave the centre left Populist Social Democratic Party 20.50 per cent, Necmettin Erbakan's Welfare Party 16.68 per cent, Bulept Ecevit's Party of the Democratic Left 10.92 per cent and the Socialist Party 0.44 per cent.

Erbakan, Demirel and Ecevit were involved in conditions in the turbulent 1980s, a period of left-right violence in which more than 5,000 people were killed.

Motherland, founded by President Turgut Ozal and now led by Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz, set Turkey on a path of liberal economic reform in its eight years in power, but inflation and growing budget deficits tarnished its recent record.

Demirel, 67, six times prime minister and twice ousted by the military, is a bitter rival of Ozal, even though his party occupies much the same centre-right ground as

EEC help sought to soften donors' conditions for aid

Bangladesh Monday urged the EEC (European Economic Community) to persuade multilateral donors for softening their reform conditionalities for development aid, reports UNB.

The appeal was put forward at the talks here between a visiting high-powered EEC delegation and the Bangladesh government.

The European Community, which has within its fold four of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialised nations, should play the leadership role in convincing the donors to soften their stance on aid conditionalities, a Bangladesh delegation source said.

The Bangladesh side pleaded that the donors should consider constraints of the developing countries in implementing hastily reforms, pointing out that such moves might create social and political tensions impeding development efforts and democratisation process.

The home side also pointed out that donors' prescription for waiving farm subsidy might prove counter-productive in a country like Bangladesh, striving for attaining self sufficiency in food.

Briefing UNB after the talks, the source said the EEC delegation held out the assurance that the Community would put Bangladesh's arguments at the donors' policy making forums.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman led the Bangladesh side while the EEC delegation was headed by Dutch Minister for Development Cooperation J P Pronk.

The three-hour deliberation covered the entire gamut of Bangladesh-EEC relations focusing particularly on the Community's development programme's coordination of EC assistance and its future aid strategy.

Appreciating EEC's continued assistance to the country, Bangladesh side sought addi-

Division Bench takes up writ challenging President Poll Act Nov 6

The writ petition filed by Abdus Samad Azad MP and six others challenging the Presidential Election Act, 1991, will come up as applications at the top of the list on November 6 before a Division Bench of the High Court Division, reports BSS.

Amrul-Ul Islam and Zakir Ahmed, the counsel of the petitioner Monday presented the writ petition before a Division Bench of the High Court Division comprising Justice Fazle Hussain Mohammad Habibur Rahman and Justice Abdul Hasib.

Abdul Wadud Bhuiya, Additional Attorney General AY Salehuzzaman, Deputy Attorney General and Obaidur Rahman Mostafa, Assistant Attorney General appeared on behalf of the government. After hearing both the sides, the Court fixed November 6 as the date for taking up the petition as an appeal.

Earlier, Justice Habibur Rahman Khan, a single-judge Vacation Bench on October 7 had refused an ad-interim order of staying the election of the President of Bangladesh.

Appeal seeking presidential polls in 180 days rejected

The certified appeal seeking mandate upon the Chief Election Commissioner and others to hold the presidential election under the amended Constitution within 180 days from the day of the resignation of the former President H. M Ershad on December 6, 1990, was on Monday dismissed by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, reports BSS.

The Court comprising Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman, Justice A T M Afzal, Justice Mustafa Kamal and Justice Latifur Rahman dismissed the appeal as having been infructuous.

Mohammad Giasuddin Bhuiya, Advocate-on-record

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5-party plans campaign against terrorism

The Five-Party Alliance is planning a nation wide campaign to be launched shortly against armed terrorism, reports UNB.

Leaders of the left-leaning combine met Monday at its office and discussed law and order in the country, particularly the situation in educational institutions.

They also discussed possibilities of floating a political front with other democratic and progressive elements with greater objectives of consolidating the democratic process and achieving a self-reliant economy.

Chaired by Bimal Biswas, the meeting was attended, among others, by Rashed Khan Menon, MP, Hasanul Haq Inu,

Sharif Nurul Ambia, Khalequzzaman, Nirmal Sen, AFM Mahbulul Haq, Naim Jahangir and Tipu Biswas.

When contacted, Inu said they were thinking about agitation such as demonstration, procession and sit-in to be launched shortly to mobilise people against the current state of armed violence across the country.

The alliance leaders are expected to meet the Home Minister tomorrow (Wednesday) for venting their concern over the situation arising out of terrorism posing threat to democracy and rule of law.

Campus terrorism is no longer an act of students, it

See Page 12 Col. 2

Cotton production to be higher this year

By Staff Correspondent

SREEPUR (Gazipur), Oct 21: With a breakthrough in the evolving high-yielding variety of cotton already achieved, Bangladesh is poised for a major advance in cotton production in the next few years, if continued government support is available.

Dr. Ayubur Rahman, Executive Director, Cotton Development Board, said today that at least a half of the country's annual requirement of 400,000 bales of cotton can be produced locally by 1995.

He was narrating the progress of the cotton development project to a European Economic Community (EEC) mission here. The 21.2 million dollar project has been implemented with EEC assistance to the tune of 13.5 million dollars. Juan Prat Director General, North-South relation of the European Commission and two other members of the mission paid a visit to the project.

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Hearing of Writ challenging 10th Amendment Nov 11

Supreme Court Correspondent

A Division Bench of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court comprising Justice Mohammad Abdul Jalil and Justice Naimuddin Ahmed has fixed November 11 for hearing of the Writ petition challenging the 10th Amendment to the Constitution.

Dr. Ahmed Husain, a senior Advocate of the Supreme Court challenged the legality of the 10th Amendment to the Constitution 1990 (Act No. 38 of 1990 dated 23.6.90) which

See Page 12 Col. 3

Hasina leaves for Narail today

Awami League President and Opposition Leader in Parliament Sheikh Hasina leaves near for Narail today, reports UNB.

Acting General Secretary of the party Amir Hossain Anu will accompany her.

Hasina will visit the house of Chayan Ranjan Mallick who was killed recently in an armed attack allegedly by his political opponents. She will also visit the house of Chhatra League leader Manik, killed during the anti-Ershad movement.

Kazi Zafar's bail petitions rejected

The two bail petitions of former prime minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed were rejected by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court Monday, reports BSS.

The Court comprised Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman, Justice ATM Afzal, Justice Mustafa Kamal and Justice Latifur Rahman.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed had filed criminal petitions leave to appeal before the Appellate

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