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Bereaved family members wail (top) after receiving the news of the death of Ali Ahmed Khan Janata Bank manager of Dalpatti branch at Chawkbazar in the city (bottom left) who was shot dead by security guard Amjad Mian (bottom right) on Sunday afternoon. —Star photo

Bank manager shot dead in city

By Staff Correspondent

A bank manager was shot dead by a security guard of the bank in Dalpatti Sunday afternoon.

Ali Ahmed Khan (35), Manager of the Janata Bank branch at Dalpatti near Chawkbazar, was shot at close range in his office chamber allegedly by a security guard at around 1:15 pm, police said.

Lalbagh police arrested the security guard, Amjad Mian (50), from the office premises.

Witnesses said that the alleged murderer walked into the office chamber of the bank Manager and asked to be

granted sick-leave because of a fever. Even after the manager declined to entertain his request the security guard kept on insisting on it. A brawl ensued when the manager asked him to get out of the office room.

At this point, the angry security guard used his 303-rifle to gun down the manager with a single shot in his chest, witnesses added.

The victim was declared dead by the attending physicians after his colleagues rushed him to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital immediately after the incident. His body was later sent for post-mortem.

A pall of gloom descended over the bank premises after the gruesome incident. The incident also caused a sensation in the area and a large number of curious on lookers crowded the bank premises.

The alleged murderer, employed at the bank for about 20 years, claimed that the shot went off accidentally, police said. He also told police that he was being treated badly by the manager for quite some time.

However, employees at the bank said that the manager was extremely polite and rarely misbehaved with anyone.

News of Ali Ahmed Khan's death came to members of his family as a rude shock and a cloud of gloom shrouded his Uttar Shahjahanpur residence.

The victim left behind his wife, a minor son and a daughter.

Armed youths loot shopping centre in city

By Staff Correspondent

A group of armed youths allegedly looted about Taka 10 lakh in merchandise from a shopping centre at Elephant Road and damaged a number of shops and parked cars in the area Sunday afternoon.

A group of about 30 young men, claiming to be students, armed with guns, explosives and other weapons came to the Alpina Plaza shopping centre at Elephant Road at around 3 pm and tried to extort Taka 30,000 from the shopowners, it is alleged.

When the shopowners declined to meet their demand, the rowdy youths raided some of the shops in the centre looting.

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Polytechnic teachers warn indefinite strike

BY Staff Correspondent

Some 1,015 teachers of the country's 18 polytechnic institutes abstained from work Sunday to press home their 10-point charter of demands.

Leaders of Bangladesh Polytechnic Shikshak Samity (BPSS) (Polytechnic Teachers' Association) said no classes were held due to the abstention.

They announced to go for abstention for an indefinite period from November 23 if their demands were not met by November 22.

The demands include disbursement of 30 per cent of wages as earlier announced by the government, finalisation of technical teachers' recruitment rule, promotion, service structure and expansion of technical education.

During abstention, the teachers at a rally at the Dhaka Polytechnic Institute recited

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UN finalises draft on obligations of multinationals

Star Report

The United Nations has finalised a draft resolution relating to the obligations of multinational corporations to different countries.

Dr Kamal Hossain, an eminent lawyer of the country also one of the panel lawyers of the United Nations was engaged in the 'consolidation' of the drafting of the law. Dr Hossain who worked on the law for four months will return home on November 29.

The law for regulating the activities of the multinational corporations is likely to be initiated by a UN resolution any time.

With the enactment of the law the multinational corporations working in different countries will have to follow uniform rules and regulations regarding the manufacturing and marketing of their products in all countries.

Dr Hossain was selected in an individual capacity to give a final shape to the draft resolution.

UK leader blasts 2 Britons' visit to Sylhet

By Staff Correspondent

A visiting British local government leader Kerry Pollard on Sunday blasted the presence in Bangladesh of Jeremy Shaw, a controversial Briton terming him an 'out and out racist who should be thrown out of the country.'

Pollard, chairman of the Housing Committee of the St Albans city local council where 3,000 Bengali families live, told The Daily Star that Jeremy Shaw was a leading member of the Tower Hamlets area local authority in East London when it evicted 1,100 poor, homeless Bengali families around two years ago from their council-financed accommodation.

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Accord reached for RU peace

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHJ, Nov 17: Local leaders of various political parties and student leaders of Rajshahi University at a meeting held at the RUCSU office today reached consensus on four points to maintain campus peace.

They agreed that no student organisation would pass provocative slogans against others. They would not provide shelter to any armed hoodlum and if any activist was expelled from any organisation for his alleged involvement in terrorism others would not give him shelter.

The student organisations also agreed to form a committee to take decision regarding illegal occupation of seats of residential halls.

The meeting presided over by Mizanur Rahman Minu, Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation was addressed by Fazle Hossain Badsha, former Vice President of RUCSU and UCL central leader, Kamrul Manir, President of BNP District Committee, RUCSU General Secretary Ruhul Kuddus Babu, Ahsan Kabir Badal, Bahauddin Bahar and Kader Sarkar.

Bhasani a source of inspiration to establish pro-people politics

By Staff Correspondent

The nation paid tributes to Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani, leader of millions of downtrodden people, on Sunday, his 15th death anniversary.

Various political and socio-cultural organisations took up day-long programmes to observe the day in a befitting manner.

Leaders of different political and socio-cultural organisations said Maulana Bhasani is a source of inspiration to bring the nation to the right track and to establish stability through pro-people politics.

The programmes include

offering of fatcha and placing of floral wreaths at Maulana Bhasani's majar, at Santosh, seminars and discussion meetings, public rallies and feeding of destitutes.

Bangladesh Jatiya Baktitya Gobeshana Kendra and Maulana Bhasani Jatiya Smriti Parishad jointly organised a seminar and discussion at the Jatiya Grantha Kendra on the day where Minister for Law and Justice Mirza Golam Hafiz was the chief guest.

Mirza Hafiz termed Maulana Bhasani as the 'voice of the nation and the voice of the poor' and said that the BNP

government included many points of Bhasani's 21-point programme in its own.

He urged the followers of Bhasani to help the government implement its development programmes and at the same time criticise and point out the follies of the government.

He regretted that a section of newspapers was not following the democratic norms and publishing false reports and comments which he said were harmful for the flourishing of democracy.

The Law Minister said that

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We can't solve all problems in a day: PM

JANGAIL, Nov 17: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today recalled that Maulana Bhasani during the last days had asked BNP founder Ziaur Rahman to work for his unfulfilled desire of building a golden Bangladesh and she urged all to work to that end, reports UNB.

"It's the responsibility of all Bhasani followers now working in BNP to materialise the dreams of both the leaders, who had fought for liberating the nation and alleviating the sufferings of the toiling masses," she said.

The Prime Minister was addressing a gathering on the

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AL constitution may be changed to appease aspirants

By Chapal Bashar

Awami League council session, earlier planned for December, is now expected by end February next year.

The session has been delayed by natural calamities and by constitutional necessity, to complete district conferences before the national council session. Last session was held in 1987.

Besides electing party leadership and fixing future strategy in the changed political context, amendment to the

party constitution is almost unavoidable to accommodate aspirants to the post of General Secretary. Sheikh Hasina's re-election as party chief would be beyond question, party sources said.

Too many aspirants for the post of General Secretary have led the party leadership to think over a 'new formulae' whereby a senior leader would be made Secretary General while four posts of General

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Speaker, six ex-VCs blast terrorism

By Staff Correspondent

Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament) Sheikh Razzak Ali on Sunday termed terrorism as a 'national disaster' and laid special emphasis on the patience and cooperation of all concerned to resolve the crisis.

The Speaker made the remarks in an open discussion on Terrorism in the educational arena: its causes and solution' in the city Sunday afternoon.

Six former Vice-Chancellors of the country's four universities, speaking on the occasion said that a strong political will with effective steps by the government was necessary to

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Violence causes 87 days DU closure in 8 months

By Nazmul Ashraf

The Dhaka University yesterday passed the 87th day of its unscheduled closure caused mainly because of terrorism on campus in the eight-month rule of the democratically elected government.

Barring only seven days in May this year, the remaining 79-day closure was due to armed violence and tension out of such acts on the campus.

According to available statistics, DU classes were suspended from May 11 to 17 to facilitate the students and the members of the staff engage in relief operations after the April 29 cyclone ravaged areas of Chittagong.

The Eid-ul-Azha vacation was extended by five days from July 1 as tension prevailed on

Move to disrupt communal amity to be resisted, says Hasina

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Nov 17: Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina today said any move to disturb the country's traditional communal amity will be resisted.

"Bangladesh is a land of communal harmony where people are living in peace for many years and any move otherwise will be thwarted," she said.

The Awami League leader was addressing a rally at Raghunathpur High School ground at Raghunathpur upazila in Gopalganj district.

Referring to the traditional ties existing among the people of all faiths, Sheikh Hasina said

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BJP, others lose deposits Rao wins by-poll

NANDYAL, Nov 17: True to expectations, Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao, today won the Nandyal Lok Sabha seat by a record margin of over 5.80 lakh votes, reports PTI.

As against 6,26,241 votes secured by the Prime Minister, his main BJP rival, Bangaru Lakshman, could muster only 45,994 votes in the seven-cornered contest.

Lakshman and others lost even their deposits.

Rao's victory was a foregone conclusion as he had the support of the main opposition Telugu Desam Party and the other parties — including BJP, which fielded its candidate against him — hardly had any base in the constituency.

Nandyal, a constituency in faction-ridden Rayalaseema re-

gion, which had the distinction of electing top leaders, lived up to its tradition by electing Rao.

Right from the first general election the constituency returned Congress (I) except in 1977 when the Janata Party candidate, Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy, won the seat to become the Speaker and later the President.

P Venkatasubbaiah, former Governor of Karnataka, who represented this seat for over 23 years, won it back in 1979.

Tightest-ever security marked the polling. The only tragic shade to otherwise jubilant atmosphere in Nandyal was the death of an independent candidate, V Shivshanker Reddy of Allagadda.

US-China accord to curb arms proliferation

BEIJING, Nov 17: US Secretary of State James Baker today announced agreements with China on trade, prison labour and arms proliferation, key issues threatening Sino-American relations, reports Reuters.

Baker said he was not satisfied with Beijing's stance on human rights and his visit did not mean that relations, shattered by China's 1989 crackdown on dissent, were normalised.

The concessions were snatched during 11th-hour

talks between Baker and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen after a series of negotiations with senior Chinese leaders on Saturday, produced no results.

Baker told a news conference before leaving Beijing that his visit had achieved 'clear gains in the fields of (arms) proliferation and trade.'

However, there were no surprises among the list of agreements, which had been on the table for months.

The modest gains he made were undercut by reports of

the arrest on Saturday of China's best known woman journalist, Dai Qing, possibly to prevent her meeting Baker.

Relatives of Dai confirmed today she had been arrested, and in answer to a question Baker said he would ask his Beijing ambassador to uncover the facts.

"I don't know anything about it. If it's true, that would be distressing news," he said.

Baker appeared to be putting the best face possible on a trip seen as a make-or-break chance to salvage rela-

tions shattered by the 1989 killings by troops of unarmed student protesters around Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

"I did not come here expecting a dramatic breakthrough. The Gulf is too wide," he said.

Baker said China had conditionally agreed to accede to the missile technology control regime (MTCR), and undertaking that US officials had long expected.

China only agreed to sign the pact, which covers sales of potentially destabilising

medium-range missiles, if the United States lifted sanctions imposed in June this year on two Chinese companies involved in the arms trade, Baker said.

China had also pledged to push through a parliament by the end of the year legislation paving the way for its accession to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT), Baker said.

Beijing would go through the procedures within three months of parliament's ratification.

China agreed to sign the NPT during a visit by former Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu this year, a concession that crowned Kaifu's trip. But the process has been bogged down in parliamentary committee.

Washington has been alarmed by Chinese sales of nuclear equipment to Iran that it fears could be used to manufacture nuclear weapons. It is also concerned by Chinese missile transfers to Syria and Pakistan.