War 11, reports AFP.

street, corner, reports AP.

From Page 1 Col. 4

In a third incident that oc-

curred last Thursday six non-

tribal farmers including two

children were killed while

working in a paddy land at

Panchart upazila of

districts following such atroci-

ties by the Shantibahini that

angered most of the non trib-

als and some of them travelled

to Dhaka last week to demon-

strate with the bodies in a bid

to express their outrage and

threatening retaliation.

rity there.

shock, at the same time

fearing an outbreak of a riot

between tribals and non-trib-

als in the tension-packed hill

districts have tightened secu-

meetings were organised to

maintain peace and amity

among the hill residents. The

meetings, attended by gov-

ernment officials and both

tribal and non-tribal leaders

were held at different parts of

Khagrachari district including

Dighinala and Ramgarh where

thousands of people brought

out processions protesting the

Besides, some motivation

Meanwhile, the authorities

Tension rose in both the

Khagrachari district.

The Midnight File

Somali President flees capital

Mohamed fled the capital Mogadishu today after 48 hours of clashes between rival factions of the ruling United Somali Congress, sources contacted from here said. USC Military Chief General Mohamed Farah Haideed appeared to have won

20 killed in Soviet plane crash

the six-man crew, when a Soviet military transport aircraft

crashed at the weekend in the far north of the country, Tass

news agency said today. The plane, identified as an AN-12

transport, crashed on Saturday in bad weather at the

9 neo-Nazis injured in rebels' attack

turning from a memorial ceremony were injured in an attack

at Koenigs-Wusterhausen station outside Berlin by some 25

masked people wielding baseball bats, police said today. About

650 people had attended the ceremony Sunday at a local

cemetery in memory of German soldiers killed during World

37 killed in Colombian violence

Colombians had been killed in weekend massacres, guerrilla

clashes and a police shootout. Police said the people were

killed Sunday in Medellin, Colombia's second-largest city and

home of a powerful cocaine cartel, when assailants in a car

and a motorcycle opened fire on people eating snacks on a

Hardliners, BSF

Abdur Rashid Sarker was

killed by the Shantibahini, a

riot took place between the

non-tribals and tribals.

However after that riot, no

other similar incident oc-

curred due to the timely pre-

cautionary measures by the

amnesty was also criticised by

the tribal leaders and the

Chairman of three hill district

council who pleaded for hold-

ing a dialogue to end the crists.

District Council Gautam Dewan

said that the process for hold-

ing the dialogue and the scope

of amnesty should not be al-

lowed to go side by side. The

tribal insurgents have not ac-

cepted the amnesty but rather

Shantibahini to the latest

amnesty has been reflected in

recent acts of violence com-

mitted by them, he said

adding that the Shantibahi-

nimen are stead fast in their

that the fifth amnesty was

meant only for those willing to

surrender in advance without

waiting for the dialogue. It

might take a long time to hold

the dialogue as the hardcore

members of the Shantibahini

in collaboration with their

front organisation leaders were

still playing a very tricky game

on the way to solving the 18

years-long problem across the

discussion table, the official

clared on August 23, 1989 and

ending on September 30,

1989, drew only seven Shan-

The fourth amnesty, de-

A government official said

The negation of the

discarded it, he added.

demands.

added.

The Chairman of Rangamati

The recently declared fifth

government.

BOGOTA, Nov 18: The government said Monday that 37

KOENIGS WUSTERHAUSEN, Nov 18 : Nine neo-Nazis re-

Amderma Air Field in the Polar Karskoe sea, reports Reuter.

MOSCOW, Nov 18: Twenty people were killed, including

control of the capital, they said, reports AFP.

NAIROBI, Nov 18: Interim Somali President Ali Mahdi

Moscow will transfer power to Islamic govt in Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Nov 18: The Soviet Union has endorsed a Mujahideen demand that power in Afghanistan be transferred to an interim Islamic government, according to a joint statement released by the Soviet embassy here Sunday, reports AFP.

The eight-point joint statement was drawn up in Moscow after five days of talks between a Mujahideen delegation and Soviet and Russian officials held from November 11 to 15.

The delegation, led by resistance leader Burhanuddin Rabbani is due to return here Monday after a pilgrimage to Mokkah in Saudi Arabia.

"The (two) sides confirmed the necessity of transfer of the entire state power in Afghanistan to an interim Islamic government," the statement said, according to the text issued by the embassy.

agreed, it said. "Within two years from the

The Mujahideen delegation

moment of transfer of power Ershad's trial

N. Q Alam Chowdhury, a de-

fence witness in the corrup-

tion case against the former

President H. M Ershad,

Monday deposed that Jatiya

Party during a meeting last

year had decided to raise Taka

2 erore to purchase a house for

trying Ershad of amassing

wealth beyond his known

source of income that during a

meeting of the JP

Parliamentary Party a decision

was taken to hand over the

money raised through sub-

scription and contribution to

accused Ershad for it (Monday)

might be necessary at any time

to purchase the house. Besides

instant availability, the deci-

sion to deposit money with

Ershad was taken because the

joint signature in the party

fund was posing a problem for

quick withdrawal of such

amount, the witness fifth in

the series, said during deposi-

tion conducted by counsel

decision, he as a member of

1988 parliament contributed

Taka 12,000 in two instal-

ments, the last time on

November 2, 1990 and pro-

duced counterfoils. Besides

contributions by party MPs,

funds were also raised by

membership drive and sub-

scriptions from ministers,

state ministers and zila

parishad chairmen, he added.

tial law was needed in 1982.

Chowdhury looking at Ershad

sitting in the dock, said, "Only

the man who imposed it can

the counterfoils of the sub-

Chowdhury testified that

When asked whether mar-

Chowdhury said as per party

Yusuf Hossain Humayun.

He told special tribunal

the party, reports BSS.

JP decided to raise Tk 2cr for

purchasing party office

from the Kabul regime to the interim government, general elections will be held in Afghanistan with the assistance of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the UN" the statement said.

The Soviet side agreed to "stop before January 1992 all supplies to the Kabul regime of armaments, combat hardware and fuel for combat means."

Moscow also agreed to "take measures for radical reduction and consequently for the complete recall from Afghanistan of Soviet military personnel."

The statement said the Soviet Union "will definitely participate in common efforts for the restoration of devastations caused by the war.

"The condemnation of the anti-constitutional decision with regard to the deployment of Soviet troops in Afghanistan (in 1979) and the Soviet Union's participation in the war, that brought and continues to bring immeasurable sufferings to the Muslim Afghan people, was reconfirmed," it

scribed by party (JP) mani-

festo. During interrogation he

said he did not recall that

there was curfew on November

2 last year, the day he was

supposed to have deposited

the money. The Attorney

General then produced a

newspaper file on November 2,

1990 where it said curfew was

imposed in the city from

November 1. The witness then

corrected himself and said

that money might have been

deposited on some other day,

but the receipt might have

lied to save Ershad. He also

denied of having taken any

privilege but added whatever

he got as Chairman of Zila

Parishad was similar to other

chairmen. He, however, admit-

ted that he was made PP dur-

He denied of gross miscon-

Although the next witness

appeared in the dock, the

judge at the request of the de-

fence adjourned the hearing

Police open fire

duct by not observing rules and

regulations of Bar Council de-

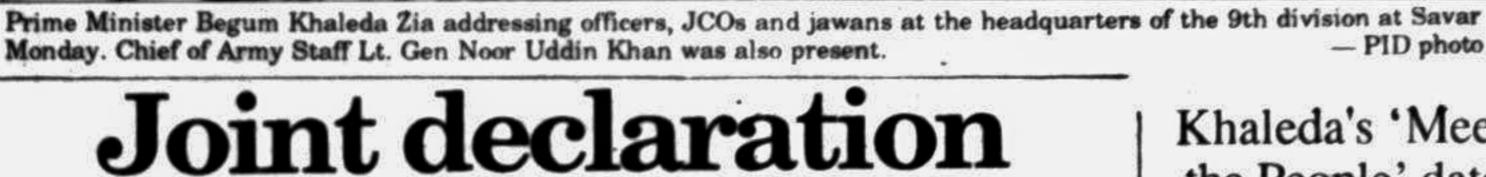
Chowdhury denied to have

been issued on that day.

ing the Ershad regime.

spite being a lawyer.

till November 20.



From Page 1 Col. 8 ing reminiscing while talking to The Daily Star made claims and counter claims about fulfilment or otherwise of the declaration.

The ruling BNP claims that commitments still unfulfilled are now in the process of materialisation while the opposition parties including the Awami League are frequently blasting the ruling party for 'non-fulfilment' of those.

The issues, yet to be translated into reality fully, are : autonomy for the radio and television into repeal of all laws that conflict with the fundamental rights of the people and ensuring independence and neutrality of the judiciary and establishment of rule of law in the country.

Awami League central leader Tofael Ahmed MP accused the ruling BNP for not keeping its commitments in the declaration. "The ruling party was doing willynilly with the commitments", Tofael remarked.

The AL leader described the role of the television and the radio same as that during the Ershad regime. He found no goodwill of the government to convert the state-owned media into autonomous bodies. On laws detrimental to

people's fundamental rights, Tofael blasted those in power saying that instead of repealing those, the government, in only eight month' rule has introduced some fresh black laws. Referring to an end to poli-

tics of killing and coups, Tofael who is the Organising Secretary of AL viewed there was no alternative to repealing the Indemnity Ordinance to stop capture of power through unconstitutional means. Existence of the ordinance in the Constitution has legitimise

such politics", he said. Replying to a question. Tofael said law and order has deteriorated seriously due to absence of rule of law and independence of the judiciary. Information Minister and a

BNP central leader Barrister Nazmul Huda dismissed the opposition claim. "The present democratic government has already fulfilled almost all the promises and is positively proceeding towards materialisation of others", he said. The Information Minister claimed that the radio and the television have been freed from "partisan use." Now opposition news are regularly being aired by the radio and television, he said adding "it's a big step forward to the fulfillment of the pledge made in the joint decaration."

On wide coverage of the cabinet members, the Information Minister observed that the people have the right to watch their representatives

on the TV screen. Regarding laws conflicting to the people's fundamental rights, the lawyer said, "blackness of the Special Powers Act has been diluted to a great extent. Except the provision for preventive detention, all other black laws have been repealed".

Rashed Khan Menon, MP. of the Five-Party Alliance also accused the BNP government of not completely fulfilling the commitments. He criticised the government for not giving autonomy to the radio and the television.

Menon asserted that repeal of all black laws including the Indemnity Ordinance and the Special Powers Act could help consolidate democracy.

Menon pressed for repeal of the fifth and seventh amendments to the constitution to make parliamentary system meaningful and stop politics of killing and coup because, the two amendments validated the illegal take-over of power.

Croatians

From Page 1 Col. 3

was deafening even in this village six km (four miles) from Vukovar which is as close as the army allowed journalists to approach.

"We demand their unconditional surrender in the presence of the Red Cross and our soldiers will not shoot unless they are shot at, Major Vesclin Sljivancanin said. "But if they try any dirty

tricks, we have enough fire power to destroy them and take the rest of Vukovar within two hours. We won't hesitate to do that unless they surren-

Three grenades fired from Mitnica hit a refugee camp on the outskirts of Vukovar, wounding a woman and setting fire to a warehouse.

The army said several groups of Croatian fighters, one numbering over 60 men, tried to break out of the heavily surrounded town during the night but were driven back.

A loudspeaker vehicle toured the devastated streets of Vukovar on Sunday urging Croats to surrender and promising they would be treated as prisoners of war.

The Yugoslav army has agreed to the evacuation of civilians and wounded from the besieged town of Vukovar where 1,500 Croatian defenders are trapped.

The play will take the mes-

sage to those millions of farm-

ers whose lives could be

transformed by having a water

source of their own, hopes

the activities of some of the 75

manufacturers, 6,000 dealers

and 10,000 fitters who double

very time consuming affair,

and IDE decided to blend

modern advertising and mar-

keting techniques with the

cultural reality of rural

The result is a product with

brand name "Krishak

Bandhu", and the rural theatre

But door-to-door selling is a

up as sales executives.

The IDE is orchestrating

Derrenger.

Bangladesh.

shifted

Persons who were to meet Begum Zia on November 21 will now meet her on November 28 and the visitors for the same day will now meet her on December 5.

4 left parties

to be united in the greater interest of the country and the country, protection of local

tional economy will be the centre piece of their immediate goals. Citing example, he said,

Ershad's fall was possible as all parties were united. Switch over to parliamentary system was another instance. The front will come up with

as well as from society.

Nahid said the front would remain open to any party or individual willing to work with the identical aims.

them, he said.

Khaleda's 'Meet the People' date

- PID photo

See Page 12 Col. 7

products and guarantee to investment for flourishing na-

They have talked to many other political parties, including the 5-Party Alliance and Ganatantri Party, for unity and will continue parleys with

The weekly meet the people programme of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for November 21 has been called off due to some unavoidcircumstances, reports

Nahid said all patriotic and democratic forces would have

Industrialisation of the

programmes shortly, and its first step is likely to be forging unity of the people and political parties to fight violence and vandalism from campuses

brutal killings by the Shantibahini. The motivation meetings urged the agitated people to be patient and not fall prey to the instigation of the trouble-mak-

in control and all concerned quarters had been alerted to foil any attempt to disrupt the existing harmony between the tribals and nontribals.

Security sources said the

situation was under watch and

In May 1989 when the upazila Chairman of Longadu under Rangamati district

Nasiruddin From Page 1 Col. 2

of 81 was celebrated Thursday. Responding to the reception accorded to him,

Mohammad Nasiruddin said it was the gesture of deep love that people bear for him. His written speech was read out by Dr. Rafiqul Islam. He urged all to guard against intrusion of alien culture and injustice in the society. "Illiteracy, superstition and ignorance which stalked the society in our time still exist", he cautioned.

Nasiruddin a happy and a healthy life

The writ petition was filed by Sudhir Burman and Debnath Roy against the state of West Bengal, District Magistrate, Cooch Behar and special land acquisition officer, Cooch Behar.

Bengal Chief Minister, Jyoti Basu today assured his cabinet colleagues that India's sovereignty would not be undermined after the lease out of Tinbigha to Bangladesh.

meeting in Calcutta, told members that he would soon hold talk with the Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao on the various aspects of leasing out of the strip.

He said that the process of leasing out of Tinbigha would be completed only after removing the fear and apprehension of the people

Clashes From Page 1 Col. 2

The injured students are

The leaders of Sangrami Chhatra Samai said they brought out a procession to demand the release of former President Ershad and the activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) had attacked them.

tibahini men with arms and 30 others without arms to surrender, officials sources said. Shibir

reopened recently after about eight months of closure without the Vice Chancellor taking part in the day to day administration of the campus. Shibir-backed Sangrami

Chhatra Oikka has been demanding resignation of the Vice -Chancellor. All Party Students

Union(APSU), the opponents of the Shibir, later at a rally near New Market in the city condemned the attack on VC's residence. Speaker at the rally demanded expulsion of the offenders from the university.

APSU has called for strike in the university tomorrow when it will hold a rally in the morning at University Gate

Sangrami Chhatra Oikkya also held a separate rally in the campus today where speakers reiterated the demand for resignation of the Vice-Chancellor.

Major changes From Page 1 Col. 7 JCD has been functioning

under a convening committee headed by DUCSU Vice-President Amanullah Aman MP since March last year.

Several attempts to hold a national conference of the JCD failed due to uncasy campus situation and internal conflict in the organisation.

From Page 1 Col. 7 was received by the Chief of

Army Staff, Lt. General M. Noor Uddin Khan and GOC Savar Cantonment Major General Abdul Matin. She was given a guard of

honour. She also inspected the guard. Later she went to the

Operations Room at the headquarters and was briefed about the activities by the GOC. She was also introduced to the senior officers. Begum Zia also signed the

visitors book at the Officers Mess. She talked to the officers there and enquired about their welfare.

Selling 'dhekis' to the farmers by Sabir Mustafa form the treadle pump which matter of life and death. sums of money into the hands RAMPURA VILLAGE.

on workers: 10 hurt in Rangpur From Our Correspondent RANGPUR, Nov 18: Ten people were injured when police opened 15 rounds of blank fire to disperse unruly trans-

port workers when they tried to swoop an accused from police custody. The ten people were in-

jured in the melee. They became unruly when a bail petition for Abul Kalam Azad, district Secretary of transport workers union was rejected. Kalam was taken to court hajat.

scription, receipts which were deposited with the court did not carry any signature either of the Treasurer or the General Secretary as pre-

Shopkeepers From Page 1 Col. 4

ing sold in the shops. Presided over by M Shamsul Haque, the meeting in front of the Baitul Mokarram Market was addressed by Amirullah, Attur Rahman, Abul Bashar and M Khayer.

The press conference was addressed by Alhaj Ali Akbar Khan, president of Baitul Mokarram businessmen group. UNB adds: Nearly 18,000

shop owners in Dhaka city are planning to launch an agitation from November 30 to protest the government's decision to raid shops, which they fear would victimise the shopkeep-

The Dhaka Metropolitan Central Markets Convening Committee at a meeting Sunday discussed action plans which include demonstrations, road barricades and token and indefinite strikes at the city's shopping centres.

The committee announced demonstrations on November 30 and token or indefinite strike on December 1 to

protest the possible raids on shops. The government earlier announced that it would crack-

down on smuggling from

December 1 to seize contra-

band and smuggled goods. As

part of the drive, shops will be

raided to recover smuggled

MA Zaman, Joint Secretary of the Convening Committee, said that shop owners fully support the anti-smuggling operation but expressed fear that innocent shop owners might be harassed and victimised during the drive.

"We are not smugglers. We are against smuggling and want to help the government. But unfortunately we were victimised in the past in the name of recovering smuggled goods", he said.

There are 180 big or small shopping centres in the capital housing about 18,000 shops. In 1989 many innocent shop owners were victimised during the recovery of smuggled goods at different shopping centres in the capital, he said. Zaman said that the anti-

smuggling drive would prove futile unless the smugglers are identified and smuggling points sealed. Sources said smuggled goods worth Tk 500 crore enter the country each year through air, sea and land

routes. Major smuggled items

include Indian saree, clothes,

crockery, perfumes, expensive garments, cigarettes, electronics etc. They alleged that organised groups with the help of a section of corrupt officials are engaged in smuggling business.

Editor : S. M. Ali

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MONOHARDI: Out in the large gives him his own source of open field surrounded on water. He is told about the three sides by trees, nearly pump by his brother-in-law 5,000 villagers waited pawho also lends him the money tiently to watch a stage drama to buy the small portable last Thursday, while recorded folk songs filled the cold, November darkness. A battery-

low stage shimmer against the pitch dark rural backdrop. Rampura village Monohardi upazila in Narshingdi may be only 88km east of Dhaka, but in every other way it is in the middle of nowhere. The last stretch of tarred roads ended several kilometres away, as did the

operated dynamo powered the

handful of bulbs that made the

electricity supply lines. The stage drama forms the central part of a highly innovative marketing method being used to popularise and sell a locally conceived and manufactured piece of irrigation equipment that could become Bangladesh's most significant contribution to Third World poverty alleviation since the Grameen Bank rural credit generation programme.

The play, designed to raise awareness about the manuallyoperated, double piston treadle or dheki pump originally conceived by a farmer named Mahendra Nath Dev, goes straight to the hearts of millions of small farmers living in the twilight zone between subsistence and famine. Entitled "Story of the Farmer's Friend," it tells a tale of woe heard a thousand times across the length and breadth of this

country: "Oh, how golden was our Bengal, we had fields full of paddy and stable full of cattle ...", the minstrel of the play takes the audience back to the days that seem lost forever, but look what happened to us.... the rain has gone, our land is dry and the crop dies of

The central character of the play, an honest and hard-working small farmer, is driven to steal water from his neighbour as he is too poor to pay for the water from the local deep tubewell. He also struggles to keep the unscrupulous owner of the well from snatching his young daughter.

But rescue comes in the

"The treadle pump in our estimation is the most unique, most perfect technology we could imagine. We don't expect ever to find another piece of technology as perfect as this," William H. Derrenger, country director of International

Development Enterprises, (IDE) a Swiss-funded non-government organisation, said while watching the farmer in the play pay off his debts and begin to build a new, dignified

"We had lot of problems



with the deep tubewell. There is a waiting list there, and sometime we had to wait 10 to 15 days before water was supplied", Abdus Samad Pathan, 80, of Rampura said, "If we were lucky we would make only one harvest of around 480kg of paddy then. But now, with our own irrigation pump on our own farm, we bring in two paddy crops a year and another one of bananas and vegetables".

According to Derrenger. there are some 6.5 million other than bare subsistence.

families with plots of land too small to provide anything If the rain fails or the deep tubewell fails to provide water at the right time, than the

crisis can easily turn into a

"Two drama troupes will stage 120 shows of this play in deep rural areas. We hope to stimulate interest in wholesale numbers of people, not retail numbers. But the installercum-sales people will follow this up with door-to-door contacts in their own areas". Derrenger said.

Over the years, nearly 500,000 of the pumps have been sold, but that still leaves six million without. "If all the 6.5 million owners of small plots used this

pump, they would be producing half of this country's total food requirements, making themselves into a highly productive sector. Eight to 10 million would be employed for their incomes, putting huge

But somehow this seems to have escaped the attention of the public, the government and even the donor community except the Swiss, who regard the treadle as the most potent

of some of the poorest people

of Bangladesh, where it is most

nceded", Derrenger said.

programmes they have anywhere in the world. Deep tubewells may be more glamorous and make headlines, but, as the villagers gathered for the play confirmed, they had proved little short of disas trous for the small farmer.

One problem faced by IDE in its efforts to market this simple, cheap and local machine is status.

In short, the dheki lacks

glamour. But not to be outdone, IDE has devised an eye-catching logo to go with the brand name,in an effort to make the pump as attractive as if it were a state-of-the-art technology.

The central importance of the dealer in the whole process was demonstrated when two local shopkeepers were introduced to the slightlyamused crowd. One of the dealers even managed to say a few words about himself, though visibly awestruck by the threatening presence of 5,000

curious villagers. Not surprisingly, the dealer featured prominently in the play too.

The schoolmaster in the

play, upon hearing all about the

pump, put his hands up in the

air and said, "Ah it's all the

Almighty Allah's gift". The dealer came in with the line to end all lines, "Yes, but He also needs a dealer". With the red, green and yellow logo unfurled on the stage in a Bangladeshi response to the red, white and blue colour of Pepsi Cola, the play ended with the engrossed crowd still subdued . They

hadn't exactly missed the

punch line, because there was

none, except the words

Krishak Bandhu ringing in everyone's ears. "Good play, but why was there only one hour of it?" asked many in the crowd who understand and appreciate stage theatre better than many "cultured" urbanites in Dhaka or Chittagong.

Poet Sufia Kamal wished

Writ

From Page 1 Col. 5

acres, reports PTI.

Meanwhile: The West

Basu, who chaired a cabinet

there.

Biplob, Sagor and Sclim.