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# The Daily Star



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## Inside Today

### International



**Azerbaijan threatens action against Armenia for downing helicopter**  
Page 5

### Article

**Bhasani Remembered**  
Column: Passing Clouds by Zillur Rahman Siddiqui  
Page 4

### Business

**Production, sales of BSEC drop by 50 per cent**  
Page 6

### Metropolitan

**Dhaka Day by Day**



**Chatpatiwallas, peanut sellers seem to form a good part of the incidents of student life**  
Page 3

### Supplement

One page each of National, Feature, Business and Sport have been dropped to accommodate a special supplement on "Tourism in Bangladesh"  
Pages 8-11

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Micro-bus damaged

By Staff Correspondent  
The windshield of the micro-bus belonging to The Daily Star was broken when some unidentified persons threw a brick at the car near the National Tennis Complex at Ramna at around 9 pm Saturday. The micro-bus was on the way to the office at Motijheel.

### Steps to appoint SI cancelled

All the steps taken during 1991 relating to the appointments in the post of the Sub-Inspector of Police have been cancelled by the government, a PFD handout said today. A fresh programme will be chalked out shortly to fill up the vacant posts of the Sub-Inspector of Police, reports BSS.

### Fratricide

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 23: A young man was today awarded life-term in jail for killing his elder brother to clear the way of his illicit affairs with his sister-in-law. His 'bhabf' cum-paramour was also sentenced to 10 years rigorous imprisonment for complicity in the murder of her husband Maham Ali, reports UNB.

### 10 dock workers hurt at Ctg Port

CHITTAGONG, Nov 23: About 10 people were injured today in a clash between rival groups of dock labourers over possession of booking office at the port, police said. Witnesses said the clash erupted when a group of labourers belonging to 'Jahangir group' allegedly attacked a procession of the supporters of 'Siraj group' in the afternoon, reports UNB.

## High-powered body to review all aspects of local govt institutions

# UZ system abolished

The upazila system, introduced during Ershad regime in the face of stiff opposition from all major political parties, was abolished Saturday, reports UNB.

An ordinance repealing the 1982 Local Government (Upazila Parishad and Upazila Administration Reorganisation) Ordinance promulgated Saturday said all public functions at

the upazila level will henceforth be performed by executive orders of the government.

The new ordinance — the Local Government (Upazila Parishad and Upazila Administration Reorganisation) (Repeal) Ordinance, 1991 came into force immediately.

The last election of upazila chairmen was held on March

14-25, 1990 in 440 out of 460 upazila parishads for a three-year term. The first election of upazila chairmen was held on May 16 and 20, 1985.

Meanwhile, the government has formed a 13-member high powered commission headed by Information Minister Nazmul Huda to review all relevant aspects of the local government institutions.

The commission will also recommend measures towards strengthening the local government bodies and making their functioning meaningful, the official handout added.

The commission includes State Minister for Land, Kabir Hossain, three MPs, experts from the universities and officials of the rank of Secretary  
See Page 12 Col. 3



**A REAL PLANE AFTER ALL:** Curious children and elders ride this ramshackle Cessna aircraft in Dholai Khal. It was auctioned off by the Mymensingh Agricultural University for Tk 21,000 and now sold for Tk 37,000 to a young man who plans to convert it into a hovercraft.  
—Star photo by Mohsin

## Anti-smuggling drive deferred

The anti-smuggling drive and operation against contrabands scheduled to begin from December 1 will now be launched from December 17 with December 15 as the deadline for disposing of the contrabands from shops and marketing centres, reports BSS.

This was disclosed by the Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury at an open discussion with the leaders of various chambers and business associations on anti-smuggling drive and law and order situation at the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry office conference room in Dhaka Saturday.

The Home Minister reiterated government's firm determination to curb smuggling

and contain law and order in the country at all cost. The present government had full desire to solve this problem with the help of concerned quarters, he said and called upon the people, particularly businessmen, to extend their full support in this regard.

He emphatically said the government would go for stern actions and massive drive at market centres and shops after December 15. He urged them not to take and sell contrabands and encourage smuggling.

Chowdhury said the planned drive against anti-smuggling and contrabands was not aimed at harassing the businessmen and shopkeepers but to check smuggling with the active and sincere cooper-

ation and participation of the business community. He also told the businessmen that they are the worthy citizens, tax payers and part and parcel of the society.

He expressed his firm belief that honest businessmen and members of public would cooperate with the government for national interest.

President of BFCCI Al-haj Akram Hossain presided over the discussion. Abdul Mannan Talukdar, MP and Home Secretary M Lutfullah Majid were present.

The Home Minister said the smugglers were the enemies of the nation. They have no religion, no land who destroyed the nation's economy, industry and commerce. This responsibility  
See Page 12 Col. 8

## Indefinite strike at CU begins

CHITTAGONG, Nov 23: Crisis in Chittagong University deepened as the indefinite strike on the campus called by the All-Party Students Unity (APSU) began today.

APSU gave the call for the indefinite strike protesting the alleged attack by Islami Chhatra Shibir on the residence of the Vice-Chancellor recently and demanding the arrest of the killers of Faruk and restoration of academic atmosphere on the campus.

Classes were not held, administration was paralysed and the campus were a desolate look due to the strike.

University buses which carried the teachers from the

### From Staff Correspondent

town had to turn back as the striking students blocked the university gate and did not allow the teachers to enter the campus, witnesses said.

Tension mounted on the campus and police forces were reinforced fearing outbreak of clash between the APSU supporters and Shibir activists.

Meanwhile, the strike evoked a sense of uncertainty among the honours final year examinees. The examinations are scheduled to begin today (Nov 24) as per fresh programmes announced by the authorities.

The Shibir activists have been agitating for a long time demanding resignation of Vice

Chancellor Prof. Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin and implementation of CU Enquiry Commission Report on December 22 incident that left one student killed and about hundred others injured.

Agency reports add: A rally of the teachers, guardians and professionals today urged the government to appoint a neutral Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University by removing the incumbent to calm the prevailing situation.

It also said government inactivity in taking necessary measures in this regard created a sense of uncertainty among students and guardians.

See Page 12 Col. 8

## Syria stalls on ME peace talks

DAMASCUS, Nov 23: Syria is stalling on accepting a US invitation to attend bilateral Middle East peace talks in Washington because it first wants Israel to agree to discuss trading land for peace, Arab diplomatic sources said Saturday, report AP and Reuter.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, also said Syria has asked the United States to put of multilateral talks between Israel and its Arab foes until 'Israel's intentions have been tested during the bilateral talks.'

The stalling appeared aimed at getting the United

States to pressure Israel into softening its position that the Arab territories it seized in 1967 are not negotiable. Syria has said that the peace talks are futile unless the future of the territories is negotiated.

The multilateral negotiations, which have not been scheduled, would be the third phase of the peace process that began in Madrid October 30. They would cover issues such as arms control, sharing water resources and compensation for refugees.

So far, only Jordan has said it will attend the bilateral talks in Washington between Israel and its Arab neighbours sched-

uled to start December 4. Israel, Lebanon and the Palestinians have not yet responded, but both Israel and the Palestinians are expected to attend.

Beirut is expected to follow the lead of Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon. The Syrian government has not confirmed that it had received the US invitation, but diplomats said it had.

The United States has set Monday as the deadline for accepting the invitations.

The diplomatic sources also said Syria was waiting for answers from Washington to questions it had posed relating

## One shot dead in city: Three cops suspended

By Staff Correspondent

One person was shot dead in broad daylight by an unknown assailant in Motijheel commercial area Saturday afternoon. The man was gunned down on the street behind the Muktiyodha Kallyan Trust building near Arambagh Club at around 1:15 pm.

Police said the victim was shot in his chest and his right eye and died on the spot.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police temporarily suspended three police personnel of Motijheel Thana for negligence of duty, the three, Sub-Inspector Aminul Islam, Assistant Sub-Inspector Ali Azgar and Constable  
See Page 12 Col. 7

## DU teachers' strike extended upto Dec 2

By DU Correspondent

Teachers of the University went on strike for an indefinite period from November 2, responding to the call of DUTA demanding violence free campus.

Later on November 5, the DUTA agreed to exempt examinations from its strike purview after assurance of security for the examinees and the teachers.

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) at a meeting Saturday decided to extend its strike up to December 2.

The meeting presided over  
See Page 12 Col. 6

## Food output to fall 12 per cent short of target

By Staff Correspondent

Food production during the current year would be 12 per cent less than the targeted 205 lakh tons owing to untimely rainfall, floods and cyclone. The food deficit will,

however, be less than last year's 16.95 lakh tons, Food Minister M. Shamsul Islam told a press conference here yesterday. He estimated Aman production during the current season at 95 lakh tons.

The food deficit would be met by donors' grants and through barter trade and there would be no cash purchase this year, he said.

The Food Minister said that the internal procurement situation has greatly improved and out of targeted 4.25 lakh tons, 12,500 tons of paddy have already been procured, mostly from Rajshahi division. Of the total target, 3.14 lakh tons would be procured from Rajshahi division through 159 LSDs and 180 temporary purchasing centres opened there under the intensified drive, he said.

District procurement committees headed by Deputy Commissioners have been formed to monitor procurement, he added.

He said that the procurement price of Aman paddy has been fixed at Taka 245 per maund, Taka 25 higher than last year's to maintain stable prices and encourage the growers to increase food production.

The government was contemplating to increase the storage capacity from the present 18.60 lakh tons. Initially, Rajshahi division's 4.73 lakh tons capacity would be increased by another 1.5 lakh tons by constructing new godowns, he said.

## 19 BRTC employees fired

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) authorities have terminated the services of 19 employees including a manager from its Dhaka station at Kamalapur for their involvement in embezzling, official source said.

"They pocketed Taka 30 lakh of the Corporation from the ticket counter during the past several months," a high official of the Corporation said adding that "from booking clerk to station manager were involved in it."

The employees whose services were terminated included two women who had adopted a different kind of trick during ticket selling. "They sold tickets for Dinajpur but in the monthly statement they showed them as tickets, for Bogra," the official added.

The charges against them were sufficiently proved before taking legal action, the official said and added that the case has been taken up by the Bureau of Anti-Corruption for further investigation.

See Page 12 Col. 3

## Talks continue amidst jute workers' threat

By Staff Correspondent

Government held separate talks Saturday with the jute and textile workers' leaders and also with the SKOP over the demands of the workers who threatened a 48-hour countrywide road and rail barricade.

The Patkal Sramik Karma-

chari Sangram Parishad and the Sutakal Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad have jointly called the 48-hour barricade from November 25 to press their separate but almost identical six-point and eight-point demands respectively.  
See Page 12 Col. 6

## Chinese Army Dy Chief calls on Khaleda

The visiting Chinese military delegation led by Lt. General He Qizong, Deputy Chief of General Staff of Peoples Liberation Army (PLA), Saturday called on prime minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office in Dhaka, reports BSS.

Lt. General Qizong conveyed to the Prime Minister the greetings of Chinese President and Prime Minister.

Begum Khaleda Zia said the relation between Bangladesh and China were very deep. She recalled the Chinese assistance in the construction of two bridges in Bangladesh and also their assistance during the last cyclone.

She said, "We recall the Chinese assistance and help with gratitude."

Begum Zia referred to her recent visit to China and said the country had attained tremendous development since 1980 when she had visited China for the first time.

She conveyed her greetings to Chinese President and Prime Minister.

The chief of Army Staff, Lt. General M. Noor Uddin Khan, was also present on the occasion.

## Internee docs' strike today

By Staff Correspondent

Some 1,200 internee doctors of the country's eight medical colleges and the PG hospital will observe a 24-hour strike today (Sunday) to press home their six-point demands including resumption of in-service training and raising of allowance.

Dr. Saiful Alam Chowdhury Shamim, convener of central Internee Doctors' Council on Saturday told a press conference that the in-service training system was suspended by the autocratic government in June 1986 but the democratically elected government had not yet resumed the system although it had said it would do so, when in the opposition.

The other demands include absorbing of all the unemployed doctors into government jobs, policy for private clinics, arrest of Dr. Milton's killers and fulfillment of the 23-point demands of the Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA).

He said that the Council also plans to stage a 24-hour strike Tuesday, 48-hour strike November 30 and 72-hour strike December 3 to 5.

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