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NEWS BRIEFS

Hasina leaves for Brunei today

Awami League President and Opposition Leader in Parliament Sheikh Hasina is expected to leave for Brunei today (Monday). Party sources said the Awami League chief is going to Brunei to see her ailing brother-in-law Prof. Shafiqul Siddique who is a teacher at the Darul Salam University.

Military hardware show up to Nov 29

The date of grand display of military hardware at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar has been further extended till November 29 under the directives of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

AL executives' meet today

An emergency meeting of the Awami League central executive committee will be held today (Monday) at 10 am at 29, Minto Road, the official residence of Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina. All members of the working committee have been requested to attend it, reports UNB.

RU degree exam results

RAJSHAI, Nov 24 : The results of BSc and BCom Pass examinations of 1990, held in May and June in 1991 under the University of Rajshahi, were published here today, reports AP.

The percentage of success in the BSc and BCom are 22.85 and 24.42 per cent respectively.

A total of 1,501 candidates came out successful of the total 8,568 in the BSc examination, while 2,097 came out successful in the BCom examination out of total 8,562 candidates.

# The Daily Star

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## Govt warns against attempt to disrupt development efforts

The Government Sunday warned those elements who were out to disrupt various development activities being initiated by the government, reports BSS.

A press note issued in Dhaka said it has been observed that some quarters have been involved in hatching conspiracies to foil national development efforts at the time when the government was taking up welfare programmes like canal digging through people's participation after the constitutional process was completed to establish democratic rule in the country.

Following is the text of the press note: "It has been ob-

served that some anti-national quarters have been involved in heinous designs to disrupt and foil the development activities of the government by creating a state of anarchy at a time when the government has taken up various development programmes including the canal digging through people's participation after the constitutional process was completed to establish democratic rule in the country.

"Those quarters were out to destroy peace and stability which were pre-conditions for development.

The government wants to inform all concerned that the government which was elected

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measures so that the country's mills and factories, economy and law and order cannot be held hostage by a few looters and miscreants", said the statement.

The statement follows two day's discussion between Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury and leaders of the industrial and business community and precedes a 48-hour road and rail barricade threatened by jute and textile workers from today for realising demands.

Under such a grave situation, late President Ziaur Rahman had initiated the de-nationalisation move for creat-

ing jobs.

The nation has gone bankrupt due to 20 years of inefficiency, negligence of duties

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## FBCCI seeks stern action

By Staff Correspondent

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries Sunday expressed grave concern at what it called indiscipline and illegal activities by some vested quarters and urged the government to take stern action against them to save the country's economy.

Those who have plundered the nationalised industries now grumble at the government's decision to off-load those and are resorting to illegal activities to take hostage the country's economy, the FBCCI said in a statement.

"It's time to take stringent

and economic indiscipline in the state-owned industries, said FBCCI, the apex body of private sector entrepreneurs.

Nationalisation of big, medium and small industries after the liberation was done on some wrong decisions and without considering economic benefits, the statement said, adding some officials and labour leaders amassed personal wealth during the era of nationalisation.

Under such a grave situation, late President Ziaur Rahman had initiated the de-nationalisation move for creat-

ing jobs.

The nation has gone bankrupt due to 20 years of inefficiency, negligence of duties

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## Sajeda defends Sheikh Hasina as political parties raise protest

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury Sunday justified her party chief's letters to foreign diplomats and donors' representatives in Dhaka that drew criticism from political parties and other organisations.

In the letter sent early this month, AL President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina alleged intimidation, physical attack and harassment of her party by the ruling party members.

These developments pose a serious threat to the future of democracy in the country, she

said and urged them to remind the government to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

In a statement issued Sunday evening, Sajeda Chowdhury said that exchange of views with the representatives of different countries on national and international issues is a recognised diplomatic norm.

"As the chief of the biggest political party of the country and as the Leader of Opposition in Parliament, Sheikh Hasina used to exchange views through letters with the representatives of different countries," she added.

In this regard, we should

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She mentioned that terror-

ism had taken such a dimension that a Chhatra League leader was killed in a hospital— which was a heinous act against human rights. Sheikh Hasina has always been vocal against such violation of human rights not only in Bangladesh but also elsewhere in the world.

Sajeda Chowdhury reminded that the hard-earned parliamentary democracy and the economic development in a democratic atmosphere should not be jeopardised by terrorist activities or undemocratic steps.

Addressing a discussion

meeting on the occasion of the National Revolution and Solidarity Day at the Jatiya Grantha Kendra Sunday, Prof Chowdhury was obliquely referring to a letter reported to have

been written by the Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina to heads of foreign missions and donor agencies "informing them of some serious developments in political arena," the letter was published in a section of the press Sunday.

Prof Chowdhury said seek-

ing intervention of foreign powers in the internal affairs of the country cannot be called a democratic attitude.

He said all political parties, professional groups and the intellectuals of the country should register their protest against such undemocratic behaviour.

Organised by Zia Parishad, Motijheel Eastern branch, the meeting was addressed, among others by Mahbubul Alam Tara, Shamsuzzaman Bhuyan presi-

dent over the meeting.

Prof Chowdhury described

the perspective of the War of

Liberation and the November 7

Revolution and Solidarity Day

and lauded the contributions of

shehade Dr Milan whose

supreme sacrifice had given

momentum to the anti-autono-

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with the implementation of the order, she said.

The Prime Minister said

the government has decided to

give government jobs to 250

doctors on primary basis.

The preparations to set up

the medical colleges would

start shortly, she said while

addressing the installation

ceremony of the executive

committee of Doctors

Association of Bangladesh

(DAB) at the Shilpakala

Academy auditorium Sunday.

Begum Zia also announced

that the deputation system of

the doctors in upazila will be

abolished from January 1 next.

The doctors will be placed under

district civil surgeons

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## Khaleda visits India early next year

From Rahman Jahangir

NEW DELHI, Nov 24 : Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will pay a state visit to India early next year, highly-placed South Block officials told a group of visiting Bangladeshi newsmen here yesterday.

During her visit, the officials hoped, the two countries will be able to settle all bilateral issues still cluding a lasting solution.

Talking informally here, the officials said victory of democracy in Bangladesh during the last February parliamentary elections and installation of a democratic government headed by Khaleda Zia has marked a "watershed" in Indo-Bangladesh relations.

"We've extended our firm support to the present democratic government and will continue to back growth of democracy in Bangladesh," they said adding : "therefore, we now approach all our bilateral problems with due sympathy and hopefully, the relations will scale newer heights in the not-too-distant future."

The South Block officials said Prime Minister Narasimha Rao has specifically given the go-ahead for an early transfer of the Tinbigha corridor as per the 1982 Dhaka-Delhi agreement. "The transfer will take place much earlier than expected," they disclosed and urged all quarters including political groups not to raise any fresh controversies on the issue.

Saying that the transfer is now a decided issue, they

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## Myanmar to take back all refugees: Mostafiz

Myanmar has agreed to take back all Burmese Muslims who crossed into Bangladesh in the last few months, said Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman Sunday.

"Now modalities of the repatriation of the refugees will have to be worked out," he told newsmen at his office on return from a three-day official visit to Myanmar (Burma).

An estimated 30,000 Rohingyas, a slang for the Burmese Muslims, are said to have fled their homeland in the state of Arakan of Myanmar and taken shelter in the bordering district of Cox's Bazar.

Describing his talks with the Myanmar authorities as fruitful, Mostafiz said "the ob-

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## Abolition of Upazila Parishad slated

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina has

termed the decision to abolish

the upazila parishad system as

"an act beyond democratic norms."

In a statement issued

Sunday, she said that the ruling party had once again re-

vealed its "anti-people character" by scrapping the upazila

system, by passing Parliament.

The move sparked off strong

reaction among the people, she said.

Hasina said that the present

government paid the least

heed to constructive sugges-

tions made by the Opposition

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## Bangabandhu Bhaban being converted into museum

By Staff Correspondent

The reconstruction and renovation works of the Bangabandhu Bhaban at 32, Dhanmondi have started to convert it into a museum.

A press release issued by the Awami League on Sunday asked the visitors not to enter the house until the renovation works were completed.

It also requested those who have any articles or documents

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## Govt-jute workers talks fail