

20000 get jobs

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Some Affairs and discussed problems of Bangladeshi migrant workers who were taken to custody for not possessing valid work permits and travel documents.

He pointed out that these people came to Malaysia through clandestine and unscrupulous manpower agents who cheated them by offering secured job opportunities. The Malaysian Deputy Minister for Home Affairs reciprocated the feelings of Bangladesh Labour and Manpower Minister and assured of certain positive steps to repatriate the Bangladeshi nationals in custody.

Mustafiz rearrested

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Islam Khan (ex accountant-2, Maulvi Bazar Branch, BCI) and Mansur Khan (Maulvi Bazar Branch, BCI).

All the 11 persons were charged under the sections-403, 406, 409, and 109 of Bangladesh Penal Code (BPC), according to a police source. A special team of plain-clothed police cordoned off The Daily Rupali office at Mottihel midday yesterday and arrested Chairman of now suspended BCI and owner of the daily — Mustafiz from the office at 1:15 pm Wednesday.

Immediately after the arrest, Mustafiz Rahman was brought to the Dhaka Metropolitan Magistracy and produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate. The Magistrate granted the police three-day remand for questioning Mustafiz.

A police source said, Mustafiz was being interrogated in the Mottihel Police Station midnight last night. The source also said, police would arrest the other accused soon.

Mustafiz Rahman was earlier arrested under the Special Powers Act 1974, and detained in the Dhaka Central Jail at the end of April this year when Bangladesh Bank suspended all activities of Bangladesh Commerce and Investment following a liquidity crisis. Later he was released. Meanwhile, the General Secretary of Bangladesh Awami League (AL), Zillur Rahman in a statement demanded immediate release of Mustafizur Rahman, MP who was arrested yesterday.

The Bangladesh Minister for Labour and Manpower attended a meeting organised by the Master Building Association and Housing Developers Association of Malaysia in which some representatives of Bangladeshi recruiting agencies were present.

The Malaysian private construction sector evinced keen interest in importing Bangladeshi manpower and welcomed participation of Bangladeshi construction companies in construction or management sub-contracts in Malaysia.

Bangladesh minister also attended a dinner hosted by his counterpart in his honour.

Earlier, the Bangladesh minister was received at Kuala Lumpur International Airport by Malaysian Deputy Minister for Human Resources Dato M Mahalingam on his arrival here on September 21.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia meeting members of the Retired Govt Employees Welfare Samity led by former Finance Advisor Kafiluddin Mahmud yesterday. — PID photo

Five-Party stages sit-in today

By Staff Correspondent

The Five-Party alliance will observe a sit-in strike today in front of the Secretariat demanding punishment of Ratan Sen's killers and assailants of the alliance convener Rashed Khan Menon.

The six-hour sit-in starts at 8 am. The other demands of the party include execution of people's court verdict on Gollam Azam, resignation of Home Minister and ban on Jamaat-Shibir politics.

The alliance leaders Nirmal Sen, Haider Akbar Khan Rono, Hasannul Huq Inu, Bimal Biswas, AFM Mahbubul Huq, Khalequzzaman Bhuiya, Naim Jahangir, Abdullah Sarker and Mainuddin Khan Badal are expected to participate in the programme.

The sit-in programme was announced late last month. Meanwhile, a number of organisations including Ganotrik Biplobi Jote and Khet Major Union have supported today's sit-in.

Baktiar Khan sacked

Former Deputy Director, NSI and at present an OSD at the President's Secretariat Baktiar Ahmed Khan has been sacked from service. The dismissal was made as per Clause 4 (3) (D) of Government Employees (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1985, reports BSS.

5 killed in separate incidents

By DMCH Correspondent

Four persons including two young girls were killed in separate incidents in city Wednesday.

A maid servant, Meherunnisa, 25, reportedly committed suicide by hanging herself at her master's house at East Rampura yesterday morning. The house master Hafizur Rahman informed police of the incident. Police sent the body to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy.

Sabujbag police said that the cause of suicide was not immediately known. A 15-year-old girl, Aleya Begum reportedly committed suicide at her Malibag Chowdhury Para residence yesterday afternoon.

Family members said, when Aleya's father rebuked the daughter, she took poison at around 3 pm yesterday. Aleya was immediately rushed to the DMCH but doctors on duty declared her dead.

Masum, 13, an apprentice at a shoe factory, was electrocuted at Alu Bazar Wednesday afternoon. Masum got instantly electrocuted when he touched an electric pole on the bank of the derelict Rajjab's pond at Alu Bazar at 4 pm. Masum was taken to the DMCH where doctors declared him dead.

A 27-year-old minibus helper was run over by another minibus near the Prime Minister's office yesterday. The bus helper fell on the road when another minibus dashed their's from behind. The other one which was overtaking the two instantly ran over the helper. All the three minibuses immediately fled the spot. The bus helper succumbed to his injuries immediately after admission to the DMCH. UNB from Gazipur adds: One person was killed and two others were seriously injured in a road accident on Dhaka-Tangal highway at Shaffpur here this afternoon.

Witnesses said the accident occurred when a Kaliakot-bound passenger bus ran through a kutchra road while trying to overtake another bus. Three passengers on the roof of the bus were hit by the branch of a tree. One of them aged 35 died on the spot. His identity could not be known. Two others, Shakinuddin (22) and Minhajuddin (35), received head injuries and were rushed to Ansar Academy Hospital in a critical condition. They were later shifted to Kumudini Hospital at Mirzapur.

Anti-terrorism ordn to halt anti-Jamaat move: Imam

By Staff Correspondent

Jahanara Imam, convener of Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Samannya Committee, Wednesday urged people to reinvestigate the movement against the killers and collaborators of 1971 Liberation War.

She was addressing the central conference of the Khet Major and Krishak Federation at Bangabandhu Avenue (in front of GPO) with Mainuddin Khan Badal in the chair. Imam said that the independence will be meaningful with the emancipation of downtrodden farmers and elimination of anti-liberation forces.

She said that the anti-terrorism ordinance was promulgated to interrupt the anti-Gollam Azam and Anti-Jamaat movements but the movement will continue until the execution of people's court verdict.

Among others A F M Mahbubul Huq, Bimal Biswas, Shahjahan Kabir and Abdus Sattar addressed the inaugural session. The federation brought out a colourful procession in the afternoon and held a rally at the same venue.

Wasiuddin

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He will be buried at his family graveyard in Dilkusha following the janaza. Wasiuddin was attending a party at one of his friend's residence in Dhanmondi Tuesday when he suffered a stroke at around 9.45 pm.

He was rushed then to the Combined Military Hospital (CMH). The CMH doctors declared him dead upon his arrival there at 10.20 pm. Wasiuddin was 72. He left behind his wife Wahida Wasiuddin, three sons, Khwaja Adnan, Khwaja Shahab and Khwaja Omar and only daughter Lina Wasiuddin. His body is now preserved at the CMH.

A condolence book has been opened at his Gulshan residence. Government officials, diplomats, military officials, well-wishers and admirers signed the book Wednesday. Wasiuddin, IDC, PSC, SPK, HQA was born in Ahsan Manzil, Dhaka, March 20, 1920. He graduated from the Prince of Wales Royal Military College in 1938. He was commissioned in April 1940 in the Artillery Corps in the British India.

He was promoted to the rank of Major General in 1960 and appointed GOC of the erstwhile East Pakistan. By 1970, he was promoted to the rank of Lt General. During the Liberation War of 1971, he was the senior-most Bengali officer in service. Upon returning from Pakistan, he was made Officer on Special Duty (OSD) and appointed Ambassador to Kuwait in 1974. In 1976, he was appointed Ambassador to France.

Wasiuddin was also the Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1982 to '86. He was the second son of late Khwaja Shahabuddin and grandson of late Nawab Salimullah.

Meanwhile, the Retired Armed Forces Officers' Welfare Association (RAOWA) condoled the death of Lt Gen (ret'd) Khwaja Wasiuddin, the first chairman of the association. The association expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

The association observed that his contribution in rousing Bengali soldiers in late fifties and sixties was significant. The Board of Trustees of the Osmany Trust also, condoled the death of General Wasiuddin.

The Board conveyed heartfelt condolence to the members of the bereaved family and prayed to Almighty Allah for the peace of the departed soul. General Wasiuddin was the first chairman of the Osmany Trust, nominated by the late General M A G Osmany.

The Midnight File

Iran urges UN to lift arms embargo on Bosnia

NICOSIA, Sept 23: Iran on Wednesday urged the United Nations to lift the arms embargo on Bosnia-Herzegovina so it can defend itself against Serbian aggression, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Iran believes force is the only way to stop the Serbs' expansionist designs and repression of the Bosnian people, IRNA reported, says AP.

Massive traffic jam in Kashmir Highway

JAMMU, Sept 23: About 6,000 vehicles jostled on a mountain highway in Jammu-Kashmir Tuesday, causing a massive traffic jam that stranded victims of recent floods and landslides in the state. Thousands of people in buses, cars and cabs waited anxiously on National Highway-9, which opened to traffic on Monday after being closed for 12 days, officials said. Many passengers were near-starved, old women and children stranded on the highway after a dozen landslides closed it to traffic, said Hamid Ullah Khan, a senior state government official, reports AP.

Janata Tower case

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pers brought to the superior court for revision hearing he sent to the lower court.

Former Vice-President Moudud Ahmed who appeared for the former Head of State, said he will file an appeal against yesterday's verdict on September 28 in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. Charges against Ershad in this particular count (wealth inconsistent to earning) in the Janata Tower Case was framed on May 4, 1992, in the court of Special Judge Mohammad Ismail Miah.

The writ petition was filed thereafter and on the basis of that prayer, the High Court on May 24, issued the rule staying the proceedings of Janata Tower Case with respect to the involvement of Ershad and his wife Raushan Ershad. In all six petitions, five quashing petitions including one for Raushan Ershad and one criminal revision petition, it were submitted. Judgement of the criminal revision was made yesterday. Judgement on the quashing petitions are expected today (Thursday).

Before discharging the petition of Ershad, the court clearly pointed out the arguments of both the defence and the prosecution. The case in brief was that, Begum Raushan Ershad, a co-accused, as the chairperson of Janata Publishers Limited took a decision to construct a multi-storied building on a plot of land at Kawran Bazar named as Janata Tower for which the construction firm Nirman International received Taka 10 crore out of which Taka 3.5 crore was from Uttara Bank as loan and rest Taka 6.5 crore was paid in cash by Ershad to the construction company.

The cash of Taka 6.5 crore paid to Nirman International is the principal allegation made against Ershad in the Janata Tower Case. Hearing for both quashing and criminal revision prayer began in mid July and continued till one day before the Supreme Court went on vacation. The hearing resumed by constituting vacation bench with justices Rahman and Mannan on September and ended on September 21.

From the petitioner's side, Moudud Ahmed pleaded that there could not be any additional charge against his client Ershad for an offence for which he had been punished earlier. Ahmed stated that bringing such charges was contrary to constitutional provision as mentioned in Clause 35 (2). Ahmed said the prosecution brought the additional charge against his client at an advanced stage of the hearing of Janata Tower Case. He alleged that attorney general placed the charges within a short notice, without allowing the Defence adequate time.

Dwelling on the additional charge-inconsistency between Ershad's wealth and his declared income on which the petition is centred, Ahmed said, Ershad had already been punished on this charge. A fresh charge cannot be brought against Ershad as he has already been punished on this offence, he pointed out. In reply to the petitioner's submission, Attorney General Aminul Haq appearing on behalf of the state, submitted that the additional charge alleged, as by the Defence, cannot be termed as additional. This, Haq said, was in fact a further charge which the police submitted after considering the evidence on records taken earlier.

The Attorney General further submitted that there was no binding on the part of the trial court to take cognizance against anyone whose name was not including in the charge sheet. In support of his contention, the Attorney General cited several decisions of the supreme courts of India, Pakistan and as well as that of Bangladesh. Amirul Kabir Chowdhury, Deputy Attorney General and Shafuluddin Chaklader, Assistant Attorney General, assisted Aminul Haq.

CIS credit line

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on such a credit line for the CIS.

The Commerce Minister said many a traditional export item of the country, tea and jute particularly, have lost markets in the CIS after expiry of the barter agreement and due to inability of the former Soviet states to pay in cash. Former Soviet Union was a major buyer of Bangladeshi jute and tea but mostly against barter.

Anwar said the government is also making efforts to enter into bilateral trade agreements with the CIS countries. A draft trade agreement has already been finalised with the Russian Federation — the largest state — and the agreement is expected to be signed within the current fiscal year, he said.

Besides, the minister added, a similar draft agreement from another state, Belarus, is under consideration of the government. **Khulna Chamber polls postponed**

From Staff Correspondent
KHULNA, Sept 23: The election of Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) has been postponed today after day-long casting of vote as per directive of the Ministry of Commerce.

Chamber sources said the ministry has ordered to conduct the election after fixing fresh date before October 10. Earlier, some members of the KCCI lodged allegations to the ministry against the present executive committee. On hearing this, the ministry served this notice today. One platoon of police was deployed at the Chamber building. A meeting of the executive body of KCCI on the issue was continuing till the filing of this report.

Y'slavia

From Page 1 Col 5
box of dire consequences for the United Nations.

Many countries felt uncomfortable taking such harsh action against Yugoslavia in Panje's presence. They view him as the best chance for peace because of his moderate views and opposition to Serbian nationalists such as Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd — speaking on behalf of all 12 European Community members — and Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev departed from the prepared texts of their speeches earlier Tuesday to praise Panje, a California businessman.

CHT

From Page 1 Col 5
Bandarban would be given special incentives and facilities. A committee, headed by State Minister for Establishment M Nurul Huda, is working out the package of special benefits and other matters related to the deputation.

A government-sponsored all-party meeting recently on the CHT problems recommended a set of measures for bringing peace in the troubled region through a political solution to the dispute, and the planned deputation of competent officials may be in order to deal with these tough matters.

Noor Uddin back home

Chief of Army Staff Lt General Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan returned home from Kuwait Wednesday, according to an ISPR press release, reports BSS. He led a military delegation to see Bangladesh army troops engaged in the reconstruction of Kuwait.

During his stay in Kuwait, General Noor Uddin was received in audience by the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed al-Sabah and the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah al-Salem al-Sabah. He also called on the Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Ali Salem Sabah al-Salem and the Chief of Staff of the Kuwait armed forces Major General Jaber al-Khaled al-Sabah and discussed matters on mutual interest.

The Chief of Army Staff addressed various contingents of Bangladesh Army troops deployed in Kuwait and made a number of field visits to see their activities.

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Mostafiz

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The Foreign Minister also had a discussion with his Iranian counterpart Dr Ali Akbar Velayeti. They discussed bilateral economic cooperation and issues related to regional and international peace that are on the UN agenda.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister also briefed his Iranian counterpart on the latest development relating to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. He is attending the on-going UN General Assembly debate. Foreign Minister had also meetings with the under secretary-generals and senior officials of the UN including Jan Eliasson, Jean Claude Aime, James Jonah and Dr Nafis Sadik.

He attended a reception on September 21 given by the Prime Minister of Norway Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland. Ambassador Humayun Kabir, permanent representative of Bangladesh to UN, and Dr Afsarul Qader, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs accompanied the Foreign Minister during these meetings.

Ctg tense

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Shibir for kidnapping and torturing Alam. But Shibir denied its involvement in the incident.

Meanwhile, supporters of Chhatra League organised rallies at different places of the city including Agrabad, Anderkilla and New Market crossing and put up barricades on the roads. They also brought out processions protesting the attack on Alam and demanded immediate arrest of the persons responsible. A large number of police were posted at important points of the city to foil any attempt of violence.



Special envoy of Sri Lankan opposition leader called on Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina at her Minto Road office yesterday. — Star photo

3 Bangladeshis run for regional WHO directorship

By Staff Correspondent

Dr Zakir Hossain, Dr Mahbubur Rahman and Dr Mujibur Rahman are the three prospective candidates for the post of Regional Director at the South East Asian Regional Office (SEARO) of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Dr Zakir is working as the Director (Planning and Coordination) at SEARO, Dr Mahbub is the WHO Representative in Afghanistan and Dr Mujibur is with WHO in Pakistan as a Consultant.

The election will be held for a five-year tenure in September, 1993 during the regional committee meeting. It is already announced that Bangladesh will contest for the post. The 11-member SEARO groups Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, Mongolia and North Korea.

Gen Anh new president of Vietnam

HANOI, Sept 23: General Le Duc Anh, Vietnam's top military man and a powerful Communist Party official, was elected State President by the National Assembly today, Vietnamese Radio said, reports Reuters.

French frigate arrives Sept 28

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 23: A French naval frigate "CDT Ducuing" will arrive here on September 28 on a six-day goodwill visit, sources concerned said.

Kamal

From Page 1 Col 8
The National Council of the party that ended its session Monday gave birth to the new body whose job would be to advise the party Chief on various issues.

The advisers are: Sheikh Abdul Aziz, Dr Kamal Hossain, Salahuddin Yusuf MP, Mattur Rahman, Abdul Rahim MP, Abdul Momen Talukdar, Gazul Huq, Dr M A Quader, Mazharul Islam, Mafizur Rahman and A S H Sadeque. The first four were members of the AL Presidium of the past committee.

Abdur Rahim, an MP, Abdul Momen Talukdar a former minister in Bangabandhu's cabinet and Mazharul Islam, an architect were members of the BKSAL presidium. The BKSAL that broke away from the Awami League in 1983 returned to the mainstream last year.

Gazul Huq, a Language Movement veteran and a lawyer, is known as a confidant of the party Chief. Dr M A Quader is a former Professor of Medicine. Mafizur Rahman and A S H Sadeque are retired civil servants.

BNP office

From Page 1 Col 5
the place where it had its central office from 1978 to 1982.

The source, requesting anonymity, said that the BNP had nothing to do with the changing of ownership of the house but that it may try to rent the building again. The present location of the central office at Dhanmondi is considered not easy to reach by the party workers at all levels.

When contacted over telephone BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukdar told The Daily Star that "it has already been decided earlier the party office would be shifted."

"It was a long felt demand of the workers for most of whom it was expensive to reach the party office at Dhanmondi," he added. He claimed that the owner of the Naya Paltan house, Akram Hossain, was one of the party members and when the party was evicted from the house during Ershad's rule, all of its furniture was damaged.

"We tried to shift our office to Purana Paltan and Kakral area but the house owners were not keen to let their buildings to political parties as tenants," he said adding that "one owner returned the advance payment we made for a building."

He however said that it was not decided whether the party office would go to Rezia Villa or to any other building in the area.