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NEWS BRIEFS

DUJ executive body meets today

A meeting of the executive committee of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) will be held today at 11 am at the union office, reports BSS.

81 more held on various charges

Police arrested 81 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges. Of the arrested, two were wanted criminals, two for kidnapping and another two in stealing case, reports UNB.

MCC rally on DU campus today

Muktijoddha Chhatra Command (MCC) will hold a rally today (Wednesday) on the Dhaka University campus at 11 am demanding implementation of 10-point demand of the students. The rally will also press for cancellation of Anti-Terrorism Ordinance '92 and Special Power Act of '74 and implementation of the verdict of Gana Adalat, reports UNB.

Two kidnapped boys recovered

Police Tuesday recovered two kidnapped boys from a house in Munshiganj district and arrested two people. Russell (7), son of Bacchu Mian of Rajnarayan Road at Lalbagh thana and Swapan (11), son of Moti Mia of Shahidnagar of the same thana, were missing since September 27. Police first arrested one Khalilur Rahman (28) from Lalbagh thana for his alleged involvement in kidnapping them. According to confession of the arrested person, police in a hunt recovered the two boys from the house of one Bellal Hossain at village Vijaymahal of Tungbari thana of Munshiganj district, reports UNB.

Rift in Congress high command

India likely to shelve Operation Push Back

India is likely to shelve the so-called Operation Push Back after a rift in the ruling Congress (I) high command on the issue, and continued criticism in the press on the manner and motivation of the operation.

Although the fundamentalist Bharatiya Janata Party has threatened to launch a nationwide agitation to force the Centre to flush out 'illegal infiltrators' from Bangladesh, reports from New Delhi said that a number of senior ruling party leaders, who termed the BJP

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi
campaign 'a communal tirade', had taken serious exceptions over the move, resulting in a rethinking on the massive 'detection and deportation' plan.

The Indian change of mind, the reports indicated, had been prompted by the state governments' unwillingness to help detect the so-called infiltrators.

The Indian Express reported Monday that a top secret intelligence report, placed before Prime Minister Narasimha Rao last week,

complained against the state governments' refusing to cooperate with the officials assigned to detect the migrants.

New Delhi's bid shocked the Dhaka that issued a strong note of protest September 19, a week after India's border forces initiated the operation throwing 132 Bengali-speaking people into Bangladesh. The Foreign Office statement made it a point to say that the move was made "without prior consultations."

Since then, the BSF has

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Govt-nurses talks fail

By Staff Correspondent,

(Thursday).

The first round of talks between the government and the nurses, now on a work stoppage, failed Tuesday.

Meanwhile, conditions in the state-owned hospitals and clinics across the country further worsened because of the strike.

The government is scheduled to hold another round of talks 10 am today (Wednesday) with leaders of the Bangladesh Diploma Nurses Association (BDNA), the organisers of the work stoppage.

Some 15,000 nurses started a 72-hour work stoppage 8 am Monday, scheduled to end at 8 am tomorrow

The nurses began the work stoppage at eight medical college hospitals, 12 district hospitals and 18 training institutes to press home their 14-point charter of demands that includes pay raise, regularisation of jobs of 750 nurses appointed on ad-hoc basis and increase of allowances to the student nurses.

Health Ministry officials said that Tuesday's two-hour meeting between the BDNA leaders and the Deputy Minister for Health Sirajul Haque ended inconclusively.

Health Secretary Syed Ahmed, Joint Secretaries

Samad Bhuyan and Dr M. J. Hossain and the Director General of Health Services Dr Masudur Rahman attended the meeting.

The 20-member nurses' delegation was led by the BDNA President Kohinor Begum and its General Secretary Mofijullah.

Health Ministry officials said on condition of anonymity that at the meeting BDNA leaders were informed of the government order already issued accepting the number one demand -- regularisation of the 750 ad-hoc nurses.

The nurses' delegation was

See Page 12 Col 4



Children greet Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia upon her arrival at the Osmani Memorial Hall yesterday.

— PID photo

Khaleda opens CNN

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia last night said free flow of information is a guarantee for democracy, reports UNB.

"Our policy is to let hundred flowers blossom and hundred school of thoughts flourish for consolidating the hard-earned democracy", the Prime Minister said while switching on the Cable News Network.

The function at Television Bhawan marked the start of relaying by BTV of CNN programmes for 6 and a half hours every from 7 am. Initially the US-based CNN programmes

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PM opens Children's Right Week National policy for children underway

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday called for creating mass awareness leading to a social movement to establish the rights of the children in society, reports UNB.

"We have to rouse awareness about the children's right among people across the country", she said while inaugurating the Children's Right Week here in the morning.

The Prime Minister said formulation of a national policy for the children is underway. She pointed out that the gov-

ernment would like to deal with children's welfare in a co-ordinated way -- not in an isolated manner.

Hundreds of children greeted Begum Zia when she arrived at the Osmani Memorial Hall to inaugurate the Children's Right Week being observed to promote the UN Convention on the Rights of the Children. Bangladesh was among the first 22 countries that signed the Convention.

Ministers, State Ministers, members of parliament,

See Page 12 Col 4

Polytech teachers announce new programme tomorrow

By DU Correspondent

The polytechnic teachers of the city on tomorrow to announce a greater movement to realise their ten-point demands.

Meanwhile, the teachers of 20 Polytechnic Institutes in the country passed ninth day yesterday of their on-going strike to press home their 10-point charter of demands.

The teachers went on an indefinite strike on September 21 to materialise their demands which were accepted by the government a year ago. The demands include pro-

See Page 12 Col 8

Return of the dead!

KUTUBDIA (Cox's Bazar), Sept 29: Miracle happened in this coastal island yesterday (Monday) when two children, swept away by the nightmarish April 91' tidal bore, returned home after 19 months.

Parents of the two boys -- Abdur Rahim (12) and Mohammad Yunus (6) -- could not believe their eyes seeing their lost children in flesh and blood.

Giving the account of the miraculous story to UNB today, Chairman of Uttar Durung union parishad Shahriar Kabir said incidentally both the boys returned home on the same

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Council session by December BNP constitution to undergo changes

By Nurul Kabir

Policy makers in the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) plan to hold the national council session of the party by December this year.

The last council session was held in 1989.

According to sources close to the BNP policy planners, the next council session of the party would witness some major amendments to its constitution.

BNP Secretary General and LORD Minister Barrister Salam Talukder told this correspondent Sunday that council ses-

sions of more than 40 district level units of the party had already been held, ten other district level units were on the way to holding theirs while the rest of the units were working hard to complete preparations to hold their sessions by November.

"We are almost certain about holding the national council session of the party by December this year," the BNP leader told The Daily Star.

An influential leader of the BNP told The Daily Star Sun-

See Page 12 Col 4

Marine environment law hangs in balance

By Inam Ahmed and Masud Hasan Khan

A new law to protect the country's marine environment is yet awaiting government approval despite its being drafted over a year ago.

Official sources said that the 'protection of the marine environment of Bangladesh act,' drafted in 1990, was still shuttling between the concerned ministries and departments for the green signal.

Because of the absence of the law, unabated oil spills and dumping of waste from vessels into the Bay of Bengal could not be checked, they pointed

out. The fate of the proposed law appeared uncertain as it could not be ascertained in which ministry its file lay, officials said.

An authoritative source said that he was not aware of any such law.

Environment ministry officials said that in the absence of the Law, pollution in Bangladesh waters was harming marine life including a severe reduction in its fish stock.

Officials of the Shipping

See Page 12 Col 8

300 missing in Swandip channel

By Staff Correspondent

Two engine boats with about 300 passengers disappeared in the Swandip channel of the Bay of Bengal on Tuesday following an armed attack by sea pirates, police and survivors said.

Police reached by telephone in Chittagong said the boats sailed from Shitakunda for Sandwip at around 11.30 am. But they were fired upon by a group of 25 pirates mid-stream of the 12 mile wide channel.

The boats neither reached Swandip, their destination, nor returned to their port of departure till late in the evening, police added.

See Page 12 Col 3

PIA plane crash: 2 Bangladeshis identified

The two Bangladeshi passengers reportedly killed in the crash of the PIA aircraft near Kathmandu Monday have been identified, a Foreign Office press release said, reports BSS.

They are: K M G Kibria, Bangladesh Passport No Q-469172, issued on 28/11/89 at Dhaka and Nurul Islam, Bangladesh Passport No Q-072140, issued on 28/11/89 at Dhaka.

AP from Karachi adds: A delay in Frankfurt, Germany, saved the lives of 13 Europeans booked on a Pakistan International Airlines flight that crashed in Nepal.

See Page 12 Col 3

Ganev praises development programmes

President of the United Nations General Assembly Stoyan Ganev has praised economic development programmes of Bangladesh and her efforts towards strengthening democracy, reports UNB.

His commendation came during a meeting with Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman in New York Sunday morning, according to a message received here yesterday.

The Bangladeshi Foreign Minister congratulated Ganev, the Foreign Minister of Bulgaria, on his election as the President of the 47th UNGA and assured all cooperation of the Bangladesh delegation for the success of the on-going GA session.

He reiterated Bangladesh's firm commitment to the UN charter and its activities.

See Page 12 Col 6

20 injured as tornado hits Kutubdia

CHITTAGONG, Sept 29: Twenty people were injured and 25 dwelling houses damaged when a tornado lashed over a village in Kutubdia under Cox's Bazar district today, reports UNB.

Local people said the tornado which started at 7 pm, swept over the village Kalyarbill union of Kutubdia thana.

The 15 minute long storm uprooted many trees, damaged a mosque and damaged several tubewells in the area.

Govt leaders ally fears

'Anti-terrorism ordn won't be political tool'

Government leaders yesterday allied fears about the anti-terrorism ordinance, saying it's not a tool to hook their political opponents but designed to curb the latest-style crimes, reports UNB.

It will never be used politically, it has been promulgated to root out terrorism from society, not to harass political opponents, said Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah at an open discussion on the Anti-Terrorism Ordinance.

The discussion meeting, organised by Jatiyatabadi Gabeshana Parishad, was also addressed by State Minister for Law Barrister Aminul Haque, Barrister Ziaur Rahman Khan, MP, Khurshid Jahan Huque, MP, Bangladesh Times Editor Mahbub Anam, Ehsunul

Kabir, Abdur Berek and Nazmul Haque Nannu.

To soothe the opposition apprehension that the ordinance that provides death as the maximum punishment for violence-related offences might victimise them, the State Minister for Law said the law would never fall on anyone other than miscreants disrupting social peace.

"None was arrested under the Special Power Act after the BNP government had taken over," Aminul Haque said, adding the government will never do injustice.

The minister said those who had accumulated wealth during the autocratic regime and don't want to see democracy as an institution were opposing the ordinance.

Terming the ordinance as deterrent one, he said it had been framed to protect the lives and property of people.

Refuting opposition allegation about the locus standi of the ordinance, Barrister Huq said it was promulgated constitutionally to protect people's rights.

"The president has the right to promulgate any ordinance when parliament is not in session and if he feels that the circumstances demand an immediate action."

Refuting the contention that existing laws are enough to deal with the situation, the Barrister said nature of crimes had changed with the use of sophisticated weapons, so that old British-made Penal Code was not enough to curb the variegated crimes.

About the no-bail provision during investigation of cases, he said it was made so the miscreants could not influence witnesses.

Pointing to Sheikh Hasina's remarks that they could root out terrorism within 24 hours if her party came to power, Ziaur Rahman urged the opposition leader to help the government wipe out terrorism.

"As Leader of the Opposition, she can't deny her responsibility in this regard," he said criticising her for not coming forward to check terrorism.

The speakers said the purpose of the ordinance would be fulfilled if the law enforcing agencies apply it accordingly and urged the government to ensure its proper application.

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন
আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের আওতাধীন সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের অনুরোধে বকেয়াসহ চলতি আর্থিক বৎসরের (১৯৯২-৯৩) ৪ (চার) কিস্তিতে পৌর কর রিভেটসহ পরিশোধের তারিখ আগামী ১৫/১০/৯২ ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হইল।

সুতরাং আগামী ১৫/১০/৯২ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে সমুদয় কর এককালীন পরিশোধ করিয়া হাল (১৯৯২-৯৩) সনের ৪ (চার) কিস্তির করের উপর শতকরা ১০ (দশ) টাকা হারে রিভেটের সুযোগ গ্রহণ করার জন্য এবং মহানগরীর উন্নয়নমূলক কাজে সহায়তা দান করার জন্য সম্মানিত করদাতাগণকে অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

ডিসি/পিআরডি/১৫২/৯২-৯৩
ডি-৫৩৯

মেয়র
ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন