

Come to CHITTAGONG Come to
BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT
 The only place for ORIGINAL THAI FOOD & SEAFOOD
 in CHITTAGONG (NO BRANCH). Please try us and you
 will love BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT more than
 ever before.
 1403 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y.M.C.A. NASIRABAD.
 CHITTAGONG. TEL: 22680. Fax: (080) 311-2252

The Daily Star

FOR HOARDING & NEONSIGNS
MODART
PUBLICITY
 17/6-8, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000.
 Tel: 238935, 405898
12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 4.00

VOL. II NO. 248 REGD. NO. DA 781

ASWIN 17, 1399 BS,

DHAKA FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1992

RABIUS SANI 4 1413 HIJRI

Inside Today

Article
BNP's Council Session: Time for Some New Thinking
 Column: The Third View by Mahfuz Anam Page 4

International



Sharif withdraws sedition charges against newsmen

Kashmir non-negotiable, says Rao Page 5

Business

Carpet backing most important jute product in global trade

Former French premier blames Bundesbank for the turmoil Pages 6, 7

Magazine



As a method of analysis Marxism is as valid as ever-conversation with David McLellan, Bangladesh-China ancient link, My World by S M Ali, write to Mita, Danger to Taj, and Book Review Pages 9, 10, 11

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Moving into a new heaven Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

BNP central office shifted

The central office of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has been shifted from Dhanmondi to Nayapaltan. A party press release issued in Dhaka yesterday said the central office of BNP had been shifted from 19/A Dhanmondi residential area to 28/1 Nayapaltan, reports BSS.

Chinese envoy hosts reception

The Chinese Ambassador and Mrs Chen Songdu hosted a reception in Dhaka yesterday evening on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The reception was attended by the ministers, leaders of different political parties, journalists and high civil and military officials, reports BSS.

TOAB formed

A seven-member executive committee of Tour Operators Association of Bangladesh (TOAB) has been formed with Hassan Mansur as its President. Group Captain (Retd) ATMA Qudus and Faridul Huq were made Vice-Presidents of the committee formed at a meeting in Dhaka on Wednesday, reports UNB.

PM at DU award giving ceremony

Govt to uphold academic freedom, accountability

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Thursday reiterated her firm commitment to safeguarding the academic independence of the universities while underlining the need for transparency and accountability in their affairs.

"Transparency and accountability are imperative in a democratic system and now we have to think about this accountability in the education sector particularly in higher education," the Prime Minister said as chief guest at an award giving ceremony in the Dhaka University Thursday marked by

tight security and a stray incident of police-student skirmish in which at least one policeman was injured.

The Prime Minister said, "I want to pronounce that we do not have any intention to interfere in the academic freedom of the teachers or the internal affairs of the university," and promptly added, "We want that the universities carry out their duties to the country freely and impartially."

She underlined the role of the universities in building an enlightened democratic society and said that the time had

come for assessing "if we have been able to maintain the good name and tradition."

The Prime Minister presented awards to 66 persons for their outstanding contributions in various fields.

The awards were from 16 out of the 158 trusts and foundations and had been pending since 1986.

Begum Zia, wearing the traditional convocation robe, arrived at the venue at the TSC auditorium and was received by the DU Vice-Chancellor Prof M Maniruzzaman Miah and the Deans.

The Deans of the university announced names as the black-robed award winners came to the PM to receive their medals, certificates and cash prizes.

The award giving function marked the first visit by the country's head of government to the university in over a decade.

The Prime Minister told the function that a national consensus was required to root out terrorism from the campuses.

"The future of democracy



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia distributing distinction medals among students, teachers and researchers of Dhaka University yesterday. —Star photo



Police lobbing teargas shells to quell violent students near DU Jagannath Hall during Prime Ministers visit to the campus yesterday. —Star photo

Pak student groups unite to maintain academic peace

From M J Zahedi, Star Special Correspondent

KARACHI, Oct 1: Several student organisations here recently formed a unique joint organisation — to create and maintain a peaceful atmosphere in the academic institutions and to solve their problems themselves.

Nine student groups joined to form the Mutahida Talaba Mahaz (United Students Front) ostensibly to establish academic peace, inculcate respect for teachers and to solve students' problems.

Almost all the students groups which are adjuncts to various political parties of the country have joined the Mahaz.

The notable exceptions are the All Pakistan Mohajir Students Organisation, the student wing of the MQM, and the Pakhtoon Students Federation. All the other groups, including the student front of the Peoples Party, the Muslim League and the Jamaat-i-Islami, are in the Mahaz.

The formation of the Mahaz has assumed importance in light of a recommendation by the country's Supreme Court concerning students' organisations. Last June the Court, deciding a series of petitions on human rights, ordered banning of participation of students in

politics.

It directed educational institutions to obtain specific undertakings in this regard from parents, guardians and students at the time of admission.

The court's order was a first step in cases relating to malpractices in educational institutions.

The court also directed the educational institutions to seek and obtain similar undertakings in respect of all existing enrolled students. Those who fail to give an undertaking will not be allowed admission and

Six drowned in Brahmaputra

MYMENSINGH, Oct 1: At least six people drowned and 50 others were missing after a boat capsized in the Brahmaputra river today, reports UNB.

Officials and survivors said the disaster occurred when a mechanised boat with some 70 passengers on board sank in the river near Kalibazar in Trishal thana at noon.

The boat was moving towards Mymensingh from Battala Bazar in Ishwarganj thana of the district.

Identities of the dead, including a woman and a child, could not be known immediately.

Local people rushed into rescue but could not yet trace any of the 50 missing since the boat capsized.

Indian politicians, media divided over 'push back'

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

Indian politicians and the media are divided on the deportation of an officially unspecified number of people whom they call illegal infiltrators from Bangladesh.

While the Bharatiya Janata Party has embarked on a politically motivated campaign to rouse communal frenzy, many of the political stalwarts, according to reports from New Delhi and Calcutta, sound pragmatic in their approach, although for varied reasons.

Persons like R L Bhatia, the Minister of State for External

Affairs, are mindful of the repercussions in the bilateral relations. While many Congress (I) and state government leaders fear a loss of potential vote banks.

On top of these, there are instances from media personalities and politicians that the massive deportation move has hit at the rationale behind the cross-border movement throughout the subcontinent since the Partition days.

The complex electoral arithmetics in the multi-racial

Another BSF attempt to push in 209

JESSORE, Oct 1: Bangladesh Rifles today thwarted a BSF attempt to push in some 209 Indians through the border as the Indian authorities intensified their so-called Operation Push Back, reports UNB.

Meantime, witnesses said, India had erected camps near its 300-kilometre frontier in 24-Pargana district for sheltering those being rounded up for pushing into Bangladesh.

New camps have also been set up in Gedo border of the Indian South 24-Pargana district where 135 people are awaiting a humiliating push, according to information trickling in here.

Sources said BDR repulsed today's pushes at Daulatpur, Baro Achra, Jatipara, Sadipur, Kalina and Terbhoria border points in Sharsha thana of the district.

Scramble in AL for working body berths

By Nurul Kabir

The Awami League (AL) leaders aspiring for membership of the party's new Central Working Committee to be announced soon are trying to win blessings of party chief Sheikh Hasina, AL insiders say.

The AL National Council session held on 19 and 20 last month authorised party chief Sheikh Hasina to form a 65-member new Working Committee comprising a 15-member presidium, a 22-member secretariat and 28 members.

The party constitution allows Hasina a time span of three weeks from the date of the council session to complete the formation of the new Working Committee.

The AL chief has, meanwhile, announced names of the 15 Presidium members and 22 office-bearers of the new committee while she is according to sources, preparing the list 28 committee-mem-

bers.

The aspirants to Working Committee membership, especially the ones who joined the party on a verbal assurance that they would be incorporated into the new committee, are reportedly facing a tough time.

Kader Siddiki who is almost certain to be a member of the new committee, according to sources, is opposed to taking these newcomers into the committee because he thinks they tried to destabilize Mujib government in the early seventies. The new entrants include former Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) leader Mirza Sultan Raza, Mahabudur chairman, Munir and Akhtaruzzaman who joined the AL last year.

Apart from the newcomers, some veteran AL leaders are also suffering from a sense of uncertainty over the scope of

Nurses go on indefinite strike from tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

Nurses of the government hospitals and clinics have called for an indefinite strike from tomorrow (Saturday) as talks with the government failed on their 14-point charter of demands.

Meanwhile, the nurses returned to duties temporarily in hospitals and clinics across the country ending a 72-hour work stoppage at 8 am yesterday.

Nurses began agitating from September 14. The work stoppage programmes began from September 19 that culminated into a 72-hour strike on Monday.

Meantime, the Bangladesh Diploma Nurses Association (BDNA) held a press conference at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday evening.

Saudi troops seize Qatari border post

DOHA, Oct 1: Saudi forces today seized the Qatari border post that was the scene of an armed clash the previous day, the Qatar News Agency (QNA) reported, reports AFP.

An army spokesman, quoted by QNA, said a large Saudi military force circled and forced the border guards to abandon the post in a disputed border zone of southeastern Qatar.

Qatar decided today to unilaterally sever a 1965 border agreement with Saudi

Arabia in the wake of a bloody clash, the Qatari news agency said.

An emergency cabinet meeting chaired by Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad ibn Khalifa al-Thani called for negotiations with Riyadh to demarcate their common border.

Qatar said Saudi troops killed 20 soldiers and captured a third in an attack on a border post Wednesday. Saudi Arabia said the incident was a clash between Bedouin tribes-

Polytech teachers announce month-long programme

By Staff Correspondent

The polytechnic teachers, now on an indefinite strike, Thursday reiterated that the work stoppage would continue until the 10-point demands are realised.

Bangladesh Polytechnic Teachers Association which called the strike from September 21, announced a month-long fresh programme to give force to their movement.

They will start fresh campaign from Saturday and submit memorandum to the parliament members on October 11, wear black badges on October 25 and organise a march to Jatiya Sangshad at the end of the month.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Association's executive committee with the present Khandaker Shahabuddin Mahmud in the chair.

Election to 96 Union Parishads held

Election to 96 Union Parishads were held today the opening day of the eight-day second phase country-wide local body elections, reports BSS.

The Election Commission sources quoting reports from different parts of the country said the elections were held peacefully.

There will be no elections tomorrow.

On October 3, elections to 69 Union Parishads will be held while elections to 17 Union Parishads will be held on October 4, followed by 77 Union Parishads on October 5, three Union Parishads on October 6, 60 Union Parishads

on October 7 and 53 Union Parishads on October 8.

The elections to the remaining 143 Union Parishads will be held under the third and last phase. The dates of the last phase elections have not been fixed, the Election Commission sources said.

Our Sylhet Correspondent adds: Elections in at least two centres were suspended in Balaganj Thana of Sylhet yesterday amidst hijacking of ballot box and papers and blank fire by police.

A group of unruly people entered the Shahjalal Hafizia Madrasah Centre of Goalabazar Union at about 2.30

Senate okays US military aid for war-torn Bosnia

WASHINGTON, Oct 1: The Senate Wednesday voted to authorize US military aid to war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina, in a move aimed at pressuring President George Bush to intervene in the former Yugoslavia, reports AFP.

Senators approved a measure on a voice vote saying the UN arms embargo on the former Yugoslavia was playing in Serbia's favour by maintaining Belgrade's military advantage.

But the 14.1 billion dollar

aid bill — including loan guarantees for Israel and authority for new International Monetary Fund lending — still must pass through a House of Representatives-Senate conference.

There, the Bosnia provision likely will be scrapped.

The measure, an amendment to the 1993 Foreign Aid Bill offered by Democratic Senator Joseph Biden of Delaware, asked the United Nations to exempt Bosnia from the arms embargo.

The US President then could transfer to Bosnia up to 50 million dollars in arms and military materiel in Defense Department stocks.

Serbia now has more than 1,000 tanks, armoured vehicles and artillery pieces, and Serb-led forces have moved to "cleanse" vast areas of Bosnia that they have seized of Slavic Muslim Bosnians, whose leaders say are now defenseless.

"The international community must not turn its back on

blatant acts of ruthless and barbaric aggression," Biden said, citing charges of "ethnic cleansing" by Serb-led forces and reports that thousands of Bosnians have died in detention camps.

An estimated 100,000 Bosnians could perish during the winter months while under siege, Biden said, asking fellow legislators: "are we truly to adjourn, having done nothing?"

But Senator John Warner, a Virginia Republican, said act-

ing Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger had made plain to him President George Bush's administration's firm opposition to supplying Bosnia with military aid.

"This conflict cannot be resolved without large amounts of bloodshed if military force is used," Warner said, "to inject more arms under this formula ... would only exacerbate the problem."

In a separate action, the Senate approved in a voice vote a measure that would

strip the rump Yugoslavia, grouping Serbia and Montenegro, of most favoured nation trade status until it has ceased armed conflict with neighbouring states.

A Geneva report adds: Negotiations are to start immediately on the demilitarisation of Sarajevo and an end to fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Lord Owen, co-chairman of the Geneva conference on Yugoslavia, announced here Wednesday.

BNP concerned at 'push back operation'

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) yesterday expressed grave concern over the inhuman and heinous attempts of forcibly pushing Indian nationals into Bangladesh during the last few days, reports UNB.

In a joint statement issued last night, Vice President of BNP Barrister Zulmat Ali Khan and Office Secretary Asfar Ahmed Siddiqui said that the Indian Border Security Forces were engaged enforcing Indian Muslims into Bangladesh.

Referring to news published in a section of the Indian press, they said that the attempt is being made at the instigation of a fundamentalist party of India in the name of evicting foreign nationals. "The action is being condemned in India itself," they pointed out.

The BNP leaders asserted that there is no Bangladesh national illegally staying in India and there was no intrusion ever of any Bangladesh national to India.

There is no reason whatso-

Related Story on Page 5