

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: 226803. Fax: (880) (31) - 225238

VOL. II NO. 263 REGD. NO. DA 781

The Daily Star



KARTIK 3 1399 BS,

DHAKA SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1992

RABIUS SANI 20 1413 HIJRI

12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 4.00

Inside Today

Article

Eradication of Poverty: Is it a Losing Battle in Bangladesh?

Column: On The Record by Shah A M S Kibria Page 4

International



Nobel Peace prize winner Rigoberta Menchu lives in exile in Mexico and has decided to use her prize money to further her work for the rights of Guatemalan Indians

PLO okays participation of Palestinians in ME talks Page 5

Business

EC, US still divided over GATT deal

US trade gap shoots higher as exports slump Pages 6, 7

Rising Stars

Destruction of the Innocent Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Meaningful Miniatures Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Khaleda returns this morning

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia returns this morning after a four-day visit to Italy. Begum Zia went to Rome to present the keynote speech on the occasion of World Food Day at the invitation of Director General, FAO Edouard Saucoma, reports BSS.

Hasina protests attack

Sheikh Hasina yesterday protested "attack by BNP terrorists" on Mukti Juddah Sanglad office and Awami League election office at Shambhuganj in Mymensingh. The Awami League President said armed terrorists of BNP led the attack at about 9 pm on Friday when results of the October 15 by-election in Mymensingh-3 constituency were being announced at different polling centres, reports UNB.

Tk 883cr remittance

Remittance from Bangladesh working abroad during July-September quarter stood at Tk 883 crore, showing a 30 per cent increase over the corresponding period last year. This was informed at the parliamentary standing committee meeting presided over by Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiya yesterday. The meeting discussed measures to check Bangladeshis going abroad illegally and save them from harassment by manpower agents, reports UNB.

65 kg gold haul



Customs officials with the gold bars seized at ZIA yesterday. —Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

Customs officials Saturday noon seized 5200 tolas (about 65 kg) smuggled goldbars worth about Taka 3.38 crore from a luggage at the Air Freight Department of the Zia International Airport (ZIA) in the capital.

According to the Airport Customs Surveillance officials, it was the biggest ever gold haul in the country.

A total of 520 gold bars each weighing ten tolas were found in a briefcase wrapped by blankets hidden in a carton of powder milk which was sent to Dhaka from Singapore by a Bangladesh Biman flight, BG-073 Friday night.

Customs officials said that they found a sticker on the carton bearing the name of one Syed Amir Ali, Passport No-H-765031, 151, Bangla Bazar, Dhaka.

When the carton reached the ZIA from Singapore at 11:00 pm Friday no one claimed the luggage, sources said.

However, an Airport Customs official said that on a tip, the luggage was opened Saturday noon in presence of Customs Surveillance, Airfreight and Airport Security personnel.

Meanwhile, a case was registered with Cantonment Police Saturday night against the said Syed Amir Ali for smuggling 5,200 tolas of gold into the country, police said.

According to Cantonment Police, no one was arrested in See Page 12 Col 7

Italian Senate chief praises steps to restore democracy

ROME, Oct 17: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had a meeting with the Italian Senate President Giovanni Spadolini, here last night, reports BSS.

During the meeting, the Senate President praised Begum Zia for her efforts in See Page 12 Col 3

IFAD a close partner in development: PM

ROME, Oct 17: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia stressed the need for strengthening the partnership of her country with IFAD in the battle against poverty, reports BSS.

Making a statement on the occasion of her visit to IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) Headquarters at the invitation of IFAD President Idriss Jazary

here yesterday, the Bangladesh Prime Minister renewed her country's fullest support and cooperation to IFAD in its arduous task of addressing to rural poverty and agricultural development.

Lauding the role of the UN agency created to combat rural poverty, Begum Zia said, IFAD has been carrying out its man- See Page 12 Col 1



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia speaking during her visit to the IFAD headquarters in Rome yesterday. IFAD president Idriss Jazary is seen sitting on the dais. —PID photo

US team visits refugee camps, praises relief operation

By Farid Hossain

A US State Department delegation has found satisfactory Bangladesh's relief operation for quarter of a million Rohingya refugees encamped along Cox's Bazar-Teknaf region, officials said on Saturday.

Led by Jan De Wilde, head of refugee programmes for Asia in US State Department, the 3-member team toured Rangikhali and Dhoapalung camps on Friday and Saturday. Government relief officials See Page 12 Col 3

Dighinala tense: Sec 144 clamped

By Staff Correspondent

District authorities Saturday clamped Section 144 on Dighinala town in Khagrachari District to defuse growing tension between tribal and the non-tribal people.

According to reports received in Dhaka, tension mounted in Dighinala town following arrests of five tribal citizens by the police on charges of their alleged involvement in the October 13 clash between the tribals and the Bangladeshis which left one killed and another 50 injured.

Mostafiz meets Rao Oct 26

By Staff Correspondent

Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman will meet Prime Minister Narasimha Rao October 26 to hand over the formal letter of invitation to the seventh SAARC summit.

The meeting, seen as significant in the backdrop of tension emanating from so-called Operation Push Back, is expected to take up bilateral matters, apart from the issues related to the regional alliance.

The Jatiya Sangsad holds a general discussion on the issue tomorrow (Monday).

The Foreign Minister, who begins his tour of SAARC capitals Wednesday starting with Islamabad, goes to New Delhi October 25.

Assault on Atanu: suspect held

By Staff Correspondent

Police Friday night arrested one person at Savar in connection with assaulting the Prime Minister's nephew Sama Iskander Atanu.

Bijoy was detained at the Dhanmondi Police Station for interrogation, police sources said.

He will be produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court today (Sunday).

Atanu was reportedly assaulted by a group of people in front of the Opposition leader's house at Dhanmondi on October 10.

60.87 pc pass Jessore Board HSC Exams

By Staff Correspondent

A total of 60.87 per cent passed the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations of Jessore Board held during June-July this year.

The results were announced yesterday (Saturday). A total of 43,722 candidates appeared in the examinations of whom 26,615 passed, 3,191 securing first division, 11,496 second division and 11,928 third division.

Mohammad Mahmudur Rashid of Barisal Cadet College topped the combined merit list obtaining 942 marks while Mahmudul Karim of Jhenidah Cadet College secured the second position getting 931 marks. Mohammad Aman Ullah of the same college stood third securing 930 marks.

Hafsa Khanam of the Government Pioneer Women's College, Khulna stood first among the female candidates securing 834 marks.

Mohammad Hafizur Rahman of Barisal Cadet College topped the merit list of the Humanities group getting 893 marks while Mohammad Shariful Islam of Kushtia Gov-

ernment College was placed first in the Commerce group obtaining 815 marks.

Jhenidah Cadet College dominated the combined merit list with 14 students followed by seven students of Barisal B M College.

The pass percentage is higher for the woman students in all groups except the Agricultural Science. About 61.81 per cent of female candidates passed the HSC examinations as against 60.48 per cent of male students.

The percentage of pass in the Humanities group was 60.50 among the regular students and 37.84 of the private students, in the Science group 69.90 and in the Commerce group was 61.66 among the regular candidates and 29.94 of private candidates.

The percentage of successful female candidates is higher than the male candidates by 4.01 per cent in the Science group and about two per cent in each of the Humanities and the Commerce groups.

Merit lists

By Staff Correspondent

First 10 positions of each of the merit lists of Science, Arts and Commerce groups of Jessore Board HSC Examination, 1992 are as follows:

Science Group

(1) Mohammad Mahmudur Rahman, Barisal Cadet College, Marks-942; (2) Mahmudul Karim, Jhenidah Cadet College, 931; (3) Md Aman Ullah, Jhenidah Cadet College, 930; (4) Md Abul Kalam Azad, Barisal Cadet College, 921; (5) Md Mazhar ul Haque, Jhenidah Cadet College, 909; (6) Tariq Mesbahul Islam, Government B L College, Daulatpur, 907; (7) A N M Foyezur Rahman, Barisal Cadet College and Abdullah al Mansur, Government B M College, 897; (8) Md Ashrafur Alam, Barisal Cadet College and Rajib Kumar Pal, Jhenidah Cadet College, 895; (9) A B M Khalid Hassan, Jhenidah Cadet College, 885; and (10) M M Moazzem Hossain, Jhenidah Cadet College and Md Hafizur Rahman of the same college, 882.

Arts Group

(1) Md Hafizur Rahman, Barisal Cadet College, 893; (2) A M M Khairul Kabir, Barisal Cadet College, 877; (3) Zia See Page 12 Col 5

About 100 Chinese old guards step down

BEIJING, Oct 17: Delegates to a Communist Party congress concluded secret balloting Saturday for new leaders intended to take China into the 21st century after one-third of the old leadership stepped down, reports AP.

The name of the new party Central Committee members are expected to be announced at the end of the week-long congress Sunday. The Beijing-controlled Hong Kong newspaper Wen Wei Po said 40 per cent would be 45 to 50 years old, considered young in China.

It said about 100 of the Central Committee's 285 full and alternate members, including President Yang Shangkun, 85, have stepped down to make way for the younger members.

Yang will remain president for at least a few more months. Even without a formal party post, he and other veteran revolutionaries remain China's most influential politicians because of their prestige.

But it pointedly said that only some of the resignations were because of age and ill health; others were due to "failure to make notable achievements."

The report also said the committee, which must ratify all major party decisions, would be enlarged by 20 to 30 seats in order to include more regional party leaders.

A majority of the new committee members are expected to be supporters of the radical theory that senior leader Deng Xiaoping has put forward — namely, that the best way to preserve Communist rule in China is to employ capitalist economic methods.

Deng's call to do away with most central economic planning and force state enterprises to function on market principles has been the theme of the party congress, the first since the fall of the Soviet bloc.

The party newspaper, the People's Daily (Renmin Ribao), argued Saturday that Deng's reforms were needed to avoid

sharing the Soviet bloc's fate.

"Why did the red banners of some countries that had been practicing socialism for years suddenly fall to the ground?" it asked in a front-page article.

The fundamental reason was... they continued to use traditional planning systems that stifled economic activity and made it difficult to fulfil the needs of the people."

Deng, 86, has still not made an appearance at the congress despite official indications he would do so, but the official media stepped up its praise for his leadership, presenting him as the equal of the late Mao Tse-tung, whose status as the father of the Chinese Communist revolution previously was unmatched.

The Xinhua News Agency quoted a man who once worked as Mao's personal librarian, Pan Xianzhi, as saying Deng had solved a problem Mao couldn't: How to develop socialism with unique Chinese characteristics.



Sheikh Hasina addressing a discussion commemorating the death anniversary of Abdul Malek Ukil at the Awami League central office yesterday. (Story on Page 12) —Star photo

Indemnity Bill issue AL high command says 'no compromise'

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League Working Committee (ALWC) discussed the party strategy to face government policies relating to different socio-political issues for the second day yesterday.

The second day's meeting began 10 in the morning yesterday while it was adjourned at 3 in the afternoon to resume at 10 this morning.

The leaders addressing yesterday's meeting suggested the party high command to go ahead with an uncompromising attitude against the government, especially on the issues like the AL demand for passage of Indemnity Ordinance (Repeal) Bill and withdrawal of the controversial anti-terrorism bill.

Presided over by party chief Sheikh Hasina, yesterday's meeting was addressed, among others, by the party president members Abdul Mannan, Abdul Momen and Amr Hossain Amu.

According to sources in the ALWC, Amr Hossain Amu was critical of the role of the party's parliamentary wing.

See Page 12 Col 8

Air of gloom settles over Bush White House

WASHINGTON, Oct 17: With just over two weeks remaining in President George Bush's quest for a second term, an air of general gloom has settled over his White House as it struggles in vain to close Democrat Bill Clinton's lead, reports Reuters.

Official who once talked privately about an early Bush visit to Russia and some of the republics of the former Soviet Union after the November 3 election now bleakly assess their chances of finding a job.

An administration aide in an expensive suit said, 'maybe I'll sell pizzas.'

Headhunters in Washington, who for a price find jobs for executives looking for new employment, say applications have been pouring in from administration officials.

The air of depression at the Bush White House seems to be spreading further and more openly than during the campaigns of the last two incumbent failures — Democratic Jimmy Carter and Republican

Gerald Ford. In Carter's 1980 re-election attempt and Ford's 1976 bid, the sense of gloom among staff emerged later in the campaigns.

But degrees of despair have been surfacing among those serving the current incumbent ever since the Republican convention in August, when Bush failed to enjoy a substantial boost in the opinion polls.

Hopes that James Baker would lift the campaign after he moved from the State Department to take command

of it have not been met. The promising potential of nationally-televised debates died away in a whimper.

With almost religious fervour, campaign and White House workers alike believed Bush would surge into a lead in the opinion polls once the presidential debates began and he 'got his message out.'

Yet after two presidential debates and once vice presidential exchange there has been little shift in voter sentiment.

A CNN-USA today poll published on Friday showed Clinton cantering ahead of Bush by 47 per cent to 32 per cent.

The final televised debate off-sets Bush little likelihood of delivering a verbal knockout punch that will send Clinton reeling, particularly after Thursday's presidential exchange, which lacked fireworks.

Vice President Dan Quayle's vigorous attacks on Clinton See Page 12 Col 8

The Daily Star OFFICE SHIFTED

The Daily Star announces the shifting of its editorial, news and commercial offices to Road 3, House 11, Dhanmandi Residential Area, Dhaka with effect from Saturday, October 10, 1992.

All our valued readers, advertisers and patrons are requested to kindly note the change of address. Press releases, ads and all other communications should be addressed to:

The Daily Star
 House 11, Road 3
 Dhanmandi R/A
 Dhaka 1205
 Tel: PABX 500091-4; 863036;
 Fax 88-02-863035