

Kidnapped kids

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with one of the arrested women claiming to be their mother.

These two are also likely to be handed over to the orphanage, Willard said. "I have even left two air tickets for them."

The 17 minor boys have already left on a bus for the 'Home of Joy' orphanage located in Tilok under Rupsha thana. Earlier in August, the Home Ministry awarded the custody to the orphanage.

Willard said at least four or five of the boys could not provide any clues to the place from where they were abducted but the kidnappers told all the boys were Bangladeshis.

Another kid in the group, Anwar, who hardly looked more than four years old, said that he was from Thakurgaon.

Willard said that some of the boys told Bombay police that they were told that they were going to Dubai and that they reached Bombay after a 'long long' train journey. One of them was quoted as saying: "We were told that when we reached Dubai we would be given sweets and biscuits."

Police are suspecting that the kids were being smuggled to some Middle East destinations to be used as 'camel jockeys' in races.

The youngest among the group of 17 is a 3-year-old. Willard said all of them were very excited when they were being taken to the airport in the morning. But, she added, one of them said he did not want to go back home without mentioning any reasons.

Nothing that the parents of one of the children have contacted local officials. Willard said that after consultations with the Social Welfare Ministry she would like to release photographs of the children in newspapers and on television so that they can reunite with their families.

"We would like to reunite those whom we can while we will keep the others at the orphanage."

Expressing her appreciation for the help extended by the Bangladesh High Commission in India, she said the High Commission officials, including the High Commissioner, visited the kids twice during the last month.

Friends of Bangladesh, operating in Bangladesh since the late 70s, also run a widow centre and a working girls hostel in Tongi, two clinics and also a school for deaf and dumb children.

The orphanage, set up in 1986, currently has 46 children ranging in age from 3 months to 12 years old.

The organisation is run on donations provided by about 1200 donors from across the United States and England. Willard, who hails from Cape Code, Massachusetts, informed.

"I am just so terribly happy that we are being able to give these kids a chance," she said.

Mustafizur Rahman, MP, filed a bail petition before a High Court Division Bench against order dated October 8 last passed by the District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka which had rejected the bail petition of Mustafizur Rahman.

Hafunur Rashid Chowdhury, Joint Director, banking control department, Bangladesh Bank had lodged FIR with Motijheel Police to the effect that the accused Mustafizur Rahman of BCI Ltd, committed offence for breach of trust and misappropriation of about Tk 1,29,31,980.

The bench comprised Justice Fazle Hussain Mohammad Habibur Rahman and Justice Mohammad Ansar Ali.

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing the sixth convocation ceremony of the Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR) at Gazipur yesterday. — PID photo

Mustafiz's bail Rule issued on BB Joint Director, state

A High Court Division Bench yesterday issued rule upon a Joint Director of banking control department, Bangladesh Bank and the state to show cause within two weeks as to why the Chairman and Managing Director of Bangladesh Commerce and Investment Limited (BCIL), Mustafizur Rahman MP, should not be enlarged on bail, reports BSS.

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Sheikh Hasina addressing the Awami League Parliamentary Party meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan yesterday. — Star photo

SAARC invitation

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phase, put off the visits hours before his departure, citing the necessity of his presence at home in connection with some important legislative business to be taken up by parliament during the period.

The Foreign Minister yesterday told The Daily Star that the King of Bhutan would not be available in Thimpu when he expected to go to the country and therefore the Social Welfare Minister was being sent according to the earlier schedule.

PM: Muslim world

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past and rich heritage. I am hopeful that we are going to re-establish ourselves in the field of science and technology through OIC and establishing its various centres including the ICTVTR, Begum Zia said.

She termed the ICTVTR as a symbol of Islamic solidarity and joint Islamic action under the OIC. Students from the OIC member states, besides getting technical training, have an opportunity to interact among themselves — thus fostering mutual understanding and brotherhood among the Islamic countries.

Addressing the graduating students, the Prime Minister said the Muslim community is on the threshold of a new era and the recent worldwide political, economic and social changes pose new challenges as well as offer new opportunities.

She called upon them to respond to the new challenges and contribute their mite towards shaping the world of tomorrow. "May the spirit and ideals of Islam inspire your lives and future work," she said.

She noted with appreciation the improvement of financial situation of the centre and felicitated the member countries, particularly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, for their help and assistance.

Begum Zia recalled her pledge made to the centre at its fifth congregation that she would raise the issue of financial crisis at the Sixth Islamic Summit. She said it was one of the major issues of her address at the last summit held in Dakar, Senegal, in December 1991.

The Prime Minister stressed the need for regular flow of funds for smooth functioning of the ICTVTR and announced the decision of raising the annual contribution of Bangladesh to US dollar 50,000 from US dollar 29,000.

Referring to the forthcoming OIC-UN Sectoral Meeting on Science and Technology with special emphasis on environment being organised by the ICTVTR in December this year at Dhaka, she hoped it would be another important event after the SAARC Summit.

Biman defers flight in new route

By Staff Correspondent
Bangladesh Biman was deferring its planned Dhaka-Delhi-Hong-Kong-Seoul flight because of aircraft shortage and the strike by travel agents, Biman sources said Sunday.

The flight in the new route was scheduled from yesterday but was postponed due to lack of adequate preparation, the source said adding that the new Chittagong-Rangoon-Bangkok flight however, would operate from Thursday as scheduled.

Following inauguration of the new flight, Chittagong will be considered as the second international airport in the country.

Meanwhile, the Biman Bangladesh Airlines has already floated tender to take lease of two aircraft which may join the fleet within a couple of months.

Arrest of Auranga politically motivated: AL

An unscheduled debate ensued in parliament yesterday on the arrest of Awami League MP Hemayetullah Aurangzeb that ended with opposition urging the Speaker to bring him to the House and protect privileges of the members, reports UNB.

Opposition chief whip Mohammad Nasim initiated the debate following the Speaker informed the House about the arrest which was communicated to him by a Deputy Commissioner of police.

Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali said the police officer communicated to him about the arrest of Aurangzeb on Saturday from a city hotel in connection with four criminal cases.

Taking part in the debate: Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad questioned the government intention of the arrest for an alleged offence 12 years ago. He also questioned as to why his party MP was not taken into custody during the last two years — from his filing nomination papers to voting in the house for election of the President.

The chair should maintain his neutrality in protecting privileges of members of both sides, Samad said. Defending the arrest Information Minister Nazmul Huda said government believed in the rule of law. The present democratic government could not resort to illegal and autocratic steps taken during Awami League and Jatiya Party rules when many people were thrown behind the bar on whimsical grounds.

The Midnight File

Blast kills 25 in India

NEW DELHI, Oct 25: At least 25 people were killed and more than 100 injured today in a massive explosion in a shop selling firecrackers in the eastern Indian town of Haria. Witnesses said that more than 100 people might have died in the blast, which gutted several buildings, reports AFP.

Turkish train plunges into river as Kurds blow up bridge

ISTANBUL, Oct 25: A passenger train plunged into a river in southeast Turkey today after rebel Kurds blew up a rail bridge, the semi-official Anatolia News Agency reported. No casualty figures were immediately available. Police sources, quoted by the agency, said the train was travelling between the cities of Elazig and Mus and plunged into the Murat River near Yorecik-Kurt Station, reports Reuters.

Pro-govt forces retake Tajik presidential palace

MOSCOW, Oct 25: Pro-government forces in Tajikistan today regained control of Presidential palace, occupied since Saturday by supporters of ousted president Rakhmon Nabiyev, assistant head of Tajikistan television Akhmadjo Kamilov said, reports AFP.

Seen from the Gallery

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tories to produce spirits or other alcoholic liquid.

These two pieces of sweet and sour information were given to the House by Industry Minister Shamsul Islam Khan in reply to a supplementary question by Awami League's Al-Haj Syed Abul Hossain, a smart-looking, quiet-talking fellow from Madaripur.

Nobody in his right mind would dare to accuse information Minister Nazmul Huda of lacking in smartness. But the adjective "quiet" would perhaps be regarded as an outright slander by the barrister himself. Yesterday, however, he was quietly smart.

Speaker Shaikh Razzaque Ali was not in the best of mood when he found that the ministers responsible for answering questions no 264 (Huda) and 265 (Dr Mosharrat Hossain) were not present immediately after the Maghrib break.

Huda arrived minutes later and rose to give a personal explanation, which actually turned out to be just that, and not one of his usual, chaotic attacks on the Opposition.

"I don't mind if everybody else gets angry with me, but I can't bear to see you getting angry with me as well," a thoroughly apologetic Huda told the Speaker.

The portly barrister with a strong liking for safari suits with rolled-up sleeves, explained that as soon as he heard question no 262 being

A serious matter of MP's privilege came up before the House, in the form of notices as well as verbal explanations. Not tax-free cars or diplomatic passports, but a rather mundane, multi-million taka matter of towels, pillow covers, canteen food etc.

The standard of service at the Members' Hostel is, the House was unanimous, abominable. With a capital A. Jatiya Party's Fazle Rabbi, evidently relishing this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to speak for all hard-done-by MPs, complained that water, electricity were often turned off without warning; conditions of towels, pillow covers etc were disgusting — "I never use the Hostel's towels," he said.

Little progress 2 killed in bus plunge at Dhamrai,

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London flight dropped to 150 Sunday from 212 on Friday night, the source said fearing the number might go down further in the next few days.

The source say the Dhaka-London flight is controlled mainly by the agent in Sylhet where the strike has turned very effective.

Witnesses said that police soon rushed to the canteen fearing the brawl might spark off violence.

Auranga

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Mannan and few other lawyers moved for his bail. The court rejected the prayer and ordered the accused into jail.

Records of the murder case were sent to the District and Sessions Judge Court for trail.

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On July 7, 1982, the case proceeding was stopped sine die. The case was revived on August 20 this year after the lapse of more than 10 years.

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Mahila Sangstha seats DU women teachers elect two representatives tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent
The female faculty members of the Dhaka University tomorrow take part in a polling to elect two of their colleagues who would be representing them in the Jatiya Mahila Sangstha.

A total of 213 women teachers form the electoral college for the election, first of its kind in DU history.

The University authority had earlier named two teachers, but a government order asked that nominations be made through elections. The country's six other universities will also have two representatives each to the national body for women.

AL bracing itself

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government.

The party leaders assigned to the tour programme have been asked to highlight government's 'failure' in controlling terrorism, checking price hike of the essential commodities, meeting demands of different section of people including those of students and wage-labourers and taking a concrete position on the indemnity issue.

According to sources in the AL Parliamentary Party, Hasina asked her party colleagues in Parliament to get ready even to sacrifice their membership of parliament in order to resist the bill, saying, "You have been members of present parliament for about two long years and now forget about remaining so in the coming days."

SAARC invitation

From Page 1 Col 8
phase, put off the visits hours before his departure, citing the necessity of his presence at home in connection with some important legislative business to be taken up by parliament during the period.

The Foreign Minister yesterday told The Daily Star that the King of Bhutan would not be available in Thimpu when he expected to go to the country and therefore the Social Welfare Minister was being sent according to the earlier schedule.

Rahman said that he would begin his trips with the second phase of the scrapped itinerary. According to that schedule, he is to go to Colombo and to Male.

Perot

From Page 1 Col 4
I can tell you this: If Mr Perot said it happened, you can put it in the books," Swindle said. The men's character is beyond reproach.

Perot said he didn't know how Carolyn's wedding might have been disrupted, but told the Herald: "Watch how they disrupt rallies; watch how they tried to disrupt the Democratic convention. They got a bunch of neo-Nazis there that do this kind of stuff."

He told the Herald that he did tell "a number of people" — including press secretary James Squires and all his family members except Carolyn — the real reason he was leaving the race.

Editor: S. M. Ali Executive Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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'দি ডেইলী স্টার' পত্রিকার সম্মানিত এজেন্টদের প্রতি আবেদন

আমরা অভ্যন্তরীণ দৃষ্টিতে লক্ষ্য করছি যে, উপস্থাপিত তালিকা দেয়ার পরও আমাদের কোন কোন সম্মানিত এজেন্ট অদ্যাবধি বকেয়া বিল পরিশোধ করেননি।

এমতাবস্থায় পুনরায় তাদের সকলকে আগামী ৩১ শে অক্টোবর, '৯২ তারিখ পর্যন্ত বকেয়া বিল পরিশোধের শেষ সুযোগ দেয়া হচ্ছে। অন্যথায় ১লা নভেম্বর, '৯২ হতে সেইসব এজেন্টদের পত্রিকা সরবরাহ করতে কর্তৃপক্ষ বাধ্য নয়।

এক্ষেত্রে আপনারদের সকলের অন্তরিক সহযোগিতা আমাদের একান্ত কাম্য।

— কর্তৃপক্ষ
দি ডেইলী স্টার