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The Daily Star

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NEWS BRIEFS

Bahai team calls on Hasina

A delegation of Bahai sect met Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her official residence yesterday. The delegation, led by Ms Azita Paresamanesh, Economic Advisor of Australian Research Council, informed Hasina about the community and their activities, reports UNB.

Discussion on Solidarity Day

A discussion in observance of National Revolution and Solidarity Day will be held today at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium at 4 pm. Zia Gobeshona Kendra has organised the discussion. Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Mirza Golam Hafiz will attend the function as chief guest while former judge Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury will preside over, reports UNB.

Chinese team in city

Xu Dunxin, Vice Foreign Minister of China, leading a six-member delegation arrived in Dhaka yesterday for a three-day visit to Bangladesh. Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman received him at Zia International Airport, reports BSS.

DMCH electoral debate today

A electoral debate among the four Vice President candidates of the Dhaka Medical College Central Students' Union will be held today at 10 am at the college gallery No 1. The debate has been organised by Intellect and Personality Club (K-49) of Dhaka Medical College, reports UNB.

Saudi help for Jaipurhat school

The government of Saudi Arabia has donated Tk 11,13,941/25 for the development of Taaleemul Islam Academy (Adarsha School), Jaipurhat, a Saudi Embassy press release said yesterday. Ali Ahmad Abdal Wahab, charge d'affaires, Saudi Embassy, handed over the cheque for the amount to the principal of the academy Mohammad Moqbul Hossain, in Dhaka Monday, reports BSS.

Armed clash at Ctg Nizampur College

25 students injured in police firing

CHITTAGONG, Nov 3: At least 25 people were injured with bullet when police fired on student demonstration at Nizampur College in Mirerswarai thana today, reports UNB.

Five workers of pro-Awami League Chhatra League were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital with bullet wounds. Condition of two was stated critical, hospital sources said.

Officials claimed police on duty fired back 36 shots at the gun-firing students. Witnesses said police fired indiscriminately on the students.

The armed clash erupted when police tried to remove road blocks put up by Chhatra League workers on the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway near Nizampur College at about 12.30 pm.

Earlier, the demonstrators brought out a procession in the college compound and barricaded the road in protest against Monday's clash between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Chhatra League activists at Mirerswarai College that left two students injured.

Following today's police-student clash, road communication between Dhaka and Chittagong was disrupted for hours till 9.30 pm.

Shaheen, a 3rd year student, Zahir of first year, Rubel of 3rd year, Hiralal Das of 2nd year of Nizampur College and Shahid, a student of class 10 of Sharkar Hat School, were admitted to CMCH. Condition of Shaheen and Zahir who suffered wounds in the head was critical.

Other wounded students were either admitted to local clinics or given first aid.

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Selectman Steve Barba of Dixville Notech tallies the official returns early Tuesday after the 30 voters of New Hampshire village continued their tradition of being the first to cast their ballots in a US presidential election. — AFP photo

Police raid AJM areas: 40 held

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Nov 3: Police raided different areas in the Adamjee Jute Mills (AJM) and arrested 40 people Tuesday.

Beginning at 4.30 pm police were continuing the raid in the areas till filing of this report last night.

A police source said that they completed the raid at Kadamtali, Moon Light Cinema Hall, Karim Market, Dhaka Baju New Colony and Shapla Square and arrested 40 people.

But a Duty Officer in Narayanganj police station refused to give any detail as the raid was not completed.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal unit of AJM, Giasuddin Kalu claimed that 14 of his workers had been arrested during the raid.

Salt Bill keeps Treasury bench divided

CPB returns to House and stages walkout

By Staff Correspondent

MPs of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Tuesday staged a walkout protesting what they said the failure of the government to withdraw the causes against the 24 Nirmul Committee leaders as per the accord signed earlier with Opposition.

Earlier yesterday the CPB members returned to the House, defying the on-going boycott of the current session by the Awami League, the Jatiya Party, the Ganotantri Party and the JSD-Siraj members, after taking part in an Opposition walkout on October 27 protesting the introduction of the anti-terrorism bill.

The day's proceedings at the Jatiya Sangsad also included the passage of four bills and introduction of the Insurance (amendment) Bill, 1992.

Introduction of the Exeises and Salt (amendment) Bill, 1992 was again deferred by the chair till tomorrow for the second consecutive day as it met stiff opposition from members irrespective of party lines.

Soon after the day's proceedings began with Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni in the chair, the CPB Parliamentary Party leader Shamsuddoha took the floor on a point of order.

Noting that the cases against the 24 Nirmul Committee leaders were yet to be withdrawn as per the agreement signed between the ruling party and Opposition members, Shamsuddoha said: "It is stajning the sanctity of parliament and is also a breach

See Page 12 Col 4

Pourashavas, UPs are now adminstrative units

The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed the Pourashava (Second Amendment) Bill, 1992 creating every municipality as an administrative unit for respective areas, reports BSS.

Piloting the bill LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder said the bill was necessitated following the restoration of Articles 59 and 60 of the Constitution after the passage of the 12th Amendment to the Constitution.

Those who took part in the discussion on the bill included Maulana Habibur Rahman, Md. Abdus Sobhan, Dr. A K M Amjad, Gazi Nazrul Islam, Sheikh Ansar Ali, Kazi Shamsur Rahman and Enamul Huq.

The Jatiya Sangsad last night also passed the Local Government (Union Parishad)

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US goes to elections

Clinton leading in latest polls, but Bush predicts comeback

WASHINGTON, Nov 3: Americans voted Tuesday in presidential elections with Democrat Bill Clinton holding his lead in the latest polls but President Bush predicting "the biggest comeback in American political history", reports AP.

"I have a feeling the gods are smiling upon us and I know we are going to win," the Republican president told a screaming, stomping crowd Monday night in Houston, his adopted hometown.

In a sunrise rally at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, Clinton, his voice hoarse from the grueling campaign, urged voters to go to the polls.

"Be there today and tonight we will celebrate a new future for the greatest country in the history of the human race," he told the rally in Denver, ending a marathon last push that took him to eight states in 24 hours.

Elections officials predicted high and perhaps record turnouts across the country.

Polls released early Tuesday and late Monday showed Clinton with a lead ranging from 7 to 12 points over Bush, with independent candidate Ross Perot a distant third. A Clinton victory would end the Republicans' 12-year grip on the White House and make Bush the first incumbent to lose re-election since Democrat Jimmy Carter in 1980.

Bangladesh Television will telecast CNN programmes on US election from 5 am to 5:30 pm today. The programmes will include non-stop coverage of state-by-state results, explanatory exit polls, and analysis and commentary by CNN's campaign team.

Some saw the election as a presidential battle of the generations — World War II flier Bush against Arkansas Gov. Clinton, who like many members of his baby boom generation had sought to avoid service in Vietnam, a war he thought was wrong, and had experimented with marijuana during college.

Bush ran his campaign on character issues, saying Clinton was not trustworthy. Clinton offered a change from the economic policies of Bush and his predecessor, Ronald Reagan, which Clinton said had driven America into recession.

During the campaign, Bush

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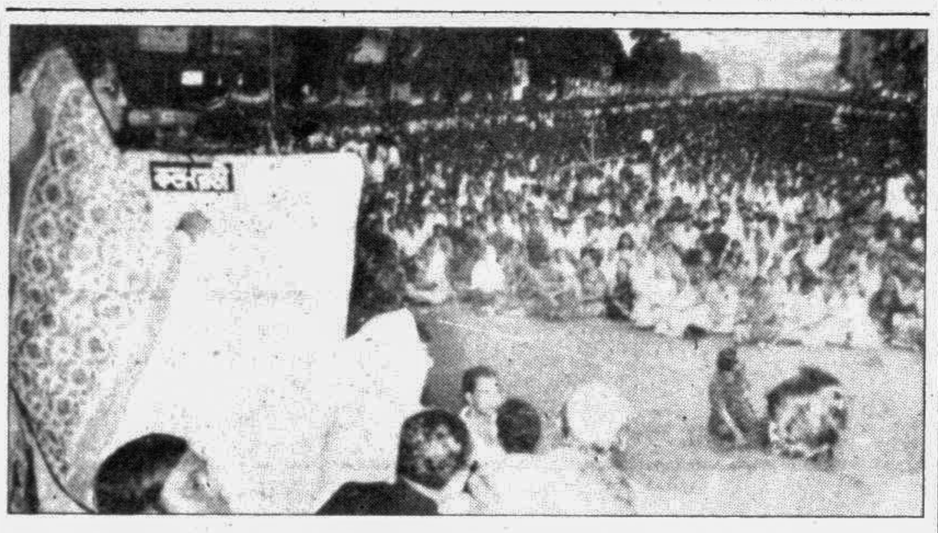
Ford Foundation to train MPs

Ford Foundation will provide training at home and abroad for the persons involved in legislative affairs in parliament to help Bangladesh institutionalise democracy, reports BSS.

The assurance came when a delegation of Ford Foundation called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday. The delegation included the foundation Trustee Board Chairman Edson Spencer, Trustee Board Member Henry B Schacht and Bangladesh representative of the foundation Raymond C Offenheiser.

During the meeting the delegation appreciated the Prime Minister Begum Zia's special interest on women development and child healthcare and said that foundation was ready to provide every held in women development and child healthcare sectors.



Sheikh Hasina addressing a public meeting at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Schoolboys continue protest

By Staff Correspondent

Despite government's clarification over the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) Examinations system for '93, school students continued demonstration for the fourth day yesterday.

Students Tuesday damaged dozens of vehicles and clashed with police in Dhaka and elsewhere in the country.

In Sylhet, half-day hartal was observed yesterday in protest against the new marking system in the SSC examinations.

The school students in Jhenidah called a 48-hour hartal from today (Wednesday) in the town on the same issue.

Meanwhile, two government press notes issued on Sunday and Monday said that it had no plan to cancel objective type question papers for the SSC examinations and the objective type questions would be prepared out of the 500 question bank of each subject.

When hundreds of students brought out processions at Wari, Topkhana Road, Moghbazar in the capital, police baton-charged and dispersed the agitating students.

Police picked up four students near the Joykali Temple where unruly students damaged several vehicles. The four students had been detained in the Sutrapur Police Station, said police.

Our Sylhet Correspondent reports : A complete half-day hartal was observed in the town yesterday at the call of school students in support of their demands.

Transactions in all banks were suspended while the government offices and educational institutions remained closed.

However, train and long-route bus services ran on schedule.

Agitating students brought out processions during the hartal hours and damaged several rickshaws plying on the roads.

Our Correspondent from Netrakona adds : Students brought out processions and damaged several shops and a

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Sind Assembly's 'no' to religion column on identity cards

ISLAMABAD, Nov 3: A provincial assembly in overwhelmingly Muslim Pakistan has defied the government by rejecting a move to force all Pakistanis to list their religion on identity cards, reports Reuter.

The assembly in the southern province of Sind late on Monday unanimously adopted a resolution against the government's decision last month to add a religion column to identity cards.

"The national identity cards of other countries have name, nationality and number only. They do not have a religion column. We do not want a

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Hasina says people will disobey anti-terrorism bill

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina Tuesday said that the people of the country would disobey the controversial anti-terrorism bill.

"Khaleda Zia has emerged as a neo-autocrat .... and she wants to cling to power by clamping a mini-martial law on the country," she told a huge public meeting at the Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital Tuesday afternoon.

Awami League organised the meeting as part of its programme to observe the November 3 Jail Killing Day.

On this day in 1975, Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, M Mansur Ali and Quamruzzaman — the four close associates of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were murdered in the Dhaka Central Jail where they had been interned since the political change-over of August 15 of that year in which Sheikh Mujibur himself was killed.

Thousands of slogan-shouting activists of Awami League, carrying banners and placards, began to arrive at the Bangabandhu Avenue from 2 pm Tuesday. The avenue beginning from the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in the north to the Nawabpur crossing in the south was closed to traffic.

Paying tributes to the four

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85 economic cadre posts vacant

By Inam Ahmed

About 85 posts of the economic cadre have remained vacant since long owing to the delay in the finalisation of the gradation list, according to a study report.

The vacancies are obstructing project procession, aid utilization, project monitoring and implementation, sources said.

According to an World Bank estimate the delay in project implementations is costing the government over 300 million US dollar a year.

The WB report says, "It was conservatively estimated that

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Tk 375 cr extra funds for investment

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday said that investment in economic sector was gaining momentum and government had made provision for an additional allocation of loanable funds worth Taka 375 crore to be disbursed through Nationalised Commercial Banks (NCBs), Development Financial Institutions (DFIs) and private banks for revitalising the investment in the country.

The Finance Minister was reviewing the performance and progress of financial programmes taken as per the policy decisions of the present democratic government at the conference room of the Finance Ministry.

The meeting was attended by State Minister for Finance Mojibor Rahman, Chairman of Agrani Bank L K Siddiqui MP, Chairman of Rupali Bank Azizul Haque MP, Chairman of BSB A T M Alamgir MP, Finance Secretary Nasimuddin Ahmed, Governor of Bangladesh Bank S B Chowdhury, Chairman of Eastern Bank Ltd. Nurul Hossain Khan, Additional Finance Secretary Dr Akbar Ali Khan, Managing Directors of all NCBs, DFIs and private banks.

Saifur Rahman said that banks were providing loans from their own resources, besides government and

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ব্যাংক নিয়ন্ত্রণ বিভাগ
বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক
প্রধান কার্যালয়
ঢাকা
বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কর্তৃক সময়ে সময়ে জারীকৃত খাদ্যশস্য ব্যবসায়ীদেরকে ঋণ প্রদান সংক্রান্ত সকল বিধি-নিষেধ ১৭/১০/৯২ ইং তারিখের বিসিডি সার্কুলার নং ২৭-এর মাধ্যমে প্রত্যাহার করা হয়েছে। ব্যাংক-গ্রাহক সম্পর্কের ভিত্তিতে ব্যাংক সমূহ এখন থেকে বেসরকারী খাতে খাদ্যশস্য ব্যবসায়ীদেরকে ঋণ প্রদান করতে পারবে। বিষয়টি বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকে ৩১/১০/৯২ ইং তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত ব্যাংকার্স সভায় বিবেচিত হয়। ব্যাংক-খাতক সম্পর্কের ভিত্তিতে ব্যাংক সমূহ এ খাতে ঋণ প্রদানে প্রস্তুত আছে।

সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যবসায়ীগণ এ বিষয়ে তফসিলী ব্যাংক সমূহের সংগে যোগাযোগ করতে পারেন।

জসওপ্রবিঃ ৪৮/৯২-১২০৫
ডিএফপি (জি) ১৯২০০-৩/১১
জি-১৩৯৬

BJP workers turn violent to enforce 'Bharat bandh'

NEW DELHI, Nov 3: Indian police arrested thousands of activists of the main opposition party today in a crackdown aimed at thwarting an anti-inflation general strike that won partial success, reports AFP.

Sporadic violence and street clashes between strikers and police and rival party supporters marred the dawn-to-dusk strike which ended at 6.00 pm (1230 GMT) according to police, organisers and domestic news agency report.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian peoples party) accused the government of Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao and communist-governed provinces of using the police to ruthlessly foil the nation-wide protest.

"But despite this oppression, we are happy to report that the response of the people to the BJP's call has been unprecedented all over the country," said BJP president Murli Joshi.

"We salute the people of India particularly from the rural poor, for their remarkable response," Joshi told a news conference here.

The right-wing BJP, the single largest opposition group in parliament, called the Bharat bandh (shut India) action to protest hefty petrol and fertiliser price hikes which it said fuelled inflation and hurt rural peasantry.

The Congress (I) party government has called the protest unjustified and politically motivated, saying inflation had been brought down from 16 per cent to less than 10 per cent in a year.

Independent news reports seemed to contradict Joshi's claim that the strike had been a total success. The Press Trust of India (PTI) said it evoked lukewarm response in most of India's 25 states, four of which are governed by the BJP.

Police arrested more than 25,000 BJP supporters here in the capital and other parts of the country where party activists took to the streets Joshi said. One activist had a heart attack and died in the northern city of Rohtak.

BJP workers forced shops and businesses to close and blocked roads and rail tracks, stoning public buses and clashing with police here and other cities including Calcutta and Bombay, witnesses and reports said.

Fifty protestors were injured by baton-charging police when they stormed the Maharashtra state government

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