\$55m ADB loan for flood protection

Asian Development Bank (ADB) yesterday approved a loan amounting to SDR 38.116 million (equivalent to 55 million US dollars) for the secondary towns integrated flood protection project in Bangladesh, according to a message received from Manila, reports BSS.

The loan will directly benefit about 15 lakh people in Bangladesh, the message said.

The loan, to be drawn from the concessional Asian Development Fund, carries a service charge of 1 per cent per annum and has a repayment period of 40 years, including a grace period of 10

The project area covers the six towns of Khulna, Dinajpur, Kurigram, Panchagarh, Habiganj and Moulvibazar which have as their highest priority flood protection. About 83 per cent of the population in the area belong to the low-income group and 65 per cent are estimated to be urban poor, including those living in squatter areas and slums.

The projects consists of four parts. The first covers flood protection works, including expansion and strengthening of embankments and flood walls, regulator structures and bank protection works. The

second covers drainage improvements, including the rehabilitation and cleaning of existing drains and remodelling and construction of new drains and culverts. The third consists of sanitation solid waste management and slum improvement works. The fourth involves assistance in project implementation.

By providing flood protection and drainage, sanitation and solid waste management improvements, the project will upgrade socio-economic development in the project areas. With a number of low-lying areas in the project area becoming suitable for housing, commercial and industrial uses, the project will help develop urban management and revenue, generation. It will also assist in institutional and policy development for sustainable long-term development.

The Bangladesh Water Development Board will be the principal executing agency for the project and will provide overall technical supervision. The executing agency for drainage and environmental improvements will be the local government engineering department within the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives.

people were injured when a

bus plunged into a roadside

ditch at Muljan in Sadar thana

on Dhaka-Aricha highway

Hossain (70), died on the spot,

rushed to Manikgani Sadar

Hospital, five to Dhaka Medical

College Hospital and six to

Holy Family Hospital with seri-

bound bus with about 40 pas-

sengers skidded off the road

the driver, however, managed

Hospital correspondent re-

Wari in a critical condition.

Meanwhile, two persons

were injured in a road acci-

dent on the Dhaka Mymen-

singh Road near Uttara at 4

Bellal confesses

murdering

Nilufar

By Staff Correspondent

arrested by the Detective

Branch of police in connection

with the Wednesday's murder

of a house-wife in the capital,

had sent Bellal to jail after he

confessed his involvement in

the murder of Nilufar Ahmed

of Basabo at the court of the

Meanwhile, doctors at the

Dhaka Medical College

Hospital, who conducted au-

topsy on Nilufar Ahmed,

termed the death as "sadistic

was yet to be prepared but the

doctors said the victim might

have been raped by more than

one persons there were

many bruises on the body of

Hartal observed

at Fenchugani

From Our Correspondent

dusk hartal was observed today

at Fenchuganj to press for

withdrawal of the govern-

ment's decision to shut down

the natural gas fertilizer fac-

Fenchuganj Ganodabi Parishad

and supported by the all politi-

cal parties and student organ-

tween Sylhet, Akhaura sec-

tions, remained suspended for

six hours due to the blockade

of the rail lines at Maijgaon station. All trains including the

inter-city trains were detained

at Maijgaon and Kulaura sta-

stitutions, offices and other

business establishments in-

cluding the commercial banks

remained closed during the

Besides, all educational in-

The hartal call was given by

Rail communications be-

tory immediately.

isations.

tions.

hartal hours.

SYLHET, Dec 3: A dawn-to-

The post mortem report

DB officials said that they

was sent to jail Thursday.

magistrate.

murder."

the victim.

The servant Bellal who was

about 3 pm on the day.

pm yesterday.

Gardens at Wari Thursday.

Witnesses said the Khulna-

Police seized the bus, but

The victim, Alhaj Tofazzal

Of the injured 14 were

11 killed in Tangail

Thursday.

police said.

ous injuries.

From Page 1 Col 7

In Rajbari, two people were killed and 30 hurt after a truck collided with a bus at 3pm Thursday about one kilometer off Rajbari town.

Of the victims, one died on the spot and the other succumbed to his injuries on the way to hospital.

20 persons were admitted to the Raibari Sadar Hospital and the Ram Krishna Mission Hospital

The rest were released from hospitals after first aid. Among the injured conditions of Md Minhajuddin (35), Sohrab Ali (25), Straj Mia (18) Nurul Islam (22) and two unidentified | people were crit-

The drivers of the two vehicles escaped soon after the accident.

UNB from Pabna reports: Two people were killed and another was injured seriously in two separate accidents. Witnesses said that an acci-

dent occurred when a Dhaka bound truck on Pabna-Nagarbari high way lost control and hit a road side tree early Thursday morning.

Truck driver Abul Hossain died on the spot and helper Azhar Alam (24), seriously injured, was taken to the Sadar Hospital.

Ill-fated Abul Hossain hailed from Aminbazar in Dhaka. A case has been filed with the Sadar thana.

In another accident, an employee of BRAC of Sathiya branch was killed in Kashinathpur village of Sathiya

The victim Ayub Ali (22) who was going to office riding a Honda, was hit from behind by a truck at around 1 pm.

He succumbed to injuries on way to Sadar hospital. A case has been lodged with the Sathiya thana.

Another report said: A septuagenarian was killed and 30

Nila Chowdhury From Page 1 Col 8

Secretary of the Chittagong re-

Acting chairman of the party Mizan Chowdhury dissolved the Central Committee of the Mahila Party and inducted three new members into the party presidium.

The selection of Sayeed Tarek had sparked a controversy in the party, the source said adding that after the acting chairman's return from Rangpur the whole affair would be discussed in the presidium. Chowdhury is scheduled to return Saturday.

The source said that Marium Hashimuddin and Toufika Karim, president and secretary of the dissolved committee were very unhappy with Nila Chowdhury, selected by Shah Moazzem Hossain, the former

secretary general. Moazzem reorganised the Mahila Party central body nearly six month ago.

When contacted over telephone Toufika Karim said that "they are happy with the central leaders' decision."

"We complained in writing that we are unable to work with some of the committee members," Karima said without citing any allegation against Nila Chowdhury She replied in the affirma-

tive when asked whether they would retain their positions. She ruled out possibilities of Razia Foyez and Barrister Rabia Bhuiya's getting the

posts. One source hinted that Foyez and Bhuiya may be chosen for the posts of president and secretary respectively to avoid "controversy".

Int'l Day for Disabled observed

The International Day for the Disabled was observed in the country yesterday as elsewhere in the world, reports

The Ministry of Social Welfare yesterday organised a procession and a discussion in the capital on the occasion.

The procession participated by the disabled people and children was led by the Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Minister Tariqui Islam. The procession began from the High Court gate and dispersed at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy premises.

Speaking at the discussion held at the Shishu Academy auditorium, Tariqui Islam said the retarded persons were not the burden of the society. "We all should take care and help them to get them involved in the main stream of the development process of the country," he added.

He called upon the affluent section of the society to accumulate funds for undertaking welfare and rehabilitation programmes for the retarded persons and children.

State Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Sarwari Rahman, in her address, said visually and hearing impaired persons could contribute in nation building activities if they get proper training and care.

She stressed the need for building special schools, training and rehabilitation centres, including national complex for special education, at governmental level in the country for the purpose.



A procession was brought out in the city yesterday in observance of the International Day for the Disabled. - Star photo

Emerging market on fringe

public sector — unions, indi-

drives while the administra

From Page 1 Col 7

and labour reasons, recent transition to democracy and a homogeneous society were identified as merits in the Bangladesh economy.

As part of the historical background, the report provides a "brief table of events when the driver lost control of describing the progress of Bangladesh" from the year 1199 as the year Bengal is 'captured by Muslims' upto the February 1991 elections won In Dhaka, a police constable by the BNP.

was crushed under the wheels The Smith New Court reof a truck near the Baldha port also briefly touches on the existing political structure Our Dhaka Medical College and observes: "due to largely homogeneous society of ports that Abul Hossain of Wari Muslim Bengalis there are no police outpost died after being racial or religious lines upon admitted to the DMCH from which the parties (Awami League and the BNP) are The policeman was hit by drawn, the differences therethe truck while he was on pafore come from ideological bias trol along with two Ansars at and personalities."

Saying that the BNP is recognised as a moralistic party and the Awami League is 'characterised' by its socialistic ideals and until recently was a proponent of Fabian economics', the report caustically remarks "there is immense rivalry between Sheikh Hasina and Begum Khaleda Zia who have in the past taken contrary stances for the sake of being contradictory", while noting the "deep-seated" dis-

like between the two leaders. However, the report adds *democracy is here to stay although the government is apparently weak ... and has been criticised as being weakwilled through its inability to carry out its manifesto and indecisive in its handling of issued", while noting that the 'same set' of problems would be faced by any other party in

The report notes that the private entrepreneurs are having a more equal chance of business opportunities.

"Locals profess that there is no going back: democracy is entrenched and any attempts by the military to regain power will be met with public intolerance," it says "private entrepreneurs agree that the investment opportunities have now settled on a level playing field, opportunities were previously routed to those closely linked to the leadership."

It also notes that the government is still 'grappling' with elements who are resisting the reforms. *Powerful interests in the

viduals having vested interests in government-related development projects - have managed to hamper the progress of the government's reform

tion itself suffers from maintenance of a comfortable bureaucratic status quo." The report is also scathing in its remarks on corruption saying that corrupt practices, having been a way of life, are

hard to cradicate. "Corruption is endemic, the report adds "the administration machinery is plagued with widespread bribery and corruption even though the government has been over hauled, the body of administrators cannot be replaced overnight with an inexperienced tranche of people."

On the economic front, Bangladesh, the report says, has historically suffered from protectionism and a subsidy culture, tariff and non-tariff barriers, restrictive practices, over-regulation, corruption and a poor work ethic.

This resulted in businesses being financially ill-disciplined, high wastage, low productivity, limited access to credit and the cost of credits' becoming high, it adds.

The report points out that professionally qualified market-oriented managers are in short supply in the country.

"Further, the lack of a coherent higher education system in the last five years compounded by the lack of opportunities in Bangladesh has deterred the return of 50,000 young Bangladeshis studying abroad in India, 30,000 in UK and 100,000 in North America.

As expected, the report says, the level of foreign borrowings has grown, currently at 12.3 billion US dollars, but debt servicing has been consistent at over 20 per cent per

It further adds that a 10 per cent currency depreciation is likely for the next year in line with the rest of the subconti-

identifying the garments sector as the mainstay of the economy, the report notes that "foreigners are exploiting Bangladesh's advantage of having low quotas and cheap labour... and garment exports for the first quarter of 1992-93 are 33 per cent higher," compared to the same period

in the last fiscal year.

Noting that the industrial sector "is still a fledgling" sector except where there has been an export overlap, the report identifies the textiles, garments, food processing, leather, toys and the basic electronics as the likely growth sectors.

Noting that the utility service sectors are generally 'inefficient' and the financia sector 'unsophisticated', the report, however, identifies the telecommunications, fuel power and construction sectors as having 'real prospects'

Banking and finance will also see a revolution in the libcralisation of the marketplace. "Foreign banks may have increasingly more business opportunities," the report says.

It adds that delay in the KAFCO project may also affect other foreign projects and identifies the Jamuna Bridge and Chittagong Bridge projects as being under threat as both are Japanese concerns though "unrelated to KAFCO but not immune to Japanese business sentiments".

About the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), the report says that nationalisation hampered its function and it is only now becoming more ac-

Noting that only 25 of the 195 brokers at the DSE are currently active, the report recommends improvements in legislation and enforcement. It lists the market capitalisation of the DSE at 330 million US dollars as on June 1992.

"Foreign investors should view the market selectively, there are no particularly outstanding sectors but individual counters worth a closer look," it suggests, while broadly categorising the pharmaceutical and chemical, food and allied fuel and power, textile and allied and the financial sectors, are the ones to look for.

The 11 'blue chip' eompany stocks it recommends are; AB Bank, Apex Tannery, Ashraf textiles. Beximco Limited Beximco Pharmaceuticals, Bextmco Infusions, Bangladesh Oxygen, Chittagong Cement, City Bank, GQ Ball Pens and Monno Ceramics.

Smith New Court has made direct investments in Padma Textiles and Beximco Infusions and also invested in the stocks of GQ Ball Pens, Chittagong Cement, Monno Ceramics, Apex Tannery and Beximco Pharmaceuticals.

Shibir lays siege to Rajshahi

gripped Rajshahi Government College as Islami Chhatra Shibir activists went on rampage and kept all offices on the campus under a siege today, reports UNB.

Meanwhile, teachers of the college abstained from taking classes protesting Wednesday's Shibir attack on their common

On Wednesday, Shibir ransacked teachers' commonroom on the allegation that JCD acthe waiting list for admission in intermediate class violating demanded fresh list on merit

PM for unity of Muslim ummah

The ambassador of Islamic Republic of Iran, Mahmoud Bayat, called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her secretariat office here yesterday, reports BSS

During the meeting Begum Zia stressed the need for unity of Muslim countries for an end to repression of Muslims in different places. She said skilled manpower

of Bangladesh could be utilised to the mutual benefit of both the countries.

The Prime Minister thankfully recalled the assistance of Iran for the people of Bangladesh during natural dis-

She extended invitation to Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to visit Bangladesh and conveyed her greetings to him. The ambassador while con-

veying greetings from the government of Iran extended invitation to Begum Zia from President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to visit Iran He also said Iran would al-

Bangladesh in all possible fields particularly in trade and cultural activities. lie said people of Bangladesh had a special place

ways cooperate with

in the hearts of Iranian people and government.

Koirala supports Dal-bhat approach

KATHMANDU, Dec 3: Nepalese Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala has said that he was looking forward to meeting Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and participating in the forthcoming SAARC summit in Dhaka, reports BSS. While attending a dinner

hosted in his honour by Bangladesh ambassador and Mrs S M Hossain at the 'Bargladesh House' here last night, Koirala said he would provide total support to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's 'Dalbhat' approach towards poverty alleviation in the re-Nepalese Prime

Minister recalled his meeting with Bangladesh Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and described her as a 'sincere friend of Nepal'.

Koirala wished resounding success of the forthcoming Seventh SAARC Summit under the able leadership of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia as the new chairperson.

From Page 1 Col 5 "a lot of money" for the beauti-

fication of city's selected areas. But the development activities in other areas were also going Abbas said that a massive programme to eradicate

mosquito has also started. The corporation earmarked Tk one crore for the pro-

The Mayor admitted the delay in starting the antimosquito drive saying that "it

took time to select a harmless insecticide for the eight million people of the city. Abbas urged the residents to keep their house premises clean to get an effective result of the anti-mosquito pro-

gramme. The city Mayor said that the corporation had also taken a programme to stop proliferation of unlicensed rickshaws and ordered the owners and pullers to have their licences.

"It is not possible to make the city rickshaw-free overnight as a large number of people are involved in it," Abbas said, adding that "but we are working on evolving a formula to replace rickshaw." The Mayor said that since

he took the charge of mayorship on May 19, 1991, he had finalised 1,752 big and small projects at a cost of over Tk 100 crore of which 860 projects had been completed.

In 1991-92 the corporation earned Tk 113 crore 77 lakh and spent Tk 96 crore and 21 lakh for the city dwellers.

In addition, four other donor-funded projects including environment development. low-cost latrine project, infrastructure development at Mirpur areas and Dhaka integrated flood control project were also continuing at a cost of Tk 195 crore.

Sector corpns From Page 1 Col 4

development will be achieved," the minister added.

He said government alone can not do better for people unless the attitude of "ruler and ruled is vanished". Muzassas Ahmed, president,

ICMAB in his speech urged the government to amend the Companies Act, constituted in 1913, for obtaining better performance in the industrial He said amendment of

Companies Act and promulgation of Cost Audit Act are necessary to protect misuse and unnecessary wastage in industrial sector.

The Midnight File

West Bengal govt survives no-confidence

CALCUTTA, Dec 3: The opposition Congress-I sponsored no-confidence motion against the left front government was defeated in the West Bengal assembly today by 189 to 28 votes, reports PTI.

Blasts leave 65 hurt in Manchester

MANCHESTER (England), Dec 3: Two bombs exploded in central Manchester on Thursday morning, injuring 65 people, and bringing chaos to this northern industrial city, police and hospitals reported, says AP.

JU Syndicate members

From Page 1 Col 7

and be asked to pay a fine. The Syndicate, reviewing the disciplinary body recommendations, according to officially unconfirmed reports, decided to expel the students for a year and ask them to pay a penalty of Tk five thousand. The eight other members

of the Syndicate who went through the traumatic experience are: Prof Khondoker Mustahidur Rahman, Prof Md Imamuddin, Prof Amir Hossain Khan, Naim Sultan, Kowser Hossain, Registrar Mohammad Ali and Gias Kamal Chowdhury.

The two accused, JCD's JU unit organising Secretary Md Moazzem Hossain and Al Beruni Hall AGS S M Abu Yusuf. allegedly insulted Dr Golam Hossain, the Provost of the Hall, when the latter refused the students' demand that a university ambulance be made available for a patient student. Dr Hossain argued that the plca was not acceptable as per

The students alleged that Dr Hossain threatened them with expulsion from the organisation using his influence. Hossain, a former leader of the Jattyatabadi Chhatra Dal is known as a political thinker of the ruling BNP. He teaches at the Department of the Government and Politics.

Based on Dr Hossain's complaint, the university authority served the students show-cause notices asking them why punitive measures would not be taken against them for verbally abusing the

OIC urges UN From Page 1 Col 5 dal and a crime against human-

It warned Serbian leaders in Belgrade and Bosnia that they could be punished for war crimes under the Geneva Convention and called for the establishment of an international war crimes tribunal.

The ministers also said UN forces should be deployed on Bosnian-Serbian and Bosnian-Montenegran border to prevent any assistance reaching the Serb forces.

Bosnia's beleaguered Muslims say a UN arms embargo is preventing them from defending themselves against the heavily armed Serbs. But opponents of easing the embargo say it would only worsen the bloodshed.

Vance, representing the United Nations, and Owen for the European Community, are to host an international ministerial level conference on Bosnia in Geneva on December

The ministers also expressed their 'grave concern' over the increasing tension in Kosovo, Sanjak and Macedonia and warned that attacks or Muslims in these areas would have 'foreseeable consequences and could lead to a wider regional conflict." Editorial on page 4

All provosts, house tutors and half officials resigned in protest after Friday's incident. The week-long events, as it appeared yesterday, with the arrival of the two-member

teacher, an associate professor.

Cabinet mission, turned out to be a great embarrassment for the ruling BNP. ___ Why did you act like that? You could have contacted me.' Information Minister Nazmul Huda was heard telling Dr

Golam Hossain taking him aside as soon as the ministers arrived at the spot Earlier, Huda, according to JCD insiders, had phoned the JUCSU VP and assured him:

"Stick to your position." During their four-hour effort to end the impasse, the Ministers sat separately with the Syndicate and the representatives of the students.

The Syndicate reportedly agreed to hear an appeal from the accused in its next meet-Meanwhile, the University

Teachers' Association (JUTA) submitted a memorandum to the Vice Chancellor at 11-30 am demanding ouster of the "terrorists," from the campus. The JCD activists tried to block the teachers' entry into the administrative building. If the demand was not met,

the association said, the teachers would go on an indefinite work stoppage. However, with the changed situation the teachers are unlikely to go ahead with the plan.

The provosts and the hall officials are likely to sit Saturday to discuss the withdrawal of their resignations.

7 Sarbaharamen with arms held

JESSORE, Dec 3: Police nabbed seven activists of outlawed Sarbahara Party and recovered three pipe-guns, five rounds of bullets, two kirich and a dagger from their possession on Wednesday from Jalkar village of Sadar thana, reports UNB.

The seven activists of the infamous terrorist group of the area 'Asad Bahini' went to the village to commit a dacoity. The arrested are Faizur

(25), Aliar (34), Hafizur (32), Harun (20), Abu Taleb (32), Moazzem (27) and Aslam (30).

Fountain From Page 1 Col 5

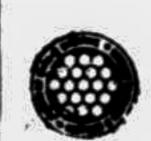
Authoritative sources said that they had planned to expand the traffic-jam-prone street crossing near the fivestar hotel but that more funds were used instead for beautification work before the

The fountain will be inaugurated ahead of the arrival of the officials from India. Pakistan, Shri Lanka, the Maldives, Bhutan and Nepal who will be in the capital Saturday.

The two-day Summit begins December 12.

Sale and Repurchase Prices of ICB Unit Certificates Refixed

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women held on suspicion after they found

From Page 1 Col 8

ur-Rashid, two agents of Mahbub International of Malibagh in Dhaka, on charges of trafficking women. The rescured women.

identified themselves as: Amena of Tongi, Monowara of Narsinghdi, Piara of Savar, Salma of Mirpur, Rahila of Jatrabari, Dhaka, Fatema of Demra, Tasrin of Daudkandi, Comilla, Parul Barisal, Nasima of Agargaon, Mamtaz of Tongi, Parvin of Mirpur, Mala of Nawabganj, Misrim Akhter of Kalabagan, Shahinur and Shima of Gazipur, Nazma of Badda in Dhaka and Beauty of Barisal.

A number of protest meetings were held. However, Immigration officials at ZIA there was no report of any unsaid that they held the women toward incident.

that names and addresses on their passports and other documents inconsistent. The No Objection Certificate (NOC) numbers and dates

given to the women were actually issued for males, they Police said that the women

alleged that the recruiting agency had realised between Taka 14 thousand to 35 thousand from each of them with promises of employment in Dubai and other places in the Middle East. The visas and tickets of the

women had been issued from

Dubai that, police suspected,

might have been forged.

College campus RAJSHAHI, Dec 3: Tension

tivists' names were shown in the order of merit. They also