



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a meeting at Mirpur yesterday. — Star photo

BOL expansion scheme

From Page 1 Col 8 posed that the government set up a Taka 120 million liquid petroleum gas (LPG) bottling plant in a joint venture with the public sector. "We have grown with the market and, of course, right now we are getting short of capacity and our managers here are proposing a new Taka 100 million expansion," Rich said. "We are happy to subscribe to that in terms of our shareholders' saying yes that is a good idea."

Poetry festival from tomorrow

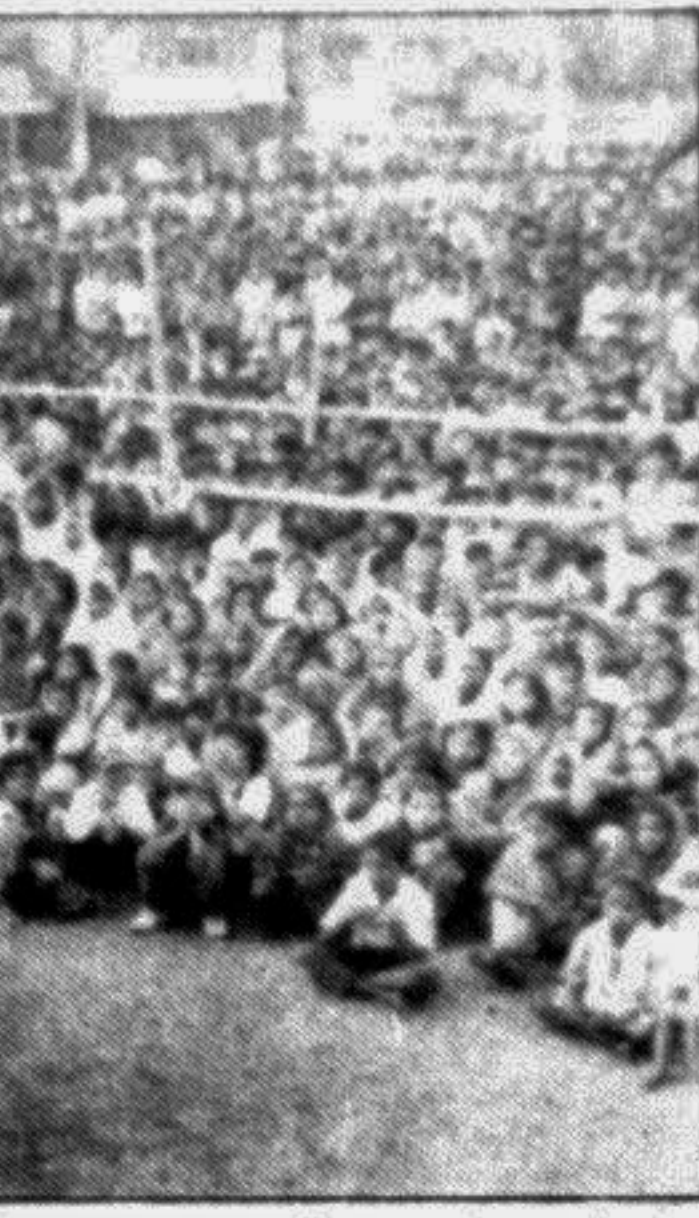
By Staff Correspondent The two-day Seventh National Poetry Festival will begin tomorrow at the TSC road island of Dhaka University. National Poetry Council at a press conference Saturday at TSC announced the schedule of the festival. The slogan of this year's festival is 'Joi Banglar Joi Kabitar' (Victory for Bangladesh, victory for poetry). Convener of the poetry council Prof Mazharul Islam told newsmen that 'Joi Bangla' was incorporated in the slogan of the poetry festival in view of the recent rise in the activities of the anti-liberation forces and to uphold the spirit of the War of Independence. Joint Convener of the council Samudra Gupta, Mohan Raihan, Aslam Sani, Md Samad and Rabindra Gop were among others present at the press conference.

Book fair

From Page 1 Col 8 this year's book fair and other programmes would be an exceptional one compared to those of the previous years both in size and content. The programmes of the Academy include: Discussion on Bangla Academy books from February 2 to 7, discussion on language, literature, culture and research oriented subjects from February 10, announcement of the Bangla Academy Literature Award '92 on February 20 and distribution of the awards on February 22. The main programme of the Academy will begin on February 15. Prof Mantazur Raiman Tarafdar will deliver the key-note speech. A total of 338 organisations will participate in the book fair while 480 stalls will be set up in the Academy compound and the adjoining road. The number of organisations that participated in the book fair the previous year was 272 while the number of stalls were 375. Bangla Academy is going to publish a total of about 100 new books and reprint 43 books for this year's book fair. Prof Harun-Ur-Rashid said that for the first time the sales centres of the Academy located in Chittagong, Khulna, Kushtia and Rajshahi will celebrate the Amar Ekushey by organising discussion meetings, cultural function and selling books in reduced price. The Academy will also introduce 'Raffle coupon' for those who will buy books worth Taka 100. After the raffle draw scheduled to be held on February 28, 100 coupon-holders will be given books worth Tk 250 each. Dhaka University Central Students' Union (DUCSU) and various student organisations in a joint statement Friday pledged to cooperate in organising the programmes and book fair of the Bangla Academy. The student leaders also called upon the people of all strata to extend cooperation and maintain discipline to make the book fair a success. The statement in this regard was signed by Ragib Ahsan Munna of Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Rokonuzzaman Rokon of Bangladesh Chhatra League (B-K), Moshrefa Mishu of Chhatra Otkiya Forum, Ahad Ahmed of Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Ishaq Ali Khan of Bangladesh Chhatra League (M-I) and Milton Mehedi of DUCSU.

Guilty to face upto death sentence

From Page 1 Col 7 maintaining peace and harmony there. Nasiruddin advised to sort out any misunderstanding between Navy men and local people across the discussion table. The Naval chief in his speech assured the local people of Halishahar of all-out cooperation to ensure complete peace and safety to them. "We are all brothers, let us live together in peace and cordially by forgetting the past" Rear Admiral Islam said. The Naval chief announced that any one member or dependent from each dead person's family would be provided a job at the Naval dockyard in addition to free-education up to class ten to any one child of each person who died in the January 2-3 violence at Halishahar. Rear Admiral Islam also said that more Navy personnel might face drastic action after



Sheikh Hasina addressing an election meeting at Mirpur in city yesterday. — Star photo

France, Belgium send in troops

BRAZZAVILLE (Congo), Jan 30: The reinforcement of France's embassy security detachment and impending arrival of several hundred Belgian troops appeared Saturday to have restored calm to the Zairian capital, Kinshasa, reports AP. Businessmen reached by telephone said many people were returning to work after a two-day rampage by Zairian troops that claimed about 50 lives, including the French ambassador and six other foreigners. Belgian troops were scheduled to arrive here, a 15-minute ferry ride across the Congo River from Kinshasa, later Saturday morning, Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko has said the Belgians have no right to intervene in their former colony, but Belgium has disregarded Mobutu's edicts in the past. Belgian officials said the fighting, which erupted Thursday, had evolved into a power struggle between soldiers loyal to Mobutu and troops backing a pro-democracy movement. The first contingent of about a dozen French troops arrived in the central African nation late Friday and went straight to the French embassy compound to protect some 400 compatriots who sought refuge there.

50 killed in Kinshasa

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JCD-BCL clash leaves 10 hurt at a city college

By DMCH Correspondent At least 10 people were injured when supporters of BNP backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Awami League backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) clashed at New Model Degree College and its surrounding areas on Mirpur Road Saturday noon. Of the injured Asaduzzaman, a first year student of the college was admitted to the Dhaka medical College Hospital (DMCH) while two others, one identified as Babul, were admitted to the Dhanmudi Nursing Home. All the three suffered bullet injuries. Clash ensued when a group of BCL supporters attempted to enter into the college and the JCD activists chased them at around 1 pm. Witnesses said that at least 10 gunshots and 20 blasts were heard during the half an hour clash.

PM: Safe shelter

From Page 1 Col 4 Shelter Programme Dr Jamilur Reza Chowdhury presented the key-note paper. Mentioning the huge loss of lives and property of about Taka 9,000 crore, Begum Zia lamented that "despite receiving forecast we could not save the lives and property due to infrastructural limitations." Pointing out that cyclones and tidal surges occur at a specific time of the year, she said plan for the shelters should be made in such a way that they can be used in different welfare purposes for the rest of the period. The Prime Minister also stressed the need for maintenance of the infrastructures to be built and mentioned the dilapidated condition of the shelters constructed during the 60s and 70s which can no longer be used. Begum Zia emphasised on coordination between the work of government and non-governmental organisations (NGO) in cyclone preparedness and facing the calamities. She recalled the contributions of the NGOs, international organisations and the American Operation Sea Angels in rehabilitation programme after the devastating cyclone in April 1991. She said it should be ensured that the shelters are not

4-hour work stoppage at DMCH

By DMCH Correspondent Doctors, nurses and other staff of the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) abstained from duties for four hours from 8 am to 12 noon yesterday in protest against storming of the hospital by armed men last Thursday. At a rally yesterday all the staff of DMCH decided to abstain from duties for three hours from 10 am to 1 pm today and tomorrow.



Sheikh Hasina addressing an election meeting at Mirpur in city yesterday. — Star photo

Hasina

From Page 1 Col 7 cal Awami League leaders Shamsul Huda and Mohammad Hanif and addressed, among others, by senior party leaders Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, Mohammad Nasim, Amir Hussain Abu and Candidate of the party in the Mirpur by-elections for February 3, Kamal Ahmed Majumder. Introducing the party candidate, Sheikh Hasina said that the AL nominee was fighting the party by-election with the 'hoax' the symbol which drove away the Pakistani oppressors, led the nation to freedom and presented the country with a sacred Constitution. She also urged the people not to be confused with what she termed, the wild propaganda by the ruling party and requested them to cast their votes judiciously. She also bitterly criticised the ruling party for what she termed its 'hobnobbing' with the fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami, saying that this Jamaat had killed thousands of people during the Liberation War and was now conspiring to undo the hard-earned independence. The candidates in a written complaint to the Returning Officer alleged rigging and demanded fresh polling. In Magura, an independent Commissioner candidate Gazir Rahman was knifed by armed opponents as he tried to stop their stuffing ballot boxes at the Dudhmollick high school centre. At least seven weapons were seized by the police from the trouble makers during violence in the town, who allegedly forced out the agents of the Awami League candidate. Supporters of the AL and the Independent candidates brought out processions in the town protesting the alleged rigging by the BNP candidate. Our Correspondent in Gaibandha reported: A mobile court fined eight people for rigging in different centres of the pourashava. At Rajbari, a mobile court sent four persons to jail and fined three others including two teenage girls for stuffing boxes with false votes during the pourashava polls. According to the available unofficial results, the elected pourashava chairmen with their party affiliation were: Rajbari — Ali Nawaz Mahmud Khayyam (Workers Party), Pangsha — Abdul Aziz Sarder (BNP), Faridpur — Fazul Kabir Chand (Independent), Kushtia — Anwar Ali (Awami League), Kumarkhali - Nurul Islam Pasha (BNP), Hajiganj — Abdur Rashid Majumder (Independent), Bogra — Advocate Zahurul Islam (Independent), Sherpur — Mizanur Rahman Manju (AL), Santahar — Ghulam Morshed (AL), Joypurhat — Abdul Aziz Mollah (AL), Mymensingh — Delwar Hossain Khan (BNP), Gouripur — Abdul Khaleq Munshi (BNP), Muktagacha — Abdul Hye Akhand (AL), Shahjapur — Hasibur Rahman Swapan (Jatiya Party), Sirajganj — TRM Nur-e-Heal (BNP), Bheramara — Dr. Monwarul

Trade centre

From Page 1 Col 8 The Malaysian Trade Centre will be located at the Concord Tower, a multi-storey building at Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the city. According to the organisers of the centre, a nearly 10,000-square-foot area on the ground and the first floors of the building will be used for the trade centre. The organisers plan to accommodate a showroom of Proton Saga cars and offices of the general sales agent (GSA) of Malaysia Airlines and the Malaysian International Shipping Corporation (MISC) in the ground floor while the Malaysian products of different kinds will be exhibited on the first floor. The Centre will also provide information to local traders interested in doing business in Malaysia. "Private sectors of both the countries will come closer through this centre which will help increase communication between the business communities of Bangladesh and Malaysia", said the sponsors of MBV. When asked to comment about the trade centre, Ahmad Fazi Bin Abdul Razak, the Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh said, "this will certainly boost trade between the two fraternal countries." The High Commissioner mentioned that the existence of such a trade centre would also be the focal point in bilateral economic cooperation. "Business activities between Malaysia and Bangladesh will now be more visible," he added. Mukarram Hussain Khan, one of the organisers of the Malaysian Trade Centre believed that it would increase trade understanding between Dhaka and Kuala Lumpur. The centre will provide services and facilities to the businessmen of both the countries, said Mukarram, Director of Concord, a leading construction company in Bangladesh, also one of the partners in the joint venture company MBV.

Accused mum

From Page 1 Col 5 Rahman was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail from CMM's Court on the same day. Earlier Special Branch (SB) of police arrested Habibur Rahman under Section 54 of the Cr PC for alleged smuggling of state documents to a foreign country. The SB and two other intelligence agencies which interrogated Rahman declined to make any comment on the investigation.

US trade show

From Page 1 Col 8 want to turn into an annual event, aims at stimulating new interests in US products and thus eventually attract more American investment in Bangladesh. The ABEF is an associate member of the Asia Pacific Council of American Chamber of Commerce. A total of 32 companies, agencies and NGOs have stalls in the show being held at the Sheraton Hotel. "As Bangladesh continues to press forward with its economic reform programme, I expect that the commercial dimension in the US-Bangladesh relationship will grow in importance," the US Ambassador in Dhaka, William B Milam, said at the brief opening ceremony. Syed Humayun Kabir, the president of the ABEF, also spoke.

Sarbahara Party men kill 3 in Shailakupa

JHENIDAH, Jan 30: Three members of Purbia Banglar Communist Party were killed by gunmen of Sarbahara Party Friday night in Shailakupa thana, police said today, reports UNB. The dead were named Kartik Biswas (40) of Laxmipur, Paritosh Biswas (32) of Kharbaria and Panchanon Biswas (40) of Kachua. Their bodies were sent to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital for autopsy. According to police, Kartik and Paritosh were throttled to death by twisting muffer around their necks near the Kachua bridge at about 10 pm.

The Midnight File

UNSC member: Russia to support India's bid

NEW DELHI, Jan 30: Russia will support India's bid to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council, President Boris Yeltsin said Friday. "If the issue is brought up for discussion, I will give a yes vote, Yeltsin told a joint news conference with Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao at the end of a three day visit which put relations with India back on track. The 61-year-old Russian leader said there was a need to review the principles governing membership of the 15-member UN Security Council, five of whom are permanent members with veto rights, reports AFP.

'Pakistan has acquired four to seven nuclear bombs'

WASHINGTON, Jan 30: Pakistan has acquired four to seven nuclear bombs, Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service said in a report released Thursday Kyodo news agency said. Pakistan was "in possession of its first atomic bomb in 1986 and has meanwhile accumulated four to seven of them," the report released at a press conference held by Yevgeny Primako, Director of counter intelligence service in Moscow said, reports PTI.

Pourashava polls

From Page 1 Col 5 joint meeting of the candidates from Awami League, Jatiya Party, Workers Party and an Independent at the local Daratana Square. The candidates in a written complaint to the Returning Officer alleged rigging and demanded fresh polling. In Magura, an independent Commissioner candidate Gazir Rahman was knifed by armed opponents as he tried to stop their stuffing ballot boxes at the Dudhmollick high school centre. At least seven weapons were seized by the police from the trouble makers during violence in the town, who allegedly forced out the agents of the Awami League candidate. Supporters of the AL and the Independent candidates brought out processions in the town protesting the alleged rigging by the BNP candidate. Our Correspondent in Gaibandha reported: A mobile court fined eight people for rigging in different centres of the pourashava. At Rajbari, a mobile court sent four persons to jail and fined three others including two teenage girls for stuffing boxes with false votes during the pourashava polls. According to the available unofficial results, the elected pourashava chairmen with their party affiliation were: Rajbari — Ali Nawaz Mahmud Khayyam (Workers Party), Pangsha — Abdul Aziz Sarder (BNP), Faridpur — Fazul Kabir Chand (Independent), Kushtia — Anwar Ali (Awami League), Kumarkhali - Nurul Islam Pasha (BNP), Hajiganj — Abdur Rashid Majumder (Independent), Bogra — Advocate Zahurul Islam (Independent), Sherpur — Mizanur Rahman Manju (AL), Santahar — Ghulam Morshed (AL), Joypurhat — Abdul Aziz Mollah (AL), Mymensingh — Delwar Hossain Khan (BNP), Gouripur — Abdul Khaleq Munshi (BNP), Muktagacha — Abdul Hye Akhand (AL), Shahjapur — Hasibur Rahman Swapan (Jatiya Party), Sirajganj — TRM Nur-e-Heal (BNP), Bheramara — Dr. Monwarul

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বাংলা একাডেমী
ঢাকা

‘অমর একুশে’ ৯৩ উপলক্ষে বাংলা একাডেমীর গ্রন্থমেলা উদ্বোধন করা হবে ১ ফেব্রুয়ারী ‘৯৩ বিকেল ৪ টায়। উদ্বোধন অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি থাকবেন বিচারপতি মুহম্মদ হাবিবুর রহমান। অনুষ্ঠানে একাডেমীর ফেলো, জীবন-সদস্য, সদস্য এবং সুধীজনকে সাদর আমন্ত্রণ।

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