

Inside Today

Article

One Man Can
Create a Constitu-
tional Anarchy in
India

by Ashok Mitra
Page 4

International

Palestinians have
found a new friend in
White House : Arafat



Mitterrand asks DPRK
to open N-sites to
outside inspections
Page 5

Business

Clinton hopes to win
NAFTA battle despite
opposition

Mosharraf assures
more facilities to
private investors
Pages 6,7

Feature

Women On The
Move

Life is Short but Art is
Long; Option for a Girl
Child; Poor but Not
Powerless; Polluting
Less, Paying More;
Too Little Food, Too
Many Babies
Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



The Wonder World of
Plant Museum
Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Hasina's condition
improves

The condition of Sheikh
Hasina, Awami League Presi-
dent and Leader of the
Opposition in Parliament, suf-
fering from Typhoid for the last
10 days, is improving. The
party's health affairs secretary
Dr. Mustafa Jalal Mohiuddin
yesterday said the Opposition
leader is expected to recover
from her illness in the next few
days. Hasina has been under
treatment of Prof A. Qadri, Prof
Mahmud Hasan and Dr. S.A.
Malek, reports UNB.

US aircraft in Ctg

A maritime patrol aircraft (P-3 Orion) of the US navy arrived
in Chittagong yesterday on a
four-day visit to Bangladesh, an
ISPR press release said. During
its stay the aircraft will take
part in a joint exercise on
maritime surveillance, search
and rescue missions in the Bay
of Bengal with naval ships and
BAF aircraft. It will also be put
on static display and kept open
to limited number of visitors at
the Chittagong Airport today,
reports BSS.

College teachers'
strike Sept 18, 19

Eleven thousand teachers
and officials of government col-
leges will observe two-hour-tol-
ken strike from 11 am on
September 18 and 19 at the call
to Pro-Kri-Chi. 0 BCS Kendro
Sangram Parishad. The work-
stoppage aims at pressing home
17-point charter of demands
including 4 proposals already
admitted by the government,
reports UNB.

The Daily Star

WB-initiated programmes have failed to meet objectives: Saifur

By Staff Correspondent

Finance Minister M Saifur
Rahman Wednesday criticised
the World Bank (WB) initiated
structural adjustment pro-
gramme for having failed to ad-
equately meet its objectives.

"The World Bank's structural
adjustment programme has not
been able to deliver the desired
results, particularly in the mi-
cro-economic sector," he
pointed out while inaugurating a
two-day conference on the
"Economy of Bangladesh" at a
local hotel.

The Minister, however, said
that the International Monetary
Fund (IMF)-sponsored macro-
economic stabilisation pro-
gramme was successful, but
added that the reform measures
are facing opposition from
"everywhere".

Rahman also disclosed that

the WB had recently threatened
to turn down a government re-
quest to provide funds for the
jute sector reform programme
because of the wage hike an-
nounced for the public sector
workers and the rising produc-
tion costs in the sector.

He was referring to the re-
cent Jatiya Sangsad debate on
the jute sector, which, he said,
did not reflect the 'true' picture
of the sector.

Rahman also noted that the
government is planning to make
the currency convertible on
trade and service accounts by
October 1 and also on capital
accounts by July next.

Jointly organised by the
Asian Development Bank (ADB)
and the Academy of Planning
and Development, LGRD and
Cooperatives Minister Barrister

Abdus Salam Talukder deliv-
ered the key-note address at the
inaugural session of the confer-
ence chaired by Industries
Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan.
ADB Resident Representative
Geert Van Der Linden also
spoke.

The Finance Minister ob-
served that it is time to assess
the extent of success and failure
of the economic policy
framework initiated in recent
years, which would help provide
future policy guidelines.

Such an assessment would
be initiated, he said, perhaps
through the Bangladesh Institute
of Development Studies (BIDS), in November.

Rahman claimed that there
was an 'overdose' of the ad-
justment programme in the
WB-designed policy, under

which, he said, "No sector was
left untouched."

One should ask to what ex-
tent, under the prevailing politi-
cal conditions, these reforms
were relevant, he explained.

The bank's adjustment poli-
cies failed to yield the desired
results, particularly in the mi-
cro-economic sector, the
Minister said, although domes-
tic resource mobilisation has
been geared up and a congenial
environment for investment has
been put in place.

The Minister also blamed the
private sector for failing to re-
spond to the stimulus. "Lack of
entrepreneurial drive seems to
be hindering the growth", he
observed.

The banks are facing diffi-
culty in finding viable schemes
See Page 12 Col 3



IT WAS THERE YESTERDAY, IT MAY NOT BE THERE TOMORROW: A cinema hall, ironically enough named Padma, was threatened with obliteration by the furious erosion of the river Padma which has been devouring vast tracts of land in Louhajang thana of Munshiganj over the past few weeks.

Padma devours vast areas in Louhajang

By Nazmul Ashraf

LOUHAJANG (Munshiganj),
Sept 15: Erosion of the mighty
Padma has devoured nearly five
kilometres of its banks from
Louhajang to Dhahid over the
past 20 days.

One of the major rivers of the
country, the Padma has mean-
time swallowed the Louhajang
port jetties situated at the
Dighibazar bend, and its sur-
rounding localities covering one
square kilometre.

The on-going erosion of the
Padma has already destroyed
about 500 business establish-
ments including two branches of
the Janata and Bangladesh
Krishti Bank, six rice mills, four
ice factories and five pottery
and metal works, all localised
around the port.

A busy river port before par-
tition, Louhajang, once had di-
rect commercial links with
Calcutta. But over the years the
port's importance declined and
has remained inoperative be-
cause of unabated erosion since
last month.

The newly-built Padma
Cinema Hall, adjacent to the
port, is awaiting obliteration as
the river, continuously widening
its banks here, was only a few
yards away.

Unofficial sources estimated
the losses, caused by the river
erosion till yesterday, at Tk 25
crore.

At least 200 families have
been rendered homeless as the
Padma keeps devouring locali-
ties adjacent to the port bazar
which is an important whole-
sale rice and timber market.

While visiting the affected
area yesterday, The Daily Star
correspondent found no action
by the local administration to
check the river erosion or to re-
habilitate the affected people.

While deliberating on the
issue, both the Treasury and

6 die, 100 hurt in police firing at Moheshkhali

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, Sept 15: Six
people were killed and over 100
wounded when police opened
fire on a mob at Matarbari
Union in Moheshkhali this af-
ternoon.

Thousands of villagers were
protesting the arrest of a former
Matarbari Union Chairman —
Al-hajj Siddiq Ahmed Chowdhury,
said to be in his nineties, — near the
union parishad office this afternoon.

A special force of
Moheshkhali police raided the
house of the former chairman in
the morning, arrested him
along with his three sons and
13 other people on charges of
corruption.

Police opened fire after the
mob attacked them with lethal
weapons when they were pro-
ceeding toward the jetties of
the Cox's Bazar Sadar hospital
when the villagers took away
two other bodies.

Most of the wounded people
were admitted to the Chittagong
Medical College Hospital and a
Christian missionary hospital at
Chokoria, Cox's Bazar.

Seven policemen who were
also injured in the fighting were
admitted to the Moheshkhali
Thana Health Complex.

See Page 12 Col 3

Naga rebels gun down 100 rivals

GUWAHATI, Sept 15: Naga
separatists in India's northeast-
ern Manipur state killed at least
100 rival tribesmen, police said
today, reports Reuter.

They said some 30 guerrillas
of the outlawed National
Socialist Council of Nagaland
(NSCN) raided Zaupi village of
the rival Kuki tribe on Tuesday
morning, lined up the men and
shot them.

Manipur Police chief Mahe-
sh Sharma said the toll was the
highest of any NSCN attack on
the Kuki tribes people, who are
regarded by the Nagas as govern-
ment informers.

"We have recovered some 80
bodies. The toll will be higher
than 100," Sharma told
Reuters.

Cabinet decides
on import
policy today

In the backdrop of differing
opinions of the ministries of
Finance and Commerce a special
Cabinet meeting will take
place today to decide on the
country's next import policy,
reports PNA.

An official source said the
government is under pressure
from the World Bank and the
donor agencies to liberalise the
trade restrictions. In some
cases, they put it as a condition
for disbursement of aid.

The Cabinet discussed the
import policy proposals placed
by the Commerce Ministry as
well as the financial pro-
gramme on import for 1993-94
at its weekly regular meeting
on Monday last.

The import policy is usually
announced at the end of an
outgoing financial year, but the
government failed to maintain
this general practice this year
(1993-94) due to difference of
opinion of the two ministries.

The Finance Ministry, in ac-
cordance with WB prescription,
See Page 12 Col 1

Designs of old
buildings to be
maintained

Prime Minister Begum
Khaleda Zia yesterday empha-
sised that architectural designs
of the country's old govern-
ment buildings and structures
should be kept up at the time
of renovation, repair and recon-
struction, reports UNB.

The architectural designs
should be maintained to pre-
serve the nation's heritage, the
Prime Minister said while pres-
iding over a meeting of the
National Implementation
Committee of Administration
Reorganisation (NICAR) at the
International Conference Centre
(ICC).

The meeting discussed,
among other things, the develop-
ment of district and thana
headquarters and allocated Tk
150 crore among five ministries
for this purpose.

Private banks need support, not NCBs'

By Rashed Mahmud Titumir

The Trade and Development
Report, 1993 (TDR) of the
United Nations Conference on
Trade and Development (UNCTAD) calls for "boldness" and "realism" in changing the world economic structure and for dealing with the debt overhang and global deflation.

The report, expected to be re-
leased today worldwide through
press conferences in five affil-
iated capitals, also challenges
the conventional wisdom of de-
velopment and global economic
issues.

Belying the projections made
earlier by almost all interna-
tional economic organisations,
the report now affirms that the
North has failed to recover and
unemployment has become the
overriding problem, while gov-
ernment debt has escalated.

It suggests the most
promising way to cope with
deficits, debt and deflation is to
have a one-time capital levy
combined with privatisation to
reduce debt, alongside one-off
spending increases to sustain
incomes.

See Page 12 Col 7

চলচিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর

তথ্য মন্ত্রণালয়

১১২, সার্কিট হাউস রোড, ঢাকা।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয় : ১৯৭৩ সালের ছাপাখনা ও প্রকাশনা ডিপ্লো-
রেশন ও রেজিস্ট্রেশন) আইনের ২৪ নং ধাৰা

মোতাবেক বই জমা দেয়া প্রস্তুত।

১৯৭৩ সালের ছাপাখনা ও প্রকাশনা (ডিপ্লো-
রেজিস্ট্রেশন) আইনের ২৪ নং ধাৰা অন্যান্য সকল পৃষ্ঠক/
পৃষ্ঠাকার প্রতিটি ৮ (চার) কপি করে এ অধিদপ্তরে জমা
দেয়া প্রযোজন রয়েছে। জমাকৃত পৃষ্ঠক/পৃষ্ঠাকার বিত্তান্ত
যোগাযোগী বাংলাদেশ গেজেটে ক্রোপ আকারে
প্রকাশিত হয় যা দেশ ও বিদেশের বিদ্যোৎসাহী,
সাহিত্যামোদী, শিক্ষাবৃত্তি ও গবেষকদের বিপুলভাবে
সহায়তা করে।

আশা প্রকাশ করা যাচ্ছে যে বাংলাদেশের সকল
মুদ্রকর/প্রকাশক/গ্রন্থালয়ের প্রতি শুধু দেখিয়ে
তাদের প্রকাশিত পৃষ্ঠক/পৃষ্ঠাকা এ অধিদপ্তরের নিবন্ধন
শাখায় জমা দানে সচেষ্ট থাকবেন। অন্যথায়, আইনের
সংযোগ ধারা মোতাবেক যথাবিহীন ঘৃণণ করা

হবে।
DFP(G) 14353-14/9
G-1214