

Inside Today

Article

**An Unhealthy
Trend Prevails in
the Health Sector
for the Last One
Year**

Column: Behind The
Headline
by Sharier Khan
Page 4

International

UN elects 8 judges to try
Bosnia war criminals



Ogata calls for aid to
rebuild Afghanistan
Page 5

Business

GATT accord on global
reforms appears bleak
Most tea prices ease
further at auction
Pages 6,7

Weekend Magazine

Should I Stay or Sho-
uld I Go? How a Ver-
woerd Shook His Whole
Family; Afrikaner Voi-
ces among the Zulus; A
Love Affair with Ben-
gali Culture; My World-
by SM Ali; A Feared
Judge, the Examining
Magistrate; Reliving
the War on Iraq; Guns
and Roses; Of Alienation
and Anguish; Brilli-
ant Return for Daniel
Day-Lewis; Songs
Moist with Mellow
Emotions
Pages 9, 10 & 11

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



A Tradition in its
Present Form
Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

EPB team starts Europe tour Sept 19

A six-member Bangladesh
delegation led by the Vice Chair-
man of the Export Promotion
Bureau (EPB) Shamsul Alam
Gazi leaves here on September
19 to explore possibilities of
exports of footwear, leather and
leather goods in the European
market, reports BSS.

Prakrichi's action programme

By Staff Correspondent
Engineers, Agriculturists,
Physicians and BCS cadre
members will abstain from work
from 11 am to 1 pm on Sunday
and Monday demanding imple-
mentation of their 17-point de-
mands. At a press briefing yester-
day in the city, the
Prakrichi, Krishibid, Chik-
tak O Bangladesh Civil Service
Kendriya Sangram Parishad
(Prakrichi) leaders said that
although the Prime Minister
had accepted four of the 17
points, including a selection
grade of Tk 4100-6500 scale for
all officials, get those have not
been implemented.

440 Rohingyas go home

COX'S BAZAR, Sept 16: Four
hundred and forty Rohingyas
refugees of 91 families volun-
tarily returned to their homes in
Myanmar through three transit
camps at Teknaf here today,
reports BSS.

MFA phase out likely to send garments sector into tailspin

By Special Correspondent

Bangladesh's garments in-
dustry may face a serious jolt
with phasing out of the Multi-
Fibre Arrangement (MFA). The
country's billion dollar ready-
made garments industry is now
bracing itself for the possi-
ble cost push effect the Harkin
Bill.

The Harkin Bill will deny
goods manufactured with child
labour into USA. Bangladesh
has been named as a country
with incidence of child labour
by senator Harkin during his
presentation of the bill to the
US senate.

The MFA governs trade in
textiles and clothing. Negotiated
in 1974, the MFA has had four
extensions until now. The last
couple of extensions were linked
to inconclusiveness of the
Uruguay Round of trade talks.

The MFA is a web of bilateral
agreements establishing coun-
try-specific import quotas. The
agreement is managed by a
Textiles Committee of 41 signa-
tories which is chaired by the
GATT Director General.

The MFA import quotas dis-
criminate between countries
and at least half of the global

trade in textiles and clothing is
affected by this discrimination.
During the 1980s clothing ex-
ports of India, Hong Kong,
Korea and Thailand came
across MFA barriers.

With the MFA becoming in-
creasingly binding for her re-
gional competitors Bangladesh
was allowed more and more
room in the US and European
market. Only a small share of
Bangladesh's export cate-
gories—subject to quota re-
strictions. This, coupled with
availability of low-cost labour,
contributed to the phenomenal

growth in the readymade gar-
ments industry. The Eighties
also saw foreign firms reloca-
ting their clothing production
and export base to Bangladesh
in a bid to by-pass severe quota
binding in their erstwhile home
countries.

The timing and modality of
the MFA phase out is still un-
certain as it is linked to the
Uruguay Round discussions.
But, the threat of such a
phase out in the medium-term
is real.

The successive shocks of
See Page 12 Col 6



A RAJUK bulldozer seen demolishing unauthorised constructions over an area of fifteen bighas of land in Fakirpool area in the city yesterday.

Bosnian Serbs, Muslims sign new accord for peace

GENEVA, Sept 16: Inter-
national mediators said today
they were calling all three
parties in the Bosnian conflict
to a meeting in Sarajevo on
September 21 to consider sign-
ing a peace accord.

Spokesman John Mills told
Reuters the mediators, Lord
Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg,
took the decision after overnight
talks with Bosnia's Muslim
president Alija Izetbegovic and a
top Bosnian Serb official.

Mills said Izetbegovic and
the Bosnian Serb official, the
rebels' parliamentary chairman
Momcilo Krajisnik, had signed a
joint declaration on ways to
achieve peace.

After agreeing the declara-
tion following secret overnight
talks, Izetbegovic left for the
airport, his destination was not
immediately known.

AP adds: Bosnian Serbs and
Muslims in a hastily arranged
meeting Thursday signed a new
agreement on cessation of hos-
tilities that clears the way for
the possible signing of a peace
package for the war-torn coun-
try, an official said.

The Serb-Muslim agreement
provides for a possible referen-
dum to see whether any of the
three states want to withdraw
from the union after the country
is divided along ethnic lines.

The agreement, together with
a similar Muslim-Croat accord
signed Tuesday in Geneva by
Bosnian President Alija Izetbe-
govic and Croatian President
Franjo Tudjman, would be
added to a peace package
already negotiated, the docu-
ment said.

It added that the whole
package could be signed at a
meeting of the leaders of the
warring parties at Sarajevo air-
port Tuesday morning.

The Muslim-Serb and Mus-
lim-Croat agreements would
assign working groups to iron
out the remaining differences
over the borders of Bosnia
among the three ethnic groups.

But the Muslim-Serb accord
added a provision for a referen-
dum "to be held on a mutually
agreed date" in all three estates
on the question of whether citi-
zens of any particular republic
agree to remain in the union or
leave the union, reflecting a
Serb demand.

The agreement goes on to
meet a Muslim concern, saying

that the Muslim republic would
retain Bosnia's seat in the
United Nations even if the
Croats or Serbs withdraw.

Lord Owen of the European
Community told The Associated
Press after a hastily arranged
meeting between Izetbegovic
and an influential Bosnian Serb
ended Thursday morning that
he hoped it had "laid the founda-
tion for a further meeting
with the parties in Sarajevo on
Tuesday," referring to the lead-
ers of Bosnian Muslims, Croats
and Serbs.

Owen and the other top me-
diator for former Yugoslavia, UN
Thorvald Stoltenberg, brought
Momcilo Krajisnik, speaker of
the self-styled Bosnian Serb
parliament, to Geneva late
Wednesday for a meeting with
Izetbegovic.

John Mills said the two were
working on a way to clear Serb-
Muslim differences so that
peace talks that collapsed on
Sept 1 can restart.

Owen, who spoke as he left
for Istanbul, said, "we will be
shuttling in the region from now
until Tuesday seeing all the
principles."

More on page 5

Mostafiz leaves for New York tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

Foreign Minister Mostafizur
Rahman will leave Dhaka to-
morrow to attend the United
Nations General Assembly
(UNGA) session.

The 48th regular session of
the UN's plenary body will begin
in New York on September 21.
Bangladesh Prime Minister
Begum Khaleda Zia is expected
to lead a large delegation to the
UNGA and is scheduled to leave
Dhaka on September 29. She
will address the assembly on
October 1.

The Bangladesh delegation
this year will include the
Attorney General, three Mem-
bers of Parliament and five
officials from the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs. Seven officials
of the Bangladesh Permanent
Mission in New York will also be
part of the delegation.

This year's UNGA session
has 153 items on its agenda,
the highest in recent years.
A vital issue on the agenda
will be the dramatic develop-
ments centering the PLO-Israel
peace accord.

Another important subject is
the re-structuring and re-vitali-
sation of the world body. The
See Page 12 Col 3

Rehabilitation of sick units PM's Office may intervene to speed up process

By Sohail Manzur

The Prime Minister's Office
(PMO) may have to intervene for
rehabilitation of the sick indus-
tries if the present poor pace of
progress persists, according to
official sources.

The PMO has already started
monitoring the situation and
asked the Ministry of Finance to
send reports of progress in the
rehabilitation process by the
15th of every month, the
sources said.

A letter issued by the PMO
on September 7 reminded the
ministry of Prime Minister
Begum Khaleda Zia's meeting
with the bankers, civil servants

and entrepreneurs of sick in-
dustries and also sent a list of
sick industries which have ap-
plied for rehabilitation.

Out of the total 1556 indus-
trial units identified by the Sick
Industries Revival and Reha-
bilitation Cell, decision was
taken on only 140 units in the
last two years.

A high official of the Prime
Minister's Office, while talking
to The Daily Star last night,
said the letter was issued to
monitor the progress and put
continuous pressure on the
banks and financing institu-
See Page 12 Col 4

Tk 400 cr plan to shift Dhaka Central Jail soon

By Staff Correspondent

The government is actively
considering a Tk 400 crore pro-
ject to shift the Dhaka Central
Jail to Kashimpur of Gazipur
district and construct a new jail
at Keraniganj for the under
trial prisoners.

This was disclosed by Home
Minister Abdul Matin Chow-
dhury in Parliament yesterday
when he was persuading an
Awami League (AL) MP to
withdraw a resolution demand-
ing relocation of all the central
jails of the country at least 10
miles from the outskirts of the
respective towns.

The Home Minister told the
House that the government was
sensitive to the problems of he
prisoners inside different jails of
the country and had already
implemented several recom-
mendations of the Justice
Munim Commission on jail re-
forms.

Matin also said the govern-
ment was committed to increas-
ing modern facilities to both
convicted and under trial pris-
oners.

"We are planning to set up
mills and factories inside the
jails to be constructed so that
the prisoners could earn for
their family members outside,"
the minister said.

Assuring Matia Chowdhury
of the AL, who expressed con-
cern over the unhygienic envi-
ronment of the prison cells for
the women, the minister in-
formed the House that the
problems of the women pris-
oners in the Dhaka Central Jail
had mostly been solved. The
problems in other jails would
also be solved gradually, he
added.

Matin Chowdhury later, in a
lighter vein, told the House,
that the new jails would have
separate accommodations with
modern facilities for political
prisoners, including the MPs
and Ministers. The Awami
League MP later withdrew the
resolution following the Home
Minister's assurance that mod-
See Page 12 Col 1

Thousands demonstrate in Moheshkhali

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, Sept 16:
Thousands of people today
gathered here to protest yester-
day's police-attack on villagers
of Matarbari union in Moh-
eshkhali which left six people
killed.

The people held several ra-
lies and brought out proces-
sions demanding a judicial in-
quiry into the incident and
punishment of those respon-
sible for the killings.

Lawyers boycotted the
Moheshkhali Thana court today
protesting the incident.

Awami League leader
Mohammad Ishaq, MP, BNP
president and general secretary
of Cox's Bazar district unit —
Ekramul Haq and Anwarul
Islam Chowdhury respectively
— criticised the police action
and also demanded a judicial
probe.

Police handed over the bod-
ies of the dead to the relatives
in the evening after postmortem
at the Cox's Bazar Sadar
Hospital.

The dead were identified as
Ali Ahmed Sawadagor, 28, a
businessman and Abdul Monaf,
20, Nur Mohammad, 18, Tulu
Mia, 16, Ziaul Haque, 17, and
Syed Ahmed, 20, — all stu-
dents.

Of the injured, the condition
of six persons admitted to the
Dolahajara Hospital and
Chittagong Medical College
Hospital have deteriorated,
hospital sources said.

Yesterday, police opened fire
on a mob who led a violent at-
tack to release 16 people ar-
rested on charges of corruption,
including a former chairman of
Matarbari union parishad.

Cabinet okays import policy

The Cabinet at a special
meeting yesterday approved the
two-year import policy for 1993-
94 and 94-95 and the Import
Financing Programme for 1993-
94 proposed by the Ministry of
Commerce, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Begum
Khaleda Zia chaired the meeting
held at the Bangabhaban.

The import target for 1993-
94 has been set at Tk 12,600
crore which is equivalent to
3.125 million US dollar. This
target is 19.06 per cent higher
than that of the previous year.

The Cabinet also approved
the proposals of the Ministry of
Commerce relating to with-
drawal of certain items from the
control-list of the Import Policy
(Amendment) Order 1991-93
See Page 12 Col 8

Seats in JS VIP gallery for Hasina soon

By Staff Correspondent

Several seats in the VIP
gallery of the Jatiya Sangsad
will be allotted for Leader of the
Opposition in Parliament Sheikh
Hasina, Deputy Speaker
Humayun Khan Pannu an-
nounced yesterday.

Replying to a notice on viola-
tion of special privilege from
Mirza Azam of the Awami
League, the Deputy Speaker
said Azam's notice had a plau-
sible ground and a seat quota
would be allotted to the
Opposition leader.

Mirza Azam, in his notice,
said that there were special
quotas of seats in the VIP
gallery for the guests of the
Prime Minister, the President,
the Speaker, and the Deputy
Speaker. There are also re-
served seats for the chiefs of the
armed forces.

Mirza Azam said that non-
allotment of seats for the Leader
of the Opposition in the House,
who is also the chief of the
Awami League, was a violation
of privileges of the Opposition
leader as well as the Opposition
MPs.

Six govt Secys to retire by year end

Star Report

Top level changes in the
administration are likely soon
as six Secretaries are due to re-
tire by the end of this year.

In addition, a Secretary-level
official has recently gone on
leave preparatory to retirement
(LPR) while an Additional
Secretary in charge of a min-
istry is also going on retirement
this year and another Secretary
is expected to retire early next
See Page 12 Col 2

Create insurance depts, Saifur asks NCBs

Finance Minister M Saifur
Rahman yesterday asked the
nationalised commercial banks
(NCBs) to create insurance de-
partments in order to establish
an insurance company of their
own for additional profit, re-
ports UNB.

"The insurance companies
are earning a huge amount of
money as insurance premium
during the L/C opening. On one
hand the banks are suffering
loss, on the other hand the in-
surance companies are making
profit," he said.

The Finance Minister was
addressing a day-long confer-
ence of senior executives of the
Janata Bank at a local hotel.
Some 225 General Managers,
Deputy General Managers and
Assistant General Managers
took part in the conference.

State Minister for Finance
Majibur Rahman, Janata Bank
chairman Dr Abdullah Farouk,
Managing Director Muhammad
Taheruddin, Deputy Managing

Director Nizamul Islam and
Director Shahidul Alam were,
among others, present.

Saifur Rahman pointed out
that the banking division of the
Finance Ministry was not su-
pervising the banks properly
and most of the officials in the
division were doing almost
nothing.

He said changes in the
Finance Ministry structure is
under consideration in order to
infuse dynamism in the finan-
cial sector.

"Every joint secretary,
deputy secretary and assistant
secretary will get separate re-
sponsibility. There should be
separate officers for every bank
and they will supervise the re-
spective banks," he added.

He said that a huge amount
of money is lying with the
banks, but entrepreneurs are
not getting funds for setting up
industries.

The banks have to take de-
See Page 12 Col 6

Shevardnadze escapes injury in Sukhumi

TBILISI, Sept 16: Georgian
leader Eduard Shevardnadze
narrowly escaped injury in the
Abkhazian city of Sukhumi to-
day when Abkhaz rebels shelled
a building in which he was
holding a meeting, Georgian
television said, reports Reuters.

Evening television news said
one man in the same room of
Shevardnadze was hurt in the
shell blast.

Earlier Shevardnadze said
today separatist rebels had at-
tacked the Abkhazian capital
Sukhumi and indicated he
might announce a general mo-
bilisation in the Transcaucasian
republic.

"Abkhazian tanks have en-
tered Sukhumi. I don't rule out
announcing a mobilization,"
Shevardnadze told reporters as
he was leaving for Sukhumi to
deal with the worst incident in
the Black Sea province in seven
weeks of ceasefire.

Meanwhile, Russia accused
Abkhazian separatists today of

violating a ceasefire accord with
the Georgian government and
demanded that they halt all
military activities or face the
consequences.

A government statement said
Abkhazia should immediately
halt combat activities and with-
draw its units to their earlier
positions. "Refusal to do so will
be seen as defiance, with all the
resulting political and economic
consequences," it said.

The rebels attacked both
Sukhumi and Abkhazia's sec-
ond town Ochamchira, breach-
ing a ceasefire brokered by
Russia at the end of July.
Under the agreement, Georgia
has been withdrawing its ar-
mour and heavy artillery from
Sukhumi.

Russia's Itar-Tass news
agency quoted Moscow's mili-
tary observers in Sukhumi as
saying up to 300 rebels, sup-
ported by tanks, had crossed
the River Gumista, north of the
city.

Gunmen raid Ctg hotel, kill one

From Staff Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Sept 16: One
person was shot dead and two
others injured around noon to-
day when a group of unidenti-
fied gunmen made a "com-
mando style" raid on a city
residential hotel, witnesses and
police said.

Three armed men reached in
front of Chittagong Boarding at
Loyal Road in an auto rickshaw
and stormed into the hotel fir-
ing indiscriminately, resulting
in on the spot death of a tailor
Ziauddin Khokon, 30, and in-
jury to two others, they said.

Of the injured one Badrul
Alam, 30, was admitted to the
Chittagong Medical College
Hospital with bullet wounds.

After the attack the as-
sailants fled the spot. However,
police later managed to arrest
the driver along with his auto
rickshaw from the Chakbazar
area. The driver told police the
three gunmen disembarked
near Dewan Bazar, said police.

আমার স্বামী অমৃত লাল দে বিপত ১৪ই জুন, সোমবার
মহান্দিয়ার নিদ্রিত হইবার পর বিভিন্ন স্বেচ্ছা ও সংগঠন এবং
সকল স্তরের চতানুযায়ীপণ আমার নিকট অনেক শোকবার্তা
প্রেরণ করিয়াছেন। তাহা হাড়া ১৫ই জুন, মঙ্গলবার আমার
পরিচিত-অপরিচিত সকল প্রেমীর শ্রদ্ধাকাজী আমার প্রয়াত
স্বামীর শেষকৃত্য অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত হইয়া তাহার মরদেহের
প্রতি শ্রদ্ধা নিবেদন করিয়াছেন।
আমি আমার এই সকল স্নেহ আত্মজনের সহিত প্রত্যক্ষভাবে
যোগাযোগ করিতে না পারার জন্য বিশেষভাবে দুঃখিত। আমি
সকলের প্রতি আমার আত্মিক কৃতজ্ঞতা জানাইতেছি। আমার
ও আমার পরিবার সকলের দুঃখ বেদনার সমন্বয়ী হইবার
জন্য আমি তাহাদের নিকট চিরস্থায়ী হইয়া থাকিব।
ভাণ্যহীনা
যোগমায়ী দে
অমৃত লাল দে এও কো
হাসপাতাল রোড, বরিশাল