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Qulhwani

Mrs Shakera Rahman, wife of Late Khan Bahadur Mujibur Rahman of Jalganj died of old age illness at 10.00 pm on Friday, September 24, 1993 (Inshallah...). She was 75.

She left behind two sons, Latifur Rahman, President of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industries, and Salfur Rahman and three daughters, Mrs Munira Wadud, w/o Dr S A Wadud, Mrs Nargis Tajuddin, w/o S A M Tajuddin and Mrs Sharmeen Hossain, w/o Iqbal Hossain.

Her qulhwani will be held after Asr prayers at her residence at House No-13, Road-109, Gulshan, Dhaka. Today Monday 27 Sept, 1993.

Friends, relatives and admirers are requested to attend.

Rutskoi calls for restoration of Soviet Union

Moves for a compromise



Russian President Boris Yeltsin (C), wife of Mstislav Rostropovich, Galina (R) and Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov along with his grandchild (L) applaud after a concert in the Red Square, Moscow by the American National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Rostropovich yesterday. — AFP photo

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Life's little ironies

MOSCOW, Sept 26: The political crisis that erupted in Russia last week is rich in ironies, reports Reuter.

President Boris Yeltsin, who has dismissed Parliament and clamped a security stranglehold around it, defended that same White House against Communist putschists who came close to storming it in 1991.

His two main foes, Vice-president Alexander Rutskoi and Parliament Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov, were at his shoulder during the 1991 defence of the White House.

Deputy Defence Minister Konstantin Kobets, a pugnacious general who has taken the toughest line against the current "Defenders of the White House," commanded the defence of the building in 1991.

Opposite him is parliament's Defence Minister Vladislav Achakov, a former para-troop commander who was cited by the public prosecutor as one of the architects of an aborted plan to storm the building in 1991.

Vitaly Urazhtsev, prominent in the current defence of the White House, was a strong Yeltsin supporter in 1991 and says he was the first person arrested by the Communist putschists.

Several of the stoutest current "Defenders of the White House," such as hardliners Mikhail Astafyev and Ilya Konstantinov, were on the barricades two years ago — on Yeltsin's side.

The Congress of People's Deputies, the expanded Parliament that Yeltsin ordered disbanded last

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5 outsiders held from SSMC

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested five people, identified as outsiders, from the Sir Salimullah Medical College campus and detained them at the Kotwali Police Station.

Some 50 students of the college as well as activists of the Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), who were forced to leave the hostel Saturday evening, allegedly by the activists of the All-Party Students Unity (APSU), returned to the campus yesterday morning to join a meeting with the college Academic Council regarding Saturday's incident.

The APSU workers caught the five, identifying them as outsiders who they claimed had come to the campus along with the ICS workers. The APSU leaders handed the five over to the Kotwali police.

Earlier, the college authorities called a meeting with the leaders of different students' organizations on the incident last Saturday.

An Academic Council member said that during the almost five-hour long meeting with the student leaders, the ICS representatives asked for ensuring their safety on return to the hostel and closing the college until a congenial atmosphere was restored. But the APSU representatives demanded punishment of those responsible for the incidents.

The Academic Council failed to take any decision on the issue and its chairman adjourned the meeting until 9 am today (Monday), said a member of the Council.

Since almost half of the 24-member Academic Council was absent from the meeting, we had to adjourn it, said the member.

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A large contingent of police was deployed yesterday following the tension created with the eviction of about 50 Islam Chhatra Shibir activists by the All-Party Students Unity members from the Sir Salimullah Medical College hostel on Friday. — Star photo

Housing crisis getting worse

By Chapal Bashar

A latest official estimate shows that the housing shortage in the country stood at over 3.97 million units at the end of 1992.

The shortage, which was 3.10 million units in the previous year, is likely to exceed five million units by 2000.

According to experts in the Urban Development Directorate (UDD) of the Ministry of Works, the total number of housing units in the country in 1992 was 17,673,227 including 3,974,199 in the urban centres and the rest in the

rural areas.

The experts said that considering the size of the population, the country needs at least 3.97 million more housing units — 1.70 million in urban centres and 2.27 million in rural areas — to provide shelter for all.

The country's population at the end of 1992 was estimated at over 111 million including an urban population of more than 22 million. The growth rate, according to official statistics, now stands at 2.17 per cent, but the urban popula-

tion has been growing at a faster rate — 5.4 per cent annually.

The rapid growth rate of urban population and its concentration in the cities and major towns has been compounding the already acute housing problem. This problem has led to increasing congestion and overcrowding in small houses, growth of slums and informal settlements and severe pressure on civic services.

Experts say the unbridled See Page 12 Col 7

Top police officer apologises for N'ganj incident

NARAYANGANJ, Sept 26: Additional Deputy Inspector General of Police Nurul Islam told the local journalists and politicians today that departmental action would be taken against all the policemen responsible for yesterday's attack here on a rally.

The senior police officer also regretted yesterday's unwarranted incident in which 25 persons, including four newsmen and several politicians, were injured.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Habibur Rahman, who

ordered the sudden assault on an all-party rally organised here to protest Jamaat-Shibir atrocities and attack on the daily Ajker Kagoj office in Dhaka has been suspended, Nurul Islam said.

Islam also begged apology of the newsmen and politicians for the unexpected happenings and sought their cooperation to deal with the issue.

The action against ASP Habibur Rahman was shifted today from the Narayanganj Hospital to a private clinic. Badal received head injuries.

Local MPs Ataur Rahman, Rezaul Karim, Advocate Abdul Kalam and the former DIG of Police Habibur Rahman visited Badal at the clinic.

Meanwhile, an all-party protest rally today reiterated

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JS discusses poverty alleviation

House agrees on need for common approach

By Staff Correspondent

The stalwarts of both the Treasury and Opposition benches yesterday felt that the nation needed a permanent increasing rate of exploitation of the internal resources and their utilisation for reducing dependence on the foreign aid to ensure economic self-reliance.

However, the Treasury bench members urged their Opposition colleagues in the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) to abstain from making political capital out of the miseries of the common people while the latter urged the ruling party to repeal all the repressive laws obstructing creation of a sound political atmosphere.

The legislators, deliberating on the ways and means of poverty alleviation, identified poverty as the number one problem of the nation and felt united moves were imperative

to rid the country of the curse.

The Treasury bench argued that the nation needed a permanent increasing rate of exploitation of the internal resources and their utilisation for reducing dependence on the foreign aid to ensure economic self-reliance.

Citing statistics, Barrister Salam Talukder, Minister for Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD), said the government had succeeded in mobilising 27 per cent of the internal resources for the annual development programme (ADP) in the last fiscal year after having begun with just one per cent a year ago. "We are trying hard to meet the target of 33 per cent in the current fiscal," the minister said.

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Seen from the Gallery

By Asiuzzaman

Most of the MPs are apparently disinterested in the discussion on poverty or poverty-related issues. At least that's the impression their poor presence in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday during more than three hours of discussion on the topic of poverty alleviation indicated.

Only 61 members, including a dozen ministers, were present in the House at the end of the discussion at around 11:40 PM.

The attendance of the Treasury bench was comparatively better as 40 members including 14 ministers were present. Just 16 Awami League members with their party seniors Sajeda Chowdhury, Tofael Ahmed and Mohammad Nasim were in the House until the winding up speech by Local Government Minister Abdus Salam Talukder. Besides See Page 12 Col 3

Nepali MPs in city

An 11-member Nepalese Parliamentary delegation led by Speaker Daman Nath Dhungana, arrived here yesterday afternoon on a week-long goodwill visit to Bangladesh.

Speaker Shaikh Razzaque Ali received the delegation at the Zia International Airport.

Talking to BSS at Zia International Airport, Dhungana said during his stay in Bangladesh both sides would discuss the possibilities of expanding parliamentary cooperation between Nepal and Bangladesh.

Reaz said, Bangladesh was closely monitoring the situation in South Africa and was viewing positively the efforts of the Pretoria government to

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PM to highlight govt achievements at UNGA Return of Chakmas only peaceful solution'

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh will strive for a peaceful settlement of the Chakma problem which can only be achieved through the return of the Chakma tribals from the Indian camps in Tripura.

"We look forward to a political solution, not a military one and there has been some progress following the recent visit of a team from India."

This was stated by Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman during a regular media briefing conducted at the conference room

of the Foreign Ministry yesterday.

The Foreign Secretary said the Indian team comprising officials and tribal leaders was allowed to visit whichever camp or area it wanted to visit and added, "We are now awaiting the reply from the Indian side."

Reaz said, Bangladesh was closely monitoring the situation in South Africa and was viewing positively the efforts of the Pretoria government to

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Rebels in Sukhumi ring Shevardnadze's house

MOSCOW, Sept 26: Abkhazian rebels attacking the regional capital of Sukhumi have surrounded the residence of Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze, the Itar-Tass news agency reported today, reports AFP.

The Georgian government has asked Russian forces to evacuate the president, whose life was in danger, the news agency said.

Abkhazian secessionist rebels have seized virtually all strategic points in and around the besieged city of Sukhumi whose fall seems only a matter of time, journalists returning from the city said today.

Reuters Television correspondent Lawrence Sheets said the rebels dug in on hills above the city were using all kinds of

weapons including anti-aircraft guns to shell government-held positions.

Sheets, who left the city on Saturday night after spending eight days there, said scores of buildings were ablaze and Georgian soldiers appeared demoralised at the way the battle was going. "It's difficult to see how the Georgians can go on holding out," he said.

Rebels now control most of the Western half of the city as well as strategic heights such as the television tower.

Independently, a local journalist close to Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze quoted him as saying early on Sunday in a military radio transmission from Sukhumi that reinforcements brought in by Defence Minister Gia Karkashashvili were "not enough" to hold the city.

In an eight-hour drive, the CID team swooped on 19 godowns on the first and second floors of the market and seized sub-standard medicine from 12 godowns at about noon, a senior CID officer said.

The CID team led by two Assistant Superintendents of Police — Khalequzzaman and Abdul Kahar Akhund — included 11 Inspectors and 11 Sub-Inspectors and was assisted by two superintendents of the Drug Administration.

GLAXO BANGLADESH LIMITED Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Twentieth Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at the Company's Registered Office at Fouzderhat Industrial Area, Dhaka Trunk Road, P. O. North Kattali, Chittagong on Tuesday, the 19th October 1993 at 11:00 a.m. for the following purposes:

1. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and audited Accounts for the year ended 30th June 1993 and the Auditors' Report thereon.
2. To re-elect as Directors of the Company Mr. R. P. Gent and Mr. S. A. Chowdhury, who retire by rotation under Article 85 and Mr. M. A. Hena having been appointed during the year retires under Article 89. Mr. M. M. Reza retires by rotation under Article 85.
3. To consider reappointment of Messrs Hoda Vasi Chowdhury & Co. as Auditors of the Company and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
4. To transact any other business which may be transacted at an Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board
 D. Botleroo
 Secretary

Chittagong
 27th September 1993
 Notes:
 1. Members unable to attend the meeting may appoint a proxy in the form enclosed herewith. A Form of Proxy must be stamped with Tk. 4.00 Revenue Stamp and deposited at the Company's Registered Office