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The Daily Star

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NEWS BRIEFS

Queen Elizabeth back home

LIMASSOL (Cyprus), Oct 24: Queen Elizabeth II flew back to London today after a first visit to Cyprus where her presence resurrected angry sentiments against the former colonial power. Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh left on separate flights from Britain's military base at Akrotiri near here, with the Duke travelling to Austria, a British High Commission (embassy) spokesman said, reports AFP.

Dr Mow due today

Dr William C W Mow Chairman and chief executive of the Bugle Boy Industries of the USA arrives here today on a one day visit to Bangladesh. During his stay here, Dr Mow is expected to meet ministers, senior officials and entrepreneurs of garment industries. Bugle Boy is one of the largest private apparel companies in the USA, reports BSS.

Chinese Navy ship in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Oct 24: Zheng he, a training ship of the Chinese Navy, arrived here today on a five-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh. Chinese embassy sources said, reports UNB.

Govt okays minimum public sector wages

The government yesterday approved a new minimum wage of Taka 950 for the workers of the nationalised industrial sector.
 A handout issued late last night said the new wage structure, based on the recommendations of the National Wages and Productivity Commission and on an assessment of the paying capacities of the concerned industrial enterprises, would be effective with retrospective effect from July 1, 1991.
 The new minimum pay incorporates the dearness allowance and other benefits being enjoyed by the workers until now.
 However, the handout said

other fringe benefits such as medical allowance, conveyance, house rent, contributory provident fund, leave encashment, festival bonus, gratuity, night shift allowance and laundry allowance will be granted with effect from 1-6-92.
 All workers will be entitled to a monthly medical allowance of Taka 150 instead of the earlier Tk 100.
 The conveyance allowance has been raised to Tk 60 from Tk 40 while the contribution of the employer to the employees' provident fund has been increased to 10 per cent from 8.33 per cent.
 Public sector workers across the country will be entit-

led to a house rent allowance of 35 per cent of their basic pay. Those living in official quarters will not be eligible for house rent while those occupying single accommodation will have to pay a seat rent at the rate of Tk 20 per month.
 Other benefits, such as encashment of 50 per cent of the earned leave, festival bonus, gratuity, night shift and laundry allowances will continue to be paid as per the existing rates and conditions, the handout said.
 On July 17 last the government, in the face of a hartal threat by the workers of the nationalised industrial sector.
 See Page 12 Col 1

UN structure not fit for new world order, says Saifur

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday emphasised on structural reform of the United Nations for incorporating the ideals and values of the Third World countries, reports UNB.
 "Now, it's a different world after collapse of the mighty Soviet Union... the structure of the UN, which was designed more than 45 years ago, is not fit for the new world order and should be reviewed," he said.
 The structure of the UN bodies should be consistent with the values and interests of 400 crore people of the Third World countries," he told a discussion meeting in observance of the United Nations Day at a local hotel in the evening.
 Organised by the United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB), the function was also addressed by State Minis-

ter for Women's Affairs Begum Sarwari Rahman, UNDP Resident Representative Ms Elmi Watanabe, Director General of Policy Planning and Administration at the Foreign Ministry SM Rashed, UNAB President Prof Inna Ali, Chairman Prof Salahuddin Ahmed and educationist Prof Neelima Ibrahim.
 The Finance Minister said that after the fall of the Soviet Union, the UN has become a real global institution and now it should face the challenges of the post cold war era under changed circumstances.
 He, however, criticised the UN's 'double standard role' on different international issues.
 Pointing at the violation of human rights in Bosnia, Rahman said the developed nations had imposed arms embargo on Bosnia and allowed rape, killing and massacre to

continue in the heart of Europe.
 But, he regretted, no question was raised by any of the European nations. "We have to raise questions... unless we do that, the matter will go unchallenged."
 The Finance Minister said similar happenings were witnessed in Russia and Algeria. "Democracy were gunned down there but the western countries accepted the situation because the victims of massacre were the fundamentalist forces."
 He observed that human rights, democracy and development are interrelated issues, saying one cannot be achieved without the others.
 "In this context, Rahman said the international body should decide what would be its duties in maintaining peace and security."
 See Page 12 Col 6

Scrap 11-pt accord with Delhi: Hasina

Awami League (AL) Chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday demanded that the eleven-point accord signed between the governments of Bangladesh and India early this year be scrapped.
 Hasina, while addressing the newly-elected office-bearers of the Bhairob Asmat Ali College, who came to meet her in the afternoon, observed that the Dhaka-Delhi accord had ig-

nored the interests of the people of Bangladesh.
 The AL chief also observed that following the governments' persuasion of a 'capitulationist' foreign policy, the whole country had become a market for foreign goods.
 Hasina called upon the student community to play a pioneering role to organise the people against the 'misrule' of the government.
 UNB adds: referring to the campus situation, she accused the ruling party of trying to occupy the educational institutions by using illegal weapons and black money as well as by abusing power.
 The hard-won democracy, achieved with the ouster of the autocratic Ershad regime, had become a victim of abuse in the hands of the neo-autocratic rule of the BNP, Hasina alleged.
 She said that to cover up its failure, the government has enacted the so-called Anti-Terrorism Law to persecute political opponents and suppress their voice of protest.
 The AL chief also alleged that

'The world is heading for a catastrophe'

NEW DELHI, Oct 24: With three babies born every second, experts say the world is heading for a catastrophe, reports AP.
 By the end of this century, mothers will have to feed a billion more children — a whole extra China. And most of them will be born in the poorest nations, among the poorest families who have little money to spare.
 What's to be done? How do you tell people to produce fewer babies? How do you ask governments to spend more money on health care?
 About 100 experts from 43 countries put their heads together Sunday to cry halt to the world's population growth. Over the next three days, the Population Summit of the World's Scientific Academies will discuss the finer points of this problem.
 The meeting is sponsored by the US National Academy of Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society of Britain and the Indian National Science Academy.
 See Page 12 Col 2

AL demonstration programme today

By Staff Correspondent
 Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the people to make the Awami League (AL) sponsored countrywide demonstration programme today a success.
 AL chief Hasina announced the demonstrations October 18 to protest against the killing of Anisur Rahman, an activist of her party's Lalmonirhat unit, allegedly by an armed attack led jointly by the local police and the ruling

government.
 UNB adds: referring to the campus situation, she accused the ruling party of trying to occupy the educational institutions by using illegal weapons and black money as well as by abusing power.
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Hijacker police!

JAMALPUR, Oct 24: A police constable allegedly hijacked Tk 8430 and a Demand Draft for Tk 40,000 from a food trader who was a passenger of the North Bengal Mail Train early today, reports UNB.
 Police arrested Abdus Sattar, identified as a constable of the Louhajang thana in the Munsiganj district, on the charge brought by Dulal Kanti Sarker of the SS road in Narayanangj when the train reached the Mymensingh station.
 Dulal, travelling from Dhaka to Jamalpur in a second class compartment, complained to police that Sattar, who seated next to him wearing police uniform, called him (Dulal) a hijacker after crossing the Joydevpur station and took away his money and the Demand Draft of the Janata Bank.
 Dulal informed a railway police who came into their car at the Rajendrapur station. He challenged the constable, Sattar was later arrested by Mymensingh police.
 In a case filed with the Jamalpur thana, Dulal said he got his cash back, but not the Demand Draft.
 Sattar was later released from the Mymensingh thana.
 Meanwhile, railway police seized brass utensils worth Tk 2 lakh from a car of a Chittagong-bound mail train from Rajshahi this morning.

Record entries for Sixth Asian Art Biennale

By Staff Correspondent
 The Sixth Asian Art Biennale '93 begins in the capital on November 2.
 A record number of artists from 30 Asian countries including Bangladesh will be taking part in the month-long Shilpakala Academy-organised show which promises to be a veritable feast for the art connoisseurs.
 Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the biennale at the Osmany Memorial Hall at 11am.
 Ministers in charge of Cultural Affairs from a number of Asian countries are expected to attend the opening session as special guests. State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahan-Ara Begum will preside.
 The exhibition of works by painters and sculptors of the host country will be held at the National Museum at Shahbagh while art-works from other countries will be displayed at the Osmany Memorial Hall and

tries invited this year. 29 have confirmed their participation. They are: Bahrain, Bhutan, China, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Vietnam, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen, the Maldives and the Russian Federation.
 Bahrain, Singapore, Laos, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Vietnam, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen will be taking part for the first time.
 Organisers hope famous Indian painter Maqbool Fida Hussain, better known as M F Hussain, would grace the biennale by his august presence.
 Hussain is now busy giving final touches to a huge mural at the UN headquarters in New York, they said.
 Out of the 43 Asian coun-

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OIC condemns massacre

DUBAI, Oct 24: The 51-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference strongly condemned today what it called the massacre of Muslims in 'Indian-occupied' Kashmir, reports Reuter.
 In a statement sent to Reuters, OIC Secretary-General Hamid al-Gabid expressed 'the deep indignation and dismay of the OIC over the unprovoked, cold blooded massacre of Kashmiri Muslims by the Indian security forces.'
 Gabid strongly condemned the 'brutal use of force and indiscriminate firing by the Indian army... and drew the attention of the international community to the extremely grave humanitarian situation in Indian occupied Kashmir.'
 He also called for 'effective steps to persuade India to respect the human rights of the Kashmiri people, including their inalienable right to self-determination.'

Shrine standoff continues Cops in Kashmir kill top militant leader

SRINAGAR, Oct 24: A top guerilla commander was gunned down in Kashmir on Sunday as efforts continued for the ninth day to urge Muslim rebels to leave the holy shrine to which soldiers have laid siege, reports AP.
 The killing of Khalil-ur-Rehman, the chief of Al-Jehad, one of the three main rebel outfits leading the Muslim insurgency could further aggravate the tension in Jammu-Kashmir state.
 Police said Rehman was killed when two militants riding a motor scooter fired at them in Pohru village in Pulwama district, 40 kilometers southeast of capital Srinagar. The police shot back, killing Rehman and other militant, said an officer on

condition of anonymity.
 Witnesses, however, said Rehman was shot at point blank range after he was picked up in the village and identified by an informant.
 In Srinagar, police swung batons and fired several rounds of tear gas in the morning to disperse hundreds of people who tried to march toward the Hazratbal Mosque, that is surrounded by hundreds of troops. At least 10 people were injured, police said.
 For two days, thousands of residents of Srinagar have come out onto the streets to protest the killing of at least 37 people Friday in the town Bijbehara, 35 miles south of Srinagar. More than a 100 people have



Indian police patrol empty streets of Srinagar as a protest strike against the killing Muslim protesters keep residents indoor in Kashmir yesterday. — AFP photo

Bijoya Dashami today

By Staff Correspondent
 Bijoya Dashami will be celebrated today in the capital and elsewhere in the country marking the end of the five-day Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of the Hindu community.
 On this day, Hindu devotees will bring out processions carrying the idols of the goddess Durga for immersion. The day is also marked by exchange of greetings among the members of the community.
 The Ram Krishna Mission and monastic, however, has already celebrated the Bijoya Dashami yesterday according to the instructions of the 'Bishuddhya Siddhanta Panjika' — the authoritative Hindu calendar.
 Yesterday was a public holiday.
 Idols of the goddess Durga
 See Page 12 Col 7

Three muggers held in city

By Staff Correspondent
 Police rounded up three muggers after a hot car chase and recovered three big knives, eight crackers and a snatched gold chain from the city's Dhanmondi area, yesterday morning.
 During the police chase the driver of an auto-rickshaw carrying the muggers lost control over the vehicle and it overturned at Dhanmondi Road No 4 at around 8 am. Police arrested three persons on the spot but two of the muggers escaped, said Dhanmondi police. On hearing the victims hue and cry patrol police chased the muggers who were trying to escape after snatching a handbag with Taka 25,000, a gold bangle and a gold chain from one Masuda Begum.
 Masuda Begum and her father Shahabuddin Sardar had

Plan to make IPSA a centre of excellence

By Special Correspondent
 The status of the Institute of Post-graduate Studies in Agriculture (IPSA), located at Gazipur, will be upgraded as an autonomous body to make it a centre of excellence for international standard higher studies and research in agricultural sciences.
 A bill for this purpose, approved by the cabinet recently, will be placed before Parliament, expected to go into session next month.
 After the upgradation, the head of the government will become the Chancellor of the Institute which will confer post-graduate degrees in agricultural sciences and also Ph. Ds.
 "Henceforth, our students will not have to go abroad for advanced studies or research work, since the IPSA will meet their requirements," said an authoritative source in the Ministry of Agriculture.
 Rather, we will provide opportunities and facilities for foreign students to pursue higher education and research here.
 Some foreign students are already attending various courses at the institute set up at Saina in Gazipur district in the early 80s.

The institution was established during the Second Five Year Plan (1980-85) as a College of Agricultural Science, which was later transformed into a post-graduate institute and named the Institute of Post-graduate Studies in Agriculture (IPSA).
 The development of IPSA was incorporated in the Third Five Year Plan as a project with financial support from the USA and Japan and it is being implemented under the ongoing Fourth Five Year Plan (1990-95).
 The proposal of the Ministry
 See Page 12 Col 8

Two arrested for killing Bangla College student

Police yesterday arrested two teenagers on charge of murdering a college student from Pallabithana area in the city, reports UNB.
 Mashiur Rahman Palash, an intermediate student of the Bangla College, was shot dead by a group of armed miscreants on October 3.
 Kamruzzaman Sharif, 17, and Roushan Zaman Rabin, 19, were picked up at about 2 pm from Ahmednagar and Palkpara areas in a police drive.
 DMP sources said the arrested youths along with their gangsters made a sudden attack and killed Palash.

কাস্টম সার্ভিসের গৌরব, কালেক্টর অব কাস্টমস
 জনাব এ এইচ মনযুর মান্নান
 এবং
 তাঁর পরিবারবর্গের জন্য
 দোয়া চাই
 গভীর শোক ও সমবেদনার সঙ্গে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, চট্টগ্রাম কাস্টম হাউসের কালেক্টর, জনাব এ এইচ মনযুর মান্নান গত ২২শে অক্টোবর, ১৯৯৩ শুব্বার অপরাহ্নে ঢাকার উপকণ্ঠে স্বপরিবারে এক মারাত্মক সড়ক দুর্ঘটনায় পতিত হন। তাঁর একমাত্র পুত্র জোহেব (২১/১) ঘটনাস্থলেই প্রাণ হারান। ইনালিফ্রাহে ওয়া ইন্বা ইলাইহি রাজ্জেন। কালেক্টর মহোদয় ও তাঁর কন্যা রোমানা (১১) মারাত্মকভাবে আঘাতপ্রাপ্ত হয়ে বর্তমানে ঢাকার সম্মিলিত সামরিক হাসপাতালের ইনটেনসিভ কেয়ার ইউনিটে চিকিৎসাধীন, অন্যান্য সফরসঙ্গীদের মধ্যে তাঁর স্ত্রী আঘাতপ্রাপ্ত হলেও বর্তমানে ইনশাআহে বিপদমুক্ত।
 শিশুপুত্র জোহেব-এর রুহের মাগফেরাত এবং কালেক্টর মহোদয় ও তাঁর কন্যার আশু আরোগ্য লাভের জন্যে সর্বশক্তিমান আল্লাহ তা'আলার নিকট দোয়া করার জন্যে কাস্টমস, এন্ডাইজ ও ভ্যাট পরিবারের সকল সদস্য এবং দেশবাসীর প্রতি বিনীত অনুরোধ জানাই। সর্বশক্তিমান মহান আল্লাহ পাক কালেক্টর মহোদয়কে এই গভীর শোক বহনের শক্তি দান করুন।
 কাস্টম হাউস, চট্টগ্রাম-এর
 সর্বস্তরের কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারীবৃন্দ
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