

Come to CHITTAGONG Come to BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT
 The only place for ORIGINAL THAI FOOD & SEAFOOD in CHITTAGONG **SUB BRANCH**. Please try us and you will love BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT more than ever before.
 1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y. M. C. A. NASIRABAD, CHITTAGONG, TEL: 226803, FAX: (880) (31)-226258

The Daily Star

Nirman Tiles
 In Broken Marble Tiles Brighter Home At Lesser Price
 Tel: 605957, 861985

VOL. III NO. 290 REGD. NO. DA 781 KARTIK 28, 1400 BS, DHAKA FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1993 JAMADIUL-AWAL 26, 1414 HJRI 12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 4.00

Inside Today

- Article**
The New 'White Man's Burden'
 by Jeremy Seabrook
 Page 4
- International**
 Leghari, Sajjad running neck-and-neck for Saturday's Pak presidential polls
- Lockerbie suspects want to be tried in Switzerland
 Page 5
- Business**
 Rauzan power plant makes faulty start
 By Sharier Khan
- Five Latin American leaders want US to approve NAFTA
 Page 6
- Weekend Magazine**
 The Many Faces of English; Tied to a Tongue Have You a 'Window' of Time Perchance? Confessions of a Confused Deshi; Hindlish - India's Fastest Growing Language; A Doublespeak Dictionary; The Age of the Fanatic; The British Council Language Matters
 Pages 10, 11
- Supplement**
 Special supplement on ComTeq '93
 Pages 8, 9

Metropolitan

- Dhaka Day by Day**

 The Origin of Fellow Feeling
 Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

- AL front bodies meet today**
 A joint meeting of all front organisations of the Awami League will be held today at party central office at 10 am. Awami League general secretary Zillur Rahman has requested presidents and general secretaries of the Jatiya Sramik League, the Mohila Awami League, the Awami Juba League and the Chhatra League to attend the meeting, reports UNB.
- Partial solar eclipse Sunday**
 A partial eclipse of the Sun will occur on Sunday, and ISPR press release quoting the Bangladesh Meteorological Department said yesterday, reports BSS. It will begin at 1 hour 46 minutes 24 seconds am and will end at 5 hours 43 minutes 12 seconds am on the day. The magnitude of the eclipse will be 0.928 and the greatest eclipse will occur at 3 hours 44 minutes 54 seconds am. This eclipse will, however, not be visible from anywhere in Bangladesh.
- Bhashani's death anniversary**
 The committee for the observance of death anniversary of Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani yesterday said it will observe the death anniversary of the leader in the city on November 17. It will hold a mela, discussion and feeding of the poor at its central office at 295 Elephant Road at 12 noon on the day, reports BSS.

Loss-making NCBs to have fewer branches

By A Special Correspondent

The number of branches of the loss making nationalised commercial banks (NCBs) will be reduced significantly. Finance Ministry sources informed that a scheme is being drawn up for this purpose, but the time table for the rationalisation programme is yet to be set.

This move, to be achieved through closure as well as merger between branches, will follow injection of over 3300 crore taka as capital for the NCBs by the government in three rounds since 1992. In the first round the NCBs received



PLO chairman Yasser Arafat is being decorated by Portuguese President Mario Soares (R) with the Great Cross of Merit Order yesterday at a ceremony in the Belem Palace in Lisbon. — AFP photo

UNHCR prepares to speed up Rohingya repatriation

By Special Correspondent

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the UNHCR and the government of Myanmar was signed in Yangon last Friday to provide UN officials with complete access to refugees returning from Bangladesh.

The MOU is expected to expedite the return of over 200,000 Rohingyas who have been staying in Bangladesh since the summer of 1991. So long, Yangon had been opposing the presence of UNHCR officials in Myanmar and their involvement in the repatriation process.

Over a quarter of a million Rohingyas fled to Bangladesh from the Rakhaine province to evade persecution by Myanmar troops. The refugees are living in 20 makeshift camps in the Cox's Bazar-Teknaf region. Under a bilateral agreement between Dhaka and Yangon, about 45,000 refugees have so far returned to Myanmar, but the progress of repatriation remains very slow.

The spokesman said that the present process of repatriation under the agreement between the two governments would continue until it begins on a large scale under UNHCR supervision.

Tigers overrun military base, kill 200

COLOMBO, Nov 11: In one of their biggest victories in several years, Tamil rebels overrun a military base in northern Sri Lanka on Thursday, killing more than 200 soldiers and sailors, military officers said, reports AP.

The death toll could go up to 500 as the military was unable to locate troops who had retreated from the base near rebel-held Jaffna Peninsula after the pre-dawn attack, said a senior military officer on condition of anonymity.

The troops were still trying to regroup and reinforcements would be sent only after night-fall to guard against shelling by artillery guns that the rebels had trained on the base, he said.

"It is difficult to get a head count because we are coming under constant fire from the rebels," said Defense Secretary Gen. Hamilton Wanasinghe.

If it does, the attack would be one of the most successful in 1993 by the Tamil Tiger militants, who have been fighting for an independent homeland in Sri Lanka for 10 years.

Using rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and machine guns, the rebels attacked the base from the ground and from motorboats.

They captured at least six navy boats, radar equipment the forces had used to track down the militants, two tanks and a large number of weapons used to defend the camp, the officer said.

Four navy boats were destroyed in the attack, the officer said.

About 1,500 soldiers and 150 navy sailors were living in the base in buildings and tents surrounded by barbed wire and bunkers.

AFP adds: Security was tightened in the Sri Lankan capital today after a Tamil guerrilla attack in the island's north left more than 200 troops and police dead or wounded, officials said.

Police and army units in Colombo stepped up security measures and they continued searches for guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) who may have

Pakistan shelve nuclear programme

ISLAMABAD, Nov 11: Benazir Bhutto officially announced today that Pakistan's nuclear programme had been frozen and blamed the unpopular decision on her principal adversary, former prime minister Nawaz Sharif, reports AFP.

Speaking to reporters, Bhutto said her policy was to freeze Pakistan's developing nuclear programme in what is a reversal of previous Pakistani policy on the internationally contentious issue.

But Bhutto — who returned to power as Pakistan's Prime Minister three weeks ago — added that although the new government would maintain the freeze, it would not roll back the programme, as demanded by the US government.

She said that Sharif — who resigned in July during a four-month political crisis — had "succumbed to pressure and copped the nuclear programme."

But Sartaz Aziz, a spokesman for Sharif, told AFP that Sharif's government had made no changes to Pakistan's nuclear programme: "In our period, no change was made. We left the nuclear programme as we found it."

Pakistan, which has always denied having nuclear weapons, is generally believed to have the capacity to produce one or several nuclear weapons in a short period of time.

Launched in the 1970s by Bhutto's father, former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the nuclear programme is very popular with the Pakistani people, who see it as a counterweight to the Indian army's conventional superiority.

JMBP funding WB will fast track final negotiations

By A Special Correspondent

World Bank Vice President D Joseph Wood yesterday left Dhaka ending his five-day trip to Bangladesh after assuring Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman of an immediate kick-off of the final round of negotiations to fund the construction of the Jamuna Bridge.

Rahman and Wood yesterday had three and a half hours of extensive wrap-up discussions on how the WB could assist Bangladesh achieve her more important development objectives when the WB senior executive called on the Finance Minister at his Secretariat office, both ERD and WB sources said.

The WB high official, they said, assured Dhaka of an early signing of an agreement to finance the Jamuna Multi-purpose Bridge after the completion of the final rounds of negotiations. Both Rahman and Wood are scheduled to begin their discussions with the Japanese politicians and officials in Tokyo next week for convincing Japan

Another gold haul at ZIA

By Staff Correspondent

Customs surveillance men again seized 112 tolas of gold at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) yesterday.

The gold, worth about Tk. 7.9 lakh, was hidden in a baggage of a passenger — Badrul Alam — who arrived from Kuwait by a Kuwait Airlines Flight (KU-281) yesterday morning.

A departmental case was lodged and Alam was freed, said a customs surveillance official.

On Wednesday, 57 kg of gold worth about Tk 3.13 crore, which was brought from Muscat, was seized at the ZIA.

Gold smuggling: Majid taken to DB's remand

By Staff Correspondent

A driver of the Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Abdul Majid Hossain, 35, arrested for his alleged involvement in an attempt to smuggle a huge quantity of gold at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) Wednesday, was remanded to the Detective Branch (DB) for five days yesterday.

The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka, granted the

remand on a prayer of the DB police.

Earlier the case was transferred to the Detective Branch from the Cantonment Police following a directive from the higher police authority, according to a source.

Majid was reportedly trying to get away with some 57 kilograms of smuggled gold by a Biman microbus in the apron area of the ZIA Wednesday. The gold, worth about Tk 3.13 crore, was brought on a Gulf Air flight coming from Muscat on the same day. A Biman security guard, in a daring movie-style chase, foiled the attempt and nabbed Majid.

UNB adds: Moslem Ali, a security guard of Biman

Jute sector reforms ready for WB approval

By Staff Correspondent

The World Bank-funded jute sector restructuring project (JSRP) is ready for approval and the Bank is also working on firming-up financial support for the Jamuna Bridge project from the other donors.

This was disclosed by Joseph Wood, the visiting World Bank Vice President for South Asia, in a press briefing yesterday at the Bank's resident mission here.

He said the JSRP, finalised after prolonged negotiations, is expected to be placed before the Bank's Board of Governors meeting in Washington due next month. The International Development Agency, the soft-loan affiliate of the Bank, has already agreed to provide 250 million US dollars for the project.

Appraisal for the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge has already been completed, he added; final negotiations for the project would begin soon after financial support from Japan and the Asian Development Bank is firm up.

The World Bank vice president, at the conclusion of his

Hartals should be held peacefully: Khaleda

BANARIPARA (BARISAL), Nov 11: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today strongly criticised an opposition political party for joining hands with the autocrats and resorting to destructive activities to foil the efforts of the democratic government, reports BSS.

Addressing a big public meeting at the local Government High School ground, the Prime Minister said, "They have joined hands with a quarter which had plundered the national resources, snatched away rights of the people and oppressed the nation during nine years of misrule."

Begum Zia said under a

Prokrichi sets conditions for performing election duties

By Staff Correspondent

The non-administrative civil servants and the professionals including the engineers, agriculturists and doctors will refuse to perform election duties in future if the government appoints the District Commissioners (DCs) and the Thana Nirbahi Officers (TNOs) as returning officers in the district and thana level polls.

This was decided by the central council of the non-administrative government officials and the Prokrichi at a meeting held at the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB), yesterday evening.

Jinnah murder: Main accused held from JP leader's house

By Staff Correspondent

Detective Branch (DB) police, in a pre-dawn swoop on the house of a former Jatiya Party minister in Gazipur yesterday, arrested a former leader of the Jatiyatapadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) for killing his comrade — Jinnatul Islam Jinnah — after ten days of ceaseless search.

The main accused of the murder — M. Sayedur Rahman alias Sayeed Sohrab — former literary and publication secretary of the JCD central committee, was taken to the DB's Minto Road office in the capital for interrogation. He is likely to be produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate today.

A special squad of the DB raided the residence of former minister and ambassador to the USSR Shamsul Haque at Tengbarid village in Kallakair, Gazipur and arrested Sohrab.

Jinnah, the cultural secretary of the JCD central body, was shot dead in a room of the Registrar's building of the Dhaka University on November 1 following an internal feud.

Peace talks with Shantibahini Nov 24 likely

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 11: The government has set November 24 as the date for holding the sixth round of peace talks with the leaders of the Shantibahini in an effort to find a political solution to the 18-year old Chittagang Hill Tracts insurgency.

A letter was sent today to the Shantibahini leaders through the convener of liaison committee Hanshadzo Chakma, sources said.

The fifth round of talks between the special parliamentary committee and the leaders of the tribal rebels was held on September 18 at the Khagrachari circuit house,

Learn English Through The Daily Star

In today's issue: your favourite newspaper is continuing its new programme of teaching English through its columns.

Titled "Language Matters", the material is produced by the British Council, Dhaka, and is designed to aid English learning of readers at different levels of language proficiency, including tips for teachers.

Get a copy of **The Daily Star TODAY** and help your children learn English at no extra cost.

The Daily Star
 We strive to serve our readers better