AGRAHAYAN 3, 1400 BS, DHAKA WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1993 JAMADIUS-SUNNY 1, 1414 HIJRI

NIRMAN TILES In More Shades
Than The Rainbow

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We are, therefore, obli gret the inconvenience to our valued readers.

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Large arms haul: Fate of inmates unclear

Militants inside Hazratbal surrender peacefully

SRINAGAR. Nov 16: A month-long standoff between Indian troops and Muslim militants holed up inside Kahmir's holiest mosque ended peacefully when the guerillas surrendered before dawn today, officials said,

reports Reuter. They said 65 people, including an unspecified number of militants, left the white marble buildings of the Hazratbal shripe in two batches between one and 2.30 am (1930-2100

India's Doordarshan, state run television, showed film of men apparently filing out of the compound, huddled in caps and blankets against the sub-zero winter temperatures. Doordarshan quoted Kashmir's police chief, Mahendra Sabharwal, as saying they had surrendered and been detained by local

police for questioning. "Good sense has finally prevailed," Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao said in a state-

Independent confirmation of the surrender was not immediately available and it was not clear if a deal had been done with the government. There was no initial comment from militant groups or political parties.

The siege has fuelled a fourvear-old uprising against Indian rule in the Himalayan state, the only Muslim majority region in mainly Hindu India. Police and hospital sources say at least

13,000 people have been killed in the rebellion.

The Hazratbal area remained under indefinite curfew this morning. Only a few journalists from state- run media were allowed to witness the exodus.

It was not clear how many of the 65 inmates from the shrine on the shores of Srinagar's Dal Lake, were armed militants, nor whether any were foreign nationals. Officials have claimed there were at least two Pakistanis inside.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training Kashmiri militants, a charge Islamabad

Doordarshan showed film of one man, apparently an inmate. who said he came from the third of Kashmir under Pakistani rule. Officials said a large haul of

arms including rifles, grenades and rocket launchers was recovered from the shrine com The army siege of the

mosque began at midnight on

October 15. The government said it acted to oil an alleged plot to steal or destroy the shrine's relic. a hair believed by Kashmiris to be from the beard of Prophet Mohammed. The mysterious week-long disappearance of the

> But officials and army offi-See Page 12 Col 4

hair in 1963 sparked majority



A Kashmiri Muslim militant hugging his mother following his unconditional surrender to Indian authorities at the Hazratbal Mosque in Srinagar yesterday after holding out for a month inside Kashmir's holiest shrine. - AFP photo

Scimitar's damage suit dismissed

The Court of International Centre for Settlement of Industrial Disputes (ICSID) vesterday dismissed the 129 million-dollar damage suit against Bangladesh filed by oil exploration company Scimitar. according to a message received from London.

The court also ordered payment to Bangladesh by Scimitar of all expenses incurred in connection with the case, reports UNB.

The damage suit against Bangladesh was filed in October 1992 demanding 129 million dollars (Tk 520 crore) and the verdict of the court came at the end of the hearing.

Dr Kamal Hossain and for mer Chief Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury defended Bangladesh in the case

In December 1987 Scimitar, a multi-national oil exploration company, had entered into a production-share agreement with Bangladesh for exploration of oil in a 1650 sq-km area of Hartpur, Sylhet. But the present government had, in August 1992, rejected extension of the period of the agreement due to gross irregularities committed by Scimitar

The irregularities included: 1) transfer of 7.50 shares to a foreign company without prior

permission of the government; 2) drilling of 2 wells as against six in four years, as stipulated in the agreement; 3) failure in agreed work

programme of the third and the fourth year: 4) failure in submitting the

audited balance sheets to the

5) introducing a so-called director of the Scimitar-Hani M Salam-as chairman of the company and proposing for signing a fresh production-distribution agreement in November-December 1990.

Besides, it was proved in the court that Scimitar made fraudulent attempts to extend the period of the agreement.

Mob attacks Zia airport

By Staff Correspondent

At least two thousand gar ments workers stormed the Zia International Airport premises vesterday evening and damaged glass doors, window panes and around a dozen vehicles parked in front of the airport.

The agitating workers, from several garments factories marched towards the airport in a procession around 6 pm after news spread that their employer - Nurul Hug Sikder of the Pallmall Groups of Industries was manhandled by a airport Customs officials.

Several platoons of police mobilised by the Cantonment and Uttara thanas, and beefed up by forces of the Armed Police Battalion and Riot Division. took almost an hour to prevent the frenzied mob from going on a total rampage. Police also lobbed several rounds of teargas shells to bring the situation under control.

The workers damaged the visitors' gallery and also entered the concourse hall. However. See Page 12 Col 7

Bhashani's death anniversary today

By Staff Correspondent Today is the 17th anniversary of the death of Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani.

Maulana Bhashani, one of the most popular leaders of his time, always fought for the cause of the toiling masses throughout his political career that began in colonial British India. The Maulana had to spend a major part of his life in prisons for his uncompromising voice against unjust. autocratic rulers both in undivided India and erstwhile Pak-

Sec Page 12 Col 1

Dhaka-Pyongyang sign agreed minutes

Bangladesh and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) yesterday signed an agreed minutes on the field of mutual cooperation in education, culture, public health, information and sports, reports

Director General of the Ministry of Culture and Art of DPRK, Ru Sang Gan and Joint Secretary of the Cultural Ministry Mohammad Moslem Ali signed the minutes on behalf of their respective governments.

Under the agreed minutes the DPRK will send two trainers on handicrafts and acrobatics by January 1994. In sports sector, mutual cooperation in Tagondo (a section of marshal art), football, shooting, judo, table tennis and gymnastics will be increased.

Efforts from both the sides would be continued for further cooperation in education, public health and information sectors. The DPRK and Bangladesh will take all possible measures for attending the 'Asian Art Biennale, Bangladesh' and "April Spring Friendship Art Festival"

in DPRK respectively Deputy Minister for Education of DPRK Ri Gon Su and Cultural Secretary I U Malik were present

Meanwhile, the Vice Premier of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Chang Chol left here vesterday for home at the end of a six-day official visit to Bangladesh.

Assef Ahmed Ali Students damage 150 new Pak FM

ISLAMABAD, Nov 16: Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto appointed two more ministers Tuesday, raising the strength of her cabinet to eight, officials said, reports

Assef Ahmed Ali, a member of the National Assembly, was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs and senator lobal Haider joined the government as Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

The Foreign Affairs slot was vacated by Farooq Ahmed Leghari on his election as President of the country on Saturday. Ali belongs to a splinter Pakistan Muslim League (PML) group called PML-Junejo, a coalition partner of Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP). while Haider is a member of

the PPP. **DUTA** slates

reported move to amend DU ordinance

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) yesterday slated the government's alleged 'conspiracy' to amend the Dhaka University Ordinance 1973 through the parliamentary standing commit-

issued by its general secretary Dr Badrul Alam, said any attempt to change the ordinance would undermine the university's autonomy and hinder free thought and ideas. Changes would also establish government control over the institu-

Green Belt to curb cyclonic damage

A green belt along the country's coasts will be created for minimising evclonic devastations and to save life and prop-

erty from the natural disasters. A feasibility study for this Coastal Green Belt Project, now underway, is expected to be completed within a couple of

The study, funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), is being conducted by a British firm with assistance from the local consultants. An interim report on the feasibility study has already been submitted to the Ministry of Forests and Environment.

According to official sources. the planned green belt, with a length of about 400 miles, will stretch from Teknaf in Cox's Bazar to the eastern end of the Sunderbans.

The high risk areas in the coastal regions which have already been identified will get

By Special Correspondent priority, but the entire coastal line will come under the ambit

of the project, said an official. Under the project, suitable palm varieties such as coconut. betelnut and date trees and some mangroves will be planted on the slopes of the coastal embankments. These plantations will not only strengthen the soil of the embankment, but will also act as an extra barrier against tidal surges. The green belt will also help to weaken the

The Coastal Green Belt will be the second line of defence against cyclonic storms and surges; a massive coastal afforestation project on accreted land at shore is already under implementation.

cyclonic storms.

The afforestation project was initiated in 1976 under which mangroves of different varieties were planted. The target of this project was to bring three lakh acres of accreted land under afforestation. Till date, planta tions on two lakh acres have been completed, mostly along the shores of Noakhali. The coastal areas of Chittagong, Bhola and Patuakhali are also

included in this project. Initially, the afforestation project was implemented with the government's own resources, but later the World Bank provided funds for it.

An official of the Forest Department said that the usefulness of the coastal afforestation programme was proved during the cyclone of April, 1991.

"During that cyclone, loss of life and property was minimum in places where the afforestation was carried out," he said.

Experts firmly believe that the planned Coastal Green Belt will help to further strengthen the protective measures against the devastations wrought by natural calamities.

Corruption charges against Moudud, Mosharraf

Additional District and Sessions Judge. Dhaka. Akhlakur Rahman Chowdhury yesterday framed charges against former vice president Barrister Moudud Ahmed, exchairman A K M Mosharraf Hossain and two others in connection with a corruption case, reports UNB.

Standing on the dock, Moudud and Mosharraf pleaded not guilty when the charges were read out.

According to the charges, Moudud illegally directed Mosharraf in 1986 to reinstate one Abdur Rahman in the Kohinoor Chemical Company by misusing his powers and for political gain. Rahman was earlier discharged from service.

Th Bureau of Anti-Corruption filed a case with the Teigaon thana on March 31,

'Govt trying to materialise spirit of Liberation War' Rabbani MP, Azizul Hug MP

JOYPURHAT, Nov 16: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today said her government is continuing efforts to materialise the spirit of the Liberation War by ensuring socio-economic development, reports UNB. "The present government

has taken up different development programmes to make the country self-reliant and fulfill the basic needs of the people", she told a huge public meeting organised by the district unit of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) at the Police Line ground this after-

The meeting was also addressed by Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain, State Minister for Finance Mojibur Rahman, Deputy Minister for

Hundreds of students, en-

raged at the death of medical

student Rumana Parvin, dam-

aged at least 150 trucks on the

city roads from Gulistan to

Babubazar yesterday at around

lobbed teargas shells on the

rampaging students, injuring

The truck drivers' associa-

tion, in protest, put up a barri-

cade on the road from

Babubazar to Nayabazar with

trucks blocking the busy thor-

half hours beginning at 4 pm.

oughfare for nearly two and a

the Sir Salimullah Medical

More than 500 students of

two or three students.

Police baton charged and

1:30 pm. *

and district leaders. Begum Zia accused the Awami League, without quite

naming the party, for trying to disrupt the development efforts of the government. "They do not have any issue," she said pointing to the Awami League's activities aim-

ing at destabilising the admin-The opposition is puzzled after seeing the development programmes of the govern ment and is calling hartals

and talking tall about the spirit of the Liberation War, she said The Prime Minister reminded the people of the grim days during the rule of the party that came to power on independence. "If they had

College (SSMC), the Dhaka

Medical College (DMC) and the

Dental College marched out of

the SSMC hospital premises

and started damaging the

trucks parked on the roads in

Rumana Parvin, 21, a first-

year student of the MBBS class

of the SSMC was killed when a

speeding truck rammed her

rickshaw near the DMC

Hospital gate Monday morning.

lowing the accident and ar-

rested its driver Shajahan Mia,

angry protests among the stu-

See Page 12 Col 1

Police seized the truck fol-

The death had sparked of

the afternoon.

worked in keeping with the spirit of the Liberation War, See Page 12 Col 4 Health Serajul Huq, Golam

trucks in city

By SSMCH Correspondent

- Star photo students in the city yesterday.

Truck drivers barricaded the road near Nayabazar for over two hours in retaliation of attacks on their vehicles by medical

Hosokawa wins battle for reform bills

Minister Morihiro Hosokawa won a key battle Tuesday in his reforms through a parliamentary committee, reports AP.

brings Hosokawa close to passing comprehensive political reform bills his biggest promise to Japanese voters when he came to power in August at the head of a seven-party coalition. The scandal-plagued Liberal Democrats, who had ruled since 1955, lost their parliamentary majority in elections in July.

old-style Japanese politics in which opposition parties would resort to fisticuffs or boycotts to stall legislation they disliked,

quietly to the inevitable. although they voted against the

dignified manner." said Liberal

Battered by repeated moneyfor-favours scandals since 1988, the Liberal Democrats talked repeatedly of political reform but never enacted more than minor changes. Hosokawa's two Liberal Democratic predecessors both lost their jobs when they couldn't keep

ent redistricting plan. were unable to persuade the

public funding for elections and change electoral districts in a way that proponents say will discourage corrupt pork-barrel

have proposed a slightly differ-

old-line conservatives who favour a battle to the end. Victory on political reform,

products in Japan.

committee said "From now on, Japanese politics is going to change greatly."

is also likely to benefit.

to be fired By Masud Arif

The Dhaka University authorities are contemplating action against 55 teachers for illegally over-staying abroad despite expiry of their study leaves.

A list of the teachers has already been drawn up and will be placed before a review committee tomorrow, officials sources said. The decision of the committee will have to be approved in the next meeting of the university Syndicate, sources added.

university issued letters against 19 teachers who have been staying outside the country since 1975 giving them

two months' time to rejoin their duties. On expiry of the ultimatum the services of 16 teachers

were terminated, sources said. In the meantime, the authorities have also terminated the services of some other teachers who were not in the

All terminations have been

See Page 12 Col 6

port Hosokawa's reforms and Thursday and in the upper the Liberal Democrats bowed house before year's end. The

government," said Liberal Democratic leader Yohei Kono Talk is now widespread that his party will split between legislators who are willing to supin the full lower house

coalition has enough votes to

meanwhile, would give Hosokawa a strong hand to push through economic reforms long advocated by both Japanese and Americans. The prime minister wants to slash regulations that lead to collusion between bureaucrats and business, and encourage freer competition that would help foreign companies sell their

Hosokawa's public opinion poll approval rating, already standing at around 70 per cent,

Absentee DU teachers

list but are staying abroad despite the expiry of their study

approved by the DU Syndicate. Normally, a tribunal is formed at the initiative of the Syndicate to consider termination of the services of any DU teacher. But since the pro-

From Our Correspondent near Koirala Bazar today after

Lorry kills one

in Cox's Bazar

Notice Today's The Bathy Star contains a 5-page November '93 "Star Computer Speged to either reduce or drop some of our regular features. We sincerely re-

William Carey, the Missionary and the

Humanist Column: Passing by Zillur Rahman

International

Bosnia to sue Britain

Hezbollah guerillas attack SLA position,

economic centre Clinton presses to pick

NEWS BRIEFS

Four protestors

killed in Bihar NEW DELHI. Nov 16: Police killed at least four protestors in India's eastern Bihar state today after a march against alleged police atrocities turned violent, the Press Trust of India said. It said the protestors were demanding the arrest of a traffic constable for allegedly beating up a rickshaw driver in Muzaffarpur town. About 30 people were injured in the shooting, the news agency said

reports Reuter. Bosnian leaders

to meet on aid GENEVA, Nov 16: The political leaders of Bosnia's three warring factions have agreed to attend a meeting on humanitarian aid to be held in Geneva on Thursday, a spokeswoman for the United Nations refugee agency told Reuters today. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) called the talks to demand freer access for relief convoys trying to help

some three million people survive Bosnia's bitter winter. Chanpa murder

case hearing From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Nov 16: Hearing of the sensational Fauzia Rahman Chanpa murder case continued for the second day today at the court of District and Sessions Judge Mominul Huq. Two witnesses, Dr Rafiq Al Kabir Labu and former Sadar thana Magistrate Abdul Halim, were examined today. The court is expected to conclude hearing of

ALCWC meets tomorrow

the case tomorrow:

An emergency meeting of the Awami League Central Working Committee will be held at the party office at 10 am tomorrow. Party's general secretary Zillur Rahman has requested the members of the Working Committee to attend it, reports

MOSCOW, Nov 16: The historic Lenin Museum beside Red Square closed today for the last time under orders from Russian President Boris Yeltsin, museum officials said, reports AFP

Lenin Museum

closed

COX'S BAZAR, Nov 16: One person was killed on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway

being hit by a tanker lorry.

campaign to clean up Japanese politics, overcoming five years of inertia to push anti-corruption The committee approval

In a striking reverse from

"We voted in a silent and

Democratic Party lawmaker Nobutaka Machimura after the 40-member committee approved the legislation by a vote of 21 to

promises of reform. The reforms passed Tuesday are expected to come to a vote

win in both houses of Parliament Hosokawa's reforms ban corporate contributions to individual politicians, introduce

The Liberal Democrats oppose the contributions ban, and "It's is unfortunate that we Hajime Ishii, chairman of the In January this year the

The DUTA, in a statement

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