

Inside Today

Article

Integration Does not point to a Fortress Europe yet Column: Along My Way by S B Chaudhuri Page 4

International



Winnie escapes death Fresh battle leaves 7 dead in Kashmir Page 5

Business

NAFTA unlikely to have adverse effect on Bangladesh Article by Professor Hafiz G A Siddiqi

Crucial meeting on GATT talks begins today: France, Spain blast US declaration Pages 6, 7

Feature

Development

Need for rethinking on irrigation policies; Free trade must not suffer from double standard; Boosting West Africa's self-image Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



An Instantaneous Love Affair Page 3

Three hill districts get more administrative powers

Several ministries yesterday signed some 24 agreements on a number of subjects and handed those to the local governments of the three Hill Districts, reports UNB.

greater administrative responsibilities to the local bodies of the three hill tracts districts. Under the agreement, local government parishads of the three districts will appoint all third and fourth class employees from among the local inhabitants for filling up the vacant posts under the ministries that signed the agreement.

The agreements are aimed at strengthening the structures of the local bodies of the three hill districts by way of decentralising the administration to strengthen the efforts of socio-economic development of the region.

Directorate of Public Health Engineering and Rural Development and Cooperative Department, Cooperative Directorate, Fisheries and Live Stock Ministry - Fisheries Directorate and Live Stock Directorate.



President and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Abdur Rahman Biswas placing wreaths at the 'Shikha Anirban' (the Eternal Flame) at the Dhaka Cantonment on the occasion of the Armed Forces Day yesterday. The chiefs of the Army, Navy and Air Force are also seen.

Armed Forces vanguard of nation: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said yesterday that the Armed Forces Day is a glorious day of unity and determination for the national life, reports BSS.

Environment action plan delayed by two years

Formulation of an action plan for management of the country's environment has been delayed by nearly two years. The delay has occurred because of delay in implementation of a UNDP-funded NEMAP (National Environment Management Action Plan) project.

environment and development and quality of life was brought to focus by Bangladesh's experience with recurrent natural calamities since the mid-Eighties. All of these were linked by experts to effects of degradation of the global environment.

forestation are only a limited implementation of the natural environment policy drawn up by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Fuller implementation of the plan will require a comprehensive understanding of the state of environment and a plan of action to improve it.

PM goes to Nepal today

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia leaves Dhaka today for Kathmandu on a three-day official visit to the Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal, reports BSS.

JS winter session begins Discussion on PM's remarks demanded

The winter session of the Jatiya Sangsad began yesterday with the Opposition demanding a general discussion on the reported comments of the Prime Minister regarding Parliament.

The panel of chairman includes Ziaur Rahman Khan, Wing Commander (ret'd) Hamidullah Khan, Shahjahan Siraj, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury and Abu Taher.

JS probe body yet to agree on its terms of reference. The parliamentary committee to probe into the Opposition allegations of corruption against the Irrigation and Flood Control Ministry and the minister concerned yesterday once again failed to reach an agreement on the terms of reference for its investigations.

Biman rejoinder on Airbus buying

Following is the rejoinder issued by the Biman Bangladesh Airlines yesterday in response to our Sunday's front page item titled 'Doubts cloud Biman's Airbus buying procedure'.

115 killed in Macedonian plane crash

SKOPJE, Nov 21: One hundred and fifteen people were killed when a plane crashed into snow-covered mountains near Ohrid airport in southern Macedonia on Saturday night, Radio Macedonia reported today, says AFP.



Elizabeth Dowdeswell

UNEP ready to help hold water talks

The visiting United Nations Under-Secretary General Elizabeth Dowdeswell stressed the need for a dialogue for solving the problem of the Ganges water sharing and offered the UNEP's assistance and cooperation in this regard.

(UNEP) and the United Nations Centre of Human Settlement (Habitat) - as Executive Director, arrived in Dhaka yesterday morning on a two-day official visit.

Boat capsize toll now 13

CHITTAGONG, Nov 21: With the recovery of four more bodies today from the rivers Karnaphuli, the death toll in Friday's boat capsize rose to 13.

Regional water confce in city from today

An international conference on eastern Himalayan waters will begin in the capital today, bringing together water experts from India, Nepal and Bangladesh to discuss and find possible solutions to the problems of water sharing.

The occasion will be participated by a five-member delegation from India, seven delegates from Nepal, 10 from Bangladesh and 13 from the GIF, Japan, the co-sponsors of the conference.

The Delhi conference stressed the need for developing an institutional structure of regional or international character using modern or new formulae to deal in the water-related problems.

The Dhaka conference will focus on specific water-related problems like the Farakka issue, and would try to move towards action.

Advertisement for National Consumer Rights Day (জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড) with text in Bengali and English, including a list of consumer rights and contact information.