

King Birendra of Nepal poses with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia during an audience in Kathmandu yesterday.

— AFP photo

Khaleda: Nepal ready and rural development between

the two countries;

friendly relations;

Bangladesh:

- They expressed satisfac-

tion at the existing warm and

cordial relations, and stressed

the need for strengthening

agreed that the 9th session of

the joint economic commission

should be held in early 1994 to

review the progress of various

the government of Bangladesh

for providing transit facilities to

Nepal for conducting interna-

tional trade with and through

issue of water resources; they

were of the view that there exist

a vest potential which could be

harnessed for the benefit of the

encourage their private sectors

for focusing on core economic

issues, including that of poverty

alleviation; the two leaders

agreed that the people of the

region should be provided with

the basic needs through the

provision of "daal-bhaat" to ev-

- They observed that suc

cessful implementation of the

SAPTA, along with poverty alle-

viation programme and other

related economic programmes.

would grately enhance trade

and economic interaction

the end of the Cold War also

presented the international

community with fresh chal-

lenges, including the resurgence

of some old conflicts; these re-

PM flies over

Everest

special aircraft of the Royal

Nepalese Airlines, reports BSS.

hour flight around the moun-

tains of the Himalayan Range.

the Prime Minister has a close

view of the world's highest

mountain Everest (29,028

Nirmul's march

to JS foiled

By Staff Correspondent

Police yesterday foiled a

march towards the Jatiya

Sangsad by the workers of the

Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Saman-

According to witnesses, rlot

and armed policemen stopped

the marchers - who started

from in front of the National

Museum — at the Bangla Mo-

Leader of the marchers, Syed

Hasan Imam, told the gathering

there of that they would organ-

ise another march during the

ever, no specific date for the

Yesterday's programme was

announced earlier to press for

the implementation of a four-

point set of demands which in-

clude the trial of Jamaat chief

Golam Azam as a 'war criminal'.

Sangsad's next session. How-

fresh programme was an-

naya Committee.

tors crossing.

nounced.

feet) and other peaks.

During the more than an

KATHMANDU, Nov 24:

- They acknowledged that

among member nations:

ery South Asian household:

- The two countries would

-They underscored the need

people of the region;

to set up industries;

- Both sides discussed the

- Nepal expressed thanks to

areas of bilateral cooperation:

- The two prime ministers

From Page 1 Col 7 received her at the tarmac.

After a brief ceremony, Begum Zia, wearing a dark blue chiffon saree, came straight to where journalists were waiting to be briefed.

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda requested the newsmen to ask only questions related to the Nepal

The presence of the ministers at the airport was less than usual, possibly because Parliament was in session during

her arrival. Begum Zia said besides bilateral issues, as the chairperson of SAARC she discussed regional issues with her

Nepalese counterpart. This was her maiden visit to Nepal. Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman, Begum Selina Shaheed MP. Principal Secretary K M Rabbani and Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman

were in the delegation. Replying to a question that the Nepalese Prime Minister, in an interview, had told a Bangladeshi newspaper that the water-sharing issue was a bilateral matter between India and Bangladesh, Begum Zia said "no, the Nepalese Prime Minister will discuss the matter with India.

In reply to another question as to how Nepal would benefit by the transit facilities provided by Bangladesh if India did not permit similar facilities, Begum Zia said that she was told that Nepal had received the green signal from India.

The communique, issued simultaneously in Dhaka and Kathmandu, was signed by Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Reaz Rahman and Nepalese Foreign Secretary Yadav Kant Silwal in presence of the two prime ministers.

The salient features of the joint communique are:

the need for diversifying trade, promoting cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture

quired to be addressed within the context of equity, justice and international law; - They reiterated their support to the Middle East peace

process;

- The two prime ministers - The two leaders reiterated emphasised on the need for the G-77 to supplement the efforts of the Non-aligned Movement in the economic arena.

Computer-show in city By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS) will hold a twoday computer exhibition at the Sonargaon Hotel from Friday.

The show, to be inaugurated by Commerce Minister Shamsul Islam at the same venue Friday morning, will be participated by 18 computer companies with their latest products.

President of the samity Sajjad Hossain, in a press conference in the city yesterday said the objective of the show. which would be the biggest of its kind in this country, was to promote and popularise computerisation.

The press conference was, also attended by vice president of the samity Saif Shahid, Moin Khan, Abdullah M Kafi, Mustafa Jabbar and Golam Mahiuddin.

* To popularise computerisation, the BCS has demanded tax free import of computers and accessories for the next five years, introduction of computer education at the SSC level and installation of data exchange network.

Saif Shahid suggested, the government should introduce a copyright law for the software industry.

They urged the government to assist the computer sector in its development and suggested that the mass media should focus more on computer information.

The show will remain open from 10 am to 8 pm on both the days.

pictures From A K.M Mohsin

KHAGRACHHARI, Nov 24: Volunteers belonging to the Parbattya Chhattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) held complete sway over the security arrangements in and around the peace talks venue at the local Circuit House.

With passes issued by the PCJSS pinned on their chests, the hundred or so volunteers even physically prevented and harassed a group of photo-journalists from Dhaka, holding authorised government passes. from taking any photographs of the PCJSS leaders.

The tribal volunteers min gled freely with the unarmed securitymen (soldiers) at the Circuit House and were involved in checking and frisking everyone before the arrival of the leaders taking part in the talks.

When the Bangladesh Air Force helicopter carrying the PCJSS leaders led by J B Larma alias Shanto Larma landed at the Circuit House, two of the photo-journalists, waiting nearby, moved inside the compound in an attempt to take photographs.

But the PCJSS volunteers physically held them back, obstructing them from taking pictures of the tribal leaders attending the talks.

The photojournalists, including this correspondent, were roughed up by the volunteers after/a, member of the entourage, getting down from the Air Force chopper, reacted sharply to their presence.

The PCJSS volunteers had earlier asked the photo-journalists and other local reporters to stay away from the talks venue.

Time-limit for CHT polls extended

The government has extended the time-limit till January 4, 1995 for holding of district council elections in Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban by an ordinance, reports UNB.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar said this in parliament yesterday in reply to a question from Azizur Rahman of the Awami League.

CHT talks

From Page 1 Col 7 the right to continue agitation for his demands systematically." he said.

Turning to the recent violence at Naniarchar, Bazar of Rangamati hill district, Shanto alleged that some vested quarters had become active to disrupt the on-going talks by unleashing terrorism.

"But everybody in the CHT should try to maintain peace for the sake of the success of the talks," Shanto added

Today's talks were held amid tight security, the meeting venue ringed by a host of both tribal and non-tribal volunteers while Section 144 was in force in Khagrachharl district to prevent any outbreak of violence until November 26.

A group of photo journalists who arrived here from Dhaka to cover today's talks was prevented and even assaulted by the volunteers at the Circuit House premises while they were taking photographs of the Shantibahini leaders who attended the talks.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia this morning went on a Falu Miah freed mountain flight on board a

District and Sessions Judge Md Abdus Salam yesterday discharged Falu Miah, who languished in jail for more than two decades, as there is no existence of any case against him, reports UNB.

Advocate Elina Aziz on behalf of the Bangladesh Society for Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) filed a petition praying for his release, stating that there is no specific case against him and he was never produced before any court.

"This is really in human," the

court observed in his order. ALCWC, ALPP meet today

An emergency meeting of the Awarni League Central Working Committee will be held at the party office today at 11 am. Awami League president Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting. The Awami League Parliamentary Party will also meet today in the Sangsad Bhaban at 3-30 pm. Leader of the Opposition will chair the meeting, reports UNB.

DMC polls today

By DMCH Correspondent The Dhaka Medical College Students Union(DAMECSU)

polls will be held today. A total of 1053 voters of the college are expected to cast their votes from 8 am to 12:30pm.

Eighty candidates from four panels will contest for 20 seats in the central students' union.



Khagrachhari district officials receiving the Shantibahini team at the local Circuit House yesterday prior to the start of the sixth round of talks with the special parliamentary body to find a solution to the CHT problems. Leader of the tribal negotiators JB Larma alias Shanto Larma is seen in a dark safari and sunglasses. - Star photo by AKM Mohsin

The AL leader accused a

section of the BNP leadership of

conspiring against parliamen-

tary democracy from the very

inception of the system, re-

stored after a long, bloody

struggle by the people. He also

blamed the government for at

Parliament ineffective.

leged.

tempting to make the sovereign

Parliament effective, rather they

foiled the Opposition's moves in

"In whose hands is the hard-

earned democracy now? Who

He accused the Works Minis-

ter of moving the privilege mo-

tion against the Opposition

leader illegally and regretted the

counter the one brought by Op-

position chief whip Mohammad

Nasim against the premier, was

"Our leader Hasina has clari-

a violation of the rules of proce-

fied her position." Yet the gov-

ernment role in this regard was

. "The Leader of the Opposi-

tion was compelled to announce

Sajeda Choudhury criticised the

Speaker, saying he did not give

the floor to the Opposition

leader several times yesterday

despite a four-point charter of

accord on the issue, signed in

ported November 7 remarks "an

ominous sign for the newly-

born democracy in the country."

sentatives, cannot speak in

Parliament, then what is the

necessity of this Sangsad ?" she

said, "The neutrality of the

Speaker has come into question

that Barrister Rafiq's move was

neither valid nor was it based

on facts. "It's simply an attempt

to create unnecessary provoca-

Sengupta warned that the

Supporting Hasina's threat

the Leader of the Opposition

speaks, it means the whole Op-

Tofael Ahmed pointed out

that the privilege motion by

Mohammad Nasim was unani-

But, he added, the counter-

move by the Works Minister.

three days after the winter

session began, was politically

motivated and the government

motion could, by no means, be

accepted under the rules of pro-

The minibus (left, foreground) which hit the guard rails of this bridge on the Dhaka-Aricha

highway and took a plunge Tuesday evening, leaving 16 passengers killed.

consequences of, what he

called, a bad precedence set by

the government yesterday.

tion, and debates," he said.

would be 'fatal.'

position speak."

after the role he played today."

Shahjahan Siraj, in his turn,

Suranjit Sengupta opined

"If we, as the people's repre-

Sajeda termed the PM's re-

Speaking on the occasion,

dure, Samad Azad said.

regrettable," he said.

the House earlier.

asked.

her resignation," he said.

Barrister Rafiq's motion, to

Speaker's role in the matter.

will protect it?," he asked.

this regard," Samad Azad al-

"They did nothing to make

'AL, allies will stick to Hasina's decision'

By Staff Correspondent

All the members of Parliament (MPs) belonging to the Jatiya Sangsad's main Opposition party the Awami League and its allies will stick to the decision pronounced by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday that she would resign if the government's privilege motion against her were allowed to be discussed in the House.

This was stated by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad while briefing newsmen at his Sangsad office on the outcome of a meeting of the AL MPs with Suranjit Sengupta of the Ganatantri Party and Shahjahan Straj. MP.

The meeting, at the Opposition Leader's chamber, was hurriedly arranged after AL chief Sheikh Hasina threatened to resign following Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali's acceptance of a privilege motion moved by Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah against her reported remarks when reacting to the Prime Minister's November 7 comments about the Sangsad. The Speaker, accepting the motion, set November 30 for a general dis-

cussion on the matter. The whole nation stands by the decision given by the Leader of the Opposition on the floor of the House. We will try to unite all democratic forces inside and outside Parliament against all undemocratic acts by the BNP government inside and outside the House," Samad Azad said reading out the decisions of the meeting.

Replying to questions, he explained that the 'decision' of the Opposition leader meant 'resignation'.

Sajeda Choudhury, Tofael Ahmed of the AL. Suranjit Sengupta of the Ganatantri Party and Shahjahan Siraj also spoke at the press briefing. AL leaders including Abul Hasan Choudhury. Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim and Sudhangsu Shekhar Haldar were also pre-

Addressing the journalists. Samad Azad expressed his fear that democracy was not safe in the hands of the BNP.

Benazir invites Sharif to talks

ISLAMABAD, Nov 24: Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on Tuesday invited her arch-rival and opposition leader Nawaz Sharif to talks, seeking to develop a political code of ethics and cooperation in making laws, reports Reuter.

A letter to Sharif, quoted by local news agencies, proposed the talks to be held at a dinner hosted by Bhutto at her official residence she occupied last month after her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) won bit- cedure. terly fought elections.

From Page 1 Col 5 .

tion-sponsored privilege motion which accused the Leader of the ssion on the topic.

At this stage, Deputy Leader of the House Professor Badruddoza Chowdhury took the floor to protest the Opposition chief's demand.

Prof Chowdhury told the House that the Opposition members in the JS business advisory committee refused to accept the treasury bench proposal for allowing the Leader of the House and Prime Minister to make a statement. under relevant fules, clarifying her November 7 statement and thus putting an end to the is-

"But the Opposition memdiscriminate against the trearuling on an identical subject.

meeting.

for discussion.

The House later was plunged into total disorder following cheers and shouts from both sides and the Speaker, finding it difficult to proceed with the scheduled business, adjourned the proceedings for ten minutes at 6.30 pm.

However, the House issumed again at 8:40 pm with the Opposition benches empty. The Speaker immediately adjourned the House to resume again at 4 this afternoon.

College closed to resign, he said that "when

RAJSHAHI, Nov 24: Rajshahi New Government Degree College was closed today (Wednesday) sine die after an armed clash between two rival groups of students which left at least 15 injured, reports mously adopted by the House. . UNB.

> The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the academic committee of the college to avert further vio-Doctors at the RMCH said

the condition of Raju was criti-

Hasina

Speaker accepted an opposi-House of undermining the image of Parliament and its members, the Speaker fixed November 29 for a two-hour discu-

bers strongly demanded the discussion." Prof Chowdhury said. The Speaker should not sury bench by reconsidering his

Chowdhury also observed that the Opposition chief was now trying to take advantage of the same rule for which the treasury bench members had pleaded at the advisory body

The Speaker then observed that the issue concerned the dignity of both the Leader and the Opposition Leader of the House and that was the reason why he had accepted both the notices under the same rule (168 of the Rules of Procedure)

Samad Azad, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, took the floor at this point to support Hasina's position. He said that once she had clarified her position in the Sangsad, the Speaker could not accept the privilege motion against her.

Rajshahi New Govt

- Star photo

·UNB adds: Bangladesh will receive a grant of Tk 175 crore approximately equivalent to 80 million Dutch Florin (DFL) from the Netherlands for the year 1994.

The Midnight File

Leghari iterates support for Kashmiris

ISLAMABAD, Nov 24: Pakistani President Farooq Ahmed Leghari reiterated support for Kashmiris today as India and Pakistan agreed to resume dialogue on the disputed territory and other bilateral problems. Pakistan will continue to provide diplomatic, political and moral support to the people of Kashmir in their struggle for the inalienable right of self-determination, an official statement quoted Leghari as saying. reports AFP.

Hamas leader shot dead

GAZA CITY (Occupied Gaza Strip), Nov 24: Israeli soldiers today shot dead the head of the armed wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, Imad Akel, military officials said. Akel, 24, was shot dead in a clash with soldiers in Gaza City, reports AFP.

Rushdie meets Clinton

WASHINGTON, Nov 24: Novelist Salman Rushdie, who is under an Iranian death sentence for his book "Satanic Verses," met briefly today with President Clinton, the White House said. Rushdie was at the White House to meet Secretary of State Warren Christopher and National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, and Clinton dropped in to see him briefly, White House Communications Director Mark Gearan said, reports Reuter.

Hasina's threat unfortunate, say BNP ministers

this House, and as a minister.

find that the Opposition leaders'

of the Opposition is a general

reflection on all the cabinet

members, the Works Minister

said, adding "Now it is my

constitutional and legal right to

serve a notice." Privilege should

be enjoyed by all the members.

which may hinder the demo-

cratic process and functioning

be effective without the Opposi-

tion and hoped that they would

come back to make Parliament

the centre of everything, as re-

peated by both Prime Minister

Begum Khaleda Zia and Leader

of the Opposition Sheikh

Barrister Nazmul Huda said.

"We have yielded so much, it

seems that Parliament has be-

He said the BNP parliamen

tary party had been making all

possible adjustments inside the

Sangsad to accommodate the

The Information Minister

views and feelings of all the par-

said his party earnestly hopes

that the Leader of the Opposi-

tion would reconsider her threat

to resign if the Speaker allowed

discussion on the notice of

breach of privilege, submitted

by the Works Minister to uphold

the institution of the office of

the Speaker and smooth growth

reply when asked whether the

Speaker's decision to allow a

two-hour discussion on both

the notices covered the rules of

ister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan.

Home Minister Abdul Matin

Chowdhury and Major (retd)

Akhteruzzaman, MP were pre-

26 charged with

Rajiv murder

cial court on Wednesday for-

mally charged 26 people in the

1991 assassination of former

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi,

clearing the way for their prose-

The accused, who include

Indians and Shri Lankan

Tamils, all pleaded innocent in

the court in the southern city of

Madras, news agencies re-

ported. No date has been set for

22 killed in Indian

train mishap

Twenty-two people were killed

and 60 badly injured today

when a passenger express

slammed into a derailed goods

train on the outskirts of the

central Indian city of Gwalior,

railway officials said, reports

fered minor injuries, the offi-

1 hurt as JP-JCD

clash in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

tivist of the Jatiya Party was

seriously injured in a clash

with supporters of the

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD)

· According to sources, the

clash between the two student

at the City College here today.

KHULNA, Nov 24: An ac-

More than 100 people suf-

BHOPAL (India), Nov 24:

cution, reports AP.

the trial.

Reuter.

cials added.

NEW DELHI. Nov 24: A spe-

sent during the briefing.

Labour and Manpower Min-

procedure.

Both the barristers avoided a

of parliamentary democracy.

ties represented in the House.

come the rule of the minority."

of Parliament," he said.

Hasina time and again.

We do not expect a situation

He said Parliament cannot

he argued.

The comment of the Leader

remarks infringed my rights."

Ruling party leaders yesterday termed Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina's threat of resignation from the Jatiya Sangsad as "unfortunate" and said the Speaker's ruling is final and his authority cannot be challenged, reports UNB.

In Parliament yesterday Hasina threatened to resign unless Speaker Shaikh Razzak All changed his decision allowing a privilege motion brought against her by Works Minister Barrister Rafiqui Islam Miah. "If a notice could be brought

against the Leader of the House, then why should the Opposition oppose a similar notice against the Leader of the Opposition? The question was posed by

both the Works Minister and Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda while talking to reporters in the Sangsad chamber of the Deputy Leader of the House last evening.

Quoting Sheikh Hasina's statement, allegedly made at the airport on November 19 while talking to newsmen on her return from China, Barrister Rafiq said "I as a member of

Other parties' views

By Staff Correspondent

While both the ruling party and the Awami League and its allies held press briefings at the Sangsad Bhaban after the adjournment of the House, other Opposition parties like the Jatiya Party and the Jamaat did not immediately express their views regarding Sheikh Hasina's threatened resignation.

However, Jatiya Party leader Munirul Huq Chowdhury, MP while talking to The Daily Star last night, said that his party's parliamentary group expressed solidarity with Hasina's sentiments.

"We are yet to decide on the issue, though, because our senior leaders are not in the city." Chowdhury added.

The leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh Parliamentary wing Maulana Matiur Rahman Nizami, while giving his reactions, told The Daily Star that the incident was very 'unfortunate and contrary to the expectations of the nation.'

Replying to a question. Nizami said: 'We are not a party to what happened in the Sangsad yesterday. We shall observe the developments before we take any decision on our next course of action." He denied any liaison with

the Awami League or its allies in JS regarding yesterday's incidents.

Rashed Khan Menon of the Worker's Party, who returned to the city from Khagrachari late last night, told this correspondent that he would be in a position to make a comment only after getting adequate information on the issue from his Opposition colleagues. Shamsuddoha., a CPB MP.

was not available for comment.

\$ 72m ADB loan for female edn

MANILA, Nov 24: The Asian Development Bank agreed on Tuesday to lend Bangladesh 72 million dollars to improve education for women and for rural poor, reports BSS.

Sixty per cent of the concessional funding would be devoted to improving teaching of women in Banglaesh, it said in a statement.

Dutch grant

The amount will be utilized to implement projects in the fields of agriculture, food, education, rural development, poverty alleviation, health and family welfare and flood congroups occurred at about 11:30 am following a dispute over writing of slogans (graffiti) on the college wall. Several shots were fired and dozens of hand bombs exploded during the hour-long clash.

Injured Shahidul Islam, 20

was rushed to the local hospital in serious condition, sources said. Both the groups blamed

each other for the incident.

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from taking

Tribal volunteers

prevent lensmen