

Qazi Shahana Parveen, Farzana Hussain Soma and Sabrina Sultana of Bangladesh, who won the Sixth SAF Games 50m standard rifle team event gold medal at the Gulshan shooting Range Wednesday. The result was confirmed only yesterday due to a technical hitch.

Indians march on

way' from judo. The country's

bronzes suffered no rearrange-

ment in number. The hosts can

look forward to one or two golds

from the remaining swimming

and shooting events. But our

punchers offer more reassur,

ances of silvers in the boxing

events to come. Two of them

have passed the semifinal barri-

ers and whatever happens in

the final, they should bring two

more silvers. Not very rosy, but

then better something than

DU winter

vacation

into an eight-day vacation, in-

cluding winter vacation, pre-

ceded by Christmas holiday to-

'morrow and followed by New

Year's Day closure on January

ever, will be held as scheduled.

Departments, libraries and

other offices of the University

will remain open during the va-

DCC elections:

JP nominates

Malek for Mayor

Col (Retd) Abdul Malek candi-

date for election as Mayor of

Dhaka, JP sources said yester-

Malck, a minister of the Er-

shad government, was former

recent meeting of the party pre-

Major parties

From Page 1 Col 5

'illegal means" such as fresh

commitments of development

programmes and announce-

ment of grants in different con-

the voters with the promises of

grants and development pro-

grammes" the AL leader alleged.

rister Moudud Ahmed, while

giving his reaction to the resig-

nations, told this correspondent

over telephone last night that

the government had so far met

only one of his party's seven-

point demand formulated to en-

the incumbent mayors, the

other demands of the JP in-

clude no fresh announcement

of grants by the government

before the polls, and no use of

the state machinery by the

ministers while canvassing for

are met well before the January

30 elections, we cannot be sure

of the fairness of the city corpo-

question, both Zillur Rahman

and Moudud Ahmed told The

Daily Star that they would at-

tend the Chief Election Com-

missioners meeting with the

political parties scheduled for

the 26th of this month and

lodge their complaints with the

Election Commission against

. No central leader of the Ja-

maare-Islami, Bangladesh, was

available in the city yesterday to

give the party's reaction over

the government.

the issue.

ration polls,' Moudud said.

'Unless all the seven points

Replying to an identical

the ruling party candidates.

Besides the resignation of

sure a fair and free polling.

Jatiya Party (JP) leader, Bar-

The ministers are wooing

stituencies.

day, reports UNB.

Municipal Corporation.

Jatiya Party has nominated

uary 2 next year, 1994.

Classes will resume on Jan-

Ongoing examinations, how-

1, reports UNB.

The Dhaka University goes

From Page 1 Col 7 Pakistan were in a bit of a soup from the onset and yesterday saw them putting an end to their gold drought. Their young swimmers brought them the maiden gold of this meet in a relay event.

Hosts Bangladesh made rather nebbish progress with another gold in addition to their previous collection of five confirmed Tuesday.

They now have six golds and cling to the third position with total of 20 medals. Yesterday, a silver medal came Bangladesh's

Khatme Nabuyat firm to hold confee today

Tahfuze Khatme Nabuyat, a collection of various religious groups, will hold its planned conference at Manik Mia Avenue here today despite a government request to postpone it in view of the SAF Games, reports UNB.

Leaders of the alliance told a rally in front of the National Press Club yesterday that they had decided to hold the conference after Juma prayers at a special council session earlier in

Khatme Nabuyat leaders, including the Khatib of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque Obaidul Huq and Khelafat Majlish chief Shaikul Hadith Moulana Azizur Rahman addressed the rally.

Earlier, an official handout said leaders of the Tahfuze Khatme Nabuyat met with the Home Minister Wednesday night and decided to postpone their scheduled rally.

US visa

From Page 1 Col 8 tailing the procedure may be published in newspapers anytime in 1994.

Bangladesh Bank today said, as no fees will be required for submitting applications, remitting money for the lottery for the purpose of visa and co-operation from any individual or firm in the USA is also not necessary.

Sources in the central bank say, they are apprehending that a large amount of US dollar has already left the Bank's coffer to reach the US lawyer. The Bank, however, is not yet aware of the

exact amount. According to sources, the amount might have run into several millions in US dollars because in the last OP-1 lottery, there were about 7.5 lakh appli-

The central bank would also request the commercial banks

to discourage clients from sending money for the lottery.

The sources said that following the foreign exchange liberalisation in the country, the BB has no role other than requesting the Banks to restrict the remittance of foreign exchange.

The bank itself cannot impose any restriction.

Meanwhile, the sources in the US embassy in Dhaka say the lawyer had cleared the advertisement with the embassy here before publication of the advertisement in the newspa-

pers. They said, they should not prevent the publication of the advertisement as there was nothing illegal about it. But at the directive of the embassy, the Advertiser asked the people not to go to the US embassy for any query, the sources added.

Govt to do all to protect tribal culture: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday opened here a fortnight long special exhibition on the culture and heritage of the tribal people of Bangladesh, the first of its kind in the country, reports BSS.

She said the exhibition, portraying the lifestyle, culture and heritage of the tribal people, would consolidate the bond of our national unity.

The Prime Minister said the tribal people had been maintaining their existence with their own characteristics and lifestyle and added her government would do everything possible to flourish and protect the tribal traditional way of life and

Begum Zia said Bangladesh is known as the country of peace and amity from time immemorial and the people of different religions, caste and culture are living here without any discrimination.

There is neither enmity and difference nor any cultural conflicts among the members of different communities, she said adding all we live here are Bangladeshis.

Organised by Bangladesh National Museum, the exhibition displayed homes traditional costumes, household articles and weapons of about 26 tribes of Bangladesh.

There are now about 20 lakh people of 30 tribes living in Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Bogra, Rangpur, Chittagong Hill Tracts, Cox's Bazar, Patuakhali, Barguna, Sylhet, Rangamati, Mymensingh, Kushtia, Jamalpur and Tangail.

The Prime Minister said specific programmes had been taken for the welfare of the tribal people.

Begum Zia underlined the need for carrying out more research on the tribal people's history, culture and heritage. Measures have been taken to preserve their cultural identity, she said.

Tragic!

By DMCH Correspondent

Participation in a "dress as you like" competition proved fatal for a 12-year-old girl Salma in the city yesterday.

Salma, who put on a saree to take part in the Victory Day Dress As You Like competition, caught fire in the kitchen before going to school on December

Seriously injured by the fire. Salma was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where she died yesterday after fighting with death for seven

AL may nominate Hanif for DCC mayor

Awami League Presidium yesterday held a meeting discussing matters relating to the forthcoming city corporation elections and party nominees, reports UNB.

Sheikh Hasina president of the Awami League and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, chaired the meeting at 29 Minto

Sources said the meeting asked the Dhaka City Awami League to submit a list of probable candidates for the posts of

Administrator of the Dhaka Mayor and Ward Commissioner The decision was taken at a They indicated that Awami League is expected to field Mohammad Hanif, President of City Awami League, to contest

election of Dhaka City Corporation Mayor. December 29 has been set as the date for filing nomination papers by candidates for the

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at the Haji Korap Ali Memorial Degree College ground at Kamarkhand thana in Sirajganj district yesterday. - PID photo

also come above ground

through the Jatiya Ganatantrik

Front. The front held a massive

rally in Jhenidah last month

with participation of an esti-

mated 15,000 people. One Dr M

in some areas formed defence

parties and started night pa-

trols when the armed under-

ground groups became active in

the areas early this year. Police

also set up camps in remote

villages to nab the armed ac-

18 camps in Jhenidah district

gangs have also been formed in

the area, using the name of the

political parties, which dis-

owned their affiliations. These

groups are mainly involved in

dacoities and toll collection in

armed political groups and

private groups' since May,

when it launched the massive

now been prevailing in the area

for the past couple of months

but the question still remains

how long it will continue," one

source said, adding: 'The armed

groups may intensify their

snatched nearly 50 motorcycles

in Jhenidah district and al-

legedly used those in their ille-

He said, the armedmen

"Some people have even en-

People's resistance, political

rolled one or two of their own

family members in these groups

motivation and continued police

search can keep the situation

Case against 5

Ctg Port enggrs

Anti-Corruption Bureau here

today field a case with the port

police against five engineers of

Chittagong Port Authority (CPA)

for alleged purchase of a hy-

draulic platform at higher cost

ignoring the objection of some

relevant authority of the port,

corruption office sources said,

Chittagong Port Authority sus-

tained financial loss because of

the alleged purchase of hy-

draulic platform used for main-

tenance of overhead electric

lines at higher cost. The plat-

form was said to be shorter in

height causing serious inconve-

niences to the workers con-

the case are Deputy Chief Engi-

neers Jamshed Hasan and Lut-

ful Kabir and executive engi-

neers Khandakar Ashraful

Alam, Zahrul Huq and Anwarul

Huq Chowdhury.

The persons implicated in

Chittagong regional anti-

reports BSS.

cerned

CHITTAGONG, Dec 23: The

for selfprotection," he said.

under control, he added.

activities any time."

gal activities.

"A peaceful situation has

crackdown.

Police encountered both the

the name of the "Sharbahara"

The source said police set up

Some 'private groups' on

Local sources said, villagers

A Karim heads the front

Sarbahara activities

From Page 1 Col 7 Party, Purbabanglar Sharbahara Party, Purba Banglar Communist Party and the Ganabahini of the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD).

The area was once a stronghold of the JSD since 1974 but its activities became weaker in the mid-80s and now been totally eliminated.

The Purbabanglar Sharbahara Party (Kamrul) started open politics and has now disowned the armed Sharbaharamen still active in the region. Kamrul was killed in a crossfire in Barisal from where he had marched towards the Jessore region in 1987.

The Purbabanglar Communist Party spread in the area in 1990 but its cadres are now active only in some small, isolated armed bands, local political sources said.

Only the Bangladesh Biplobi Communist Party, led by Abdul Huq, remains active in the areas. In addition to its traditional armed struggle, the party has

A large number of RAW agents held: Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Dec 23: Pakistan said today it was holding a large number of Indian intelligence agents sent into the country on sabotage missions. reports Reuter.

The Foreign Ministry said agents of the Indian intelligence organisation Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) had been arrested "over a certain period of time." He did not say how

"We have arrested a large number of RAW agents in Pakistan and we call upon the government of India to halt the nefarious activities of this agency in our country," a Ministry

spokesman said. The Pakistani spokesman accused Indian authorities of trying to defame Pakistani intelligence agencies, particularly Islamabad's Inter-Services Intelligence.

He said Islamabad had "full information" about RAW's activities abroad, particularly in Pakistan and other neighbouring countries.

Bangladeshis

From Page 1 Col 8 lal, Dr Sajed Kamal, Dr Gulshan Ara Kazi among others.

The committee intends to inform the people from different sectors on Farakka through seminars and meetings. It would also mobilise opin-

ion to pressurise Bangladesh and India to resolve the crisis and pursue the US Congress and Senate for exerting their Dhaka City Corporation. Voting influence over the two counwill take place on January 30.

Govt determined From Page 1 Col 7

for protecting the local industries and urged upon all to identify the smugglers to bring them to boom. "It will be very difficult to protect our industries if smuggling is not curbed".

The local leaders and MPs informed the Prime Minister of various problems of their areas, including the displacement of people due to river erosion.

Begum Zia said the Cabinet has recently approved the amendment of a law allowing the owners of char land to retain its ownership and informed that a bill in this regard will be placed in Parliament in the next session.

The law was amended in 1972 creating a provision that any land devoured by the river will be declared khas land.

The Prime Minister assured the local people of looking into their problems. More roads and bridges will be constructed in the thana and educational institutions will be provided with additional financial support, she said.

Responding to the demand of students of a local college, she said, the college will be nationalised as per the government policy, but "before that I want you to free it from vio-

Earlier, Begum Zia planted a 'neem' sapling at the college premises. After the meeting she distributed poultry and cattle among the distressed women.

Two mayors

From Page 1 Col 4

ference "I have decided to resign to ensure an impartial election, as well as to meet the requirement of the law for the January 30 polls."

"Right now I will leave the office of the Chittagong City Corporation since I have resigned," he told newsmen at the conference room of the Corporation.

Mir Nasiruddin was appointed Mayor on May 12, 1991 while the three others in Dhaka. Rajshahi and Khulna were appointed on May 17, 1991.

Meanwhile, candidates have already submitted their nominations for the three city corporations elections in Chittagong. Rajshahi and Khulna while nominations for the polls in Dhaka will be submitted on December 29.

Nusrat: Benazir

From Page 1 Col 4 before he was executed in 1979 by the late military president General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq on controversial charges of conspiracy to murder.

She charged her daughter with usurping the party leadership that she said should have been inherited by her sole surviving son, 39-year-old Murtaza

Nusrat's support for Murtaza in October's elections triggered the family feud and the rift has widened since Murtaza Bhutto returned last month from Syria after 16 years of self-imposed exile and was arrested on ter-

rorism charges. Murtaza won a seat in the provincial assembly of southern Sind in the elections and is now in a Karachi jail, facing four charges ranging from insurgency to attempting to topple the government by force in the 1980s and carrying the death penalty.

However, Nusrat said she had accepted an invitation from her daughter to accompany the Prime Minister on a visit next month to Davos, Switzerland, to attend the 24th session of the World Economic Forum and would take the opportunity to discuss the family differences.

The Prime Minister has tried to play down the family feud, saying that she loves her brother and hopes that as the law takes its course he will clear his name.

Brother and sister have yet to meet since his return to Pak-

Allowed out of jail to attend a session of the provincial assembly in Karachi, Murtaza this week criticised his sister's government saying she had failed to implement the party manifesto and calling on her to reinstate her mother.

The Midnight File

Conte re-elected President

CONAKRY, Dec 23: Guinea's military leader General Lansana Conte was re-elected President in the country's first multiparty poll, the Interior Ministry announced today, but his main opposition rival said the result was a "coup d'etat." Conte, who came to power in April 1984 in a military coup a month after the death of dictator Ahmed Sekou Toure, was re-elected after winning 50.93 per cent of the vote after the first round on Sunday, ahead of Alpha Conde of the opposition Guinean people's rally with 20.85 per cent, the ministry said, reports

Algeria commutes death sentence of Frenchman

ALGIERS. Dec 23: The ruling council Thursday commuted a death sentence issued to Frenchman for aiding Muslim militants in an insurgency against Algeria's military-backed government. In place of the death sentence, the council imposed a life prison term on Roger-Didler Guyan, the Foreign Ministry said in a communique. It noted that the French government had appealed for clemency. Guyan, a convert to Islam, was arrested in June 1991 while transporting firearms, explosives and guerilla-war instruction manuals in his vehicle, reports AP.

Population growth

From Page 1 Col 7

years) are: 5,50,25,958 of which 2.81,01,467 are men and 2,69,24,491 women. They constitute 49.37 per cent of the total population.

According to the 1991 census, the State Minister said country's literacy rate is 32.4 per cent of which men make up 38.9 per cent and women 25.5 per cent. The literacy rate is 27.9 per cent in rural area, 57.0 per cent in poura area and 40 per cent in other urban area.

The literacy rate was 24.62 per cent in 1981.

In 1991, enrolment of students in the 5-24 age groups was 36.5 per cent which was 21.9 per cent in 1981. Of them, boys constitute 40.7 per cent and women 32.2 per cent.

Dr Khan said 41.4 per cent 5 year plus population passed at least class one in 1991 against 32.7 per cent in 1981.

Of the total population, 88.3 per cent are Muslims, 10.5 per cent Hindu, 0.6 per cent Bhuddist, 0.3 per cent Christian and others 0.3 per cent.

Castro's daughter

From Page 1 Col 5 "very symbolic of the national consensus in Cuba."

Fernandez has long been a critic of the Cuban government and once described Castro as a "tyrant" to a reporter. A former model, Fernandez

has said that her main memories of Castro are from her childhood when the Cuban leader visited the apartment she shared with her mother, still a supporter of the revolution.

Until recently, she lived in a relatively wealthy section of Havana with her own daughter.

Fernandez has refused to use Castro's surname and the Cuban leader has not acknowledged her as his daughter. She has said that she has not spoken with him in years.

Fernandez once married a Mexican, but Cuban authorities denied her permission to emigrate with him to Mexico. He eventually left Cuba without

The State Minister said there are 522 urban areas in the country with one mega city, 3 statistical metropolitan areas, 14 cities, 85 small municipalities and 415 other type of towns in the country.

According to the 1991 census, 20.15 per cent of the total population live in urban areas, This is 32.74 per cent higher than 1981.

About the economic activities, Dr Khan said 54.7 per cent population are working in agriculture, 3.3 per cent in industry, 13.5 per cent in business, 2.3 per cent in transport and 26.3 per cent in other fields.

A total of 8,87,137 foreigners are living in the country of which 86.83 per cent are men and 13.17 per cent women, he

Dr Khan said the floating population was counted at 4,17,228. Of them, 1,82,141 persons are living in rural areas and 2,35,087 in urban areas. They live in rail station, launch ghat, boat, construction site and other places. Slum dwellers are not considered floating population.

There are 12,05,700 tribesmen in the country- 2,15,415 in urban areas and 990,285 in rural areas. The tribewise population: Chakma-252,986, Garo-68,210, Marma -154,216, Saotal -202,744 and Tripura-79,772.

The State Minister said the present government has taken various programmes to alleviate poverty, check population boom, create employment of portunities, eradicate illiteracy and ensure health for all to reach the benefit of development to the doorstep of the people.

Former Vice Chancellor of the Jahangirnagar University Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed, Secretary of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Moklesur Rahman. Director of the Population Census Project 1991 Hamidul Haq Bhuiyan and UNFPA Country Representative SK Alok were present at the press conference at the NEC auditorium of the Planning Commission.

বকেয়া আদায়ের লক্ষ্যে গ্যাস লাইন

প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাসের ব্যবহার মৃল্যবান বন সম্পদ রক্ষা করে পরিবেশের ভারসাম্য রক্ষায় সহায়তা করে। গ্যাসের অপচয় রোধ করে পরিবেশ সংরক্ষণে এগিয়ে আসুন।

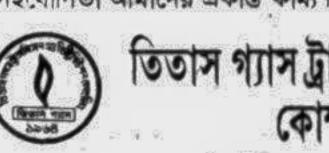
গ্যাসের সঠিক ব্যবহার মূল্যবান বৈদেশিক মুদ্রা সাশ্রয় করে অর্থনীতিতে সমৃদ্ধি আনে

বকেয়া আদায়ের লক্ষ্যে তিতাস গ্যাস আওতাভুক্ত সকল এলাকায় সরকারী ও সায়ত্তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানসহ সকল খেলাপী গ্রাহকের গ্যাস লাইন বিচ্ছিনুকরণের বিশেষ অভিযান ১৭ই অক্টোবর '৯৩ থেকে পুনরায় শুরু হয়েছে। ১৯৯৩-৯৪ অর্থ বৎসরের উক্ত দ্বিতীয় বিশেষ অভিযানে ২২-১২-৯৩ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত মোট ১৭২৭টি গ্যাস সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন করা হয়।

সকল সমানিত গ্রাহককে অবিলম্বে বকেয়া গ্যাস বিল পরিশোধ করে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিনুকারী দলকে গ্যাস ব্যবহারের স্থানে বকেয়া পরিশোধের রশিদ প্রদর্শন করার অনুরোধ জানানো হল। সংযোগ বিচ্ছিনুকৃত গ্রাহক বিকাল ৫-০০ টার মধ্যে কোম্পানীর সংশ্লিষ্ট জোন/অফিসে পরিশোধিত বিলের রশিদ দেখাতে পারলে তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে পুনঃ সংযোগ প্রদানের ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

সংযোগ বিচ্যুতির ৩ (তিন) মাসের মধ্যে পুনঃ সংযোগ না নিলে গ্যাস সংযোগ স্থায়ীভাবে বিচ্ছিনুকরণসহ গ্যাস সরবরাহ চুক্তি বাতিল করা হবে

বকেয়া আদায় এবং গ্যাসের অপচয় রোধ ও সংরক্ষণকল্পে সকলের সহযোগিতা আমাদের একান্ত কাম্য



তিতাস/জনসংযোগ-১১২/৯৩-৯৪

তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিশন এড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (পেট্রোবাংলার একটি সাবসিডিয়ারী কোম্পানী)

ডি-৯২৩

क्षिन १ २०२२००, २०२) १२, २८५८७२, ४)२)०४-४२

"পাছ লাগান, গাছের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ বাঁচান" - প্রধানমন্ত্রী

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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BSRS role remains undefined From Page 1 Col 4 plication of the Article 34, has

sick industries identified by the Sick Industries Revival and Rehabilitation Cell. The Cell also identified the reasons for their sickness, which include high rate of interest on loan, delay in completion of the projects due to bureaucratic tangles, over saturation of sectors, high rate of gas and electricity, political unrest, deteriorating law and order situation, frequent 'changes in the government policies, lack of coordination among the concerned ministries, nonavailability of working capital, instability in the market, defective and unrealistic financial appraisal prepared by the banks and financing institutions and natural calamities.

After submission of the report of the Cell, the government directed the banks and financing institutions to rehabilitate the sick units and suggested that the rehabilitation would be on the basis of bank-client relationship.

A Review Committee was also formed under the chairmanship of Mir Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Chairman of the Board of Investment, to look into the cases of those industries who would be denied of fresh loans for rehabilitation.

Accordingly, a number of BSRS-financed projects applied to the Review Committee after their disagreement with the conditionalities imposed by the DFI for rehabilitation.

The BSRS proposed for rehabilitation of a project only if the entrepreneurs agree to accept two directors in the company nominated by the BSRS. The quorum of any meeting of the company shall not be formed if one of the two directors nominated by the corporation remains absent in any

meeting. Moreover, according to the terms of rehabilitation, a portion of interest waivable would constitute the equity of the nominated directors, vis-a-vis, BSRS which is more than 50 per cent of the paid up capital of the company.

The leaders of the BSRS Entrepreneurs Forum, talking to The Daily Star termed the conditionalities 'peculiar and unethical and said these are contradictory to the government directives and the Companies Act, 1913. These are also against the smooth running of the industries, they added.

· They alleged that instead of

working normally in line with

other bans and DFIs, the BSRS

by 'unilateral and malafide' ap-

been taking over the projects and selling those at throw-away prices. Ten such projects, valuing about T 168 crore, have been sold at around Tk 20 crore only, they added.

Moreover, the decisions of they said. If the decisions of the committee are not mandatory for the bans and financing institutions, what is the use of such

ment, the Ministry has nothing to do will the matter right now. He, however, said the BSRS

tries, he said, the matter is beadded.

the Review Committee were not being followed by the BSRS,

a committee, they questioned. An official of the Ministry of Finance, when asked about all these, said, since the matter of handing over the shares and undertaking of the BSRS has been awaiting the review of the petition committee of Parlia-

was being sold at its market price. If its market price, which depends on demand, did not exceed Tk 83 erore, what can the government do, he added. Regarding the sick indus-

ing looked into by the concerned officials of the government. A decision in this regard would come out very soon, he