Wage award in private jute mills demanded

By Staff Correspondent

The Patkal Sramik-Karmachari Sangram Parishad (PSKSP) yesterday demanded implementation of the Wage Commission award in the private sector jute mills.

After the official announcement of the Wage Commission award last year the Bangladesh Jute Mills Association (BJMA) decided not to implement it in the private sector jute mills, PSKSP leaders told a press conference at its Topkhana Road office.

"Moreover, some private jute mills owners have stopped regular payment of the previous wage to the labourers. Even. some owners have threatened to lay off mills when the labourers refused to take half the amount of the wage they are being paid," convener of the parishad Abul Bashar said.

The press conference was addressed by Shahidullah

Khasbulatov quits politics

MOSCOW, Feb 27: President Boris Yeltsin's bitter foe, former parliamentary chairman Rusian Khasbulatov, said today he was fetiring from politics following his release from prison under an amnesty, Interfax news agency said, reports Reuter.

Khasbulatov, known for his abrupt changes of mood, told the agency he was "disgusted with modern politicians". In a separate report, Interfax said Khasbulatov planned a trip to his native region of Chechnya which has declared independence from Russia.

Lal Sabuj report untrue: Bureau of Anti-Corruption

The Bureau of Anti-Corruption has strongly protested the news item published in "Dainik Lal Sabuj" on February 17 under the caption "The Prime Minister has been receiving allegations of corruptions against ministers -The Bureau of Anti-Corruption has sought directives of the Prime Minister about 17," reports BSS.

In an official handout Saturday, the Bureau of Anti-Corruption made it clear that it did not receive any allegation of said corruption against 17, ministers from anybody by name or anonymous.

The news has been termed as totally baseless and moti-

The handout said the information given in the said news item stating that the bureau has sought directives of the Prime Minister is also absolutely baseless. Since the allegation of corruption has not been received, the sending of proposal from the bureau to the Prime Minister's office for her directives does not arise. it added.

The Bureau of Anti-Corruption termed the said news item of the Lal Sabuj quoting responsible source as untrue.

Neither the bureau nor any official on behalf of the bureau has released such information to the daily, the handout said.

Obituary refs

From Page 1 Col 8

MPs to attend the namaj-ejanaza of the late politician at the south plaza of the Sangsad Bhabhan.

Before the House adjourned it observed one-minute's silence to show respect to the late Baten and offered munajat for the salvation of the departed soul.

. The JS then adopted obituary references for Abdul Baten, freedom fighter Mahfuzur Rahman and for the Palestinians killed by Israelis at a mosque in Hebron of the occupied West Bank.

Yesterday's order of the day included the Parliament Secretariat Bill, 1994 and a bill seeking the setting up of Institute of Post-graduate Studies in Agriculture (IPSA).

However, a bill may be placed today for making parliament secretariat more effective in fulfillment of the constitutional provision, after about 22 years of the adoption

of the republic's constitution. The bill provides for establishment of a parliament secetariat and regulating the recruitment and conditions of services of the officials and employees, appointed to the

Secretariat. The Speaker was also scheduled to give his ruling yesterday on the opposition demand for a discussion on the

alleged corruptions of the cabinet ministers. Deputy Speaker Humayun

Khan Panni adjourned the session until 10 this morning.

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Chowdhury, Lutfar Rahman, Shah Alam. Anwara Begum, Golam Kabir. Bacchu Mia and

They also said some 12 jute mills have already been closed.

The parishad pointed out that BNP government signed a memorandum of understanding with the World Bank on December 15 last, under which the country would reduce its present production capacity of seven lakh metric tons of jute goods to 1.8 lakh tons.

"If this agreement is implemented, the jute industry will be destroyed and thousands of labourers will lose their jobs." Abul Bashar said. He demanded the cancellation of this agree-

The Parishad also demanded reopening of the closed jute mills, a ban on producing or importing synthetic fibre, implementation of all agreements signed with the PSKSP, withdrawal of cases against labour leaders and stopping violence in the industrial zones.

The Sangram Parishad also announced its programmes of agitation which included demonstrations in front of all private mills gates on March 5 and 6, a sit-in and rallies on

Police trade fire

From Page 1 Col 5

them. No one was injured. A police source said that the DB team rushed to the T & T Colony on a tip around 3:30 pm but the terrorists got

alarmed upon their arrival. "The terrorists moved so quickly that we could not use our car which was parked at a distance," said an Inspector

who was with the team. A case was lodged with the Ramna police.

JMB: ADB

From Page 1 Col 5

cussed the problems which delayed the railway recovery programme loan and indicated that another ADB mission will visit Bangladesh to resolve the remaining problems of the pro-

The Finance Minister during the discussion urged the ADB to put more emphasis on the projects for energy and power development and improving rural infrastructure including primary and secondary rural electrification programme.

The ADB mission included Manager, Programme Department (West) B Hurayangura and Manager Energy and Industry Paul Dickie. The mission which came here on February 24 will leave today.

ADB Resident Representative G Van Der Linden and External Resources Division Secretary Lutfulla Hil Majid were present. Meanwhile Noritada Morita,

called on Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman at his office yesterday and apprised him the bank's assistance to various projects in Bangladesh.

During the meeting, Morita also briefed the minister on the progress of the feasibility study of the development of Mongla.

They also discussed the feasibility of the Rupsha Bridge connecting the Mongla Port with the adjoining areas of greater Khulna.

Jewish leaders

From Page 1 Col 4 who was assassinated in 1990.

"I think the government took a very important step that signals a new way of dealing with the extremist settlers." Sarid said.

Meanwhile chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath said today an Israeli cabinet decision to disarm hardcore Jewish settlers does not respond to the PLO's demands and would not help the PLO take a decision on the peace process.

"Unfortunately, these measures will not be a serious support for any decision on the peace process," Shaath told Reuters at the end of a meeting in Tunis with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Bilateral talks between the PLO and Israel are not to resume on Monday in Cairo as a result of the killing.

The United States sent the PLO on Saturday a formal invitation to resume talks in Washington.

"It (the Israeli resolution) does not provide protection for the Palestinian people, (and) it does not provide disarmament of the settlers, only a few of the hardline known extremists," Shaath said.

"There is a whole climate that has to be dealt with, there is a whole collusion by several elements of the Israeli army that has be dealt with," he

Pohela Baishakh | on April 14

"Pohela Baishakh," the first day of Bengali calendar, will be celebrated on April 14 as per officially published calendar for the year 1994 and the 1400 Bengali year will not be counted as leap year, reports UNB.

These were decided at an emergency meeting held in Dhaka yesterday with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan Ara Begum in the chair.

However, some calendars published under private initiatives showed the "Pohela Baishakh" on April 15 counting the 1400 Bengali year as leap year and month of "Chaitra" as 31 days.

JCD activist beaten up in RU

From RU Correspondent RAJSHAHI. Feb 27: A Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader. Biplob, was beaten up mercilessly by his rival JCD worker on the campus at about 10:30

this morning. Sources said, the police rushed to the spot and rounded up three persons including two outsiders.

Later, the police freed two persons but detained Zakir Hossain, a JCD leader and a student of the Economics Department

Biplob, a second year student of the Department of Economics was later admitted to the RU Medical Centre.

According to sources, the incident was sequel to an internal conflict of the JCD centering the RUCSU polls.

One more held in Dr Rafiq murder

case

By Staff Correspondent The Detective Branch (DB)

yesterday arrested one more

suspect for killing Dr Rafiq. Dr Rafiq was beaten to death by hawkers on the sidewalk near the Farmview Supermarket on August 3 last year. He had an altercation with a street-hawker over purchase of a wallet.

Police said in a pre-dawn raid in the city's Lalbagh area vesterday they arrested Ajhar alias Shajahan. He was a hawker at the Farmgate area and was absconding since the day of occurrence, police added.

Shajahan was taken to the city's detective branch at Minto Road for interrogation.

Care-taker govt

From Page 1 Col 5 Sudhangshu Shekhar Halder of the Awami League, Maudud Ahmed, Anwar Hossain Manju and Manirul Haq Chowdhury of the Jativa Party and Salauddin Qader Chowdhury of the NDP were present in the meeting.

All the opposition parties are expected to meet again today to discuss the matter and other common issues pending

before Parliament. Talking to newsmen after the meeting, Tofael Ahmed MP said they had decided to bring a common bill on behalf of the entire opposition seeking to amend the Constitution for holding national elections under a neutral caretaker author-

"This is people's demand... under any circumstances, there must be a caretaker government to ensure free and fair voting," the AL leader said.

There will be election, and it must be held under a neutral caretaker administration, JP leader Maudud Ahmed told the

newsmen. He said different groups in Parliament would sit together

and formulate a common bill on the issue.

To a question, he said the Opposition would try to place the bill during the current

Ground water

From Page 1 Col 7 in following land subsidence and 'a tremor will aggravate the situation.

Dr. Hossain, an expert in hydrogeology, stated that excessive lifting of ground water may also have a devastating ecological effect as trees and plants and many insects will die due to the drastic fall of the ground water level.

Official sources told PROBE that Dhaka WASA has 172 deep tubewells in operation in the city which draw 71 crore 81 lakh 48 thousand and 215 litres of water a day.

They said that the use of surface water through treatment plants is the only way to help stop the withdrawal of ground water and avert an impending crisis as an 'artificial recharge is too expensive.' The ground water level usu-

ally drops in the dry season and returns to the previous position by 'recharge' during the rainy season. But in last five years the decline in water level was much higher than the recharge. Dr Hossain identified two

hindrances in the process of recharge - the 30-foot upper clay layer that obstructs entry of rain water into the aquifer (water source) and the location of the aquifer at a very low level.



to the mortal remains of Prof M A Baten, Member of the BNP Standing Committee and former State Minister for Education at his residence in Dhaka yesterday. — PID photo

Islamia Eye Hospital

Employees for removal of Dr Mustafiz

By Staff Correspondent

The employees of the Islamia Eye Hospital yesterday demanded immediate removal of Prof M. Mustafizur Rahman from the post of the Additional Chief Consultant of the hospi-

At a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club, the leaders of the Islamia Eye Hospital Employees' United Council accused Prof. Mustafiz, a renowned eye surgeon, of mismanagement and misappropriation of money terrorism.

When contacted, Prof Mustafizur Rahman, however, denied all charges.

After the death of Mirza Ahmad Isphahai, founder of the 350-bed hospital, Prof Mustafiz had turned the hospital into a "private clinic", accused M. Jainal Abedin Convenor of the Employees Council.

He said the hospital had virtually ceased to function

Selim-Delwar Day today

Different political and sociocultural organisations will observe the Selim-Delwar Day today, reports UNB.

Selim and Delwar, were students, of the Dhaka University and were killed this day in 1984 during anti-autocratic agitation while a truck ran over a rally near Fulbaria bus terminal in the city.

AHM Ibrahim Selim was a student of MA final year of the History Department and Kazi Delwar Hossain was the student of MA final year of Political Science.

since Thursday when armed 'outsiders' at the behest of Prof. Mustafiz entered the hospital and terrorised the employees.

Protesting the terrorism the employees walked out of the hospital, he said.

The council leaders sought immediate government intervention in solving the problems of the Islamia Eye Hospital.

Mugger held at Gazipur

From Our Correspondent GAZIPUR, Feb 27: One Jahangir robbed Taka 800 from the passengers of a minibus on the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway here today threatening them with a toy pistol.

BCS (Judiciary) resents pay commission

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Civil Service (Judiciary) Association at a meeting yesterday expressed dissatisfaction over non-inclusion of any representative from the judicial cadre in the proposed pay commission of the government.

The meeting, presided over by its President Abdus Salam, also expressed grievance at the non-implementation of the pay scale announced on January 8 this year in some of the judge courts in the country.

Issues with neighbours

From Page 1 Col 7

should be resolved bilaterally in the spirit of the UN resolutions.

He ruled out reports that Beijing would host any meeting between India and Pakistan. On Tibet, Qian stated that it

was an integral part of China and India should accept this reality.

About a question on the latest Sino-US relations, the Foreign Minister said "The USA is the largest developed country while China is the largest developing country." Both countries should work closely accepting this fact.

He admitted that there are some problems between the two countries which should be resolved amicably.

On Bosnia, he said, the matter was not directly placed before the UN Security Council. The arms embargo was imposed on a breakaway republic of Yugoslavia and the sanctions still existed. Some countries supported the sanctions and some did not, he added explaining China's role on the Bosnian conflict.

In reply to a question whether China still thought its role was allright during Bangladesh's liberation war in 1971, the Chinese Vice-Premier said, "I think we should look at historical issues from evaluatory point of view. The situation now has changed." "During my visit both coun-

tries expressed satisfaction over the existing bilateral relations." Regarding Snio-Bangla trade gap, he said, China would

make every effort to increase

imports from Bangladesh.

During his opening remarks at the press conference, Qian said, he was very satisfied with his visit to Bangladesh. He said he had extensive talks with Bangladesh leaders, including Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina.

The Chinese Foreign Minister addressed the press conference through an inter-

Qian leaves Dhaka

Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen left Dhaka yesterday afternoon ending a four-day visit to Bangladesh, reports BSS. Qian, who was accompanied

by his wife, were seen off at the

airport by Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman and his Chinese Ambassador in Bangladesh Zhang Xujiang and Bangladesh Ambassador to

China Mustafizur Rahman were

also present at the airport. UNB reports: Qian and members of his entourage visited the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday morning.

They were briefed by the Secretary to the Parliament Secretariat, Abul Hashem about the procedural matters relating to functions of parliament with special reference to the committee system.

The briefing was held in the Committee Room No 1. Later, the Chinese leaders were taken to the parliament chamber and shown the architectural and other aspects of the parliament house.

Prof Baten dead

Prof M A Baten, former State Minister and a member of the BNP standing committee, died at the Combined Military Hospital at 4 am yesterday, reports UNB.

His namaj-e-janaza was held at Baitul Mukarram yesterday after Zohr prayers.

Biswas attended the funeral

lations of the deceased. Earlier, another namaj-ejanaza was held at the south plaza of Jatiya Sangsad. Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali,

The body was flown to his village home at Dashmina in Patuakhali district by an airforce helicopter yesterday afternoon. Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Religious Affairs Minister Keramat Ali and Air Chief Altaf Hossain accompanied the body.

His mortal remains would be buried at Dashmina today. Baten left behind his wife, three sons, one daughter and a host of admirers to mourn his

Prof Baten was also former Vice Chancellor of the Rajshahi University and the Chairman of Bangladesh Krishi Bank.

Road number 5, his family

In a condolence message Biswas said late Baten was a prominent educationist, dedi-

felt sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Abdul Baten. In a condolence message, Begum Zia recalled the contribution of Baten in the anti-autocracy movement and said in

The Prime Minister also recalled the example set by the late leader in pursuing the politics of Bangladeshi nationalism and spreading the ideals and programmes of the BNP.

reaved family and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

pay her last respect. The Prime Minister spent some time there. She also consoled the wife, son and daugh-

President Abdur Rahman

It was also attended, among others, by ministers, MPs, politicians and friends and re-

Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni, Ministers and MPs attended

His qul khwani will be held on Friday after Asr prayers at Dhanmondi, House number 13,

Meanwhile, President Biswas expressed deep shock at the death of Prof Baten.

cated politician and a social worker. Biswas conveyed his heart-

BSS adds: Prime Minister and BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed her deep shock and profound grief at the death of

his death the country had lost a dedicated political leader.

She conveyed her sympathy to the members of the be-

Begum Zia also went to the residence of Abdul Baten to

ter of the late Bate 7.

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মহা ব্যবস্থাপক (পরিচালন)

त्कानः २८४०११, २७४१७४

উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক

শোলঃ ২৪৯৫৬০

জনাব মশিউর রহমান

The Midnight File

Indian newsmen go on strike today

NEW DELHI, Feb 27: The Indian Journalists Union today sought the Prime Minister. P V Narasimha Rao's intervention on setting up of the wage board but decided to go ahead on a day's token strike in the capital tomorrow. The IJJ president Suresh Akhouri said in a statement tonight that they had asked the prime minister to immediately announce, the setting up of the wage board for the newspaper industry. reports PTI

GIA chief, 9 others killed in Algeria

ALGIERS, Feb 27; Algerian authorities dealt a major blow to Muslim extremists this weekend by killing one of their most radical leaders. Djaafat el-Afghani, and nine of his followers. El-Afghani, 29, who heads the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), and his followers were killed Saturday as they were holding a meeting in a house on the outskirts of Algiers, security officials said today, reports AFP.

Incentives for exporters

it said.

From Page 1 Col 3 ness community for removing the existing administrative

bottlenecks. But this demand failed to attract the attention of the policy-makers until very recently when a task force, headed by the Commerce Minister, was formed earlier this month. consisting of government officials and business community

leaders. The first meeting of the task force was held yesterday at the commerce ministry. details of which are contained in a separate news report in today's issue of The Daily Star. In the review report, the

World Bank was critical of the

effectiveness of the govern-

ment's liberalisation policies. "The liberalisation policies are still not fully effective at the level of the individual en-

Home Ministry to ensure free transportation of leather

The task force on export promotion in its first meeting yesterday elaborately discussed possible solution to zone problems and bottlenecks to boosting country's exports, reports UNB.

Commerce Minister M

Shamsul Islam, also convenor

of the high-power force,

chaired the meeting held in

the conference room of the

Commerce Ministry. The meeting decided that the Home Ministry would take necessary action for ensuring internal free transportation of leather as well as removing existing problems in this re-

The meeting was informed

that the time limit of L/C had

already been extended through

a Bangladesh Bank circular to

270 days from 180 days in ex-

porting frozen food, tea and

leather.

and expanding exports require that Bangladesh's economy be at least as competitive as that of its neighbours. "Production costs must not be allowed to increase beyond those prevailing in competing countries. This implies that great importance must be at-

trepreneur ... and Bangladesh's

competitiveness is not being

enhanced. More and faster re-

forms are needed, if the gov-

ernment's high investment

and high exports strategy is to

succeed and have a significant

impact on povert / alleviation."

order to make liberalisation

and de-regulation policies

more effective, reforms of in-

stitutions that deal with en-

trepreneurs on a day-to-day

basis - such as the Tax

Department, the office respon-

sible for duty drawbacks

(DEDO), the Board at

Investment and the Export

Promotion Bureau - are ur-

Finally, the report observed,

attracting foreign investors

gently needed.

The report added that "in-

productivity and improving industrial relations," it said. DUCSU polls

tached to exchange rate man-

agement, as well as to policies

that aim at linking wages to

From Page 1 Col 7 A statement on behalf of the IFA students protested the new election rule, which allow them the voting right but not the right to contest the elections as candidates, and urged the DU authorities for early

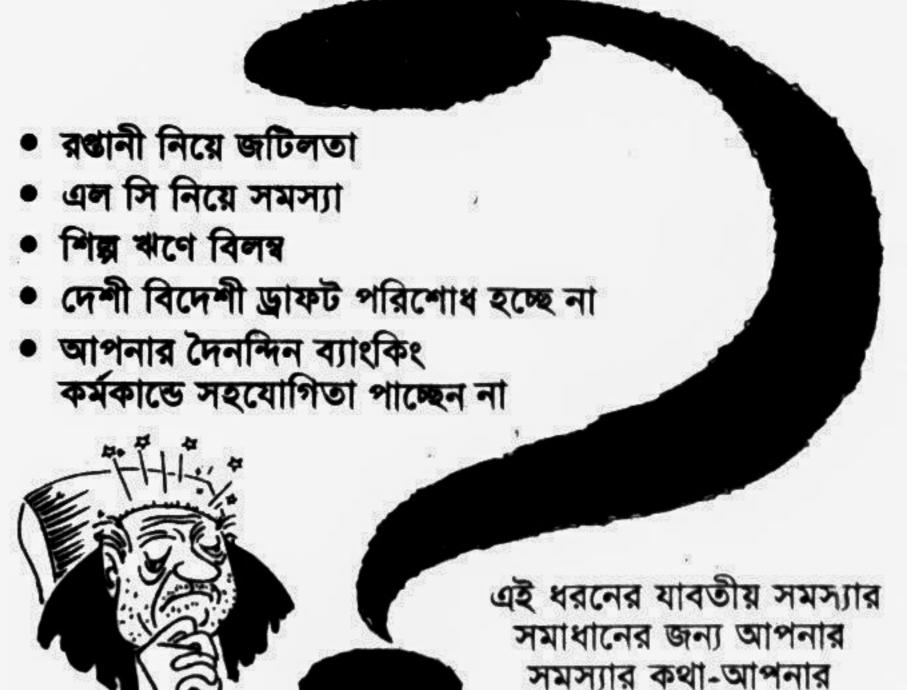
necessary steps to ensure their rights. The statement noted that earlier there was no bar on the IFA students contesting the elections and performing their

duties on being elected to DUCSU and hall unions. "So, the discrimination under the new rule is frustrating. unilateral and autocratic", said the statement issued by Chhatra Pratinidhi Parishad and Sarbadaliya Chhatra Oikyo of the Institute of Fine Arts

(IFA).

সমস্যায় আমাদের কর্মীদের সহায়ক ভাবুন

আপনি অগ্রণী ব্যাংক-এর সম্মানিত গ্রাহক অথচ ····



অভিযোগ কেন্দ্ৰ জনাব মোঃ হেলাল উদ্দিন জনাব নাজির উদ্দিন আহমেদ

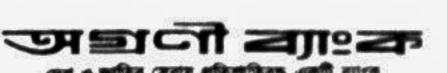
> মহা ব্যবস্থাপক (আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য ফোনঃ ২৩৭২১২ জনাব আবদুল কবির দেওয়ান

ফোলঃ ২৪৯৫৬২

কোনঃ ২২২৬২১ উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক

व्याननात्र विভिन्न সমস্যা कानटि निन। व्यायता সমাধানে সচেষ্ট।

অভিযোগ এখানে জানান



দেশ ও আভির সেবায় প্রতিশ্রুভিবদ্ধ একটি ব্যাংক

জনাব মাহমুদ হালান উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক কোনঃ ২৩৪১৮৮ বছাড়া বিশেষ প্রয়োজনে যোগাযোগ করতে পারেল- ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক- ফোন 1 ৮৬২১২১ উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক- ফোন 1 ২৪৯০৪৮

জনাব জহির উদ্দিন আহমেদ

মহা ব্যবস্থাপক (চট্টগ্রাম সার্কেল)

@ aw P (41)-3620/26-2-28