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NEWS BRIEFS

World Telecom Day tomorrow

The 26th World Telecommunication Day will be observed in the country tomorrow May 17, with due importance as in other 183 member countries of the International Telecommunication Union. The theme of the day of this year is "Telecommunication and Culture," reports UNB.

JU Eid holiday begins May 19

A 13-day Eid vacation of Jahangirnagar University begins on May 19 on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha and classes will resume on June 1. The varsity authorities have curtailed a month-long summer vacation from the annual schedule to make up two months of unscheduled closure from February 7 to April 2 this year, reports UNB.

CU M Com exams June 27

CHITTAGONG, May 15. Terminal examinations of M Com final year students in the session 1990-91 and M Com (preliminary) of the session 1991-92 will be held on June 27, reports BSS.

Arms recovered in Manikganj

MANIKGANJ, May 15. Police recovered two pipe guns and 70 bullets left behind by miscreants during fight at Amdala village in Shibalonghara Saturday midnight. Police said the bandits were preparing to commit decoy at Grameen Bank at the village but fled when spotted by patrol police, reports UNB.

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The Daily Star

JAISTHA 2, 1401 BS,

DHAKA SUNDAY, MAY 16, 1994

ZILHAJ 4, 1414 HIJRI

Myanmar minister tells newsmen

Rohingyas aren't returning home despite clearance

Visiting Trade Minister of Myanmar Lt General Tun Kyi yesterday said his country was ready to welcome back all its refugees who have been staying in Bangladesh since 1992.

In an interview with BSS, the Myanmar minister said, "We have given clearances to 150,000 of the refugees for their repatriation to Myanmar, but only 50,000 of them have so far gone back home."

Tun Kyi said, "We don't know why they are not going back to Myanmar," and added, "as newsmen, please enquire why they are not going back."

Asked why the return of nearly 268,000 Myanmar refugees staying in Bangladesh camps had not been cleared by Yangon yet and also when they

could be expected to be cleared for repatriation, he said, "Let the 100,000 refugees already cleared by the government first come to Myanmar. We are processing and inspecting the matter of clearance for the remaining refugees."

He said if upon inspection it was found that the remaining refugees were Myanmar citizens, they would all be taken back by his country without exception.

"We welcome them," he said. "We have made shelters for them and are ready to assist them to get rehabilitated in Myanmar as soon as they come back."

The Myanmar minister said, "We did not suppress for ill

treat them. From the religious point of view also, we gave them freedom."

"In our view," Trade Minister Tun Kyi said, "They prefer to stay on in our country because they are getting aid from the UNHCR and the NGOs."

"Honestly, as they are currently having a better life in your country, they are refusing to go back to Myanmar."

The Myanmar ambassador to Bangladesh Hla Myint Oo and the Director, International Trade Promotion Department, Ministry of Trade Aung Kyi — a member of the trade delegation — were present during the interview at the state guest house Padma, where the visiting minister is staying.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia listening to Post and Telecommunications Minister Tarique Islam who called from Teknaf after launching a card phone system in the thana headquarters of Cox's Bazar district yesterday.

Myanmar keen to supply boulders, stones

Myanmar government is ready to supply boulders and stones to Bangladesh for construction of roads the visiting Myanmar Trade Minister Lieutenant General Tun Kyi told the Communications Minister Oli Ahmed yesterday, reports BSS.

The Myanmar minister conveyed it to the Communications Minister when he called on him at the Rail Bhaban.

Bangladesh Communications Minister said that with the current visit by the Myanmar minister the excellent bilateral relations between the two neighbouring countries got a fresh impetus.

It was during the time of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman he recalled, that the bilateral relations between the two neighbouring countries had got a new dimension.

Card phone in Teknaf

The card phone was launched in Teknaf yesterday expanding the network and services of the public telephone to the coastal areas of Cox's Bazar, reports BSS.

T and T Minister Tarique Islam launched the card phone in Teknaf by talking from there over telephone with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in Dhaka in the afternoon.

Through the T and T minister, Begum Zia conveyed her greetings to the dwellers of Teknaf and hoped that they would best utilise this public telephone system as a modern devise of communications.

Begum Zia also enquired about the progress of the rehabilitation work in the cyclone-battered Teknaf area.

Tarique Islam, who is also minister in-charge of Teknaf for Relief and Rehabilitation, informed the Prime Minister that all types of communications had been restored there.

Agri Ministry refutes Tofael's allegations

The Ministry of Agriculture yesterday described as baseless the allegations by Tofael Ahmed, MP, regarding sale of Kubota engine spare parts without tender from the Sher-e-Bangla Nagar BADC store, reports BSS.

A statement by the Ministry of Agriculture issued said that its attention had been drawn to the statement of Tofael Ahmed in reply to a statement by the Agriculture Minister.

Refuting Tofael's allegations, the Ministry of Agriculture

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Businessman arrested for smuggling gold

By Staff Correspondent

Police yesterday arrested a businessman, Dara Khaleda Chawdhury alias D K Chawdhury, for his alleged involvement in the plan to smuggle 57 kilograms of gold into the country last year.

D K Chawdhury, a currency dealer, was absconding since the Customs officials foiled the smuggling attempt at Zia International Airport (ZIA) on November 10 last year.

Police arrested Chawdhury from the city's Ayesha Shopping Centre at Malibagh where he came to meet his wife around 1:00 pm, according to police. D K Chawdhury

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Abdul Ahad dead

Abdul Ahad, a celebrity in the musical arena of Bangladesh, died in Dhaka yesterday at 1:25 pm at the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital following prolonged illness, hospital sources said. He was 76, reports BSS.

Late Ahad, a noted vocalist, was also a celebrated composer and music director.

He was a top class singer of

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City experiences rain

Storms lash 3 dists

By Staff Correspondent

Storms lashed at least three districts while heavy rains in the capital yesterday brought great relief to the people after weeks of heat and humidity.

Two people were feared drowned and 42 others injured during storms in Manikganj, Jhenidah and Sirajganj.

In the capital, heavy downpour in the afternoon seriously disrupted city life. Traffic came to a standstill in most areas as heavy rains sent people on the streets seeking shelter.

The Dhaka Met office recorded 6 millimetre of rainfall.

UNB adds: Two people were feared drowned in the Jamuna during a severe nor'wester that swept three

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Country needs brainpower, not musclepower : Hasina

Sheikh Hasina yesterday

said the country was now facing unprecedented brain drain and urged expatriate Bangladeshi scholars and experts to come up with their expertise for developing the country, reports UNB.

"What Bangladesh needs most is brainpower and not musclepower to break the vicious cycle of poverty and underdevelopment," she told a delegation of Bangladeshi teachers at the National University of Singapore, according to message from the Southeast Asian city state.

The Awami League president and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament arrived in Singapore Saturday morning from Tokyo on her way back home.

Hasina referred to the spectacular development and prosperity of the East and Southeast Asia and called for

emulating the example of the regions to advance Bangladesh by ensuring the basic rights like education, healthcare, skill development, clean administration and the rule of law.

The Awami League chief

explained to them her party's economic and investment policies and holding of several seminars on vital national issues to elicit broadbased consensus.

Expressing her concern at what she said systematically ruining the very fabric of education by government-sponsored violence and vandalism on campuses where even teachers are subjected to humiliation, Hasina said most of the brilliant and talented students were leaving the country.

Bangladesh

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Serbs, Muslims snub int'l call for truce

more in Gradacac on Saturday.

The Bosnian Serb news agency Srna said Muslims continued today artillery and infantry attacks on villages on mount Majevica overlooking Tuzla for the third consecutive day.

Quoting sources in the Bosnian Serb army, it said more than 100 artillery shells have been fired since this morning from the direction of Teocak, 10-km (six miles) south of Ugljevik, and Godusa and Seljuba, 15-km (nine miles) east of Tuzla.

Referring to the Opposition role in 'making the Parliament inactive,' the Finance Minister said 'our political culture has to be changed in the interest of the country.'

"If you boycott Parliament

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These factors have been discouraging both the local and foreign investors, he said.

Saifur was speaking on "Privatisation: prospects and problems in Bangladesh" at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhanmondi held at Hotel Sonargaon in the city yesterday.

Referring to the Opposition

role in 'making the Parliament inactive,' the Finance Minister said 'our political culture has to be changed in the interest of the country.'

"If you boycott Parliament

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ইন্দোনেশিয়ার "বাফেলো হেড" সিমেন্ট!

ইন্দোনেশিয়ার বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় "বাফেলো হেড" (যাইহেব মাথা) ত্রান্ড সিমেন্ট ম্যানেজমেন্ট সংস্থা পোহাইয়াহেব এবং সিমেন্ট কেন্দ্র বার্জ/কার্গো হেভেতে সরাসরি বিক্রয় হচ্ছে।

ইহা ছাড়াও চৰ্টআয়া বন্দের জাহাজ হেভেতে চান্দনার 'বুল হেড' ত্রান্ড সিমেন্ট সরাসরি লাইভার/কার্গোতে ভেলিভারি দেওয়া হচ্ছে।

স্বানিত আবেদী প্রাক্ত ও ব্যবসায়ীদের নিম্ন ঠিকানায় বোগাবোগ করিবার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে।

আবদানীকারকঃ

ইউনাইটেড ট্রেডাস

৯, টেলিফন রোড, পুলনা, বাংলাদেশ

ফোন: ২০৫০৫, ২০৫১৮, ফ্লাই: ৮৮০-১১-৬১২০৮, টেলিফ: ২৭২১০ UTKN BJ

— ১ বিত্তন কেন্দ্র ১ —

মেসার্স বেলি প্রেস কোং (লি) বালামুক্তী বাট, ঢাকা, ফোন: ২৩২৫০৪, ২৩২৫১৫

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মেসার্স মুসলিম স্টোর কোং (লি) বাট, ঢাকা, ফোন: ২১৮

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