By Sohel Manzur

The amount of credit for export of goods to CIS member countries is too inadequate to meet the requirements, according to official sources.

The government arranged the 35 million US dollar credit for the exporters concerned as an alternative to the Letter of Credit (LC) system due to lack of modern banking system in the former Soviet republics.

The Commerce Ministry had proposed 50 million dollars of credit for export to the entire region. Some officials of the ministry, however, said the proposed amount was needed for export to the Russian Federation only, one of the 11 members of the Commonwealth of Independent States

The Finance Ministry, howevel reduced the amount to 20 million dollars, Commerce Mitustry officials said. With the credit, goods were

exported only to the Fissian Federation and kamikhstan, although there is a demand for some Legladeshi goods' in the Vhole region, the officials said

Despite limitations Bangladesh exporters have managed to get a considerable market for the local goods in the region, which enabled the country to enjoy a favourable balance of trade with it, the officials said. But they will fall far behind exporters of other countries if the amount of

credit is not increased immediately, the officials noted.

Due to lack of modern banking system in the CISmember countries, some Bangladeshi firms have even opened their offices in some of the countries to take advantage of the huge potential markets there, sources in the business

A top official of the Commerce Ministry, talking to The Daily Star, stressed the need for setting up Bangladesh missions in all the CIS-member countries to help promote exports to those countries.

Presently. there Bangladesh mission only in the Russian Federation.

The goods exported to the CIS countries include jute, jute goods, carpet, tea, hides and skin, textile fabric and readymade garments. Bangladeshi toiletries and cosmetics have also good demand in those countries.

The imports from the region include machinery. chemicals and manufactured

The export earnings from the region in 1992-93 was Tk 86.92 crore as against the import bill of Tk 43.42 crore. The earnings were Tk 84.86 crore and Tk 120.03 crore in 1991-92 and 1990-91 as against the import bills of Tk 44.96 crore and Tk 87.40 crore respectively.

must be discussed first. "Once

we can reach an understanding

on the issue, the main cause of

the present stalemate, the

question of strengthening the

Election Commission could be

resolved unitedly even on the

to take place at the Sangsad

Bhaban. Badruddoza Chow-

dhury and Samad Azad are

expected to lead the ruling

party and the Opposition dele-

Three Americans

jointly get

Economics Prize

Nobel Economics Prize was

awarded jointly today to

American John C. Harsanyl and

John F. Nash, and Germann-

reinhard Selten, for their

research into game theory, the

Swedish Royal Academy of

The three won the prize for

their work into games as the

foundation for understanding

complex economic issues. The

citation paid tribute to their

Pioneering analysis of equilib-

rium in the theory of non-

competitive games" - a branch

of game, theory which has had

great impact on economic re-

Rabin, Arafat

From Page 1 Col 5

crecy prior to the formal an-

nouncement of the most cov-

eted of the Nobel Prizes.

which are worth 7 million

Aratat and Rabin gave a his-

toric impetus to Middle East

peace with a handshake on the

White House lawn on

September 13, 1993, that

ended the taboo on formal

recognition between Israel and

the Palestine Liberation

Organisation. They signed a

declaration of principles on

limited Palestinian self-rule as

a first step toward an overall

peace settlement between the

unidentified sources, said the

five-member Nobel committee

struggled with its decision at

a meeting last Friday over who

should be honoured for achiev-

ing last year's historic Middle

East peace breakthrough dur-

Kumari Puja

From Page 1 Col 8

destroyed the emblem of evil

Mahishasur — and estab-

The adjacent areas of puja mandaps took a fair-like look

with hundreds of small shops

of handicraft, balloons, differ-

ent types of traditional sweets

and foods, posters, wood and

dap + have been set up at dif-

ferent parts of Old Dhaka, par-

tici rly at Shakhari Bazar.

Tanti Bazar, Bangla Bazar,

Si Japur, Rathkhola and

Environment and Forests

different puja mandaps.

including Dhakeswari Mandir,

the Dhakeswari Mandir, he

said this country is a wonderful

example of communal harmony

and hoped that the festival

would help the people main-

tain peace and progress.

Addressing a gathering at

main puja mandap of the city.

State Minister for

eswar Roy yesterday visited

S. Japur.

More than 100 puja man-

ciay works, dolls and toys.

ing secret talks in Norway.

lished peace on earth.

Aftenposten, quoting

kronor (dirs

Swe ish

two sides.

93 ,000) this year.

search in the past 5 years.

Sciences said, reports AFP.

STOCKHOLM, Oct 11: The

The dialogue is most likely

floor of Parliament".

gations respectively.

AL: Caretaker govt caretaker administration issue

From Page 1 Col 7 of the AL met yesterday evening at the official resi dence of Sheikh Hasina to discuss the strategy for the proposed dialogue. Chief Whip of the Opposition Mohammad Nasim, who attended the meeting, told this correspondent that the Opposition would press for discussing the caretaker government issue at first at the dialogue. The meeting also decided that Samad Azad would be leading the Opposition delegation at the 'first round of the dialogue. The members of the delegation were yet to be named, Nasim said.

The leaders of the opposition parties and in parliament are scheduled to meet this afternoon to have detailed discussion on issues relating to the talks.

On the other hand, the BNP negotiating team comprising Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury party Secretary General Abdus Salam Talukder and Khandaker Delwar Hossain also had a brief meeting on the issue vesterday evening. According to meeting sources, the BNP would try to have strengthening of the Election Commission as the first item on the agenda for the talks.

Salam Talukder felt that the Election Commission issue was the first item on the agenda fixed by the Commonwealth Secretary General and agreed to by the Opposition. "There should now be no controversy on the order of the subjects for discussion." Talukder told a press conference Monday.

But Nasim told this correspondent last night that the

S M Sultan

From Page 1 Col 5

The general Officer Commanding of Jessore, Major General Mohammad Mostafizur Rahman Bir Bikram, Deputy Commissioner of Jessore and elite of the town were present.

Earlier, the body of the late master painter was kept at the Jessore Institute from 7am allowing people to pay their re-

Thousands of people lined up to have a last glimpse of the late legend.

Sultan passed away at the Jessore combined military hospital Monday afternoon.

He was suffering from various respiratorial complications. Meanwhile, the Dhaka Uni-

versity Teachers Association in a message yesterday condoled the death of Sultan.

The Bangla Academy in a statement said the void created by the death of Sultan would never be filled.

Director General of the Shilpakala Academy, Mobarak Hossain Khan in a message said Sultan's works created a

new wave in our conscience. The Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies also condoled the death of Sultan and prayed for the eternal peace and salvation of the departed soul.

The National Museum yesterday held meeting to condole the death of S M Sultan. . The meeting, presided over by Director General of the museum Md Moslem Alt, observed one minutes silence to pay homage to the late artist.

The meeting recalled the contribution of Sultan in the field of art. His works had innmortalised the soil, the people and their dreams. The artist. till his last days, had shared his life with the common man, the meeting said.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia speaking with His Majesty the Yang Di Pertuan Agong Tuanku Jaafar Abdul Rahman yesterday, during an audience with the King at Istana Negara (the National Palace). In the middle is the High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Kuala Lumpur.

Private sector cooperation

From Page 1 Col 4 Minister expressed his confidence that the existing trade imbalance would improve towards Bangladesh's favour given the present favourable trade and investment climate in Bangladesh.

Begum Zia sought special and differential market access in Malaysia for Bangladeshi goods and said the present trade imbalance would be reduced through a more innovative policy response from the Malaysian government.

Referring to the significant structural reforms in Bangladesh leading to macro-economic stability, she described Bangladesh as ideally suited for foreign investment.

Begum Zia welcomed Malaysian investors to take this advantage and requested Malaysian government to encourage their entrepreneurs to invest in Bangladesh. She also expressed her

happiness that a good number of Bangladeshi nationals were working in Malaysia and their employment there was mutually beneficial for both the countries. Begum Zia said that Bangla-

desh would continue to positively respond to the Malaysian requirement for more competitive and disciplined work force

The Prime Mimster said that the people of Bangladesh treasured the ties with the brotherly people of Malaysia and the two Asian countries had traditional links of shared history, culture and faith.

Describing the plight of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina and elsewhere as a cause of concern she said that both Bangladesh and Malaysia had strongly protested against the genocide of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

. She said Bangladesh and Malaysia were united by their common aspirations for development and progress and the

CHITTAGONG. Oct 11:

Government is likely to im-

plement a 2.5m computerisa-

tion project for handling con-

tainer cargo at the Chittagong

Net' has been planned by the

authorities in the backdrop of

rapid growth of container

project, Customs, port users

and port authority will come

under the most modern and

sophisticated system as in

ter coordination among them.

the source said. The huge vol-

ume of paper works needed

under the existing port and

Besides, it will ensure bet-

On implementation of the

The project named 'Port

port here by early 1995.

cargo, sources said.

Singapore Port.

two countries stood together in their united resolve for a global order of peace, democracy and justice.

These, Bangladesh Prime Minister said, were the compelling reasons for further strengthening the bilateral cooperation and collectives ef-

She said, the people of Bangladesh were watching with great admiration the strident socio-economic progress that Malaysia was making under the dynamic leadership of Dr Mahathir, she expressed her conviction that his (Dr Mahathir's) dream would come

Malaysia, Begum Zia said, would emerge as a fully devel oped country by the first quarter of the next century and Bangladesh could learn much from the experience of Malaysia in consolidation of democracy and acceleration of economic development.

The Malaysian Prime Minister said the closer economic ties between the two countries could further be strengthened through the existing regional economic frameworks of SAARC and ASEAN.

In his speech the Malaysian Prime Minister welcomed the Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and the members of her delegation saying "Your presence will further strengthen the bonds of friendship between Malaysia and Bangladesh." In order to tap the full po-

tentials of trade and economic opportunities in each other's countries. Dr Mahathir said, it was imperative that both governments facilitate the mobilisation of resources of the private sectors.

The Malaysian Prime Minister said his country would continue to "welcome the intake of manpower from Bangla-

'Port Net' project for Ctg Port

Computerised container

cargo handling by '95

From Nurul Alam

"Our traditionally close relations are strong foundation

customs formalities will also be

by the World Bank, is now

awaiting final approval from

The project to be financed

According to reports, con-

tainer cargo recorded a 20 per

cent increase every year at

Chittagong port which now

handles about 1200 cargo ves-

sels annually. Port officials ex-

pects to handle about 200,000

Authority brought under opera-

tion two newly built multi-pur-

pose berths (MPB) known as

container terminals to cope

with the rising trend of con-

tainer cargo.

Meanwhile, Chittagong Port

TEU containers this fiscal.

reduced, sources added.

the Ministry of Planning.

upon which future cooperative endeavours between our two countries will be based," Dr Mahathir said

He also hoped that the existing brotherly relations between Malaysia and Bangladesh would be further strengthened following the visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

Begum Zia is paying a fourday visit at the invitation of her Malaysian counterpart Dr Mahathir Bin Mohammad.

She was accorded a ceremonial welcome by the Prime Minister at the Parliament Square.

members of his cabinet, who were present there, to Bangladesh Prime Minister. Senior government officials

Dr Mahathir introduced the

of Malaysia and diplomats were also present. On her arrival at the Parlia-

ment Square, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was recei ved by the Acting Chairman of the Official Functions Committee (OFC) Ahmad Bakri Bin Shabdin. At the red carpet reception

the national anthems of Bangladesh and Malaysia were

The Malaysian Prime Minister accompanied the Bangla desh Prime Minister from the Parliament Square to Hotel Regent where Begum Zia will be staying during her visit, Earlier, soon after her ar-

rival at the Subang International Airport in Kuala Lumpur by a regular flight of Bangladesh Biman, Begum Zia drove to the Parliament Square in a ceremonial motorcade escorted by outriders along the 30-kilometre route.

At the Subang Airport, Malaysian Foreign Minister Dato Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his wife and Bangladesh High Commissioner to Malaysia Mahboob Alam received the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister's entourage included Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Special Envoy to the Prime Minister M Morshed Khan, Abdul Mannan Talukder MP, Begum Rabeya Chowdhury MP, Mohammad Neyamat Ullah MP, and Kazi Salimul Haque Kamal MP.

A 23-member team of entrepreneurs and businessmen headed by President of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Latifur Rahman accompanied the Prime Minister.

Pakistan urged to run special trains

' KARACHI, Oct 11: India has asked Pakistan to run special trains to repatriate people stranded on both sides of the border since Islamabad closed air, sea and land links after an outbreak of plague in India. A statement from the Indian consulate in Karachi also urged Pakistan to clear goods held up at the Attari-Wagah border crossing, reports Reuter.

Poorest still to benefit from NGO activities'

By Staff Correspondent

The non-governmental organisations (NGOs) has so far reportedly distributed loans of about Tk 1,000 crore among the poor people in some 40 thousand villages in the coun-

But the poorest of the poor who comprise about 10 per cent of the people, has not yet been benefited by the activities of the NGOs, officials of the Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) told a group of journalists at a dialogue yesterday. Some 35 lakh families were being benefited by the NGOs presently. said an estimate given at the dialogue held at the ADAB office in the city.

'If you include the loans provided by the Grameen Bank in those given by the other NGOs the total would stand at around Tk 3,000 crore, said Executive Director of ADAB Rashed K Chowdhury.

Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed of BRAC while discussing how much the poor had been benefited from various activities of the NGOs, said that in terms of self-sufficiency of the poor there had not been any big achievement.

'But there is definitely a number of changes in the rural areas where poor people are now were involved in income generating activities. NGO prpgrammes such as livestock. fisheries, agriculture and other sectors have created a strong impact. Education programmes by the NGOs specially by the BRAC, is also very successful,' Dr Salehuddin said

The dialogue was participated by ADAB President Khushi Kabir, Abdullah Elahi, Omar Faruk. Prof Shakhawat Ali Khan and scientist Abdullah al Muti Sharfuddin.

10 get life term for murder in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Oct 11: A court here today sentenced 10 people to life term in prison for murdering a co-villager over a minor dispute, reports UNB.

The District and Sessions Judge of Jhenidah Md Rafiuddin in his verdict sentenced life imprisonment to Rezaul, Surat Ali, Nur Ali, Oliur Rahman, Izzat Ali, Monirul, Iran Ali, Asadul Islam, Shahidul Islam and Shafiuddin.

Of the ten, Izzat Ali was tried in absentia as he was absconding.

The convicts, all hailing from village Chandba in Kaliganj Thana, were also fined Tk 2.000 each or in default another two years of rigorous imprisonment.

According to the prosecution, the convicts had dragged one Daud of the same village out of his house on the night of December 8, 1993 and slaughtered him.

A murder case was filed with the Kaliganj police the next day, on December 9. Some 13 witnesses were examined in the case.

APP S M Moshiur Rahman appeared for the prosecution while advocates Tofazzel Hossain and Saad Ahmed defended the accused.

The Midnight Eile

Chinese HR activist sentenced

BEIJING, Oct 11: A longtime human rights activist in Shanghai has been given a three-year labour camp sentence, his wife said Tuesday. Yang Zhou. 50, who had tried to form a human rights study group and had spoken on behalf of detained dissidents, was taken from his home on May 12. His wife. Li Guoping, had no word from his and had not been told, of his whereabouts or the charges against him until Tuesday.

Protest against killing of Hindu leader in Madras

NEW DELHI, Oct 11: Shops, schools and offices were closed in much of the southern Indian city of Madras today following the murder of a Hindu fundamentalist leader, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. Tension gripped pockets of Tamil Nadu state, of which Madras is the capital, after K Rajagopalan, head of the Hindu Munnani, the Hindu Front was hacked to death by unidentified assailants outside his home on Monday, PTI said, reports AFP.

US lawmakers want Pakistan on 'terrorism list'

WASHINGTON, Oct 11: Nineteen US lawmakers have urged the State Department to put Pakistan on its "terrorism watch list"

In an October 7 letter to President Clinton obtained by Reuters, the lawmakers said in recent months there had been 'several ominous reports" that required an immediate review.

These developments strongly suggest that the State Department's decision not to include Pakistan on the 'watch list of countries supporting terrorism is in need of imme diate review," they said, urging Clinton to direct Secretary of State Warren Christopher to revaluate the 1993 decision. "We firmly believe that our

country cannot mount a credi-Pakistan

From Page 1 Col 7 Hussain said in a statement police had fired tear gas at his house and later sprayed it with unprovoked gunfire, killing one PML worker. Saeed

The authorities, who have banned marches and detained more than 1,000 opposition activists in the past few days, mounted a heavy security

Anwar, and wounding five

presence in many cities. Witnesses said police used tear gas to disperse about 25 PML militants disrupting traffic in the Lohari district of Lahore. Many, but not all, of the city's traders kept their shutters down.

Many people stayed at home in 'Karachi, Pakistan's commercial capital, fearing violence. Most markets were closed and scarce public transport reduced activity at factories, businesses and the country's principal port.

Police said they had detained several people for trying to enforce the strike, including six women who sat on railway tracks blocking trains. Youths riding a motorcycle fired on a bus in the eastern part of the city, wounding one person. The attackers escaped.

Opposition militants stoned a bus in a western district. wounding two passengers. Several arrests were made.

The Karachi Stock Exchange suspended business for about an hour, but resumed later. Dealers said trading was very thin.

ble campaign to stop terrorism and narcotics trafficking so long as the recent events regarding Pakistan are disreby the State garded Department. No comment was immedi-

ately available from the State Department.

The letter listed several issues of concern, including a September 12 report in the Washington Post newspaper that a chief of staff to former Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif had developed a blueprint for financing convert operations in other countries though large-scale narcotics

it also expressed concern

about recent reports that the prime suspect in the march 12. 1993 bombing of the Bombay stock exchange told investigators the Pakistani in ter services intelligence (ISI) had planned and financed the

Indian security forces had confiscated large amounts of weapons which could be traced to arms markets in Pakistan and that numerous Pakistani nationals captured had confessed to being trained, supported and directed by ISI personnel from camps in Pakistan.

The lawmakers also said

No plague in Ctg From Page 1 Col 8

cal board examined the boy

and found no plague symptom. As such, the police press release said, legal action was being taken against those responsible for publishing a false, misleading and motivated report. The police administration urged the people not to be misled by false press re-

Meanwhile, the Daily Azadi this afternoon brought out a special telegram expressing its regret for publishing such a report. The daily admitted that the patient mentioned in its report was not of plague but a general patient, the telegram copy said.

From Page 1 Col 5 life time achievements of an economist who created a bank loan system that has given millions of people access to adequate food and nutrition for the first time in their lives." The Grameen Bank has in-

spired the formation of similar banks in other countries.

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

(পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন। ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন)

পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকরের বকেয়া আদায়ের লক্ষ্যে টাকা ওয়াসা ১লা অক্টোবর '৯৪ **হতে** এক বিশেষ কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করেছে।

সরকারী, আধা–সরকারী, স্বায়ত্তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ সহ সকল জোনের আওতাভুক্ত এলাকাসমূহের গ্রাহকবৃন্দকে ১৫ই নভেম্বরের মধ্যে সারচার্জ ব্যতীত বক্ষেয় পরিশোধ করার সুযোগ প্রদান করা হয়েছে।

বকেয়া পরিশোধে ব্যর্থ গ্রাহকবৃন্দের বিরুদ্ধে ম্যাজিষ্টেটের নেতৃত্বে সকল জোনের আওতাভুক্ত এলাকাসমূহে ১৫ই নভেম্বর ১৯৪ তারিখ পর্যন্ত সংযোগ বিচ্যুতকারী দল প্রয়োজনীয় সংখ্যক পুলিশসহ ভ্রাম্যমাণ আদালত পরিচালনার মাধ্যমে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করবে।

সংযোগ বিচ্যুতি ও আইনের কঠোর ব্যবস্থা এড়ানোর জন্য সারচার্জ ব্যতীত উল্লিখিত সময়সীমার মধ্যে বিল পরিশোধের সুযোগ গ্রহণ করতে আজই বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকর পরিশোধ করুন

বিল না পেয়ে থাকলে আজই নারায়ণগঞ্জ অফিসসহ সংশ্রিষ্ট আঞ্চলিক অফিস অথবা ওয়াসা তবনে প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা (ফোনঃ ৩২৫২৪০), বাণিজ্যিক ব্যবস্থাপক (ফোনঃ ৩২৭২৪৫) এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।



সেবাই আমাদের লক্ষ্য ঢাকা ওয়াসা

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Devotees offering puja to the Hindu deity Durga in the city yesterday on the second day of the. five-day Durga puja festival. - Star photo