S Korea to recruit 1600 Bangladeshis this year

Bangladesh is expected to get a preferential access to South Korea's potential labour market which is braced for welcoming foreign workers to spur on its burgeoning econ-

Seoul's Ambassador in Dhaka Jong Kyou Byun said some 20,000 foreign workers will be recruited this year as South Korea opens the gate for guest labour Of them, 1,600 will be from Bangladesh

But Dhaka can have a larger slice of the Korean labour market with the prospect of Korea recruiting an additional 10,000 workers this year from three Asian countries -Bangladesh. Vietnam and Sri

Lanka. Bangladeshi workers are hard working and sincere and they deserve preference," said Ambassador Jong, a career diplomat since 1968, in an interview with UNB at his office on Tuesday.

He said the Korean companies operating in Export Processing Zones in Bangladesh are also impressed by the work of Bangladeshi workers.

I myself too was impressed by their work ... they are producing world class products, he said referring to his recent visits to Korean factories in

43 Rohingyas arrested

From Our Correspondent COX'S BAZAR, Oct 26: The Detective Branch of Police in Chittagong rounded up 43 Rohingva refugees, five of them women from a hotel in Khatunganj area of the district vesterday.

They had reportedly fled refugee camps in Cox's Bazar in their attempt to go to the Middle East

According to police sourres, a group of people are involved in trafficking Rohingva refugees to various countries in the Middle East.

The detained Rohingyas were produced before the court

the Chittagong Export Pro cessing Zone (CEPZ).

Some 15,000 local workers are now working in 28 export oriented Korean industries. mostly garments units, in Dhaka and Chittagong

Jong said the foreign work ers will be taken as 'technical trainees' for the industrial sector. The recruitment will be handled by the Korean Federation of Small Business, a forum of small and medium entrepreneurs.

"If the first batch of foreign workers turns out successful. the government will then consider to continue its recruiting programme," said the Korean Ambassador, who took up his assignment in Dhaka last February

No classes at CU

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Oct 26: No Classes were held at the Chittagong University 'today because of separate strike calls by the Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the Islami Chhatra

Shibir The JCD unit of the university called strike in protest against assault on the party activists allegedly by Shibir ac-

The JCD alleged that as a sequel to the Khulna incidents, Shibir activists had attacked some of its workers on the campus on Monday night and forced them out of the dormi-

The JCD said the strike wil continue until the culprits are brought to book.

Two Shibir activists were killed in JCD-Shibir clashes at Khulna recently.

Due to the strike, the uni versity shuttle train did not operate while barricades were put up on the entry points of the campus by the strikers.

No untoward incident was reported but tension gripped the campus.

Shibir observed the strike at the university as part of its countrywide programme to protest the attack on its workers by allegedly JCD activists.

Foreign diplomats From Page 1 Col 5

gathering on invitation.

British High Commissioner in Dhaka Peter J Fowler, when asked about his opinion about the current political scene following Tuesday's developments, felt strongly that the parties should resolve their differences through the good offices of Sir Ninian. Otherwise he felt. "The consequences could be serious."

Fowler said. "I hope the continuation of the dialogue can see a successful agreement. It would give parliamen tary democracy the chance to establish itself on a firm foot ing for the development of Bangladesh and in helping domestic investment.

I am very happy to learn that the process of dialogue remains on. We are indeed concerned." Fowler added.

Several Western diplomats who declined to give personal opinions, however, told this correspondent vesterday that they were keenly observing the political developments.

One Commonwealth head of mission on condition of anonymity, suggested that Sir Ninian, the Commonwealth Secretary General's special

emissary, should now adopt a strategy for future dialogues with very limited number of persons and should also try to arrange a one-to-one discussion in an endeavour to bring the negotiations to a logical conclusion. Referring to previous occa

sions, the said envoy posed: "How can one expect 30 persons sitting in a dialogue to reach any sort of understand-Australian High Commis-

sioner Kenneth William Aspinall, when contacted said: "I am definitely optimistic. I am hopeful that given Sir Ninian's negotiating skills something positive would hap-

Jon J Scott, the Canadian High Commissioner in Dhaka said: "Canada is fully supportive of the initiative of the Commonwealth Secretary Gen-

Speaking about Sir Ninian, he said: "He is the right man at the right place at the right

A spokesman of the US embassy, when asked about the US position, replied: The US embassy would not like to make any comment at this

Samad Azad demands

From Page 1 Col 3

will to resolve the problem." Samad Azad refuted the allegations of ruling party leader and Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain that the dialogue had failed because of a pre-planned blue-print of the Opposition.

Chief Whip of the Oppo-sition Mohammad Nasim, Jati-ya Party leader Moudud Ah-med. Jamaat-e-Islami leader Maulana Matiur Rahman Niza-mi. NDP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, Ganatantri Party leader Suranjit Sengupta and Islami Oikya Jote leader Moulana Obaidul Huq also spoke at the press briefing.

Mohammad Nasim blamed government's intransigence for the 'collapse of dialogue' Tuesday night and said that statements and comments of two of the government's policy-makers that night were mainly responsible for the sit-

Nasim said that the prospect of success of the dialogue became bleak when the Prime Minister made public statements against a caretaker government which was the main issue at the talks. "We could walk out of the talks after the Prime Minister's comments, but we didn't as we wanted a fruitful end of the

dialogue."

Moudud Ahmed said that the consequence of failure of the dialogue might be dangerous and the ruling party would have to take the responsibility

Moulana Matiur Rahman Nizami said that the ruling party had taken no initiative during the dialogue to reach a consensus on the caretaker government issue. "The government has failed to create conditions to resolve the problem through negotiation.'

Suranjit Sengupta cautioned that if the dialogue failed, the opposition MPs would be compelled to resign which might turn the present political impasse into a constitutional cri-

Salauddin Quader Chowdhury termed the Opposition's present stance as part of a constitutional movement and said although the Opposition had made a positive approach towards resolving the problem, the ruling party failed to reciprocate.

Moulana Obaidul Haque said strengthening of the Election Commission will only partially solve the problem relating to free and fair elections, while a caretaker government can ensure free and fair polls in the true sense.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia lit a gas-burner at the Netrokona Shishu Sadan marking the Inauguration of natural gas supply to Netrokona town yesterday. -PID photo

2 housewives commit suicide

By DMCH Correspondent

Two housewives reportedly committed suicide in the city's Mirpur and Mohakhali areas late Tuesday night and Wed-

Beauty Begum, 23, was found dead on the roof top of her father's house at 2/D in Mirpur Section-8. She had black scars on her throat.

Beauty's husband. Jahangir Alam, fled the house immediately after the body of his wife had been recovered.

Jahangir was living in the house of his father-in-law Guljar Hossain who is now in America. Relatives reported to Mir-

pur police that Beauty had committed suicide over a feud with her husband. Another housewife, Lilia Zakir, 23, wife of one Zakir

Hossain, was found dead at her New DOHS residence at Mo-Zakir Hossain lodged a case with a Cantonment police saying his wife had committed suicide by hanging herself with

a ceiling fan. The bodies were sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for au-

Netrakona gets gas

From Page 1 Col 8 inhabitants of Netrakona on this happy occasion Begum Zia said their long-time expectations were fulfilled through the inauguration of gas supply

The natural gas supply started in greater Mymensingh in January last year under the Brahmaputra Basin Project of the Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited, a subsidiary organisation of Petrobangla.

Kishoreganj and Jamalpur were brought under the natural gas distribution network in the recent weeks.

Officials said the Tk 322 crore Brahmaputra Basin Project aims at supplying gas to the Jamuna Fertiliser Factory and to Mymensingh, Kishoreganj, Netrokona, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Trisal, Bhaluka and Gafargaon town.

The Prime Minister described natural gas as one of the main factors of the country's development efforts and said the government was striving to accelerate the pace of industrialisation through its maximum utilisation.

The natural gas, she said, meets 70 per cent of the country's commercial fuel requirement resulting in the

saving of a huge amount of for

eign currencies. "But our gas reserve is not unlimited," the Prime Minister said, adding the government had started the exploration of the alternative sources of fuel and their pro-

2 get life term for murder in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Oct 26: Two persons were sentenced to life in prison here yesterday for committing a murder.

The Additional District and Sessions Judge, First Court, Sylhet Sunil Chandra Paul passed the judgement.

The case in brief is that, on March 19, 1991, Nuruddin, son of Irfan Ali of Fenchugani. was called out of his house by a group of people of the same village. He was later killed.

Fenchugani police submitted chargesheets against six accused persons. The court found two of them guilty and acquitted the four others. The convicted persons are Barat Ali and Dulu Miah. The court also sentenced them to pay fines of Taka 3,000 each.



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina leading a party procession in the city yesterday demanding a caretaker government for holding national elections. -Star photo

Hasina blames BNP for foiling talks

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday blamed the ruling BNP for foiling the Commonwealth-brokered dialogue and urged the people to strengthen the agitation for a ćaretaker government, reports

"The dialogue has failed because of the obstinate attitude of the government ... the people will realise their just demand through struggle," she told a brief rally at Bangabandhu Avenue before leading a party procession.

The City Awami League organised the procession as part of the Opposition programme demanding a constitutional provision for a caretaker government to hold national elec-

"We thought a solution would be forthcoming through the dialogue, but the ruling party does not want any solution, they want to keep the way open for rigging, corruption and violence," said Hasina, the Leader of the Opposition. She said the Awami League

demanded a constitutional provision for a caretaker government to conduct the next three elections to establish an electoral system for holding fair elections. "We're demanding amend-

ment of the Constitution to establish the voting rights of the people. The BNP, which amended the Constitution in the past to protect its own interest, is now hesitating because the proposed amendment will serve the interest of the people.

The Awami League president called upon the people to make the party's grand rally at Manik Mia Avenue on November 1 a success.

Talks resume today

From Page 1 Col 5

was ready to consider any Opposition proposal which did not go beyond the ambit of the Constitution, for ensuring free and fair general elections.

On the other hand, the Opposition delegation is learnt to have told Sir Ninian that the ruling party, especially its secretary general, clearly rejected out of hand the Opposition demand for a non-partisan caretaker administration to conduct future national polls.

"When the ruling party rejects even the concept of the Opposition- sponsored caretaker administration, the very basis of the dialogue collapses automatically," the delegation told Ninian.

Sir Ninian is learnt to have persuaded, both the camps to make sincere efforts again to resolve the crisis through dialogue. He maintained that it would be easier to narrowdown the gap if the two sides now begin to sort out the agreed as well as the contentious points at a smaller forum. Sir Ninian proposed a meeting between Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury and Abdus Samad Azad.

Both the camps eventually agreed to resume the dialogue at 7:00 this evening at the Meghna.

According to sources, Samad Azad is likely to be accompanied by SAMS Kibria and Abul Hassan Chowdhury while Badruddoza Chowdhury may be accompanied by Khandaker Delwar Hossain and Coln (Retd) Oli Ahmed at the talks between the two leaders. Sir Ninian will not be present. Both the camps told The

Daily Star that they would once again stick to their original positions on the issue of caretaker administration at today's meeting.

Sources both in the BNP and the Awami League told this correspondent that Abdus Samad Azad had contacted over telephone three ruling party leaders including. Khandaker Delwar Hossain and Oli Ahmed two hours, after the Opposition announcement of the failure of the talks Tuesday midnight.

Leaders of both the sides are learnt to have expressed regrets for the collapse of the dialogue process and had requested each other to take fresh initiatives to resolve the crisis through the talks. They are also learnt to have agreed that there must be an end to the impasse in the greater interest of the nation.

Ninian's denial From Page 1 Col 3

the Commonwealth news release said:

"It is totally untrue that Sir Ninian has received any fax from the Commonwealth Secretary-General withdrawing him, or that he has sent any fax to the Commonwealth Secretary-General withdrawing him-

Police recovered the piece "Sir Ninian will remain here until the issues involved in the dialogue have been resolved." The UNB news agency had

reported late Monday night that judicial statement yesterday Sir Ninian, in a fax to London, had written to the Commonafternoon. Only Zakir Hossain alias wealth Secretary General either Biplob is still in police remand to come here himself or while the rest have been sent withdraw him from his present mission. to jail.

constitutional and anti-parliamentary and anti-democratic

"The BNP will not pamper any unlawful request from any quarter. It will always uphold the Constitution and run the state under the constitutional framework," the Prime Minister said categorically.

She said the people of the country would not allow anyone to loot the public wealth and assume power by any means.

She said the Opposition became underved at seeing the development spree in the country and indulged in various destructive activities like hartals and arson instead of cooperating in the welfare programmes for the people.

"Whenever the BNP goes ahead with development efforts. a certain quarter starts conspiracy to oust the government," Begum Zia told the meeting. She expressed her government's determination to carry forward the development programmes despite all odds and obstacles.

The Prime Minister alleged. some people and quarters were creating issues and indiscipline to jeopardise the hard-earned democracy and the development efforts undertaken by the government and called upon all to guard against them.

The BNP works for boosting production and changing the lot of the commonman. Thus, there is no alternative to the BNP in the country, she said and urged the people to continue their support to the BNP for ensuring development. "If the hands of the BNP are strengthened, a change in people's luck as well as uplift of the country will be guaranteed."

Addressing the meeting. BNP Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder reminded that the BNP had come to power from the streets and, if necessary, would go back there. "We have not leased the streets to anyone."

After visiting the mazar Begum Zia briefly addressed a huge crowd waiting near the mazar to have a glimpse of her. She went close to the people and talked to the women and children.

Rangpur Bibhag body gheraos DC office

From Our Correspondent RANGPUR, Oct 26: About 2000, people gheraoed the Deputy Commissioner's office here for two hours today demanding declaration of Rangpur as an administrative division. They submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner.

They also demanded a uni versity at Rangpur and an agri culture university at Dinajpur.

The gherao programme was observed at the call of the Rangpur Bibhag Bastabayan Committee which has announced a 25-day action programme for realising its 12point demand.

BNP responsible for C'wealth interference, says Jamaat

The Jamaat-e-Islami brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding constitutional provision for a caretaker government to hold. parliamentary elections, reports UNB.

Referring to the Commonwealth-brokered dialogue between the government and the opposition to end the present political crisis. Nizami held the BNP responsible for the Commonwealth interference into the internal affairs of Bangladesh.

"There cannot be any fair election under a party government." Jamaat Secretary General Moulana Matiur Rahman Nizami told a brief rally before bringing out the procession from the North Gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque.

Isha murder From Page 1 Col 5

the house. The investigators also recovered the goods stolen from the flat on the day. Babu, in his confessional statement said, he helped

Biplob to strangle Isha and pin him down on the bed before the murder. The accused also confessed that he was holding Isha when Habib and Biplob slaughtered

the boy: Babu said that after the robbery they sold off the loot and he got 400 Taka as his share.

"With my money I bought a piece of cloth for pair of trousers from the Gulistan area for Tk. 250. I gave it to Alpana Tailors at Shahjahanpur on the day." said Babu.

of cloth from the tailoring shop after Babu had been arrested late Thursday night. Babu was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail after making the

Jordanian parliaments.

PM: Opposition | The Midnight Bile

Former Syrian envoy wanted for links with Carlos

VIENNA, Oct 26: A former Syrian ambassador to East Berlin wanted for alleged links with Carlos, the Venezuelan born international terrorist held in France, has been arrested in Vienna, the Interior Ministry said today. The ministry said Faisal Summak, suspected of being the brains behind a 1983 bombing in Berlin carried out by Carlos - Illich Ramirez Sanchez - in which one person died and 25 were injured, was arrested in a Vienna hotel on Tuesday night by anti-terrorist police, reports AFP

US ban on Cuba to go

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 26: For the third year in a row and by an increased majority, the General Assembly today approved a resolution aimed at ending the increasingly tough United States economic embargo against Cuba. The vote on the Cuban-sponsored resolution was 101 in favour and two against, with 48 abstentions, reports Reuter.

Prokrichi's mass leave programme to continue today

By Staff Correspondent

Members of the Prokrichi-BCS non-administrative cadres yesterday began a two-day 'leave enmasse' programme around the country to press home their 17-point charter of demand.

The Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council held a rally in front of the Engineers Institution in the city yesterday morning. The council counts among its members some 70,000 government engineers, agriculturists, doctors and civil servants from 26 of the 29 cadres.

The rally was followed by a meeting chaired by Chairman of the action council Dr M A

Majed. The meeting decided to defer the council's strike programme from November 7 to 15. The council had earlier deferred the programme from the original date of October 10 following a High Court ruling against the striking doctors of Bangladesh Medical Associa-

The meeting also decided that a national convention of the council would be held at the Engineers Institution on November 14, where the next course of action would be finalised, according to a press release of the council yester-

The demands of the council include removal of anomalies in payscale, reform of the cadre services and parity between the administrative cadre and other cadres.

Peace treaty

From Page 1 Col 7 Hussein stood on a raised platform straddling the border

as all three national anthems were played. Thousands of soldiers and police from both sides had sealed off the sand-blown site for the televised ceremony Israeli apache attack heli-

copters circled overhead. Police were on alert in both Jordan and Israel for disturbances or attacks by Muslim militants opposed to the agreement which the Jewish state sees as a second important step on the road to its acceptance in the mainly Muslim Middle East. It signed its first treaty with an Arab state, Egypt, in 1979.

Less than an hour before the signing Muslim guerillas in Lebanon fired rockets into northern Israel, military sources said. They caused no injuries or damage.

The treaty, backed by all Israelis except the extreme right-wing, ends a 46-year-old state of war between Jordan and Israel. But it has been condemned by the Palestine Liberation

tants on both sides of the bor-The nearly one million Palestinians of the West Bank and Jerusalem today staged a general strike called by the PLO and Hamas to protest the

Organisation and Muslim mili-

signing of peace treaty. Schools and businesses closed and public transport came to a halt in observance of the strike called by three PLO factions, including chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah, and by Hamas, the Islamic resistance movement.

Highlights

From Page 1 Col 8 provide 10 million cubic metres more through desalination of brackish water sources near the Sea of Galilee.

-Israel will participate in projects that could yield 100 million cubic metres more water, including Israel and Jordan building two dams on the Yarmuk and Jordan rivers. -Jordan will neither join

alliances against Israel nor let

its territory be a staging area for third party attacks. -Embassies will be established a month after the treaty is ratified by the Israeli and

-Israel will consult Jordan before negotiating over Palestinian refugees from the 1948 Middle East War in final talks with Palestinians. Many of the refugees live in Jordan.

Tributes paid to Sher-e-Bangla Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul

Huq was the dreamer of the independent Bangladesh and a great champion of the causes of the peasants, toiling masses and the working class, reports Principal Mohammad Eunus Khan, the State Minister for

Education, said this while addressing a discussion meeting organised by Sher-e-Bangla Parishad yesterday at the auditorium of Bishwa Shahitva Kendra on the occasion of the 121st birth anniversary of the late leader. Principal Khan said Sher-e-Bangla's politics was the poli-

government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zla has been implementing the same poli-In 1937 Sher-e-Bangla introduced the free primary education and the present government has also introduced

the compulsory primary educa-

tics of Dal and Bhat and the

tion, Principal Khan pointed Wari violence: Biswajit on remand

By Staff Correspondent One Biswajit Barua, arrested for Monday night's armed violence in the city's Wari area that left one person dead, was taken on a two-day police remand for interrogation yester-

Sutrapur police said yesterday they were still looking for six other suspects. Police declined to disclose the names of the six mentioned in the first information report (FIR) with

the police. Salam Talukder

From Page 1 Col 6 further discussions in his 75 minute speech at the talks

Tuesday night. "We thought the Opposition negotiators would accept our proposal to sit in smaller groups to continue the deliber-

ations for a fruitful result." He asked. "What's the point in having a dialogue if one side insists on forcing the other to make concessions without thoroughly discussing the pros and cons of an issue?"

Talukder said Article 56 (4) of the Constitution may be the basis for the present dialogue to continue. This article explains quite clearly when and how Parliament can be dissolved by the President and also under what circumstances as well as who will continue for the in-

terim period. He said Sir Ninian Stephen, who has a trained mind given his distinguished legal background, had already consulted the related constitutional pro-

visions. He said that the BNP is always ready to do everything under the Constitution to ensure free and fair general elections keeping the electoral machinery free from party or ad-

ministrative influence. The BNP leader said the bill to strengthen the Election Commission and certain provision in the Constitution can

help achieve that goal. He also refuted the allegations brought against him and his party in a press briefing of the Opposition parties yesterday

Hasına

From Page 1 Col 3 was approved by the Prime Minister before the discussions were agreed upon. So now for the BNP to deny it, is clear proof of the ruling party's insincerity. It is not interested in having a meaningful dialogue," Sheikh Hasina said.

Speaking on the overall performance of the government, the Leader of the Opposition said that there was no security of life and property any more. "Everyday there is news of murders, terrorism and lawlessness. The government seems to be totally incapable of protecting its citizens and of running the country " Speaking on the reasons

why her party demands elections under a caretaker government Sheikh Hasina said, "Our desire is to institute a stable election process so that political peace is established, enabling us to concentrate on development work."