Steps to meet any situation

'Food stock satisfactory'

All necessary measures have been taken to build an ade quate food security stock in the country to meet the requirement as well as to cope with any disastrous situation. reports BSS

This was disclosed yesterday at a meeting of the interministerial food planning and monitoring committee, held at the Food Ministry with Food Minister Mir Shawkat Ali in the chair.

State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Harunal-Rashid, Food Secretary Islam Uddin Malik, ERD Secretary Lutfullahil Majid, Additional Secretary in-charge of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief M Hafizuddin Khan and other senior officials attended

Reviewing the country's food situation, the meeting observed that the present stock. supply and price situation were satisfactory. The meeting also reviewed the pipeline of wheat supply under food aid programmes of various donors. With regard to procurement

of aman rice and paddy during the coming season, the production cost, yield and relevant factors were examined. It was resolved that an attractive procurement price should be fixed to sustain the growers' interest

The meeting also discussed the Food-for-Education Progra

The meeting was by and large of the view that private traders should be provided necessary facilities to gradually increase their role in the foodgrain trade.

The meeting was informed that with the successful operation of open market sales through some 1.300 centres in the country, the price of rice had stabilised

To further improve the supply and price situation, the government plans to supply atta to the rural people through about 30,000 atta chakkis or grinding mills. In the meantime, already 4,200 chakkis have substantially contributed towards lowering the price of atta. Wheat has also been supplied through the flour millers at a rate of Taka seven per kg, the meeting was told.

Dialogue resumes

From Page 1 Col 5 party Secretary General and LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukder and Communications Minister Col. (Retd) Oli Ah-

The Opposition delegation, headed by Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the House Abdus Samad Azad, consisted of Chief Whip Mohammad Nasim. Abul Hasan Chowdhury MP and SAMS Kibria, political adviser to Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina

Unlike the first round of talks where each side was represented by 15 members there were no non-Awami Lea gue leaders in the Opposition

Meanwhile, sources close to the Opposition delegation told The Daily Star, the Opposition delegates did most of the talking at vesterday's meeting.

The ruling party delegation listened attentively to the Opposition arguments for a caretaker government and oc casionally sought some clarifications," the sources added.

The Opposition is learnt to have stuck to its original posi tion that it was left with no option but to press for a nonpartisan, caretaker govern ment to hold future national elections. The BNP delegation expressed its determination not to go beyond the existing provisions of the Constitution At this state, the Opposition

side, referring to a certain article of the Constitution asserted that there was a scope to go for elections under a caretaker administration.

The BNP leaders are learnt to have told the meeting that would come out with their response to the Opposition position Saturday, after consulting the issues with party chief and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today.

The leaders of the Opposition parties represented in Parliament are also likely to meet this afternoon. Moham-

From Page 1 Col 5

rights of voters," in Mirpur

City Corporation, Magura and

Khaleda Zia was making

"farce" with elections as did

vote, but, on the other hand

the BNP wants right to rig

vote," she said adding BNP

does not want caretaker ad

ministration because it cannot

manipulate polls under a care-

charged the Leader of the

House with leading the country

to confrontation by threatening

street agitation although she

Calling the government

Referring to campus vio-

lence, she said 55 students

had been killed since the gov-

ernment came to power 44

months ago, but nobody was

lish arms and terrorism-free

campus," she said and called

upon the Chhatra League ac-

the people, right to vote and

food. We want stability in the

country to give democracy an

"Our objective is to estab-

yet tried for the killings.

reach that end.

corrupt, vote dacoit and inef-

ficient". Hasina said no gov-

does not attend Parliament

The Opposition Leader

taker government.

sessions herself.

"We want people's right to

polls, Hasina said

mad Nasim told this correspondent late last night.

Sources close to both camps said, Sir Ninian had initially expressed reluctance to be present at yesterday's meeting, insisting that only the parties concerned should discuss the contentious issues But an Opposition request seconded by the BNP team. eventually persuaded Sir Ninian to remain present at the discussions.

The Commonwealth emis sary also reportedly asked the leaders of both camps to decide if his presence was needed at the next session tomorrow afternoon.

At yesterday's talks, despite Sir Ninian's presence. the two team leaders at times resorted to speaking in Bang-

The talks were followed by a dinner at the Meghna.

Dog gets reprieve

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia Oct 27: A dog sentenced to death in the fatal biting of a 70-year-old woman has been given a reprieve - if it can learn to work for the police sniffing out drugs and crimi nals, reports AP.

The Magistrate's Court had ordered that Le Roc, a Rottweiler, be put to sleep after the attack on the woman last month.

On Thursday, however High Court Judge Syed Ahmed ldid ordered the dog handed over for training for police

"After a couple of months. should the police consider that the dog is beyond redemption then they will put it to sleep,' the judge said.

A local lawyer, S Selvanathan, who described himself as behalf.

a dog lover, had appealed to the High Court on the dog's

institutional shape," said Hasina urging her partymen to make the planned November 1 Manik Mia Avenue public

meeting a success. Party leaders Abdul Mannan, Zillur Rahman, Amir Hossain Amu, Abdur Razzak MP. Tofael Ahmed MP. Abdul Jalil, Mohammad Hanif and Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya also addressed the meet-

Dr Mohammad Selim Abdur Rahim MP, Obaidul Kader, Momtaz Hossain, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Prof Abu Saeed, Rahmat Ali MP, Abdul Mannan, Nurul Fazal Bulbul and Mukul Bose were

2 killed in city road mishaps

Two people were killed in two separate road accidents in

A female garment worker, Rina, 17, was seriously injured when she was knocked down by a speeding minibus near Nilkhet crossing at about 7:45

She was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where she died at about 4 pm. In another accident, a

middle-aged man identified as Md. Tofael Ahmed died on the spot when a speeding minibus hit him at Sobhanbagh at about 5:45 am.

Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

ernment could indulge in corruption, terrorism and suppress the people if elections are held under a caretaker au-

'Khaleda making farce'

the city yesterday, reports

His body was sent to Dhaka

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing the third national conference of the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, the ruling BNP's youth wing, the city yester-— PID photo

Khaleda: Opposition

From Page 1 Col 7. the BNP is both in the power and on the street, and it is always with the people and will remain with them. She made it clear that her party would never bow to any injustice.

"The BNP will not entertain any unlawful request from any quarter. It will always uphold the Constitution and run the state within the constitutional framework," Begum Zia said. "Only the people have the right to keep us in power or send us onto the street, if they want."

She said the BNP government works for boosting production and changing the lot of the common people and hence there is no alternative to the BNP in the country. She urged the people to continue their support for the BNP for ensuring development.

The Prime Minister said other parties those had been in power in the country had failed to do anything for the welfare of the people. "That is why the people are rallying around the BNP today." She said her government

had always upheld the interest of the country and its people and rooted out corruption and irregularities to expedite development.

Education is now reaching the door steps of the people as a result of the government's education programmes, she said and added that the politics of hoax, tall-talk and falsehood' would no longer survive in this country.

Describing the government programmes for the development of the youth community, Begum Zia asked the youths to avail loan facilities and training opportunities and engage themselves in self-employment activities.

The Prime Minister said the poor people cannot send their wards to schools due to poverty. But the BNP government for the first time introduced free primary education and food for education programmes to encourage the children of the poor families to go to schools.

She said when the country was marching towards progress, the conspirators who do not want development of the country had killed President Zia. "They virtually killed the hope and aspiration of the people by murdering Zia."

Elite of Lalbagh meets PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday urged the people to stand against the quarters trying to hinder the development process initiated by her government, reports UNB.

She was addressing the elite and senior citizens including teachers, physicians, religious leaders businessmen and social workers of the city's Lalbagh thana who met her at the PM's Hare Road office last

Begum Zia also sought their support in solving various problems faced by the city

The local people raised various difficulties including scarcity of water, water logging, bad roads, lack of gas line and electricity problem in their areas.

Unplanned growth of the city and its population had increased the suffering of the residents, she said, adding the government has taken all steps to improve the situation in the neglected parts of the metropolis.

Local MP and Minister for Food Lt Gen (Retd) Mir Shawkat Ali also spoke.

Gunmen kill BCL leader at DU

From Page 1 Col 7 A case has been filed with

he Ramna police. Meanwhile, the Dhaka University Syndicate, at an emer gency meeting yesterday, con demned the killing and instituted a four-member probe into the incident.

Terming the incident a preplanned, the Syndicate urged the law enforcing agencies to, take necessary steps in this

Vice Chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed presided over the meeting.

The probe committee is headed by Prof Monirul Hug. Member of the University Grants Commission, while the DU Proctor is its member-secretary and the Principal of Jagannath College and the Provost of Jagannath Hall are the members.

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) also expressed concern at killing. The DUTA demanded the government and university authorities take steps to end campus terrorism.

The meeting was presided over by acting DUTA President Prof Khandker Nizamuddin.

In a statement yesterday, the BCL (S-P) alleged that the present rulers were responsi-

ble for the death of Zakir. BCL president AKM Enamul Huq Shamim and general secretary Ishaq Ali Khan Panna demanded arrest and trial of the those involved.

The BCL also brought out a procession and held a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club vesterday noon.

The Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikkya (GCO) condemned the killing and said that the residential halls of the university

had become strongholds of terrorists and outsiders. It demanded proper action against those involved in Zakir's killing.

The JSD-backed BCL (B-K) has also condemned the ki-



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina and party presidium member Abdus Samad Azad yesterday visited the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue to see the body of slain BCL leader Zakir Hossain. - Star photo

Govt downplaying Tigers' role in Dissanayake's murder: UNP

COLOMBO, Oct 27: Sri Lanka's Opposition accused the government today of downplaying the role of Tamil Tigers in the killing of a top Opposition leader, in order to justify peace initiatives with the rebel group, reports AFP.

"We feel that the government is very embarrassed by this killing. The government is bending backwards to show that its negotiating partner has nothing to do with this," legislator Sarath Amunugama of the Opposition United National Party (UNP) said.

He said the state media was

'censoring' reports implicating the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Monday's suicide bombing of a UNP campaign rally, killing the party's presidential candidate. Gamini Dissanayake, and 56 others. Another UNP legislator.

Susil Moonesinghe, said his party considered the November 9 election a referendum on the LTTE and the government's peace talks with the rebels.

Meanwhile, police were questioning 35 people today detained after the bombing that killed Dissanayake and

They also sought 10 Tamil women who appeared to have fled Colombo and who may have been linked to the killing. Officers searched boarding

houses and distributed photographs of the women who lived near the place where Dissanayake was killed, police said. .

COLOMBO, Oct 27: Prime Minister Chandrika Kumaratunga today said her government will not resume peace talks with the Tiger rebels until police complete the investigation into the assassination of Dissanayake, reports AP.

Authorities did not, indicate how the suspects may have been involved with the bomb-

Related story on page 5

All the people detained since the investigation began Monday are Tamils, and no one has been released, police said.

Doctors found traces of cyanide in the mouth of one woman- believed to be the suicide bomber - whose head was severed and blown 30 meters by the blast, The Island

Tamil Tiger rebels wear capsules around their necks so they can bite them and com-

A second cyanide capsule was found in tact behind the stage where Dissanayake gave a campaign speech moments before he was killed, police said on condition of anonymity. It might have fallen when an

accomplice fled.

mit suicide if they face cap-

Dissanayake, the candidate for the Nov. 9 election for the United National Party, was critical of peace talks with the rebels launched earlier this month by the 2-month-old government.

Police relaxed the nighttime curfew by two hours today. Curfews have been in force since Monday to protect the Tamil minority from any backlash of anger by the majority Sinhalese over the killing.

The police also stepped up security for the main presidential contestants, Prime Minister Chandrika Kumaratunga and Dissanayake's widow, Srima, who was chosen by her party to stand in place of her slain husband.

23 Magsaysay Award winners meet begins today

By Staff Correspondent A two-day meeting of the recipients of the Magsaysay Award will be held in Rajendrapur from today. It is expected to be attended by 17 recipients from abroad and six from Bangladesh

The meeting, to be held at the BRAC's Centre for Development Management, is also expected to be attended by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Award Foundation the Executive Vice President of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, New York.

Organised by the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation. the annual gathering becomes a venue for the award holders to know each other. This year's meeting is aimed at exchanging information on their current projects and activities.

The meeting will be followed by a business session and field trips to BRAC, Grameen Bank and Gano Shasthya projects and a seminar on "Innovations: Who Uses Them?"

There are six recipients of the Magsaysay Award from Bangladesh. They are: FH Abed of BRAC. Dr Mohammad Yunus of the Grameen Bank, Zafarullah Chowdhury of the Gano Shasthya Kendra, Mohammad Yeasin of Yeasin Foundation, Taherunnesa Abdullah and Father Richard Timm.

The Magsaysay Award was established in 1958 to give recognition to individuals in Asia for their distinguished and courageous services in var ious fields.

CU Chhatra Dal leader's tendons severed

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Oct 27: A Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader was stabbed and his tendons were severed by the activists of a rival student body on the Chittagong University campus this morning.

The victim, Nurul Huda

Musa, organising secretary of JCD, CU unit and a 3rd-year student of Public Administration, was admitted to a private clinic. JCD blamed the activists of

the Islami Chhatra Shibir for the incident. -Aarong Bhaban lease: Rajuk asked to take action

against lawyer

The 30th meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Housing and Public Works was held yesterday at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with Housing and Public Works Minister Rafigul Islam Mia in the chair. reports UNB.

It had a detailed discussion on the report submitted by Rajuk on the lease of Aarong Bhaban.

The meeting asked the Rajuk Authority to take legal action against the lawver who kept the file of Aarong Bhaban with himself for quite a long time for no reason. The meeting was informed

that 1,000 residential flats for the government officers and employees which are being constructed by PWD, are near completion and out of those 400 flats will be ready for use by December next.

The progress of the projects undertaken by Rajuk, namely 'Rim-Jhim', 'Jhili-Mili' and 'Purba Chal' was also informed in the meeting.

Husband kills wife for dowry

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 27: A housewife was allegedly killed by her husband over dowry money in village Balidah in Sadar thana midnight Wednesday, police said today, reports UNB.

Police recovered the body of Kalpana Rani Das, wife of Gopi Chandra Das this afternoon and sent the body to the Sirajganj General Hospital for Family sources said Rani

died immediately after her husband had hit her with a kitchen knife on the head. They were fighting over dowry money of Tk 2000 which Rani refused to bring from her par-Gopi Chandra absconded.

Rani, a mother of two, is the daughter of Gonesh Chandra Das of Bagbati village under Sadar thana.

Navy ship recovers smuggled goods CHITTAGONG, Oct 27:

Bangladesh navy ship Tanvir during routine anti-smuggling. anti-piracy and fishery protection patrol on Wednesday recovered smuggled VCP, padlock and medicine worth about Tk 30 lakh from two country boats during unloading goods from two foreign ships at the outer-anchorage without lawful authority, an ISPR press release said here tonight.

The Midnight File

Russian Prime Minister survives no-confidence vote

MOSCOW. Oct 27 Opposition lawmakers failed to gather enough support Thursday to push through a no-confidence vote in the government, easing political pressure on President Boris Yeltsin to remove his prime minister. The vote in the State Duma, the lower house of Parliament, came after an address by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin presenting his most radical economic programme yet, reports AP

Police likely to probe into John Major's meeting

LONDON, Oct 27: British police are considering opening an investigation into a meeting Prime Minister John Major held three weeks ago with an unidentified intermediary about Egyptian businessman Mohammad Al-Fayed's purported dealings with MPs. officials said today. A spokesman for the crown prosecution service said an account of the meeting handed to the CPs last Thursday by Downing Street was being referred to the metropolitan police so they could decide. whether or not to open a criminal investigation; reports AFP.

DCC forms task force

From Page 1 Col 6 Choudhury and Nurul Haque, Shamsunnessa of Proshika and Homayara Islam of another

The mayor also spoke about various city problems, steps taken so far to resolve those, implementation of his election pledges, his 'achievements' as mayor and the government's step motherly attitude towards the DCC

Hanif said that he had already listed eight major problems of the city people. The problems identified in consultation with the ward commissioners and officials concerned are: Repair and expansion of roads, improvement of power supply, keeping the city clear. eradication of mosquito, removing traffic jam, containing terrorism, putting an end to holding of public rallies on streets and evicting hawkers from the pavements of city streets.

"Some of the issues are within my jurisdiction while others are not". Hanif said and sought cooperation of the authorities concerned to resolve

He said the DCC has so far taken up 908 projects involving Taka about 46 crore for the development of the city. Construction of new roads and development of the old ones were going on and the work would completed by January or February next year; he said.

Hanif said that under a pilot project, garbage pick-up system had been introduced in zone-9 of the DCC (comprising Gulshan and Baridhara). Under the the system, residents of the area would keep garbage in bags and the DCC sweepers would collect the bags from every house. If the system worked, the mayor said. would be introduced in all the

RIv to serve breakfast

CHITTAGONG, Oct 27: The Bangladesh Railway (east zone) will serve breakfast to the air condition, first class and shovon class passengers of the inter-city trains (Dhaka-Ctg-Dhaka) from October 30, a Railway press release said here today, reports BSS.

Air condition and first class passengers will receive a piece of cake, a bottle of cold drink, a bottle of mineral water and tissue paper while shovon class passengers will get a packet of biscuit and a bottle of cold

End restriction on travelling to India: WHO The international team of

experts appointed by WHO Director-General Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima has called for an end to restrictions of passengers departing from India as well as a relaxation of medical examination of travellers arriving from there, reports BSS. According to a WHO press

release available in the city yesterday, the team, which would submit its report to the WHO DG, stated that despite indications of only limited endemicity, continued precautions while travelling to Surat in Gujrat and Beed in Maharashtra were recommended.

The team was formed by the WHO Director-General in pursuance of Article 11 of the International Health Regula-

Khulna Polytech From Page 1 Col 8

Meanwhile, the Jamaat and Shibir could not bring out a mourning procession today de fying section-144 due to strong police presence in the

in another incident, the students belonging to the JCD and Chhatra League gheraoed the Khalishpur police station this morning to protest the arrest of their activists. They were later released on bail.

In the afternoon, top leaders met the police commissioner separately and pledged to help maintain law and

About mosquito menace. Hanif said a technical committee had been constituted and the committee had already started functioning with a long-term plan to eradicate mosquito. Water bodies were being cleaned and insecticide

sprayed at the spots of mos-

quito-breeding. About containing terrorism. the mayor said ward-level antiterrorism committees, each comprising 20 members, had already been formed by some commissioners while the formation of such committees in other wards was in progress. The committees would list the culprits in their respective areas and submit the lists at the police stations for actions. "If the authorities then take proper action terrorist activities will remarkably decline". the mayor said and repeated his call for government cooperation in this regard.

For removing traffic jam, he said steps had been taken to reduce the number of rickshaws by withdrawing those with fake or invalid licences. He also demanded reintroduction of metres in the autorickshaws which, he said, would help reduce their fare and thereby lessen dependence on rickshaws. Holding of rallies on streets was another major cause of traffic jam, he said and reiterated his suggestions that the Suhrawardy Udyan, Osmani Udyan, Outer Stadium and Ramna Park could be used for the purpose. But the higher authorities were silent on the

issue, he said. The mayor said construction of 11 pullovers and two flyovers have been planned to help ensure a smooth traffic

Hanif accused the government of not cooperating with the DCC and cited several instances to substantiate his al-

Polish FM resigns over corruption

charge WARSAW, Oct 27: Polish Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowksi tendered his resignation today after being implicated in an anti-corruption probe, he told reporters, says

Justice Minister Wold-

zimierz Cimoszewicz, a former communist, had charged today that Olechowski had violated the law by accepting a paid job in the Polish bank Handlowy. Cimoszewicz had accused 78 senior officials, including

three ministers, of breaking

the law by taking paid jobs in

public or private firms as well as their government salaries. Polish law obliges public officials to sit on the administrative boards of state-owned companies in the process of privatisation, though without extra pay, but bans them being

Sylhet Polytech From Page 1 Col 8

employed by private firms.

uation under control. Liaquat Ali, an MLSS of the institute, has been admitted to the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital while 12 of the JCD activists were given first aid there. Some of the injured were admitted to private

Police have been deployed on the Polytechnic campus and 'at the Chhatra League office in

Serb troops From Page 1 Col 4

other offensives along a broad front, appear to have forced the Serbs to shift troops and shelve plans for attacks of their own. The Serbs' fuel supplies are believed to be dwindling because of a recent cutoff of aid from their former patrons in Serbia. Spicer said government

forces pressed a strong offensive Wednesday near the central town of Bugonjo and bombarded the Osavina Corridor, a narrow Sérb-held strip in northern Bonsia which is the Serbs' only link between their eastern and western territo-

tivists to wage an agitation mobilising general students to "We want peace, welfare of