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# The Daily Star

**NIRMAN TILES**

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**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Blasts near TSC**  
By DU Correspondent  
Some unidentified miscreants hurled at least six hand bombs at the TSC road crossing at about 6:30 pm yesterday. No one, however, was injured and the cause of hurling bombs could not be known immediately.

**Ganja recovered**  
By Staff Correspondent  
A special squad of the Narcotics Control Directorate, Rangpur sub-zone, in a sudden drive in Roumari thana under Kurigram district recently recovered 4000 ganja plants, 500 grams of processed ganja and one bundle of dried ganja.  
According to a press release issued by the Narcotics Control Directorate in Dhaka, the squad, led by Khushi Mohan Biswas, Deputy Director of the Rangpur sub-zone carried out the drive on November 4 and 5 with the help of the Kurigram district administration and police.

**CU postpones exams**  
CHITTAGONG, Nov 9: The University of Chittagong today announced the postponement of some honours and master degree examinations. These are 3rd year honours examination-1992 (remaining papers), master degree preliminary examination-1992 (remaining papers), master degree final examination-1991 and 2nd year honours examination-1993, reports BSS.

**Meeting of BNP sect today**  
A meeting of the central secretariat of BNP will be held today at 4 pm at the party central office in the city. Secretary General of the party Barrister Abud Salam Talukder has requested the joint secretaries general and all members of the secretariat to attend the meeting on time, reports BSS.

## 100 hurt, including political leaders Violence marks Opposition's sit-in programme

**By Staff Correspondent**

Militant demonstrators clashed with police, leaving over one hundred people injured, at different places in the city during yesterday's sit-in programme of the major opposition parties.

The injured include central leaders of the Awami League and the Jatiya Party, as well as policemen.

The Awami League, the Jatiya Party and the Jamaat-e-Islami staged separate sit-ins in the vicinity of the PM's secretariat to press their demand for a neutral, caretaker government for holding national polls.

To foil the opposition's plans the government, by imposing Section 144, banned all public gatherings and processions for 24 hours commencing from Tuesday midnight. It also deployed strong contingents of police and BDR personnel who manned well-guarded barricades, preventing the demonstrators from marching towards the designated site. As a result, all three parties had to stage their sit-ins at various venues in the periphery of the PM's Office.

The violence was triggered when hundreds of opposition activists led by their leaders tried to break police cordons for marching towards the PM's office.

The Asad Gate area, Mohakhali level-crossing, Sonargaon Road and Sheorapara almost turned into battle fields with agitated demonstrators and police chasing each other from around noon till four in the afternoon.

The demonstrators brickbated the police and exploded big Molotov cocktails and home-made crackers while the police used clubs, teargas and rubber bullets.

The Old Airport Road in front of the PM's secretariat became a place of unprecedented security, even passers-by being not allowed to enter.

Awami League workers agitated on the Mirpur Road from Sukrabad to Asad Gate. Bjoy Sarani and Sheorapara. The Jatiya Party took up position at the Mohakhali crossing while the Jamaat activists took control of the streets from

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Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina, flanked by party leaders, staged a sit-in on the Bjoy Sarani in the city yesterday. — Star photo



The Jatiya Party march towards Prime Minister's secretariat was intercepted by police at Mahakhali in the city yesterday. — Star photo

### Hasina's call to ruling party Introduce caretaker govt Bill on Saturday or quit

**By Staff Correspondent**

Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the ruling BNP to introduce a Bill for a caretaker government on Saturday, the day Parliament goes into session.

"Either the BNP introduces the Bill by that time or it quits," the Awami League (AL) chief told a gathering at the Bjoy Sarani at around 3:30 pm.

All our MPs submitted their resignation letters to me yesterday. Now it is only a matter of days before these are submitted to the speakers," Hasina warned. "If the BNP introduces the bill it can save Parliament. If not, the BNP will be unseated."

Hasina, in two separate but similar speeches in the capital yesterday, said, "We wanted to solve the problems through discussions, but the BNP is resorting to repression and coercion."

In her first speech at the Bjoy Sarani crossing at around 2 pm, Hasina said, "We have given the outlines of a caretaker government. The government side tracked the main agenda and proposed to us to form a 10 member interim government which will comprise MPs from both the

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### Police attack on Moudud condemned Govt pushing country toward confrontation, says JP

The Jatiya Party condemned the 'police attack' on its leader Moudud Ahmed, Bar at Law, during yesterday's sit-in demonstration at Mohakhali and announced protest programmes including hartal on November 12 and 13, reports UNB.

The JP will enforce a dawn-to-dusk hartal in the city on November 12 and countrywide on November 13 in protest against the police action and also to press the Opposition demand for a caretaker government, announced acting Chairman of the party Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury at a press conference at his Gulshan residence after the demonstration.

"They will bring out a procession in the city today to protest the police action and to drum up support to their demands," the JP leader said.

He claimed that more than 100 workers of his party were injured in police beating and 25 arrested.

Moudud was injured seriously when police fired rubber bullets at about 3 pm. Mizan Chowdhury told newsmen.

Mizan Chowdhury said the 'indiscipline' of the government was pushing the country towards confrontation and the government would be blamed for all the bad consequences.

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## Republicans control both houses of Congress

WASHINGTON, Nov 9: In an electoral landslide against President Clinton's Democratic Party, the Republican opposition took control of the US Congress today, winning majorities in both the House and Senate, reports AP.

The stunning upset in the house, the first Republican victory there in 40 years, puts Newt Gingrich, a conservative Southerner, in line to take over as Speaker of the lower chamber.

"It is an enormous responsibility and a great opportunity and we have to reach out to the American people and to those Democrats who are willing to work with us," Gingrich said. He said he wanted to work with Clinton, yet also pledged to aggressively push the Republican campaign platform.

Republicans had won 224 seats for the House and were leading in five others. The victories guaranteed them control of the 435-seat House for the first time since 1954, when Dwight Eisenhower was president.

The 52-48 Republican majority in the Senate is virtually certain to install Senator Bob Dole of Kansas to the powerful post of Senate majority leader, or speaker, for the final two years of President Clinton's term.

The double Democratic defeat in Congress threatened Clinton's ability to pass health care reform and other key legislation and affects his re-election strategy for 1996. The Republicans had courted voters by promises of lower taxes and less government.

Clinton will also have to secure Republican support for any foreign policy initiatives in the final two years of his term.

"The American people have given us a majority," Dole said, who had laboured for eight years as leader of the Republican Senate minority. "They expect us to work with the president. They don't expect us to cut him off." He cast the results as a "vote of no confidence in the Clinton agenda."

"The burden of government is now on them," White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers said as the scope of Democratic losses became clear. Already, the impact on the administration was clear, as White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta said Clinton would propose only "an incremental change" in health care next year, rather than a top-to-bottom overhaul opposed by Republicans.

Republicans also catapulted to election victories in state governors' races around the country, gaining the party's first majority in state capitals since 1976. The defeat registered widespread anger and frustration with Democratic domination of Washington that failed to bring promised reforms.

Control of the 100-seat Senate will enable Republicans to stop anything Clinton tries to get through Congress. The Senate also has the power to ratify or reject treaties. Each state elects two senators.

## Export target likely to be slashed by 11 pc

**By S Y Bakht**

The government is planning to downsize the 1994-95 export target by 11.43 per cent due to a declining trend in earnings from some key export sectors, well-placed sources at the Commerce Ministry confirmed yesterday.

The subject is expected to top the agenda of the Export Promotion Bureau's board meeting scheduled for today. Chaired by Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam the meeting is likely to finalise the decision to revise the export earning target from 3,500 million US dollars to 3,100 million dollars for the current fiscal year.

The move comes in the backdrop of a sharp drop in export earnings during the first two months of the ongoing fiscal and a below-par performance during 1993-94, when earnings failed to meet the target by as much as 12.62 per cent.

The declining trend is profound in some major export earning sectors including ready-made garment (RMG), raw jute and tea. The only bright spots were the frozen foods and the knit-wear sectors, both well exceeding the target.

The scaling down of the export earnings target, the Commerce Ministry sources said, would involve the RMG sector, from a 2,050 million dollar target to 1,650 million, raw jute from 80 million dollars to 70 million, and also

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### Opposition calls day-long hartals on Nov 12, 13

**By Staff Correspondent**

The major opposition parties, now agitating for a caretaker government to conduct general elections, yesterday gave a call for a dawn-to-dusk hartal in the capital on November 12 and across the country on November 13 to protest yesterday's police action on opposition activists.

The Awami League, the Jatiya Party and the Jamaat-e-Islami announced identical programmes after their separate sit-ins at various road crossings on way to the Prime Minister's secretariat after strong police contingents blocked most roads leading to the PM's office.

The sit-in was organised to force the government to concede to the Opposition demand.

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### LDF calls half-day hartal today

**By Staff Correspondent**

The 10-party Left Democratic Front (LDF) has called a half-day (6 am-2 pm) hartal across the country today demanding a caretaker government to hold national elections.

The LDF's 7-point demand also includes resisting the World Bank-IMF prescriptions for the national economy and reducing the prices of essential commodities and agricultural inputs.

Amal Sen and Rashed Khan Menon, MP, president and general secretary respectively of the Workers' Party, a component of the LDF, in a statement last night called upon the people to observe today's half-day hartal.

In their statement, the WP

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## Huda, 2 others asked to explain conduct

**By Staff Correspondent**

Three apparently rebellious MPs of the ruling party, including former information minister Barrister Nazmul Huda, have been ordered to appear before the party's standing committee to explain why they have made press statements contrary to the party line, BNP Secretary General Salam Talukdar said yesterday.

The decision was unanimously taken at a meeting of the BNP's parliamentary party at the Sangsad Bhaban with party chief Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair. Talukdar told newsmen after the meeting at around 9 pm.

Nazmul Huda, major (ret'd) Akteruzzaman MP and Nurul Islam Moni MP made a number of press statements recently regarding the caretaker government issue which caused embarrassment to the ruling party. Their suggestions, directly against the party line, benefited the opposition which gained a lot of political points from these 'personal comments'.

All three outspoken MPs were present at yesterday's meeting where a resolution was adopted asking them to appear before the standing committee.

The 15-member standing committee is the highest policy-making body of the party headed by party chairperson Khaleda Zia.

The date of the standing committee hearing is, however, yet to be finalised. But Talukdar said it would be held within a couple of days.

The BNP Secretary General

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## Discipline must in military career: PM

CHITTAGONG, Nov 9: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today asked the members of the Armed Forces to acquire skills and professionalism through ceaseless training and efforts, reports UNB.

"Democracy and the people's rights have been firmly established in the country after a long struggle and sacrifices. Now the opportunity has come to attain the marks of merit and skills in our national life," Begum Zia said.

"There is no alternative to honesty, discipline, unity and perseverance in military career," she told officers and jawans of the Bangladesh Army at a ceremonial parade marking the presentation of National Flag to the 15th and 16th East Bengal Regiments (EBR) at the Chittagong Cantonment.

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### Noor Hossain Day today

**By Staff Correspondent**

Today is Noor Hossain Day. Hossain, a carefree youth in his mid-20s, sacrificed his life during a massive anti-autocratic demonstration in the city this day seven years ago.

Driven to desperation by the autocratic regime of General Ershad, almost the entire nation came out on the streets that day, seeking to replace the autocracy with a democratic system.

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## ক্ষুদ্র শিল্পে বিনিয়োগকারীদের জন্যে ক্রেডিট গ্যারান্টি স্কীম

ক্ষুদ্র শিল্প স্থাপনে নতুন উদ্যোক্তাদের উৎসাহিত করার লক্ষ্যে ক্রেডিট গ্যারান্টি স্কীমের আওতায় স্বর্ণদান কর্মসূচী চালু রয়েছে। আগ্রহী নতুন উদ্যোক্তাদের কোনরূপ সহায়ক জামানত ছাড়াই এই স্কীমের আওতায় দেশের সকল বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংক থেকে ঋণ পান করা হচ্ছে।

ক্রেডিট গ্যারান্টি স্কীমের আওতায় ঋণ সুবিধা গ্রহণের প্রধান শর্তাবলী হলঃ

- \* এই কর্মসূচীর আওতায় শুধু নতুন উদ্যোক্তাগণ ঋণ নিতে পারবেন।
- \* উদ্যোক্তা যে পরিমাণ অর্থ বিনিয়োগ করবেন বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক তার তিনগুণ পরিমাণ গ্যারান্টি প্রদান করবে। তবে গ্যারান্টির পরিমাণ হবে সর্বোচ্চ ২৫ লক্ষ টাকা।
- \* ব্যাংকসমূহ উদ্যোক্তাকে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক হতে লক্ষ গ্যারান্টির পরিমাণের ১/৩ (এক তৃতীয়াংশ) গ্যারান্টি ছাড়াই অর্জন করতে পারবেন।
- \* ক্ষুদ্র শিল্প স্থাপনে আগ্রহী উদ্যোক্তাগণ এই স্কীমের আওতায় ঋণ সুবিধা গ্রহণের জন্য দেশের সকল বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংকের সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে পারবেন।

**স্বচ্ছায় অবসর গ্রহণকারীদের জন্য ঋণ সহায়তা প্রদান স্কীম**

- \* সরকারী এমপ্লয়ীজ স্বেচ্ছায় অবসর গ্রহণের আওতায় যে সকল কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারী কর্মসূচী ১০ বৎসর সূন্যের সাথে চাকুরী করার পর এবং ৫২ বৎসর বয়স পূর্তির পূর্বে স্বচ্ছায় অবসর গ্রহণ করেছেন বা করবেন তারা এই কর্মসূচীর আওতায় ঋণ গ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।
- \* আয়কর্মসহায়নমূলক ক্ষুদ্র পুঙ্ক স্থাপনের জন্য একজন উদ্যোক্তাকে সর্বোচ্চ ২০ লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত ঋণ সুবিধা প্রদান করা হবে।
- \* এই স্কীমের আওতায় বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক, রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক, ইন্টার ব্যাংক লিঃ এবং ব্যাংক অব স্কল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ এ্যান্ড কমার্স বাংলাদেশ লিঃ সংশ্লিষ্ট অবসরগ্ৰস্ত কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদের মধ্যে যারা বিভিন্ন ধরনের ক্ষুদ্র শিল্প/ব্যবসা স্থাপনে উৎসাহী তাদের বিশেষ সুবিধাজনক সুদের হারে ঋণ সহায়তা প্রদান করবে।
- \* যারা প্রস্তাবিত প্রকল্প/উদ্যোগের মোট বিনিয়োগযোগ্য অর্ধেক এক তৃতীয়াংশ পর্যন্ত নগদ অর্থ সম্মুলন (equity) হিসাবে বিনিয়োগ করতে সক্ষম হবেন।
- \* স্বচ্ছায় অবসর গ্রহণকারী কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীগণ এই স্কীমের আওতায় ঋণ সুবিধা গ্রহণের জন্য ঋণ সংক্রান্ত শর্তাবলী ও বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য উপরোক্ত চারটি ব্যাংকের যে কোনটির শাখা অফিসের ব্যবস্থাপকের সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে পারবেন।