The Midnight Fife

Students continue anti-govt

demonstration in Khartoum

government demonstrations in Khartoum for a fourth

consecutive day on Thursday, and the death toll rose to at

least three Egypt's Middle East News Agency said

problems were sparked Thursday when government

security officials entered a lecture room at Khartoum

University's engineering faculty and arrested a student,

reports AP

reports UNB

Industrial workers

shorten strike

dute and textile workers

shortened their scheduled

96 hour strike to 72 hours

and synchronised it with

opposition-called three-day

hartal beginning Saturday.

72-hr hartal

From Page 1

tionwide general strike as

part of their almost identical

agitation programmes an-

nounced simultaneously ear-

(Rob) also gave a hartal call

on September 16, 17 and 18.

gramme coincide with a har-

tal and road rail blockade

programme called by the

jute, yarn and textile mills

mills workers vesterday

slightly altered their earlier

agitation programme to link

The workers leaders at a

it up with the oppositions'

press conference in the city

vesterday said that they have

readjusted their programmes

and instead of their planned

96-hour blockade and strike

programme now they would

enforce countrywide hartal.

strike at mills and rail and

road blockades for three days

community to fortify the on

going movement for toppling

the government and realise

their demands for implemen-

tation of wage commission

Jativa Party and Jamaat-e-

sions from different wards in

Islami brought out proces-

Meanwhile. Awami League.

award and salary increase.

They urged the workers

hartal programme.

from tomorrow

The jute, varn and textile

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal

The political parties pro-

lier on September 6.

workers.

CAIRO. Sept 14: Sudanese students staged anti-

Eight killed, 50 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

At least eight persons were killed and 50 others injured in road accidents in the capital city and Chittagong vesterday.

Four persons were killed in road accidents in different parts of the city.

Mofizul, 30, and Shahjahan, 35, who received grievous injuries when a speeding truck hit their rickshaw at Tejgaon, died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) early yesterday.

One Miraj, 22, son of Siraj Mia. died when a truck ran over him near the Shahjahanpur rail crossing at about

A teenaged boy, Salahuddin, son of Shafiqul Huq. who received fatal injuries in a road accident at the Mirpur-1 crossing Wednesday. died at the DMCH early yesterday.

Our Staff Correspondent from Chittagong adds: At least four persons were killed and 50 others injured in three road accidents here others to clinics.

vesterday Two persons died on the spot and 30 were injured when a Chittagong bound bus from Dhaka collided head-on with a truck coming from the opposite direction at Chotakamaldah under Mirersharai thana. Both the vehicles fell into a road side ditch.

One of the dead was identified as Kaosar (20), helper of the bus and the other, a passenger, could not be iden-In another accident, one

Haji Nur Solaiman (80) was run over by a Chatkil bound bus at Sitakundu. Trving to save the man, the bus skidded off the road leaving 20 persons injured.

Police said, a woman Mehrunnesa was killed in the third accident which occurred at Hathazari road

The woman while crossing

the road was hit by a truck. Of the injured, 10 were admitted to the Chittagong medical college hospital and

IMF to improve policy dialogue with members

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) prepares to advise its members to give more attention to their own financial policies in view of risks of overreliance on "easily reversible capital flows," reports UNB.

been carried by its Annual Report 1995, a summary of which was circulated to the local press yesterday.

A turn-around of the Fund's stance on foreign portfolio funds appears to have been prompted by the massive financial crisis in Mexico following its stockmarket crash end last year.

As the annual report says, the Fund is stressing its enhanced surveillance to avert repetition of the Mexico syndrome.

There will be more fre-

Humayun Kabir reappointed

By Staff Correspondent Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Humayun Kabir has been re-appointed on contract service to the same position from September 25 to January 31, 1997 by cancelling his leave preparatory to retirement, an official handout said Wed-

Earlier Humayun Kabir served as the Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the United Nations and as ambassador to Zimbabwe and held several important over seas assignments. A career diplomat, he has been serving as the country's ambassador in Washington since January, '94.

Fazal M Kamal, a reputed journalist and former editor of the "Holiday" and "The Bangladesh Times", has been appointed as Minister (Press) at the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi on contract for three years.

The services of Wing Commander A M M Nazrul Islam have been transferred to the Air Force from the Civil Aviation Authority. Wing Commander Manzurul Haq has been transferred to Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry for being appointed Director of Civil Aviation Authority on deputation.

the member countries and deeper assessment of possi ble risks in policies so that members could be given early warning to reduce those risks, says the report.

quent policy dialogue with

"The Fund is taking steps The IMF's intention has to improve policy dialogues with member countries and to enhance the effectiveness of surveillance," it adds.

in strengthening its careful watch, says the report, the Fund will establish closer and more continuous policy dialogue with member countries, including "more candid assessments" of possible risks attached to members policies and recommendations for reducing these

Members will be asked to provide data to IMF on a timely basis, so that emerg ing tensions can be identified at an early stage.

The report, although says that the Fund's resources were "generally adequate" during the financial year cautions that it may decline over the next two years because of continuing "large demands.

The IMF report also signals the Fund's continued support to the reform efforts of developing countries in the coming years.

Flood situation in C'nawabganj worsens

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Sept 14: The overall flood situation in Chapainawabganj district has deteriorated following further rise of the water level of the river Padma. More areas of four unions under Shibganj and sadar thanas of Chapainawabganj went under water in the last 24 hours. Several char areas of Chapainawabganj and Rajshahi have also been submerged.

Flood waters entered the Dargah slum area here vesterday. Two hundred more houses have been washed away by erosion of the Padma in Panka and Narayanpur unions. The Padma was flowing 39 cm above the danger mark at Panka in Chapainawabganj today.

TIP fate uncertain

From Page 1 is recommended that an Economic Coordination Wing/ Division within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should be created with a senior officer of the level of Secretary as the head, and required number of officers as suggested in

the organogram." Earlier, in a letter to the Cabinet Secretary, the Commerce Secretary said that the Foreign Secretary was doing his business beyond his jurisdiction' through the creation of the TIP wing. "Their illegitimate acts are seriously damaging the image of the Commerce Ministry and creating confusion among the business circle ... If this is not immediately resolved, there will be severe confusion in terms of trade and commerce," the letter

said. Suggesting ways to increase export and attract foreign direct investment, it said "The only way to do this is through reducing the diplomatic posts in the missions and increasing the

posts of the BCS (trade)."

Stating that it is the prerogative of the Cabinet Division to allocate business among the different ministries and divisions, the Commerce Secretary, concluded that "The Foreign Ministry in contravention of the government rules has set up the wing (TIP) before any consultation with any ministries and without waiting for the adoption of the recommendations of the high powered special committee (Morshed Committee) by the government."

The Morshed Committee said, "A diplomatic or consular mission of Bangladesh should be a single unit under the overall command of the Head of Mission."

The present practice of different ministries setting up their own wings and a tendency to administer them independent of the heads of missions has become a major obstacle to the integrated approach of diplomacy, the committee report said.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Govt jute mills staff donate Tk 51.66 lakh to Bosnia fund

Officers and employees of different state-run jute mills vesterday donated Tk. 51.66 lakh to the Prime Minister's Bosnian Muslim Solidarity Fund in aid of the distressed Muslims in Bosnia, reports

Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah handed over the cheque on behalf of the officers and employees to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office here in the afternoon.

The CBA leaders, who were present on the occa sion, said the formation of the solidarity fund had reflected the Prime Minister's concern for the Bosnian Muslims.

BJMC, Chairman Muniruddin Ahmed. President of Jute Mills Officers' Association M H Chowdhury and President of Jute Mills Workers-Employees Federation Abul Khair were present among others.

'Save Dhanmondi Lake from pollution'

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhanmondi Residents Association for Welfare (DRAW) at a meeting recently discussed different problems they are facing and urged the authorities to solve the prob-

The meeting, chaired by Mahbubuzzaman, a former cabinet secretary and president of the DRAW, also expressed its concern over the continuous pollution of the Dhanmondi lake 'due to negligence of the authorities.'

Defence Secretary Abdul Hakim, DIG of Police Moin Chisty, Gen (retd) Munim, Advocate Najmul Hasan, Advocate Najma Hasan, Col (retd) Harun Khan, Fazlur Rahman and local ward commissioner Bablu spoke at the meeting.

Abdul Hakim called for division of the area into several zones to ensure security of the locality. Moin Chisty said, vigilance teams should be formed in cooperation with police to curb crimes in the

They called for saving the Dhanmondi lake from pollu-

The ward commissioner gave the assurance of all cooperation of the Dhaka City Corporation in this regard.

BAU closed From Page 1

asked to vacate the halls by 9 this morning.

Seven persons were injured in the clashes. Anwar Hossain and Arif Hasan, both of them JCD activists were admitted to the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

An emergency meeting attended by all Deans and Provosts with Vice Chancellor Shah M Faruq in the chair decided to close the university to avert further clashes.

The students who vacated the halls suffered seriously as the bus communication between Mymensingh and capital Dhaka remain suspended from Tuesday following a clash between the students of Bhaluka College and transport workers.

Hundreds of students were seen on the Mymensingh Rail Station platform this morning waiting for trains.

According to sources, the conflict between the two factions of JCD activists turned into a violent clash on August 20 over the possession of hall

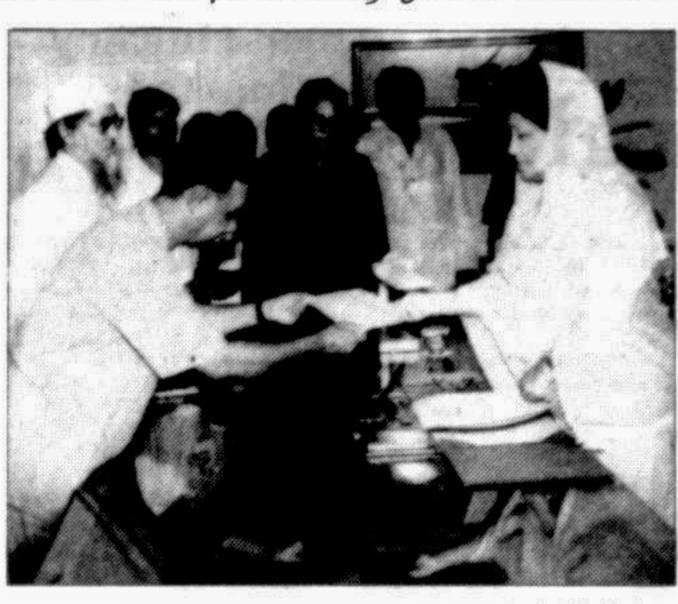
Later, police and BDR were deployed on the campus and in separate raids they arrested 15 JCD activists including BAUCSU VP Chanchal. BAUCSU GS Tofa belongs to the rival faction of JCD.

3 doctors

remove cataract and fix contact lens by Dr. Mannan Talukder on August 14. She was released on August 17 and was readmitted in the same hospital on August 20 as she developed fungal in-

Dr. Mustafizur Rahman. the director of the hospital while talking to this correspondent said, "most of the fungal cases were reported at least 7 to 10 days of their release." The factual position of the patients as can be seen from this incident, however, contradicts his statement.

According to Belal Ahmed. Rasheda was forced to give a written undertaking to the hospital authorities saying. "I am willing to remove my damaged right eye. The hospital authorities will not be made responsible for any mishap."



Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah, on behalf of the officers and employees of the BJMC, handed over a cheque for Tk 51.66 lakh to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, at her office yesterday. They donated their one-day's salary to the PM's Bosnian Muslim Solidarity - PID photo Fund.

Beijing confce ends today

Several issues still remain unresolved

BEIJING, Sept 14: Even as delegates at the UN women's conference bargained furiously today over final provisions of their closing document, a chorus of critics weighed in: Too liberal. Too conservative. Not enough money. Too much sex.

The two-week conference, the world's biggest women's gathering, was to end tomorrow with calls for delegates from 189 countries to work to make its goals, large and small, a reality in their homelands, reports AP.

Let little girls go to village schools as often as boys, delegates urged. Punish those who rape women as a means of waging war. Loan poor women seed money to start small businesses that can enrich whole communities. Heading into the final

hours of work on the plat form, several issues still remained unresolved, conference organisers said. Reuter adds: A special

high-level committee of 30 delegates met behind closed doors today to try to end a stalemate threatening agreement on a 10-year blueprint for women's rights. UN officials said they were

confident the conference would end as the first recent gathering to finish its work on time. National delegates had

wrangled into the early hours of today before abandoning an attempt to settle differences and handing over a clash on sexual preferences and on a

Opponents say the phrase offers a loophole which could be used to avoid conforming to much of the document. "The thorniest issue right

said one UN official. excise so-called holy brackets' around the phrase sexual orientation'. Delegates from Australia. Europe and

Valuables worth Tk 1 lakh stolen

By Staff Correspondent

valuables worth about Taka one lakh from a house at Mohammadpur in the city Wednesday Nobody was in the house when the thieves entered the house by unlocking the door.

The members of the family after returning to the house at D-36, Zakir Hossain Road, Mohammadpur, at around 4 pm found the lock of the main entrance intact.

was found ransacked and

phrase on cultural differences to the friends of the

now is sexual orientation.

Negotiators are trying to the United States are anxious use of the phrase should not result in discrimination against women.

from a city house

Thieves decamped with

But inside, the bed room

of the flat on the ground floor some electronic goods, ornaments and money were

Rally round BNP: Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed her firm determination to carry on the present trend of development activity facing all odds and urged the people to rally round BNP. reports UNB.

She said her government had been working relent lessly for the welfare of people and ensuring development of the country since its assumption of power.

Begum Zia was addressing the newcomers to her party at 30. Hare Road last night. Leaders and workers from different political parties, including Jatiya Party and Awami League, of Brahmanbaria district formally joined the ruling party expressing their allegiance to the leadership of BNP Chairperson Begum Zia

Six commissioners of Brahmanbaria Pourashava and four union Parishad chairmen also joined BNP at the same function. The newly elected office-bearers of Brahmanbaria Government College were present on the occasion.

She advised the freshers to work with the old party men unitedly and devote themselves to nation building activities.

Earlier in the afternoon. ten commissioners of Rangpur Municipality led by lead ing businessman Dr. Mok tharur Rahman formally joined BNP at Prime Minister's office.

JCD-BCL clash at Barguna: 40 injured From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 14: At least 40 people were injured seven of them seriously. when activists of Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal and Chhatra League clashed in Barguna

town today.

Witnesses said, the clash erupted at 11 am when supporters of the two groups brought out processions on Barguna Government College campus supporting and opposing the 72-day hartal call of the major opposition parties from September 16.

During the clash, the rival groups exploded at least 50 hand-made bombs and ransacked 20 shops.

Of the injured, Monir Hossain was admitted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital while Noor Hossain, Ripon, Kashem Saber, Hashem and Shah Alam were admitted to Barguna Sadar Hospital.

the city to drum up support for hartal. A number of torch processions were also brought out in the city yes-BNP-AL clash From Page 1 der the auspices of district

Bangabandhu Parishad. The workers of JCD, the student wing of ruling BNP also damaged the car of Barrister Amirul Islam.

parked near the Hall. The Awami League supporters chased out the rival group, but the JCD men later ransacked the Awami League

Both the groups also clashed at several other points in the town as the violence continued till 10 pm.

Immigrants

From Page 1 tion reforms drew supports even from ardent immigration supporters like Sen. Edward Kennedy and Sen: Paul Simon.

They said the cut back on the employment-based categories was necessary as unskilled immigrants were competing Americans, already facing a 13 per cent unemployment rate.

However, Kennedy opposed to cutting family-based immigration categories and said family unification was a 'a fundamental American value."

Commissioner of the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) Doris Meissner at Wednesday's hearing said that the Clinton Administration endorsed the proposals made Commission on Immigration Reforms, but opposed the Senate plan that would keep adult children from joining their US citizen parents.

Most of those who would be shut out already have gained preliminary approval and are just waiting for slots to come open, she said.

Many of the 8,50,000 spouses and children of legal immigrants who are caught in a backlog will be able to come to the country quickly in the next few years when their sponsors become the US citizens, the INS chief told the hearing.

Meanwhile, coinciding with the Senate hearing, the Commission on Immigration Reform, Wednesday issued a set of policy recommendations which proposes that companies pay substantial fees' - as high as US dollar 10,000 - when they recruit and hire skilled foreign workers

The 245-page policy guidelines suggested that such paying fees would demonstrate a company's genuine need of a skilled foreign workers instead of an American one

BNP leaders

From Page 1 crisis will be resolved politi-

When his opinion was sought at his Parliament of fice. Joint Secretary General of the BNP and Food and Agriculture Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan told this correspondent. We'll try to bring the Opposition to the negotiating table. In case of failure, we'll have to go our own way as regards formation of an interim government within the constitutional framework following the Prime Minister's proposed resignation 30 days ahead of the next general elections"

He said the BNP still enjoys the support of the people and it is increasing because of the Oppositions harmful programmes like hartals. It will be a mistake on the part of the Opposition if it compares the BNP government with the Ershad regime, he said, adding, the elected government cannot be removed through agita-

Replying to some questions from his correspondent at the parliament building last night. Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman said "How can we resolve the political crisis on the question of an interim government unless the Opposition agrees to sit for dialogue? They must sit with us to bargain on the issue. We are flexible and not rigid on the matter. The opposition's hard stand on the interim government issue will not result in any solution".

DU admission

From Page 1

DU in the last session. There is the possibility of taking admission tests of a limited number of students on the basis of their marks. he

To avoid question leakage, there will be several sets of question papers." the VC

Citizens' rally

From Page 1 Before the start of the rally, Manzur ul Karim will speak on the aims and objectives of the campaign. Then, the participants will take a pledge in this regard. Dr Nizam Uddin Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, rover region, Dhaka will conduct the func-

The rally will be divided into four groups at the Zero Point from where Sadek Hossain will lead one group to Brothers Union Club parading the south gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque, Bagabandhu Avenue and Ittefaq intersection.

Another part will end at the Central Shaheed Minar under the leadership of Mohammad Hanif, while Prof M Shahjahan will lead a rally to Shishu Park. Manzur ul Karim and Abdul Bari was lead a rally to the Scouts Bhaban at Kakrail.

Showcause

From Page 1

death of human life and severe injury to different persons and destroyed national and private properties,' the petition said.

The petition argued that the hartal and its related activities are violative to the fundamental rights of the petitioner and the citizens of Bangladesh as guaranteed in Articles 31, 32, 35, 36, 40 and 42 (1) of the Constitution.

Advocate Abu Bakar Si ddique in person moved the petition and Advocate M B Taz Mohammad and M Toufiq Hossain assisted him.

Manzur murder

From Page 1

ing the rule. The division bench of the HC comprising Justice Mohammad Mozammel Hoque and Justice Mohammad Nurul Islam that the rule should out be disposed of without hearing it and the new petition should be heard along with the rule.

Later the government

counsel mentioned the peti-

tion before another vacation bench, as the bench headed by Justice Mohammad Mozammel Hoque went on vacation from today. The vacation bench com prising Justice Mohammad

Badruzzaman and Justice K M Hasan after a preliminary hearing, fixed the matter to be listed on September 19 for fixing up a date of hear ing.

From Page 1

fection.

said the agreement calls for a withdrawal of heavy weapons. a cease-fire in the Sarajevo area, and guarantees that the Serbs would be protected

OIC to send arms to Bosnia from any government attack. From Page 1

against the government's policy on their home state.

erate with Bosnia in defending its territories under Article 51 of the UN Charter if the Serbs continued to ignore peace initiatives. The OIC, critical of what against the Bosnian Serbs it sees as Western inaction over Bosnia, said in July the

the Muslim-led Bosnian gov-

They also agreed to coop-

ernment.

to Bosnian Muslims. The OIC agreement came as US envoy Richard Holbrooke and Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic agreed that Bosnian Serbs will pull away from Sarajevo and that NATO in return will stop its airstrikes against the separatist army, Western diplomats said in Geneva today.

UN arms embargo on Bosnia

was invalid and agreed to

provide 'all kinds of support'

launched Aug. 30 to try and force the Serbs to comply with international demands they withdraw their heavy weapons 20 kilometers from Sarajevo. The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity,

The NATO campaign was

official also said Milosevic had promised Holbrooke that Bosnian Serbs would withdraw their heavy weapons from around Sarajevo. The OIC this week hailed NATO's continued airstrikes

In Washington, an uniden-

tified Clinton administration

Kashmiri Hindu refugees in New Delhi have their heads shaved yesterday in protest

saying they were the only way to bring peace to Bosnian. Bosnian Foreign Minister Muhamed Sacribey, who attended the OIC meeting said. the Bosnian army would be the coordinator of most of

Officials said the mobili sation group would come under the control of the OIC contact group on Bosnia -Malaysia, Iran, Morocco, Egypt, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and Turkey. Its members would be announced later.

None of the officials at

tending the meeting, which also included representatives from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Jordan and Qatar, gave details on where the arms would be purchased and the channels through which they would be supplied. They were also tight-

lipped on when the arms

supply would start, saying that it was all up to requests from the Bosnian army. Sacribey, who confirmed that Bosnia had asked the

OIC for arms, stressed his

government's earnest wish

was to negotiate for peace

- AFP/UNB photo

"and not bring in the OIC to prolong the war." Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Jordan are contributing troops in Bosnia Malaysia, in particular, has been demanding UN approval

to double its peacekeeping

the mobilisation group's ac-Tk 90 cr project to save Chandpur irrigation project

Government has taken up

strength to 3,000.

a Taka 90 crore project for construction of a cross dam and groyen to save the Chandpur irrigation project from the erosion of the River Meghna, reports BSS. Irrigation Minister Major

General (retd) Majid-ul-Haque last night told this in the Jatiya Sangsad while replying to a private member's resolution moved by Treasury Bench member Prof. Mohammad Abdullah