The Midnight Rife

Dhaka to seek more World Bank funds

Bangladesh will plead for continuation and raise of concessional World Bank funds until the foreign and domestic private capital flows reach the required height, reports UNB.

The plea is expected to be made by Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman at exclusive meetings with senior bank officials during his current visit in Washington.

The minister in now visiting the United States in connection with the annual meeting of World Bank and the IMF, scheduled for October 10-12.

the US capital until October 17, is due to meet with World Bank President James Wolfensohn and the Vice President of South Asian desk Joseph Wood to discuss Bangladesh.

Informed official sources here told the news agency the Finance Minister, while meeting the World Bank executives, is likely to point out that a staggeringly poor supply response to macro-economic achievements had exposed the country to continued need for concessional external funds.

being negotiated. He might seminar.

Tk 15,500 looted

from hotel at

Mirpur

By Staff Correspondent

from a hotel at Mirpur in the

city yesterday. Two employ-

ees of the hotel received

bomb injuries while resisting

or seven youths after having

their meal at Hotel Prince at the Mazar Cooperative Mar-

ket, Mirpur Section No 1 ex-

ploded bombs and snatched

the money from the cash box

caught one of the looters red-

handed and handed him over

to police. Some Tk 2,100 was

The traders of the Mazar

Cooperative Market later

brought out a procession de-

manding immediate arrest of

recovered from his posses-

Local people, however,

Witnesses said, some six

the looters.

around 2 pm.

the culprits.

Tk 15,500 was looted

particularly stress quicker agreements on the US dollar 120 million credit for Dhaka City Transport Development, and the one on micro credit based poverty alleviation programme of a size between US dollar 100 million and 150 million

Sources indicated that the World Bank is expected to raise before Saifur the issue of current stagnation in reform measures in Bangladesh, particularly in jute

A seminar on investment opportunities in Bangladesh is also slated to precede the Saifur, during his stay in annual moot of the World Bank and IMF in the US capital today. The World Bank has sponsored the seminar as part of its programme to promote some poor countries which have performed well the bank's programmes in in macro-economic manage-

Saifur Rahman will present a country paper at the seminar, titled: Bangladesh — New Horizon for Investment. It will project the country's achievements in macro-economic management and advantages in investment in Bangladesh.

The World Bank has invited prospective investors Saifur would press for from some developed counearly disposal of the credits tries to participate in the

Anti-terrorism

rally at N'ganj

From Our Correspondent

anti-terrorism rally held by a

civic committee here today

vowed to arrest the deterio-

rating law and order situation

Govinda High School com-

pound resolved to form citi-

zens' committees at the ward

level to build up resistance

against terrorists and drug

Committee organised the

rally, was addressed by a

mmissioners. It was chaired

by the Committee president,

rally to express their deep

concern over the deteriorat

ing law and order situation.

They urged the law enforcing

agencies to protect the life of

the innocent people.

Many people attended the

number of former ward co-

The Paikpara Panchaiyet

The rally at the Joy

in the port town.

addicts.

Siraj Sarder.

NARAYANGANJ, Oct 8: An



Devotees offering prayers at the Buddhist temple in Kamalapur of the city on the occasion of Prabarana Purn-- Star photo ima yesterday.

KL limits entry points for foreign workers

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 8: Malaysia has limited the numbers of entry points for foreign workers with immediate effect to curb smuggling of illegal workers into the country, a local newspaper reported today, reports

Reuter. The entry points for Indonesian workers are the three international airport and four main sea ports along the west coast of peninsular Malaysia, while Bangladeshi workers are only allowed entry at Kuala Lumpur Airport.

"The move to limit the entry points was to check the practice of smuggling in illegal workers into the country using fake or doctored passports and work permits. Deputy Home Minister Megat Junid Megat Ayob was quoted as saying by the New Sunday Times newspaper.

The measure was among 11 conditions imposed by the cabinet committee on foreign workers after the government's move to stop the recruitment of foreign workers. except for domestic maids and shop helpers through agencies on August 2 after repeated complaints of mistreatment of foreign workers by the agencies.

The new regulations also stipulate that work passes be

endorsed only at Malaysian entry points and that employers cannot deduct wages of their foreign workers to

pay a third party. Megat Junid said the rules were decided after talks with Indonesia and Bangladesh. A draft of the procedures has also been submitted to Philippine and Thai authorities, he said.

Labour sources say about two million foreigners work as construction hands, plantation workers, maids, shop helpers and petrol pump attendants in fast-growing Malaysia.

Only about 800,000 are registered with the government and many were believed to have been brought in illegally.

Indonesians. Bangladeshis and Filipinos make up the majority of foreign workers in the country.

SI killed in road accident

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 8: A police officer was killed when a minibus hit his motorcycle near Mithapukur of Rangpur today, reports UNB.

Police said SI Abdus Salam met the tragic end of his life on way to Kurigram.

for Disaster Management and

Relief Harun-al-Rashid, party

MPs Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan,

Begum Asia Rahman and

nounced that Nasirnagar-

Sarail road would be con-

structed soon, and donated

Tk 10 lakh for Chatlapar

trip to flood-hit northern

districts that concluded on

Saturday, Begum Zia said the

entire North Bengal was

awash with an unprece-

dented flood that caused

immense hardship to mil-

awaiting all kinds of help, the

Opposition parties are

blocking transportation of re-

lief by enforcing hartal to

keep them unfed, she added.

tion's) love and affection, and

kindness to the people. This

is the semblance of their

again made it clear that it is

absurd to realise their de-

mand through hartal and re-

newed her offer to the

Opposition for thrashing the

prevailing political problem

suffering of the people can-

not be the means of realising

demand. "You must have to

sit for dialogue to resolve the

The hartal which causes

by sitting across the table.

movement and democracy."

"This is their (Opposi-

The Prime Minister once

When lakhs of victims are

Mentioning her four-day

College.

lions of people.

The Prime Minister an-

Shahjahan Hawlader Sujan.

Security for Ramos to be increased

MANILA. Oct 8: Security for President Fidel Ramos will be increased following revelations that the alleged mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center Bombing in New York had made threats against him, officials said today, reports AFP.

Contact groups on Bosnia meet Oct 12

A joint ministerial level meeting of the OIC Contact Group and the International Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina will be held in Rabat on October 12 to review the situation in the

Balkans, reports UNB. Bangladesh has also been invited to participate in the meeting. Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan said yesterday.

The five-member International Contact Group comprises the United States. United Kingdom, France, the Russian Federation and Germany.

The OIC Contact Group members are: Turkey, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Egypt, Morocco, Pakistan and Sene-

Prisoner begins fast-unto-death

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 8: An under-trial prisoner in the district jail began a fast-untodeath from Friday demanding immediate appointment of a district judge, reports UNB.

Tutul, 27, of Ullapara thana has been detained in the district jail for a long period, awaiting trial in a murder case

He did not take anything till 7 pm today and his condition was critical, jail sources

AL threatens From Page 1

Mohiuddin Ahmed, Tofael Ahmed, Sajeda Chowdhury, Amir Hossain Amu, General Secretary Zillur Rahman, and some leaders of the party's city unit and front organisa-

tions. "The country will be paralysed through tougher agitation programmes if the ruling party fails to fulfil the demand for holding general elections under a caretaker government headed by the Chief Justice even after the 96-hour hartal," said Abdus Samad Azad.

He said that the people, irrespective of political opinions, are now united under the banner of the Opposition to realise the demand. The BNP government lost its legitimacy long back, he claimed.

"Do not push the people towards confrontation," Samad Azad said.

Zillur Rahman congratulated the people for observing the 32-hour hartal in five divisional headquarters of the country. "We will march towards the prime minister's residence if our demands are not met," said Zillur.

Mohiuddin Ahmed said, "People know well how to force a government out of power."

Begum Sajeda Chowdhury said the "Constitution is for the people, the people are not for it."

Power Cell

From Page 1 able with the temporary Power Cell.

"Moreover, many of the potential engineers of the Power Development Board,

Dhaka Electric Supply Authority and Rural Electrification Board feel that they are already enjoying satisfactory positions at their respective organisations. Leaving their jobs for two years mean they would not be able to return to their respective desks. Plus, they are afraid of leaving government quarters for two years," he added.

"But we believe, the recruitment would be completed by this month," the sources added.

An office for the Power Cell was fixed at the BTMC Bhaban in Kawran Bazar, opposite to the Petrobangla office. However, the authorities are yet to approve the office site yet.

The Energy Ministry has signed ten MOUs with foreign private power developers from USA, UK, Canada, Singapore and other countries to generate over 2000 MW of electricity, involving around 2.50 billion US dol-

According to the MOUs, the foreign companies and concerned government agencies like the PDB will have to reach an accord on power tariff and other factors within a year of the signing of the MOU If this Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is not made within a year, the MOUs would automatically lapse if not mutually extended.

BCU calls hartal in Sirajganj today

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 8: The Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) called a half-day hartal in the district tomorrow protesting the attack on its leader, Dipu Sarwar, today, reports UNB.

The BCU brought out a protest procession in the town in the evening in support of their tomorrow's hartal, beginning at 6 am.

Dipu Sarwar, the BCU district unit secretary and a student of the Rajshahi University, was seriously injured in a bomb attack at Dargopatti in the town.

Dipu Sarwar was attacked by a group of miscreants, allegedly led by Roni, when he was chatting with his friends in the area. He was rushed to Siraigani

Sadar Hospital in a critical condition. A case was filed with Sadar thana.

17 hurt in clash

Meanwhile, the rival vouths of two areas in the town clashed for the third day today at Bahirgola molasses market, leaving 17 people injured. The clash between the

youths of Natun Bhangabari and Shahednagar Beparipara occurred at about 2:45 pm

JP leader arrested in Kashem murder case in Khulna KHULNA, Oct 8: Former

MP and Jatiya Party leader Abdul Gaffar Biswas was arrested by CID police today in connection with the Abul Kashem murder case.

Shaikh Abul Kashem, former president of Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry and secretary of the city unit of JP was shot dead by unknown assailants on April 25 last.

According to CID police, the CMM court neither granted Biswas bail nor placed him on remand for interrogation.

Liquidity From Page 1

their crisis.

Meanwhile, the call money market witnessed a upswing in rates from between 1.5 and 2 a few months back to between 5.5 and 6 per cent recently. The central bank official attributed this rise to scheduled banks' high credit promise and bond subscrip-

"As credit demand picked up and those few banks having excess cash were willing to part with it, the call money rate rose", the official pointed out.

Jatiya Party From Page 1

Ershad.

The rally, chaired by M A Malek, JP city unit president, was also addressed among others by presidium members, Moudud Ahmed, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Shah Moazzem Hossain and secretary general Anwar Hossain Monju.

"We proposed a constitutional amendment for a caretaker government, but the government did not respond," alleged Moudud Ahmed. He also blamed the government for the deteriorating law and order situation in the country.

Reminding the government of the opposition ultimatum of Oct 15, Kazi Zafar Ahmed said, "Tougher action lies ahead ... and the BNP leaders will not even get time to flee."

Anwar Hossain Monju said. the people are united over the demand for a caretaker government adding "there will be no election under this government."

Medal From Page

members of three defence services, listed on February 27, 1991, will be considered eligible for the medal.

Stating the serial position of this new medal, the gazette said it will be placed on the uniform next below the "constitution medal." The hexagon sized medal

with 35 mm diameter will be made by white mixed metal with the inscription of 'parliamentary election-1991' on the front side while on the back Bangladesh. The five-stripe ribbon will have three colours - white in the middle, golden colour both on the sides of white while deep red on both edges. Each stripe will be six mm.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a huge public meeting at Nasirnagar in Brahmanbaria yesterday. -PID photo

Iranian President

From Page 1 Turkmenistan Baayraamoich will also be in Dhaka at the same time to sign the trilat-

eral MOU. During the first ever visit by an Iranian head of state. oil refinery to meet the grotalks will be held between wing demands of petroleum leaders of the two countries on wide-ranging bilateral issues including trade and economic ties. Discussions will also be held on regional and international matters of common concern. The official talks will take place at the International Conference Centre on October 11. Rafsanjani and Begum Zia will hold exclusive discussions before the formal talks at the

Prime Minister's office. The Iranian President's 35-member official entourage will include Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Ali Akbar Velayti, Minister for Rural Development and Reconstruction, Gholamreza Forouzesh Minister for Commerce, Ale Ishaque, Joint Chief of Staff Major General Shahbazi, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Alauddin Brujerdi and two Presidential advisers and senior officials. The team is also likely to comprise a number of leading businessmen and 21 journalists. The Iranian President arrives in Bangladesh on the last leg of a three-nation tour that also took him to Vietnam and the Philippines. Earlier, this year the Iranian President visited India and some other

Asian countries. On Wednesday Rafsanjani will lay the foundation of a building at the Dhaka University which will house the University's Persian lan-

guage and research centre. The visiting president and senior official are scheduled to have a discussion meeting the representatives of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Tuesday afternoon.

The President and his team members are due to fly to Chittagong on Thursday to inaugurate the Chittagong-Tehran Joint Chamber of Commerce. He will also visit the Export Processing Zone and the Eastern Refinery.

An agreement was reached recently during Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Mosharraf Hossain's visit to Tehran to set up the country's second

Refinery. The MOU on energy is likely to include provision for oil exploration, sources said.

products. Iran may also

extend cooperation for re-

vamping and modernising

the existing Chittagong Oil

Bangladesh enjoys a favourable balance of trade with Iran. In 1994-95 the country exported goods worth 32 million US dollars while it imported goods worth 5.7 million dollars. The country's exports in 1991-92 stood at nearly 52 million dollars while it imported goods worth 4.36 million dollars. In 1992-93 the exports fell to 28.77 million dollars while imports rose to 8.77 million dollars. In 1993-94 exports rose to 34 million dollars while imports stood

at 4.60 million dollars. The Iranian President, after his arrival, will drive to the Bangabhaban for a courtesy call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas where he will be given a ceremonial wel-

He will be lodged at state guest house Koratoa while members of the entourage will be accommodated at the city's two leading hotels.

President Rafsanjani will be feted to a state banquet by President Abdur Rahman Biswas tomorrow evening while the Prime Minister will host a dinner in his honour at 30 Hare Road on Tuesday evening.

The Iranian President will visit the Jatiya Smritisoudha at Savar to pay tributes to martyrs of the liberation war on Tuesday morning.

He will hold a press conference at the International Conference Centre on Thursday evening after the signing of the MOUs at the same venue.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News &

Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A,

Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No:

88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA.

On Friday, President Raf-

sanjani will offer Juma prayer

at the Baitul Mukkaram mos-

que and leave Dhaka at 3 pm.

Sit-in protesting move to relocate Aricha Ghat today

MANIKGANJ, Oct 8: Aricha Ghat Relocation Resistance Committee will stage a sit-in here tomorrow protesting the government move to relocate the Ghat to Paturia in Saturia thana, re-

ports UNB. The committee took the decision as the talks between the committee and the district administration today failed to find out an amicable solution to the problem.

Diarrhoea

From Page 1 Noka village in Raigani thana

yesterday. Our Gaibandha Correspondent reports that the flood situation in Gobindaganj, Palashbari Shaghata and Sadullapur improved further but the Bonarpara-Santahar rail link remained snapped vesterday.

Two persons died of diarrhoea in the district but they could not be identified. UNB reports from Sirajganj said that diarrhoea claimed four lives and attacked more than one hun-

dred people in four unions of flood-hit Ashasuni thana. Hospital sources said three children and an old woman died of water borne diseases in last two days. The dead were identified as Abdul Bari, (6), Shaheen (8), Gopal Ghosh (11) and Anju Das (62). About 50 diarrhoea patients were admitted to the

thana health complex. Number of voters

From Page 1 The EC official could not confirm whether the process started in any part of the

country yesterday. "We have not heard anything so far regarding the commencement of the work," he said. In a notification regarding the preparation and distribution of laminated ID cards.

the EC has appealed to the

voters to be present at se-

part of the registration form. Over 86,000 camps are scheduled to be opened throughout the country to cover every 'voters' locality' within the 10-week period from October 8 to December 16. On an average, one camp would deliver cards to 647

voters. The camps would remain open for three days from 8 am to 8 pm for preparing and distributing the ID cards.

60 injured as villagers clash in Chouddagram

COMILLA, Oct 8: Some 60 people were injured, three seriously, in a series of clashes on Saturday-Sunday between the villagers of Kashinagar and Olipur in Chouddagram thana of the district, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said property worth about Tk 10 lakh were damaged during clashes between the feuding groups who ransacked and looted 10 shops, and set fire to another shop at Kashinagar bazar today.

The three seriously injured, including Monir, 25, were admitted to Chouddagram thana health complex.

Kashmir

From Page 1 mediate talks between India

and Pakistan. "Now the ball is in the court of the US to pressure India to come to the negotiating table," Aseff Ali said.

India and Pakistan have been at odds over the Kashmir region since the territory was divided between the two countries at the end of British rule in 1947.

Despite repeated efforts and offers from the United Nations for mediation, neither India nor Pakistan has been able to agree to meet to Kashmir.

PM: Opposition agitation From Page 1 Amin, the meeting was also addressed by State Minister

Ahmed, as Vice President." Then the autocratic President handed over power to the Vice President. "This was done under the

constitutional framework, but now there is no such way open in our Constitution as we unitedly switched over to parliamentary system through the 12th Constitution Amendment which clearly provides that only an elected person with majority support in Parliament can be the Prime Minister."

"We have unitedly switched over to parliamentary system. So, I cannot go beyond the bounds of the Constitution, because the countrymen have not given me mandate to violate the Constitution," she argued.

Reaffirming her unflinching commitment to continue the constitutional process, the Prime Minister said: "The people voted me to power to run the country and government as per the Constitution. They (people) didn't vest power in me to do anything in contravention of the Constitution."

Mentioning her government's repeated call for dialogue to resolve the current political crisis she said created by the Opposition. Begum Zia said her party had urged the Opposition time and again to find ways and means through dialogue. But the Opposition was yet to come forward.



BDR personnel stand guard in front of the Secretariat in the city during hartal hours — Star photo



yesterday.