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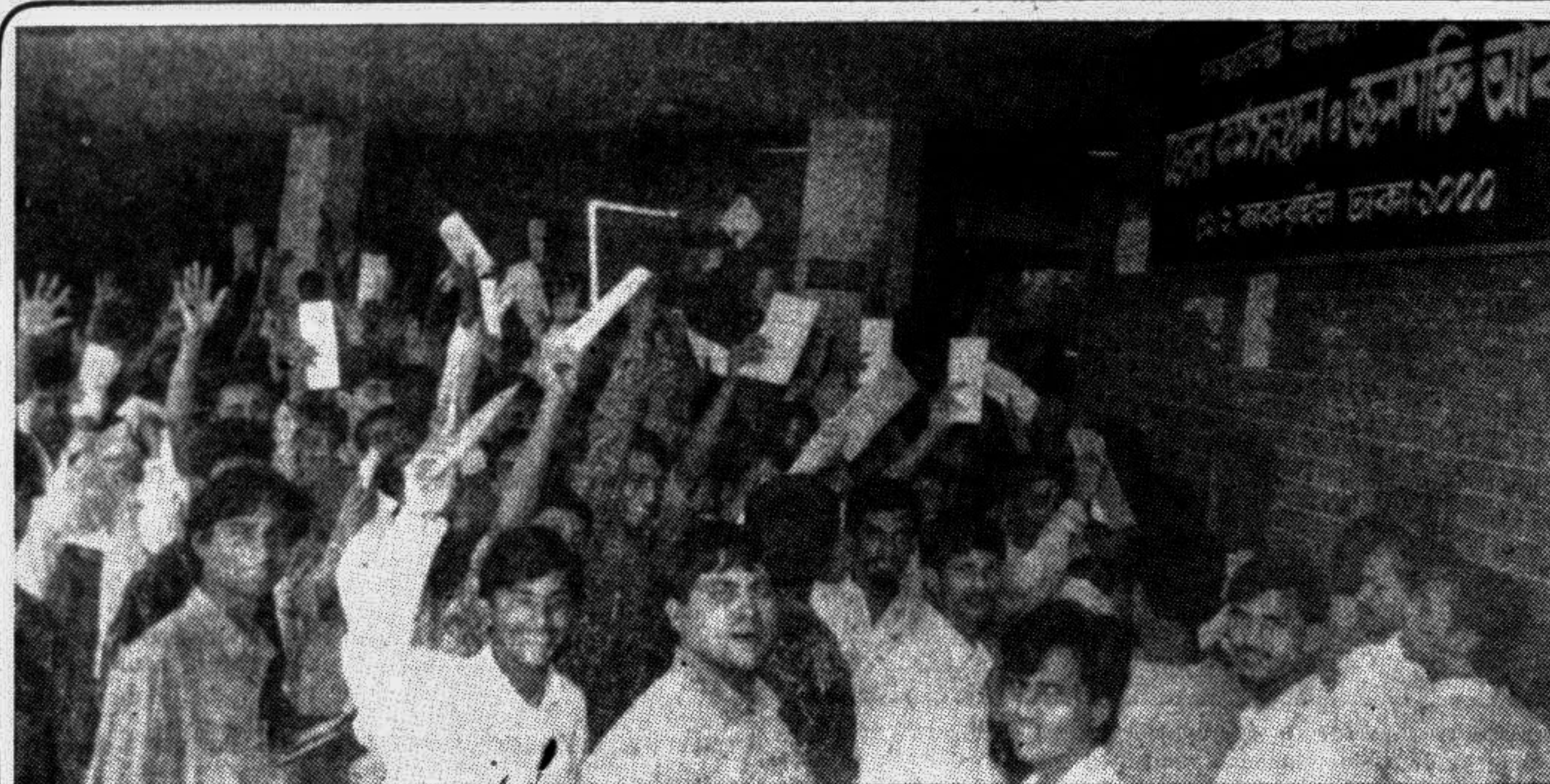
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Young job-seekers continue to throng the District Employment and Manpower Office in Kakrail in the city. — Star photo

BNP leaders at Jubo Dal rally in city Stop hartals, resolve crisis thru' talks

By Staff Correspondent

The top-ranking leaders of the ruling BNP yesterday said 'politics of hartal' was severely affecting the livelihood of the commonman, and called upon the agitating Opposition to resolve the persisting political impasse across the table.

They were addressing a public meeting at the Gulistan Square in the capital organised by the Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal (JJD), the youth front of the BNP, in observance of the 17th founding anniversary of the JJD.

The hartals are severely affecting the livelihood of the common people specially the day-labourers, rickshaw-

pullers, shopkeepers and small traders", Prof Badrud-dozza Chowdhury said addressing the meeting as chief guest.

"The politics of anarchy will never help consolidate democracy in the country," he said.

Referring to the Opposition agitation, Chowdhury said the country was "not a private property of any one", and asked the ruling party activists to "organise people of all walks of life in favour of democratic practices."

He also called upon the people to demand compensation from the opposition political parties for the dam-

ages they have been doing through hartals.

"At the rate of Tk 100 a day, every lower-income person is now entitled to demand Tk 6,600 from the opposition parties as compensation for 66 hartal days since 1991," Chowdhury told the meeting. He said at least 30 lakh poor people living in the capital who do not earn more than Tk 100 per day have already lost a total of Tk 1,980 crore due to 66 days of hartal.

Refuting the Opposition claim that it had been agitating for peoples' right to vote, the BNP leader said: "Awami

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Transport strike from tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Samity, an association of transport owners, led by ruling party MP Mirza Abbas, called an indefinite transport strike throughout the country from tomorrow to press its 12-point demand.

In a joint statement yesterday, the central and different unit leaders of the Paribahan Samity including its president Mirza Abbas and acting secretary general Kafiluddin Ahmed said the strike would continue unless their demands were met.

The demands include lowering the prices of spares and fuel, withdraw of enhanced ferry fare and bridge toll and protection from illegal toll collectors.

The Sarak Paribahan Samity had enforced a 48-hour strike earlier on September 29-30 in pursuance of its demands.

In the statement, the

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Rush for jobs in Malaysia 40000 registered, only 500 interviewed

By Reaz Ahmed

Employment seekers in Malaysia through the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET) in the city everyday, making the officials there weary of managing the crowd.

Over 1,000 youngmen queue in long lines in front of the BMET office at Kakrail for registration; also creating scope for brisk business for some people by selling registration forms and postal order sheets.

At least 40,000 youngmen have so far registered their names with the BMET's Dhaka office and its 21 branches since the process

began in early September, an official of the BMET told this correspondent recently.

The rush for registration with the BMET increased following a debacle in exporting manpower to Malaysia through private recruiting agencies. The governments of the two countries in mid-August this year decided to handle the manpower recruitment only through the two government agencies the Foreign Workers Task Force (FWTF) of Malaysia and the Bangladesh Overseas Employment and Services Ltd (BOESL).

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Opposition begins fresh agitation programme today

By Staff Correspondent

As part of movement to realise the demand for holding elections under a caretaker government, the opposition parties start their fresh round of agitational programmes today through organising *padajatra*s in different wards of the city and holding demonstrations at the thana headquarters across the country.

The opposition parties also plan to *gherao* the offices of the Thana Nirbahi Officers (TNOs) today.

The agitational programme announced earlier included organising a *padajatra* in the capital yesterday. The Awami League however changed the date and de-

cided to hold a *padajatra* today, said a party source.

Other agitation programmes of the opposition — the AL, Jatiya Party and the Jamaat-e-Islam was not changed.

The Opposition will *gherao* the offices of the Deputy Commissioners (DCs) on Monday next.

The Jatiya Party and Jamaat will hold demonstrations in the capital from November 1 to 5 while the AL will observe "Jail Killing Day" on November 3. The AL will also hold meetings and bring out processions on November 4 and 5.

All three opposition par-

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Congestion at Aricha eases

MANIKGANJ, Oct 27: The traffic congestion at the Aricha ferry ghat eased today as ferrying of the stranded vehicles almost geared up, reports UNB.

BIWTC sources said, 4,249 vehicles were ferried to and from Aricha, Nagarbari and Daulatdia ghats during the last 36 hours till 6 pm today.

However, some 769 trucks were still waiting for crossing the river, the sources

said.

The congestion at the three terminals began on Sunday evening due to sudden rush of trucks at the ghats and inadequate number of ferries.

The sources said the situation was returning to normal following suspension of night coach plying between Dhaka and 36 southern and northern districts on Thursday for

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Dacoits stab bus passengers near Jhenidah : 1 dies

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Oct 27: One person was killed and two others were injured when a group of dacoits, in the guise of passengers, stabbed them in a Bagerhat-bound night coach from Dhaka at the early hours of today.

The dead was identified as Habibur Rahman, 40. The injured — Manindranath Datta, 45 and Mohammad Zafar, 30 — were admitted to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital.

The dacoits, numbering about five, who were in the coach in disguise of passengers, took the control of the bus of Druti Paribahan when it reached near the Jhenidah BSCIC Industrial Estate at around 3:15 am.

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Khaleda-Clinton meet held, embassy in US confirms

A meeting between Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and US President Bill Clinton, which took place at the New York Public Library on October 22, "was documented by the White House photographers," White House Assistant Press Secretary, Foreign Affairs, Brian Collin said Thursday, reports BSS.

The White Houses assistant press secretary, following a query, told Press Minister of Bangladesh Embassy, in Washington, "I can confirm that a private meeting took place between the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Be-

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2 more under-aged girls rescued from Tanbazar

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Oct 27: Police today rescued two under-aged girls from Tanbazar red light area.

They were identified as Shahana, 13, of CNB Road, Barisal, and Fukbanu alias Benu, 8, of Kaunia, Barisal.

Acting on a tip-off, Ramna police with the help of Narayanganj police conducted a raid in the house of mistress Fatema this afternoon and rescued them. Fatema was absconding.

Police said Shahana and Benu had worked as maid at a residence in Malibagh area

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Rover Scouts participating in the 'Save Dhaka Clean Dhaka Campaign' at the Rotary Cancer Detection Centre at Mohakhali in the city yesterday. — Star photo

NEWS BRIEFS

Body recovered

By Staff Correspondent

Police recovered body of an unidentified man from the park at the east side of Hotel Sundarban under Tejgaon thana in the city yesterday noon. The body was later sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy. It bore several wound marks, police said.

চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর হতে কনটেইনার ও কনটেইনারজাত পণ্য ডেলিভারী নেয়ার সুবিধার্থে চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ বিভিন্ন শেড, সিএফএস, ইয়ার্ড ও ডেলিভারী পয়েন্ট দিবারাত্রি ২৪ ঘণ্টা খোলার ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করেছে। সেই সাথে চট্টগ্রাম কাস্টম হাউস এবং সোনালী ও জনতা ব্যাংকের সংশ্লিষ্ট শাখাসমূহ রাত ১০টা পর্যন্ত খোলা রাখা হচ্ছে।

বন্দরে জাহাজ ও কনটেইনার জট নিরসনে কনটেইনার ও কনটেইনারজাত পণ্য খালাসের এই সুযোগ গ্রহণ করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

চেয়ারম্যান

চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ

D-1058

Post-GATT market competition Bodies to certify quality of export items needed

By RM Titumir and Sharier Khan

The country needs to set up quality assurance institutions, both at government and private levels, to improve, maintain and certify the quality of exportables for ensuring the competitive edge in the post-GATT global trade market.

This was recommended in a draft report under the Commerce Ministry initiated 'Uruguay Round Study Project'.

The interim report of the study on the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

(ATBT), under GATT, suggested establishing separate institutions for standardisation and accreditation, and setting up a regulatory body and an enquiry point — to ensure Total Quality Management (TQM) in the face of fierce competition under the new international trade regime.

According to the study, development of quality certification institutions locally will reduce the cost of auditing for the International

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Save Dhaka: CDC areas cleaned

By Staff Correspondent

Saplings of trees were planted at the Cancer Detection Centre (CDC) at Mohakhali and the surrounding areas were cleaned yesterday under the 'Save Dhaka Clean Dhaka' campaign.

A cleanliness drive is undertaken in a city area on every Friday since the campaign was launched jointly by the Bangladesh Scouts, BUET, Dhaka City Corporation, the Youth Ministry and The Daily Star on September 15.

Yesterday's programme was jointly organised by scouts and the Rotary Club of Dhaka, founders of the Cancer Detection Centre.

Dr AKM Shamsuddin Siddique, Director General Ministry of Health was the chief guest on the occasion, while Manzurul Karim Chief Na-

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3 cos listed with DSE penalised

By Staff Correspondent

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has imposed penalty on three companies listed with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) during the July-September period.

According to SEC's latest quarterly review of these three companies: Apex Spin-

ning and Knitting Mills Limited was penalised for failure to complete its project within the time schedule mentioned in the prospectus. The amount of its penalty was fixed at Tk 50,000.

Ashraf Textile Mills Limited was penalised Tk 25,000 for providing an incorrect

statement concerning the issuance of bonus and right shares.

The other company, Meghna Cement Mills Limited was penalised Tk 10,000 for delayed issuance and distribution of the allotment letters and refund war-

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ANZ Grindlays Bank

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
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UTTARA CASH OFFICE

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