11,000 child workers in garments factories

By Staff Correspondent

Some 11.000 underaged children were identified as child workers in the country's garments factories by an

ongoing survey. The survey is being conducted by teams comprising selected and trained researchers and BGMEA officials, under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed by the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), the ILO and the UNICEF on July 4 this year.

The MOU is aimed at removing child labour from the garments sector. The implementation of the MOU was being carefully monitored by a steering committee comprising officials from BGMEA. UNICEF, ILO, the US Embassy, and the Bangladesh government.

The number of the child labourers was ascertained after a single visit to some 1830 garments factories and two visits to some 600 factories, said a UNICEF release vesterday.

According to the press release for factories for which data is available, the planning of schools is already underway. "The survey has identified approximately 11,000 underaged workers thus far. Enough survey data is expected to be processed in the next few days so that steps could be taken to begin accommodating the first complement of child workers in schools," the UNICEF release said.

It said, the survey teams visited all factories in Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna on a random basis to make a rapid the MOU Later, factory mantionnaire for each.

made without prior announcement to verify the number of child labourers and the accuracy of the questionnaire, said the press release adding that the process includes checking age, educational level, address and income. The views of children on the education and support programme were also solicited.

The UNICEF clarified that ILO was designing the verification programme to ensure that the terms of the MOU are observe, including that no underaged workers are retrenched before placement in education programmes. and that no new hiring of underaged workers takes place.

The programme also includes the provision of stipends for retrenched workers who are placed in schools. According to the press release, the parties to the MOU were investigating the most effective means of implementing the MOU

In addition, steps have been taken by UNICEF and ILO to identify the ways of providing food supplementation and income-generating opportunities to adult family members as well as vocational orientation and related options for the children.

CEC meets editors

be restrained.

is dissolved earlier. But if the Parliament is not dissolved. by-elections will have to be held, as it has been made compulsory by the Constitu-

He said, "According to '91 census, there are 5.71 crore people above the age of 18, and we have aiready enrolled 5.6 crore of them in the voter list. If we consider that about 10 lakh Bangladeshis are outside the country, then we can say that, statistically speaking, we have a reasonably authentic voters list."

As it is an on-going process, there is still time to become voter, and the option remains open till the day prior to the elections," he explained.

In reply to a question, the CEC said that according to existing law. Bangladeshis living abroad except those on government assignment, cannot be included in the voters list.

Highlighting the proposed 'code of conduct' for political parties and the draft law to debar bank loan defaulters from contesting election, Justice Sadeque said, "We will take all possible measures to reduce the influence of black money in the coming elections."

Responding to criticisms that the election campaign expenditure ceiling of Tk three lakh was unrealistic. the CEC said he personally agreed to it but mentioned that all political parties had agreed to it. It was pointed out that with strict restrictions on poster printing (only 12 inches by 10 inches, black and white) and use of mikes, etc, election expenditure will

Canada

From Page 1 to take the French-speaking

province out of Canada. "We want a country and we will have it," Quebec Premier Jacques Parizeau yelled to a crowd of supporters in Mon-

treal after he conceded de-

Political analysts said the narrowness of the result suggested the Quebec issue had not been settled and Canada

could be riven by dissension for years. The unofficial final count

put the margin of defeat for the separatists at only 53,000 votes out of 4.7 million cast. A strong majority of

French-speakers, who make up 82 per cent of the Quebec population, voted for independence. But an overwhelming majority of Englishspeakers and immigrant groups rejected secession.

A bitter Parizeau lashed out at these groups. "We are beaten it is true. But by what? Money and the ethnic vote," he told supporters. "We (French-speakers) voted for 'yes' by a margin of 60 per cent."

Tension ran high on the streets of Montreal after the vote as crowds of angry young separatists and Canadian

unity supporters taunted each other and clashed. Some hurled rocks and

bottles at riot police.

assessment of the incidence of underaged workers following the terms laid down in agers were given the responsibility to list all underaged workers and fill out a ques-

A second visit was also

From Page 1

About the controversial decision of postponing byelections Justice Sadeque said he had no choice as officials from most of the districts, especially the DCs. sent reports expressing their inability to hold elections. "So

> The CEC also discussed different issues relating to holding of free and fair elections and apprised the meeting different measures taken by the EC to that effect. He also talked about preelection inquiry committee to probe pre-election frauds.

I had no option, but to post-

Justice Sadeque stressed the need for mobilising public opinion to ensure free and fair polls. He called upon the newspapers and other media to play their role in this re-

Election Commissioner Justice M A Jalil, EC Secretary Ershadul Haq, Additional Secretary S M Zakaria and other senior officials were present on the occasion.

Pakistan

From Page 1

The minister said the problem of unemployment could not be resolved without repatriating the illegals.

Nationals from several countries including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and India as well as Africa, Iran and Iraq have been residing illegally in Pakistan.

Bangladeshis and Urduspeaking Biharis from the Indian state of Bihar make up the bulk of the illegal immigrants who have settled in Karachi over the past few

Some 250,000 Biharis living in camps in Dhaka have been demanding resettle-

ment in Pakistan. The government repatriated about 150,000 Biharis with blood relations in Pakistan but the process was stalled in 1992 due to lack of

HSC results

From Page 1

from the examinations have been declared passed. They all complained that there have been massive errors since introduction of the computer system. "How the Board could declare result in such a short time", they

wondered. They replied in the negative when asked whether the issue would be taken up by their respective institutions.

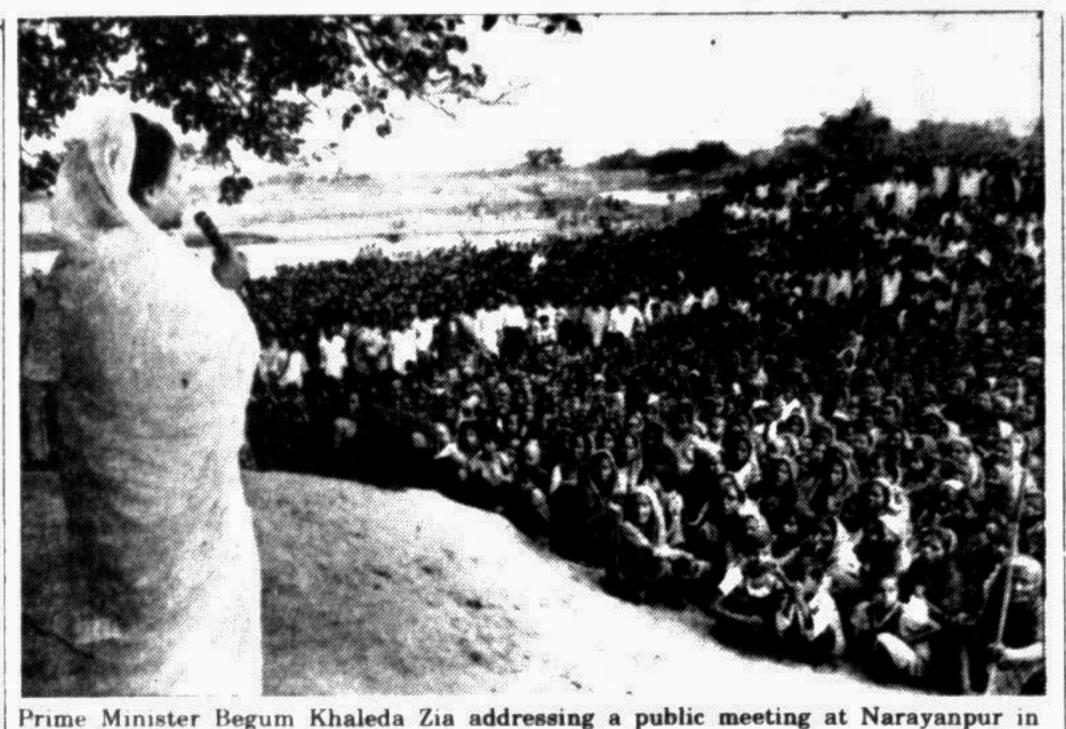
Cool breeze

From Page 1

capital, only one mm rainfall was recorded. Dhaka Met office sources said, there might be one or

two depressions by mid-

November. At the influence of low atmospheric pressure over the northern coast of the Bay of Bengal, some places of the country may experience light rain or drizzles today and tomorrow. But there will be very little fall in mercury at night, they said.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at Narayanpur in PID photo Ghoraghat thana of Dinajpur district yesterday.

JCD rivals clash at Bangla College

By Staff Correspondent

Gunshots and cocktail explosions rocked the Mirpur Bangla College campus yesterday as two groups of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) clashed over admission of its activists to the college.

The clash started report edly when a group of youths from Dhaka College entered the Mirpur College at about 2:30 pm in a bid to get some students admitted.

But the Dhaka College boys, said to be the JCD members were resisted by the activists of the same organisation.

One person was injured in the clash. But his identity could not be known. A vehicle was also set on fire.

When contacted, Mirpur police said they had heard about the incident, but could not give details.

ADP funds

From Page 1

during first quarter against disbursement of Tk 189.50 crore. Last fiscal's project aid expenditure for the same period was Tk 574 crore.

A source in the Implementation. Monitoring, and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the Planning Ministry attributed the increased expenditure in project aid was due to down-payment of huge amounts for some high priority projects like the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Project (JMBP).

Explaining the reasons for higher disbursement of funds during the first quarter of this fiscal, the State Minister for Planning, Dr A Moyeen Khan, told The Daily Star that his ministry had paid special attention to make funds available to the line ministries.

Earlier, there had been allegations that the implementation rate remain slow because of delay in release of

"The higher fund disbursement figures prove the administrative efficiency brought to the project implementation system." he

added. "We are aiming to improve the implementation rate by involving the people in the project formulation," Dr Khan said. "We have already initiated the process from this

year." "Our objective for this year is to attain better implementation rates because this is the terminal year for the BNP government," he pointed out.

This year's ADP allocation is Tk 12100 crore of which Tk 7070 crore is in taka component and Tk 5030 crore in foreign aid compo-

HC rule on BB From Page 1

and fundamental rights of the petitioners as guaranteed under Article 27, 31 and 40 of the Constitution.

Earlier, the concerned bank authorities served notice under Section 17 of the Banking Companies Act, 1991 on the petitioners with a forwarding letter from the Bangladesh Bank.

Upon receipt of that notice the concerned directors replied to it.

But the Bangladesh Bank did not consider it satisfactory and by another notice dated October 2, 1995 informed the defaulters that if they fail to pay the overdue loans within the stipulated period the decision of the Bangladesh Bank shall be fi-

Barrister Rafigul Huq, Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud, Advocate Shah Abu Naeem Mominur Rahman, Advocate Mahmudul Islam Advocate Murad Reza, Advocate Faisal Mahmud and Advocate Naima Haider appeared for the petitioners.

Dr Rafiqur Rahman appeared for the Bangladesh Bank.

Tour of northern dists ends

We have overcome first phase of calamity: PM

RAJSHAHI, Oct 31: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today visited vast flood-hit areas of Bogra, Gaibandha, Dinajpur and Rajshahi districts expressing her satisfaction at the smooth progress of the post-flood relief and rehabilitation programmes across the affected areas, reports BSS.

"With the cooperation of the people and allout effort of everybody concerned including the district administration and the army, we have overcome the first phase of the calamity. Now, different types of works will be initiated to create income-generating jobs," she said.

The Prime Minister visited five northern district in two days. Today she visited Gobindaganj, Katabari and Fulahar of Gaibandha, Narayanpur Ghat and Goraghat under Dinajpur, Tanor and Samashpur of Rajshahi district. She talked to the flood victims and distributed relief materials. She also addressed a number of spontaneous gath-

Begum Zia saw the conditions of 515 families who took shelter on the Water Development Board embankment in Gaibandha. The

flood washed away their

Speaking at spontaneous gatherings in different floodhit areas Begum Zia said. "I had also come to see you during the flood. Now again I have come to see your conditions and the progress of the post-flood relief and rehabilitation programmes."

She gave a list of mea sures undertaken by her government immediately after the beginning of the flood, including the rescue and relief operations, building shelter centres, regular supply of food to the affected people at the shelter centres, medicare and post-flood relief and rehabilitation programmes.

Housewite gangraped

From Our Correspondent KHULNA, Oct 31: The wife of a rickshawpuller of Khalishpur was allegedly gangraped by five young men in the presence of her husband on Monday night.

Police said two of them -Sattar and Faruque - were arrested. Three others are absconding.

thana on November 2 Hasina' letter to PM

From Page 1

sought an appointment with the PM to deliver the reply to her on the same day. But the designated leaders of the AL could not get an appointment and the PM left the capital to visit the flood-affected northern districts later that day.

The AL leaders waited for a response on their request after the PM returned to Dhaka vesterday evening. AL chief Sheikh Hasina, general secretary Zillur Rahman and other central leaders discussed the matter at the party's Dhanmondi office last night and decided to send Hasina's reply through the BNP acting secretary general Mannan Bhuiyan.

Accordingly, AL Presidium member Tofael Ahmed contacted Mannan Bhuivan over telephone at around 9.30 pm. Soon, Prof Abu Sayeed and Hasina's APS started for Mannan Bhuiyan's house car-

rying Hasina's reply. Before their departure from the AL office, a disappointed Sheikh Hasina told reporters, "The Prime Minister is not giving us any appointment. They (the BNP leaders) seem unwilling to accept our reply. We've now decided to deliver the reply to Mannan Bhuiyan."

After his telephonic talks with Mannan Bhuiyan, Tofael Ahmed told waiting reporters, "We hope the PM would accept the proposal of our party chief (made in her letter) in the greater national interest and resolve the political crisis by arranging a meaningful dialogue."

Tofael also quoted the BNP acting secretary general requesting him to wait until today to get an appointment

30 hurt in Cox's Bazar clash

From Our Correspondent COX'S BAZAR, Oct 31: At

least thirty people including three policemen were injured in a clash between two rival groups of youths at the Anderson road in the town today.

One Abdul Haque was taken to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital in a critical condition. Others were admitted to local hospitals and elinics. The clash ensued when a

group of over 100 armed youths, in a sequel to an incident yesterday, attacked an engineering workshop there. picked up a mechanic Abdul Haque, stripped him and paraded him on the street.

with the PM. "I told him that the matter is very important and we cannot wait any more," the AL leader said.

Tofael further told the journalists that they hoped that the Prime Minister would realise the gravity of the current political crisis and accept the concept of a caretaker government to hold the next general elections. After receiving the reply

from Hasina, Mannan Bhuiyan told waiting reporters that he would inform the PM of the matter and send the letter to her this morning.

Replying to questions, he said, "We will take the next steps after studying Hasina's reply.

"The PM was not in the city and she never refused any appointment with the AL leaders regarding the handing over of the AL chief's reply to our leader," he said reacting to the AL allegation that Begum Zia was unwilling to give an appointment to the AL leaders.

Chakma

From Page 1

being supplied to them Papum Pare district deputy commissioner Amit* Yadav said today.

He said prohibitory orders under 144 CrPC had been promulgated from Sunday last at Kokila in Balijan circle of the district. The police was trying to nab the culprits.

He denied a statement of the deputy commissioner of Sonitpur district of Assam that more than 300 Chakmas had entered the Assam forests.

Trade resumes through Tamabil check post

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, Oct 31: Crossborder trade and other activities through the Tamabil check post resumed today and normalcy returned in the border after six days of tense situation.

The situation had become

tense when BDR protested an attempt by Indian authorities Wednesday last to construct a Customs office building just yards off the "no man's land". After three rounds of BDR BSF flag meetings in the last

five days, it was agreed yes

meeting.

terday that the construction

Border contce concludes

Officials of the border forces of Bangladesh and India have reached an understanding to further consolidate and strengthen the efforts for keeping the borders free from crime and disor-

der, reports UNB The understanding came at the two-day annual border coordination conference between the two countries which concluded at the BDR headquarters in the city yes-

Beximco money snatching: 2 arrested

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested two youths in connection with the snatching of Tk 16.20 lakh of Beximco and recovered Tk 1.27 lakh from them, said a police press release.

The youths are Mozaffar Hossain alias Babu, 25, and Mohammad Jahangir, 24 The press release did not say when and from where they were arrested.

They gave their confessional statement before the magistrate of CMM court A K Nazmuzzaman, said the press release.

The money was snatched on October 5

Jessore Shibir activist killed in bomb attack

JESSORE, Oct 31: An ac tivist of the Islami Chhatra Shibir was killed in a bomb attack at Baghachara in Shar sha thana of the district today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Akhtaruz zaman, 18, was critically injured when a bomb allegedly thrown from a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) procession hit him near Darul Aman Trust building at about 1 pm.

of Baghachara College, died on way to Jessore General Hospital. About a dozen of people. including five Shibir activists. were injured in the attack. Of

them five were admitted to

local thana health complex

Four shops were also set on

Akhtaruzzaman, a student

fire during the trouble. Meanwhile. Sharsha thana unit of the Chhatra Shibir called a half-day hartal in the

Korean EPZ

From Page 1 trepreneurs. Sung said "we are contemplating investments on textile machinery sports shoes, textile accessories, plastic factories, factories linked to shoes and apparels, stainless steel electronics, cutleries, nylon and jute products."

Sung also stressed the need for supportive government policies on the way to achieving their mission.

He pointed out the necessity of bringing technology by sending workers from Bangladesh to Korea for training. Earlier, the president of

Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sarwar Jamal Nizam delivered his address of welcome highlighting the opportunities available in Chittagong favouring foreign investments. Amir Khosru Mahmud

rea in Chittagong, Salman Ispahani, Anis A Khan and Ali Ahmed also spoke on the occasion. Amir Khosru in his speech said "it is really a very prag-

Chowdhury, MP, and

Honorary Consul of South Ko-

matic and bold decision taken for setting up a Korean industrial zone in Chittagong."

He hoped that positive results would come out by the end of the year.

11 Uzbek generals killed in Afghanistan

KABUL. Oct 31: Eleven commanders of general Abdul Rashid Dostam's Uzbek Militia have been killed by members of a rival faction, the Bakhtar Information Agency (BIA) said today. The 11 generals were gunned down on Monday after attending the funeral of a commander of another Afghan group, the Hezb-i-Islami, in the northern town of Baghlan, the news agency said, reports AFP.

Minority rights leader, 3 others to die in Nigeria

PORT HARCOURT, Nigeria, Oct 31: Minority rights leader Ken Saro-Wiwa and three others were sentenced to death by hanging today by a special court. The court sentenced five other members of the opposition Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (Mosop) to death by hanging Monday after finding them guilty of murder, reports AFP.

Pabna JCD goes on rampage

From Our Correspondent PABNA, Oct 31: Activists of a student organisation went on a rampage here tonight following the arrest of a vouth.

Witnesses said, some members of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) damaged a number of grocery shops, hotels and about 30 vehicles at Chartala in the town to protest the arrest of one of their activists Siddigur Rah-

man alias Siddique. Earlier in the afternoon, police picked up Siddique. an accused in a case, from the Sweepers' Colony area.

All shops of the Pabna town were closed immediately after the incident.

Jilted lover

From Page 1

Chairman Lovely said that she had come to Dhaka about a fortnight ago to join her boyfriend who lived in Mirpur. Both lived in a house at Bailey Road in the city for about ten days, she added. At one point her boyfriend

rejected her and she chose to 'finish her life' by becoming a prostitute. On her way to Narayanganj on Sunday last, she told her

grievances to a young man in the bus who took her to a friend's house. As she became desperate to go to the redlight area, Liton handed her over to the Narayangani

She also claimed that she had undergone a troubled family life in Naogaon. Police put her under safe

custody by a court order and

she would be there till she

meets her parents.

meet Nov 3 An emergency meeting of the leaders of Dhaka and Chittagong divisions and

Dist BNP leaders

some district units of BNP will be held on November 3 at the party central office in the city at 5:00 pm. reports

Cancer Institute's

From Page 1 other relevant departments several times but to no affect.

The Director General of

Health, when contacted, told this correspondent that he was aware of the situation. "Necessary measures will be taken in this regard," he added According to sources in the locality, soon after the

land was allotted for the CRI. some local people constructed a katcha mosque there overnight. The mosque was later made pucca. "It is an unscrupulous practice to grab land," commented an elderly man in the area.

A group of local people realises money from the shops in the bazar in the name of "bazar committee". One person identifying

himself as the leader of the government employees living in the slum said, "We will leave the area after we are provided with quarters now being constructed for us." The official said that the

unauthorised occupants were

evicted during the Ershad

regime but they regrouped and occupied the area again. Established in 1986, the Institute has now 39 doctors including specialists and a 50-bed hospital. A total of 268 operations were conducted at the Institute till

June this year.

Attention

Cellular Telephone Subscribers

This notice is to inform our valued subscribers that we are in the process of transferring our subscriber base from the existing exchange to a new Motorola 2500G technologically advanced exchange with a capacity of 1,00,000 subscribers. Due to this transfer, customers in certain areas are likely to face problems with service. In our constant endeavor to provide better service we are working to resolve the issues at the earliest. We regret the inconvenience.



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BOMEA

বাংলাদেশ পোশাক প্রস্তুতকারক ও রপ্তানীকারক সমিতি

বিটিএসসি ভবন, ৭-৯, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

বিজিএমইএ'র সদস্যগণ লক্ষ্য করুন

সেকেন্ত এ্যাপ্রেইজমেন্ট পদ্ধতির মাধ্যমে মাল খালাসের তুরিত ব্যবস্থা কাস্টমস কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক গৃহীত হইয়াছে যা বিজিএমইএ'র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং ৭৬/৯৫ তারিখ ২৬/১০/৯৫ – এর মাধ্যমে সকলকে অবহিত করা হইয়াছে। সেকেন্ড এ্যাপ্রেইজমেন্টের সুযোগ গ্রহণ করিয়া ২৪ ঘন্টার মধ্যে মাল খালাস করুন।

সচিব বিজিএমইএ

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel work would remain sus-C/A. Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & pended till the dispute was Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX 500092-4, resolved at a higher-level Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No. 88-02-863035, GPO Box No. 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA