# Rescued girls

# Police examining papers of manpower agency

By Staff Correspondent

Police is examining the documents submitted by a manpower recruiting agency which claimed that the six girls rescued by police in the city Thursday from alleged traffickers were being sent by it to Malaysia on employment

Meanwhile, the girls, held from a passenger bus at Jatrabari were released from the 'safe custody' on Friday according to sources. Police had also arrested five persons on suspicion of trafficking the girls. The girls and the five persons came to the city from Narsingdi.

An official of M/s Kazi International, the recruiting agency at Banani in the city. said that they had legal documents for sending the girls to a garments factory in Penang in Malaysia. They have submitted the documents to the Investigation

## 2 Jubo Dal activists stabbed in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Dec 2: Two persons were stabbed in the town today following yesterday's armed clash between BNP factions that left at least 30 people injured.

Masum (19), and Asim 20, belonging to Badu faction were stabbed by their rivals near the BNP office at around noon, witnesses said. They were admitted to

the Narayangani General Hospital in critical condition. Yesterday's clash occurred when activists of a faction brought out a victory procession following the release of a local Jubo Dal

Several home-made bombs were also exploded today.

leader Badiuzzaman Badu

#### Labour cost From Page 1

from fail.

salaries of workers and employees are much less although cost of production is nine times higher than in private sector weaving mills. Some 21,439 employees

of the BTMC draw Tk 3.28 crore as monthly total salary while 45,650 employees in private spinning mills draw over Tk 9 crores

The BTMC has 27 spinning units having 589 spindles while there are 83 units having 1390 spindles in the private sector. The BTMC utilises only 40 per cent of its installed production capacity while the rate is nearly double in the private sector spinning mills.

There are 1127 weaving units in the textile sector of which 1119 are in the private sector.

There are 212,421 handloom units, 250 dyeing-printing units, 588 knitting units and 1830 ready-made garments units in the country.

# Treaty with India

From Page 1 Sangskritik Oikkya Jote in

connection with the 25th Victory Day on December 16. Hasina defended the friendship treaty signed by her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman during the AL rule after liberation, and said "The

treaty did not allow things

which are happening now."

But the present prime minister has done damage to the country by signing a joint statement with Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao, she said pointing at Article 11 of the statement.

Officer at the Demra thana. the official added.

The agency official claimed that the girls, accompanied by their guardians. were coming to Dhaka for interview with delegates from a garments factory in **Malaysia** 

However, Demra police said last night they are yet to confirm whether the persons arrested were the guardians of the girls. But police said that one of the arrested per son claimed that he was the husband of one of the girls.

# Rushdie denied seat on plane

GENEVA, Dec 2: British novelist Salman Rushdie was denied a seat on a Swissair flight to Zurich last month, a Swiss newspaper reported today, says AFP.

La Tribune De Geneva, citing unidentified Swissair sources, said the airline felt that carrying the author of "The Satanic Verses" would endanger the lives of other

#### Child-lifting From Page 1

of child-lifting, the sources

Trafficking of women and children from Bangladesh in creased in recent years Press reports based on research papers suggest that at least 200 to 400 women and children are being smuggled out of the country every

High ranking police officials, when contacted for their comments in this regard, however could not give details on women and child trafficking.

#### Monetary policy From Page 1

banking said that by taking up a contraction policy, the BB was fighting the wrong thing. Because, he said, the recent inflation was a consequence of food price hike.

The expert, requesting anonymity, said that except the Sonali Bank, no commercial bank had liquid money. "They are trying to borrow from the BB."

Dwelling on the BB's decision not to float the exchange rate of Taka in the open market now, the expert said the BB was delaying this because it believed that if taka was "free floated now, it would depreciate."

Meanwhile, the central bank has asked the commercial banks to send details of the LCs (letters of credit) opened for imports during the last couple of months.

"BB is suspecting that there may be some problems with the LCs," said another official. Imports in the recent months increased much more than that of exports.

The official further said that the BB was discouraging the "discount window" the borrowing outlet for the commercial banks. "The banks must recycle their capitals, how long will we feed them? he asked.

The BB was also keeping a watch on the imports that might reduce the country's foreign exchange reserves. sources said adding that the outstanding value of the LCs during the last two months has about Tk 240 crore. The foreign exchange reserve stand at around 2.5 bullion US dollars they pointed out.

# Hasina's appeal to PM

From Page 1 immediate formation of a

caretaker government. Hasina led a silent procession of her party's women workers from Islamia Eve Hospital to Farmgate. Later,

the procession headed towards the Prime Minister's Secretariat with black flags and festoons. Police halted the

marchers thrice - at Farmgate crossing, Bojoy Sarani crossing and near the PM's Teigaon office.

Witnesses said about 1.000 women broke the cordon put up by riot police, including some women police. and advanced towards the PM's office. The procession started at about 5:10 pm and ended at 6 pm. No untoward incident was reported.

Hasina said the fate of the nation had become uncertain and democracy threatened "because of obstinacy and lust for power of the BNP gov-

ernment. "Accept the people's demand and rid the nation of uncertainty," she told the rally. The Awami League wants at least three elections be held under neutral caretaker government to establish the rights of the people, sources.

About voters' list, Hasina said a flawless list is necessary for an impartial election. She alleged that the news electoral roll was incomplete and it became a "BNP voters

This voters' list was prepared to deprive the common people of their voting rights, she said, alleging that the government had unleashed terrorists to rig the coming election.

### Attack on industry in Tejgaon: 25 injured

By DMCH Correspondent

At least 25 people were injured when a group of people attacked a dying industry yesterday morning in the city's Tejgaon industrial

Police arrested eight persons from the spot, Tejgaon thana sources said.

The clash was a sequel to a conflict between two business houses over purchasing of a land in the area, according to police and other



Higher Secondary and Aleem examinations-1995 at a reception held at the Osmany auditorium yesterday. - PID photo

### Khaleda's letter

From Page 1 third letter on November 26. BNP secretary general Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar was not available until 11.40 pm for comments on

Details of the content of the PM's fourth letter could not be known. However, one source in the ruling party hinted that it might contain a new offer to bring the Oppositions to the negotiating

# Polls under any party can't be credible:Menon

By Staff Correspondent Workers Party general secretary Rashed Khan Menon has said his party will take part in the next general election if it is held under a caretaker government.

"No election can be credi ble if it is held under a political party", Menon said, while addressing the inaugural session of the Fifth Congress of his party at the premises of Institution of Engineers here vesterday.

He said the current crisis is not constitutional. It is political and so it can be solved at the negotiating table.

Octogenerian Amal Sen president of the Workers Party inaugurated the five-day congress by hoisting the party's red flag. The ailing party president, who was brought in an ambulance from a clinic, in his brief speech said, working people throughout the world have to fight unitedly to achieve their cherished goal of socialism.

Presided over by party politburo member Sharadendu Dastidar, the inaugural session was also addressed by Sitaram Yeturi, politburo member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) Anil Biswas, a CPI (M) leader, Alson Wadikara a central leader of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka Haidar Akbar Khan Rono a politiburean member of Workers Party and Nirmal Sen of the Left Democratic

### Jaffna falls From Page 1

decades. Tamil and military sources said about 500 LTTE guerillas were probably holed up inside the town, where at least 115 soldiers and guerillas were slain in fierce fighting a day earlier.

Thirty-five army personnel and at least 80 rebels died in street battles which erupted as the troops inched ahead to take control of Jaffna town Friday, the military said.

Nearly 15,000 soldiers took party in the October offensive backed by tanks, artillery and the air force.

Today's statement said: "The troops easily overcame resistance offered by the terrorists and reached Jaffna fort area." Another army column linked up at the fort, a long-time military garrison, from another front.

"The Jaffna city centre has now been completely sealed off by the troops," the statement added. "Terrorists within the (Jaffna) centre will have to either surrender or commit suicide."

The fort's capture gave a dramatic twist to the military offensive, which had been considerably slowed down in recent days by the LTTE, which authorities said was putting up spirited resistance in the besiege town.

# Obituary

Michael Cholet, chief subeditor of The Bangladesh Observer, died of lung cancer last night at his residence in

the city, reports BSS. Cholet is survived by his wife, two sons and one

daughter. He joined the then Pak-

istan Observer in 1964.

# Education to help ensure

poverty alleviation

PM at reception for meritorious students

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia vesterdav laid paramount importance on education saying it is the main instrument to develop the nation and it is required first of all to ensure poverty alleviation, employment and good health of the people. reports BSS.

Addressing the reception of meritorious students of Higher Secondary Certificate HSC and Aleem examinations 1995 at the Osmany auditorium in the city yesterday afternoon, she said her government has earmarked the highest allocations to education in all five previous national budgets for paving the allround development of the country's educational arena.

The Prime Minister asked the talented students to prepare themselves to shoulder the future leadership of the country in every fields - from science and technology to economics, from social sciences to religious affairs.

She asked them to build themselves in such a way so that they can earn name and fame across the globe for their knowledge and enlight enment in every fields including arts, culture, science

She advised the talented students to continue their devotion to the studies in future for more achievements and handed over to 342 mer itorious students certificates and prizes for their outstanding performances in HSC and Aleem examinations 1995.

and technology.

Education Minister Zamiruddin Sircar and Education Secretary Irshadul Hog also spoke on the occasion.

Begum Zia mentioned that the rate of literacy has rose to 38 per cent from 26 per cent in 1990. She hoped that if this

trend be maintained then the country shall be free from il literacy by the year 2000. The Prime Minister said

that her government brought reforms in the curricula and courses of schools and colleges to keep up with the fast changing social demands.

The reforms were made she said, also to achieve the objective of developing a youth force well-equipped with modern knowledge of science and technology so that they would have gainful employment or go for self employment.

# **Morshed Committee**

From Page 1

"An opportunity lost could take the nation a decade back," he said.

The Foreign Minister, who published his second book this time, emphasised that politicians should write their memoirs. "Politicians are witness to

national events, and it is in the interest of the nation's history and the posterity that they write about their experiences.

About the realm of foreign policy, he said Bangladesh had been able to be elected in the first ballot in such world bodies as the UNESCO and ECOSOC and was invited to the meeting of the OIC contact group in Geneva, though it was not a member. Bangladesh, he said, was requested to play a leading role as a troop contributing country in UN peacekeeping operations and improved relations with many countries. mentionably Iran and Russia.

He replied in the affirmative when asked if there was less possibility of JRC talks on the water issue with India before the next elections which were round the corner in both countries.

In reply to a question on

Nagarbari From Page 1

dia ferry ghats.

But three of the ferries had been grounded temporarily for repair and they were expected to be put back to operation soon, a BIWTC press release yesterday said.

Top officials of BIWTC were personally supervising the ferry services at the three main inland river terminals everyday and continuously monitoring the situa-

Meanwhile, dredging of 6 lakh cubic metres of mud has so far been done to maintain the navigability of the ferries on the Aricha-Daulatdia and Aricha-Nagarbari routes. Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA)

is expected to dredge some

riverbeds.

10 lakh cubic metres of mud during current dry season. It has employed five dredgers for the job. A BIWTA press release yesterday said dredging work for an additional 3 lakh cubic metre would be required this year due to adverse effects of

Indo-Bangladesh friendship treaty, he said, "it will be decided in accordance with the wishes of the people."

On relations with neighbours, the Foreign Minister commented, "SAARC is one example, where we have tried to move forward in a cooperative spirit with our neighbours."

### **Fatwabaz**

From Page 1

Advocate Masuda Rehana, legal advisor of the parishad, pointed out that as many as 454 incidents of repression on women, 45 of these due to fatwa were reported in the press this year.

Parishad General Secretary Ayesha Khanam and members of the organisation were present.

# Bomb hurled

From Page 1 The truck sped away immediately after the officer boarded it.

However, the officer on duty at the Tejgaon thana said that they had no information about the bomb explosion.

#### Murder, dacoity From Page 1

1990, of which 106, 266 and 705 cases respectively still remain pending with various courts in the country.

Though the number of registered cases did not show any remarkable increase, the pending cases were increasing with every passing year, reveal the statistics. Of the 468 rape cases

registered in 1990, police could produce charge-sheets in 356 cases. In 29 per cent cases, the accused were convicted. Police recorded 1,055 dacoity incidents in 1990 but could produce charge-sheets

only in 654 cases. The

accused in 42.28 per cent of

the dacoity cases were convicted. A total of 2,206 murder cases were lodged with various thanas in the country in 1990, but police framed charge-sheets in 1,726 cases. The accused in 632 murder cases were acquitted due to non-formation of chargesheets while in 38 per cent

sed were convicted. According to sources. police framed charge-sheets Farakka barrage and the in 70 to 75 per cent of the emerging shoals in the total cases registered.

of the total cases, the accu-

# No decision yet on Hasina's address over Radio-TV

Star Report

The government did not take any decision till last night about Awami League's letters to the Information Ministry seeking time for its leader Sheikh Hasina to address the nation over Radio and TV

Awami League earlier sent wo letters - one to Information Minister M Shamsul Islam and the other to information Secretary Syed Amirul Mulk - requesting them to allow the AL chief to address the nation.

The first letter, written by AL presidium member Tofael Ahmed was forwarded to the Information Minister on November 25 while the second one, written by AL's Information Secretary Prof. Abu Sayeed, was handed over to the private secretary of the Information Secretary on November 29

In the second letter, Al had sought time at 7 pm yesterday for Sheikh Hasina to address the nation.

When contacted, Syed Amirul Mulk said that no decision in this regard was taken till last night.

He declined to comment when asked whether the Ministry was considering al lowing the AL chief to address the nation over Radio

# PDB employees

From Page 1

the strike through a referen dum to realise their "just demands" that went unheeded by the authorities

problems according to Industrial Laws and through effective discussions with policy making authorities," he said. He resented that the au-

"We have tried to solve the

thorities so far tended to ignore their charter of de mands, submitted in December 1994. Rahman said their de

mands included improve ment of the PDB administrative efficiency to reduce wastage and curb corruption. providing over-time and dearness allowances in line with other organisations. They also demanded uni-

form and balanced staffing pattern at all power supply units, a halt to the policy of reducing PDB activities by setting up organisations like DESA and elimination of anomalies in pay-structures.

### Infant

From Page 1 other sources. Bakul picked up Shaon and left their residence at about 5:30 pm on Friday, telling his wife that he was going to hand over their child to an orphanage. But about an hour later, he returned with Shaon. His wife was not present at that

Bakul then strangled the infant and left the body at the Zia Uddyan, in a travel bag. and went back to the house. the sources said.

Pressed by his wife, he then reportedly admitted what he had done. Later police recovered the

body and arrested Bakul.

# The Midnight Eile

### US troops to leave for Bosnia tomorrow

BAUMHOLDER, Germany. Dec 2: The first group of US troops assigned to a NATO peacekeeping mission in Bosnia will leave Germany by Monday, a senior US military official said today, reports Reuter.

# Ministers can't hold office

From Page 1

on November 24, all the ministers have become "functus officio" (no longer ministers). "It would therefore automatically follow that those offices have become vacant."

"Since the Prime Minister is so keen about acting within the bounds of the Constitution, it would be a natural expectation that her minister would act within constitutional bounds," he opined. "However, there is no difficulty in making fresh appointments of ministers in a small cabinet during the interim period should the occasion arise.'

Tracing the caretaker issue, Barrister Islam referred to Sir Ivor Jennings observa tion in his book 'Cabinet government' about the post-Second World War election scene in Britain. A leading constitutional expert, Jennings termed the Cabinet of Winston Churchill in England after the war as a caretaker government, pending the general elections in 1945.

The lawyer also referred to the government of Charan Singh, which having failed to command a majority in the Indian Parliament resigned but was asked by the Presi dent to continue till a representative government could be elected

Islam said that since the Prime Minister and the cabinet are collectively responsible to the Parliament, in the absence of the House, the basic element of public representation becomes absent Therefore, he said, the government becomes the government of the day and does not take any major policy de-

Although in the Indian constitution, there is no specific provision as to what would happen during such interim period, the process is governed by convention. but in the case of the Bangladesh Constitution, a specific provision has been made for such interim arrangement under Articles 56

# Leeson jailed

From Page 1 suit as he stood in the dock while listening to the sentence, had confessed to cheating auditors for his company, Baring Futures (Singapore) Pte. Ltd. and the Singapore International Monetary Exchange (SIMEX)

District judge Richard Magnus told a packed courtroom that " it is well recognized that the basic concept of punishment should be in accordance with the crime.'

He said Leeson was " in a position of trust in Baring Futures and the facts showed the accused had a direct hand in various matters including dealings with the auditors and SIMEX."

tution. Amirul said.

(4). 57 and 58 of the Consti-

### **Ishtiaq Ahmed**

UNB adds: Noted constitutional expert Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed yesterday said there is no provision as such under the Constitution to form a government with those who are not members of Parliament, and now of the dissolved Parliament.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia told newsmen on Friday that she will have no objection if the Constitution permits the formation of an interim caretaker government under the Presi-

Talking to UNB, Barrister Ishtiaq said if there is a constitutional impasse in which the constitutional doctrine of State necessity is attracted, the President may act in certain manner.

"But in our present facts and circumstances," he said, "this task of the President will be greatly facilitated if there is a consensus among the government and the po-

litical parties for a particular

solution." Thus, Barrister Ishtiag said, there are so many "ifs and buts," and the three big "ifs" are: there must be a constitutional impasse; so much so that the Constitutional doctrine of State necessity is attracted; and in our present circumstances, there is a consensus among political parties for a particular kind of solution.

# JCD-BCL clash Muladi College closed sine die

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Dec 2: The authorities have closed the Muladi College sine die following an armed clash between the activists of BNP-backed JCD and Awami League's student front BCL that left at least 15 persons injured including a police constable.

Police and witnesses said the clash erupted as a BCL activist chanted slogans against the BNP when JCD supporters were arranging a meeting after a procession at around 10:30 this morning at

the college premises. During the one-hour clash. both the groups used cocktails, ram dao, sawed-off rifles and other lethal weapons.

Seriously injured policeman Shamsul Haq, 38, Sohel 18, Lokman, 25, Al Amin, 31, Rafiq, 22, Japan, 19, and Munir were admitted to Muladi Thana Health Complex and Sher-e-Bangla Medical

College Hospital. One Abdul Khalegue was arrested in this connection. Police force was deployed in the town.

# ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন

ঢাকা ওয়াসার সন্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকরের বিল পরিশোধে ব্যর্থ গ্রাহকদের সংযোগ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বিচ্যুতকরণের জন্য কর্তৃপক্ষ পরিচালিত বিশেষ অভিযানের কার্যক্রম জোরদার করা হয়েছে।

হালনাগাদ সমুদয় বকেয়া পরিশোধকারী গ্রাহকবৃন্দকে পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকরের সারচার্জ

মওকুফের সুবিধাদানের সময়সীমা আগামী ১৫ই ডিসেম্বর, ৯৫ ইং পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হয়েছে। বকেয়া পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকর আদায়ের লক্ষ্যে প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তাকে ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত কর্মকর্তা হিসেবে নিয়োগ করা হয়েছে। ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত কর্মকর্তা খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের মালামাল

ক্রোককরতঃ বকেয়া আদায়ের কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করছেন। বকেয়া অনাদায়ের কারণে সংযোগ বিচ্যুতি এবং পি ডি আর এ্যাক্টের অধীনে মামলার বিড়ম্বনা এড়ানোর নিমিত্তে আজই বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ আপনার পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকর পরিশোধ করুন

সংযোগ বিচ্যুতি এড়ানোর নিমিত্তে উক্ত নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে বিল পরিশোধের জন্য প্রয়োজনে ঢাকা ওয়াসার সংশ্লিষ্ট রাজস্ব আঞ্চলিক অফিস বা প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা ও ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত কর্মকর্তা (ফোনঃ ৩২৫২৪০) অথবা বাণিজ্যিক ব্যবস্থাপক (ফোনঃ ৩২৭২৪৫) এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।



আপনাদের সেবায় নিয়োজিত ঢাকা ওয়াসা अयामा-सहस्र १३३/३५

**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.