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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressing a reception accorded to some meritorious SSC students of six boards and Dhakhil students at the Osmany Memorial Hall in the city — PID photo yesterday.

ment for developing the private

improving law and order as

well as pragmatic denationali-

sation, improvement of infras-

tructural facilities and removal

of bottlenecks in the capital

BNP's rallies,

processions today

By Staff Correspondent

BNP, plans to organise protest

ughout the country today to

press its demands for resigna-

tion of the Chief Election

Commissioner (CEC) and the re-

election in Chittagong-1 and

Laxmipur-2 seats of the Jatiya

programme also aims at

protesting 'vote rigging' and

As part of the protest pro-

terrorist activities in the just-

gramme, the BNP will hold a

rally at the Bangla Motor cross-

ing in the city at 10 am on Tues-

day. They also plan to gherao

the office of the Election Com-

A separate press release said.

a joint meeting of the Dhaka city unit of BNP would be held

at seven this evening at the

Minto Road official residence of

Shibir activist.

From Page 1

ing in the Eidgah area where po-

lice forces have been deployed

at different points. Deputy

Commissioner of the district

Ali Imam Majumder has called

an all-party meeting to restore

peace at the college. Additional

Quddus visited the spot.

treated at the hospital.

Deputy Commissioner Golam

Joynal was the son of Sha-

jahan Chowdhury alias Lutu

Mia, a former Upazila Chair-

man. The body has been sent to

district sadar hospital for au-

topsy. The injured persons were

BNP

From Page 1

Kudrad-e-Elahi Liton, Mir Sar-

war Ali Pintu, Borhanuzzaman

Omar, Akaml Ahmed, Mo-

hammad Mohan, Abu M Main-

uddin Mainu, Advocate Habibur

Rahman Mondal, Sajjad Zahir,

Nabiullah Nabi, Alamgir Hos-

sain Patwari, M A Quaiyum,

Khatibur Rahman Khokon,

Abul Hasan Nani Talukdar, Go-

lam Sarwar Mukta, Hasan Ali,

SM Golam Kibria, Mojibur

Rahman Tinu, Tariqul Islam,

pro-BNP commissioners of

Dhaka city, presidents or con-

venors of the ward committees

and presidents or convenors of

the city committees of all front

the Leader of the Opposition.

A party press release said the

Sangsad.

mission.

held by-election.

rallies and processions thro-

The main opposition party

They stressed the need for

sector entrepreneurship.

PM tells DCCI team

Expand industrial activities across the country

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the business community to in crease production, create job opportunities and expand volume of export to give a greater push to national economy, reports UNB.

Talking to a delegation of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), she also called for expanding industrial and commercial activities across the country instead of confining those in the capital and the big cities.

The delegation, led by DCC president Ali Hossain Hasan. called on the Prime Minister at her office in the afternoon.

Referring to the previous government's economic policy. the prime minister said government is not a trading body. rather its objective and obligation are to serve the country and the nation.

"We do not believe in double standard, we mean what we say we don't want to make any

lofty promises," she said. The prime minister said in dustrialisation cannot succeed without raising the purchasing capacity of the rural people.

Earlier, the DCCI delegation members lauded the dynamic outlook of the present govern-

Flood From Page 1

ing 15 centimetres above the danger mark at the Hardinge bridge point at 6 am yesterday while the river Gorai was flowing 19 centimetres below the danger mark at the Gorai Railway bridge point at 6 pm, according to the flood forecasting centre control room.

Meanwhile, the Ganges has eroded vast tracts of cultivable land and houses, offices, educational institutions, business establishments, culverts, and roads in Daulatpur, Bheramara and Kumarkhali thanas. Some 50 thousand people are still marooned. Standing crops in about seven thousand acres have been destroyed due to floods and erosion.

About four hundred houses have so far been washed away by erosion and many more partially damaged. About 50 villages in four unions of Daulatpur thana are badly affected.

The ferry service at the Bheramara Paksey Ghat remains disrupted as before and all concerned have been advised to avoid this route upto September 20.

Non-tariff barriers

From Page 1

Welcoming the Indian Minister, Tofael Ahmed said launching of new governments in Dhaka and New Delhi has provided an enormous opportunity to resolve all outstanding issues and expand economic cooperation between the two neighbouring countries.

Tofael appreciated the good gesture of the Indian government, saying that this might only be the beginning of sincere relationship between the two friendly countries. It will be strengthened further in the future through developing bilat-

eral cooperation. The Indian Minister was accompanied by Somnath Chatterjee, parliamentary leader of CPM, Chitta Basu, parliamentary leader of Forward Block, and Gita Mukherjee, a parliament member of CPI, Indian Foreign Secretary Salman Haider and Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dev

Mukherjee. Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan, Industries Secretary M Akhter Ali, Commerce Secretary Syed Alamgir Farouk Chowdhury, Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Shafi Shami and high officials of the Commerce and Industries ministries were present.

PM: Education

From Page 1

tury, she added Hasina said initiatives have been taken for inclusion of the "real and objective history of the Liberation War in the text

She added: 'We hope, reading the objective history of the Liberation War, the new generation students will be imbued with patriotism and be respectful to the democratic process.

Emphasising on improvement and modernisation of the education system, she said her government is committed to create a national movement by involving all section of the population to free the country from illiteracy within the next 10 years.

The Prime Minister said the post-liberation government of Bangabandhu, in an epochmaking step, had nationalised primary education in the coun-

Keeping the continuity, she said, the present government also attached top priority to education in national investment and development activities.

"At least one primary school will be set up in each village and steps will be taken to impart technical and vocational training in each thana.

Hasina said women should be involved in nation activities. "The country's cherished goal for development can be reached only by alleviating poverty through the united ef-

forts of educated men and women. She lamented that the education system has become nonproductive and alienated from the people due to "unplanned education programmes in last

21-years." Hasina said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman dreamt of a prosperous Bangladesh, free from exploitation. The present government is working to build up an educated nation to complete the unfinished task of

Bangabandhu. She said students are the symbol of hopes and aspiration of the national. "You've to take up the responsibility of running the country in near future... Take the pioneering role in building a happy and prosperous country."

Education Minister ASHK Sadique and Education Secretary Abdullah Haroon Pasha also addressed the function.

JMB budget

From Page 1

sions for execution of the rehabilitation programme of affected people for land acquisition, said a PID handout.

The meeting was also attended by Planning Commission member Fazlul Hasan Usuf, Chief of General Staff of Bangladesh Army Maj Gen Anwar Hossain BP, Finance Secretary Akbar Ali Khan, Communications Secretary Waliul Islam, Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary Syed Abdus Samad.

chairman of the DSE. Although

heavy speculation caused the

sudden rise in prices of some is-

sues but the market is not be-

Prof Abu Ahmed, President

Bangladesh Share Investors

Forum said that the share mar-

ket boomed as a large number of

new investors came with huge

market will take a pause and

then it will take a turn about,"

he said "but nobody knows

in the market, he underscored

the need for a massive reform

"institutional investors" should

participate in a stronger way

volatile, he suggested the new-

comers should be more cautious

about their investment.

for keeping the market stable.

To avoid an unwanted slide

Abu Ahmed further said that

Terming the market

when that point will come."

in the market immediately.

When the flow will end, the

Talking to The Daily Star

yond control, he added.

DSE index Rice procurement

money.

From Page 1 Chowdhury. "Our government's

organisations of BNP.

ture sector." The quantity to be procured during the new drive has not yet been fixed, but the decision in this regard is expected to be

policy is to revive the agricul-

taken in Monday's cabinet meeting. The current rice procurement drive to stock three lakh tons of rice which ended on August 31 has been extended upto September 15 and the target in-

creased by one lakh tons as the

programme could not fulfill target because of floods. Meanwhile, an official announcement said the original target for rice procurement has been almost achieved and the government has re-fixed the new target in the interest of maintaining stability in the rice market and to assist the farmers. A specific announce-

ment would made soon in this

regard, it added.

standing problem. "The Indian side expressed their political will and deter-

Razzaq was learnt to have accepted an invitation extended to him by Indian External Affairs Minister I K Guiral to visit India in late October Sources told UNB that if ev-

erything goes smoothly. New Delhi and Dhaka are expected to sign an accord on the sharing of the Ganges water in December this year. The agreement is expected to

Premier Deve Gowda, the sources said There has not been any agreement on the Ganges water between the two countries since 1988 when Bangladesh received

be signed by Prime Minister

Sheikh Hasina and Indian

The next ministerial level

meeting between Bangladesh and India will be held in New

Delhi in late October to further

discuss the contentious issue of

Minister Abdur Razzaq will go

to India in the last week of Oc-

tober to hold talks with his In-

dian counterpart Janeswar

Bangladesh Water Resources

the Ganges water sharing.

Misra

34,500 cusecs of water. Kashmir

From Page 1

long distances to vote Meanwhile, Indian defence officials said. Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged fire in at least four places along their 830-km long Himalyan border.

Cross-border shooting is common but an Indian army spokesman said the firing was heavier than usual and in more

"This is a quantum jump over routine border firing," he

The spokesman said Pak istani troops used heavy ar tillery, machine guns and small guns. Apart from Indian secu rity positions, they also tar geted communication networks

They are just trying to harass the people. It is not worri some. he said

In the northern third of the state held by Pakistan, hundreds of angry Kashmiris burned effigies of Indian Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda

But there was no large-scale violence today in the rest of the territory

Salman Shah

From Page 1

"We cannot say anything before getting the autopsy report," one source added. Police kept vigilance on the

persons who were in the flat at the time of the incident, the sources said. Salman's wife Samira Shariar, his private secretary Abul Hossain and two maids were in the flat when the popular film actor reportedly hanged himself. Meanwhile, an office bearer

of Bangladesh Film Artistes Association, who is an acquaintance of Salman, told this correspondent last night that Salman was seen frustrated for the last couple of months.

Explaining, he said Salman had conflict with his wife as she did not want him to remain involved in film industry. Besides, the cine magazines often published reports alleging that he (Salman) had relationship with a popular film actress.

level meet in late Oct Meanwhile. Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzaq led Bangladesh delegation during a one-hour meeting with the in-

dian delegation headed by I K Gujral at the Ministry yesterday afternoon Talking to newsmen after

the meeting. Razzaq said he was happy with the Indian attitude towards resolving the long-

mination to resolve the problem before the next dry season.

Razzaq said Bangladesh sought "a permanent and immediate solution" of the water

Referring to the quantum of water to be given to Bangladesh during the lean period. Razzaq said the matter will be examined at the expert level meeting. The Joint Rivers Commis-

sion is expected to hold a meet ing shortly. The exact time and venue of the meeting will be announced shortly The Indian delegation, led by I K Gujral, also held a meeting

with Commerce and Industries

Minister Tofael Ahmed later in the afternoon. Bangladesh side made a plea to have access to Indian market and remove the existing trade barrier. Gujral reportedly assured measures to increase

Bangladesh's export to India Int'l Literacy Day today

The International Literacy Day will be observed today in Bangladesh and elsewhere in the world reports UNB

Some 32 government and non-government organisations related to literacy interven tions have jointly organised various programmes to mark the occasion.

Besides, different socio-cul tural. UN and voluntary organ isations have taken programmes with the objective to create awareness among the

The day's programmes in clude discussion, rally and sem inar Newspapers will bring out special supplements while Bangladesh Betar and Television will put up programmes highlighting significance of the

President Abdur Rahman Biswas in a message on the oc casion called upon all irrespec tive of their party affiliation to come forward unitedly to free the nation from the curse of il

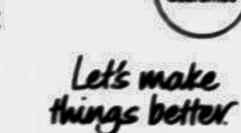
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her message said observance of the International Literacy Day will have a positive impact on eradicating illit

She renewed her government's commitment to establish one primary school in every village and remove illiter acy from the country within next 10 year. In observance of the day.

Combined Literacy Campaign will bring out a colourful procession from in front of the National Museum at 8:30 am. Campaign for Popular Edu-

cation (CAMPE), an NGO, has chalked out a three-day programme, including staging of a Tagore's drama titled 'Tota Kahini' at the Shaheed Minar premises this morning.

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PHILIPS

Ershad's medical check-up at PG

By Staff Correspondent

Jailed Jatiya Party leader and former President H M Ershad was taken to the PG Hospi tal yesterday for medical check up, according to official

After a thorough investigation for few hours by a medical board chosen from amongst the leading specialists of the country. Ershad was sent back to the sub-jail at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, the sources said. He would be brought again to the hospital today for further check-up.

Ershad was shifted to the sub-jail from the Dhaka Central Jail on July 14, when the seventh Jativa Sangsad went for its inaugural session. He was granted parole to attend the session.

Water Talk

From Page 1

The Indian side at the talks included Lok Sabha (parliament) members Somnath Chaterjee of CPM, Chitta Basu of Forward Bloc and Ms Geeta Mukherjee of CPI. Indian External Affairs Secretary Salman Haider and Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dev Mukherjee and other senior officials were also present.

The Bangladesh side included Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan, Water Resources Secretary ATM Shamsul Huda, Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Shafi Sami and other senior officials of the Foreign Min-

Later, the two foreign ministers had an exclusive meeting for 20 minutes at the Foreign Ministry.

Earlier in the day, prior to the commencement of the formal talks. Samad Azad called on the visiting dignitary at Sonargaon Hotel where the former is staying. Gujral also called on his Bangladesh counterpart at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before both of them proceeded for the formal talks.

The visiting Indian minister will call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina this morning He will also hand over a letter from Indian premier Deve Gowda to his Bangladesh coun

He is also due to meet Former Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia. A delegation from the Centre

for Policy Dialogue led by Prof Rehman Sobhan is scheduled to meet with Guiral at noon today. Gujral will also be guest at a luncheon hosted by FBCCI chief Salman Rahman.

He is due to address a press conference tomorrow morning prior to his departure from Dhaka.

Sheila Gujral praises young Bangladeshi poets

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By Staff Correspondent

Sheila Gujral, an Indian poet and wife of External Affairs Minister IK Gujral, has said she was impressed after listening to some poems of young Bangladeshi poets, said a press release of the Bangla Academy.

Sheila was speaking as the chief guest at a function in the seminar room of the Academy yesterday. The function was organised by some young poets of the country

Sheila, in her speech said, We are the common travellers on the way to peace and progress." She praised the young poets for their writings.

Earlier, Professor Mansur Musa, the Director General of the Academy delivered his address of welcome. Noted poet Shamsur Rahman presided over the function.

DU classes From Page 1

Dr Nurunnabi, will visit the halls during the rehabilitation

Meanwhile, the JCD allegedly violated some provision of the peace agreement by chanting abusive slogans against Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during its procession on the campus yesterday.

agreement, no student organisations would use abusive words during procession or other programmes on the cam-The BCL has lodged a written

According to clause 5 of the

complaint with the VC and the Proctor in this respect and demanded action under clause 6 of the agreement. Police also violated a provision of the accord by entering the JCD dominated Surya Sen

hall and searching the hall au-

ditorium without the permis-

sion of the Provost. Police, however, expressed regrets to the hall authorities for this, campus sources said. The residential halls and the university campus witnessed reopening of the presence of a large number of students with

the academic buildings and the

central library vesterday. The examinations scheduled to start from September 15 have been deferred till September 23.

The outsiders, belonging to different student groups, were seen staying in the halls yester-

Singaporean co

From Page 1 of the suitability and effectivity of the proposed barge mounted gas-diesel generator power plant projects in Bangladesh on

a build-operate-transfer (BOT) They informed the minister that from the signing of the BOT contract commercial operation of the plant might take eight months. All the equipment are to be installed into the barges.

they said. They also informed the minister that they had installed such type of plants in the Philippines, Indonesia and other countries of the world.

Mentioning power as the most important input for industrial development, the minister said, the government attached top priority to increase energy production and will welcome foreign investment in the

power sector. Referring to 0.5138 trillion cft of gas reserve in Bhola, the minister said, the government has decided to set-up a 210 mw power plant there. The government is ready to accept foreign investors for the Bhola power

plant also, he added. Elaborating the steps taken by the new government to accelerate the foreign investment in the country, the minister hoped that foreign investors would consider Bangladesh as the ideal place for their invest-

Govt team

From Page 1

ject. By implementing this rehabilitation project, the power shortfall may get a temporary relief because the demand for power is exceeding the pace of power generation. The government has opened

the door for power generation in the private sector. But it is unlikely that new power plants would begin operation before 1998 even if an agreement between any private power generation company and the government is signed new, the sources pointed out.

In addition, it has been projected that to have an 8 per cent growth of the economy of the country, it should have 16 per cent growth in power generation and consumption. The regional approach in

power consumption has been inspired by the system in Europe where all countries share the same power distribution network regardless of the location of power plants, the sources pointed out. The ASEAN countries also

share common power distribution system for better management and pricing although these countries are not politically homogenous, the sources

স্কুলের জন্য জমি বরাদ্দ

ইয়ার্ণ হাউজিং লিঃ এর দক্ষিণ বননী (গোড়ান)

আবাসিক প্রকল্পে শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানের জন্য নির্ধারিত

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লোকালয় গড়ে উঠেছে।



A partial view of the BNP public meeting in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday protesting alleged rigging in the bypolls Thursday. -Star photo

EC office gherao Tuesday

From Page 1 leave the streets unless its demands were met.

Protesting the CEC's postbyelection remarks, Mannan Bhuiyan said the CEC had termed the election free and fair after visiting a number of selected polling centres. But, he alleged, in most cen-

tres, the BNP agents were driven

out, party supporters were de-

nied their right to vote, and the ruling party activists stuffed ballot boxes with false votes. The BNP secretary general said his party workers were being killed, harassed, repressed and arrested. But the ruling party did not allow the BNP to

speak in Parliament about this.

Addressing the rally, Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia called upon the people to build countrywide resistance against the vote dacoity and repressive acts of the ruling Awami League. Salahuddin Quader Chowd

hury MP said the people would

not allow any country to use the

Chittagong port and enjoy transit facilities. Fazlur Rahman Patal MP said the people will sacrifice their lives, if necessary, to resist any bid of the government to give transit to India. Sadeq Hossain Khoka MP

said the government has cre-

ated a reign of terror in the

country. But, he said, the na-

tionalist forces could not be stopped through repressive measures.

Barrister Abul Hasnat said the ruling party has set a bad example of vote rigging and anarchy that will force it to quit power.

Mirza Abbas alleged that AL

was launching another private,

force like Rakkhi Bahini in the name of "Rapid Action Force." City BNP President Mir Shawkat Ali, who presided over the rally, urged the partymen to

make the protest programmes a

The rally was also addressed by Amanullah Aman MP, Goyeswar Roy, Rezabuddoula Chowdhury, Abu Sayed Khokan, Mofiqui Hasan Tripti, Mosharraf Hossain Khan and Advocate Abdul Ahad Mia.

Later, a procession led by central and city leaders of the BNP paraded the city streets from the Jatiya Press Club premises to Mouchak crossing. The processionists chanted slogans against the CEC and demanded his immediate resig

nation. The BNP will hold rallies and processions across the country today to protest the alleged rigging in the byelection. On Tuesday, a procession from Bangla Motor crossing

tion Commission at 10 am.

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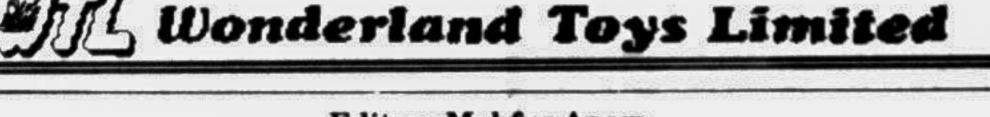
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Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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