

FedEx
Federal Express
The World on Time

SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED

From documents to packages, FedEx delivers peace of mind reliably to over 210 countries worldwide. Our integrated network of 590 planes, 37,000 vehicles and 1,200,000 people, promises smooth delivery every step of the way. We can even advise you on the status of your shipments, thanks to our unique computerised global tracking system. So the next time you have got to send a package, recall your FedEx agent B&AEX to deliver your package hassle-free on time - to your satisfaction.

For more information call: Head Office 965114-7, Fax: 965112
Dhaka - 97771, Chittagong - (031) 71217, Khulna - (041) 25068

WB offers grant to develop infrastructure for judiciary

By Mizan Ali

The World Bank has offered Tk 150 crore grant for infra-structural development of the judiciary, official sources said. Negotiations for finalising the project is continuing, they said adding, if finalised the project is likely to take off within this fiscal year.

Development of the court buildings, computerisation of the court rooms and such other facilities would be given priority in the infrastructural development project, the sources said.

Once the court rooms are computerised, one can without difficulty obtain the copy of the judgment, as soon as it is pronounced," one source said adding, there are about 650 courts comprising those of district and sessions judge, additional district and sessions judge, subordinate and assistant sessions judge, senior assistant judge and assistant judge.

Under the project, every judge will be provided with a computer along with a printer. The other facilities will include fax and photocopy machines.

The WB, under its institutional development fund, has also offered an additional Tk 1.88 crore for the Law Reforms Commission (LRC) and the Judicial Training Institute (JTI) and for documentation of the library of the Ministry of Law and Justice, the sources added.

The LRC and the JTI have been set up, housed in the old High Court building, for bringing about overall improvement in the judiciary.

The seventh Jatiya Sangsad in its first session approved the

Satinelle
Removes hair by the root

Let's make things better

Transcom Electronics Limited
Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets

Dhaka: 915305-1, 919625-1, 889993
Cox: 501982, 502578, Khulna: 20304, Bogra: 6215

PHILIPS

Tornado hits 2 villages in Manikganj

From Our Correspondent

MANIKGANJ, Sept 16: At least 39 houses were damaged and more than 5 persons injured in a tornado that swept over two villages of Satura (thana today). The affected villages are Kushtia and Nabondhan. The ADC (general) along with TNC visited the spot. Further details were not available.

BGMEA for further Taka devaluation

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has urged the government to further devalue the Taka so that garment exporters can retain competitiveness in the world market.

"One dollar equal to 50 taka may be the appropriate exchange rate for the exporters now," said BGMEA president Redwan Ahmed at a press conference on the forthcoming Bangladesh Textile and Apparel Exhibition (BATEXPO) at a city hotel yesterday. The three-day BATEXPO-96 begins on October 3 at a city hotel.

Quoting exchange rates in the neighbouring countries, Ahmed said, Bangladesh exporters can retain competitiveness only through further devaluation of the Taka.

He pointed out that in the last couple of years, the wage of workers increased substantially while the cutting and making charges of readymade garments declined significantly. "So the only way out for us to sustain is to devalue the Taka against the US Dollar."

He, however, observed that capital machinery could be imported by reducing taxes and duties for the sake of economic development of the nation.

Exports of Bangladesh's ready-made garments are increasing at an annual rate of 27 per cent, Ahmed said.

"We expect that the upcoming BATEXPO will attract a record number of overseas traders," Ahmed said, BGMEA's initiative to eliminate child labour from the garments industries

College girl commits suicide in city

By Staff Correspondent

A college girl reportedly committed suicide at North Badda under Gulshan thana in the city early yesterday.

Maksuda Begum, 22, daughter of one Sirajul Alam of Purbapara, North Badda, hanged herself from the beam of their tin-shed house.

The family members found Makshuda, an HSC student of Siddheswari Degree College, hanging in her room and informed the Gulshan thana. Police rushed to the spot at about 8.45 am and took the body to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy, police said.

The reason behind the suicide could not be known immediately. An unnatural death case has been filed with Gulshan thana.

Heroes back home

From Page 1

bowler Hasibul Hasan Shanto was also injured and missed the whole tournament. So were also a weaker side.

When asked about the opponents, Akram also rated Fiji, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea as good sides.

Manager Gazi Ashraf Lipu said that they had a planned tour this time. He said his team was well prepared to face the UAE side in the final.

"We had discussed about all the UAE players before the match and had our own plans to neutralise them. Once we dismissed both the UAE openers in the early hour of their innings, I was more than sure of our victory," said the proud Bangladesh manager.

About his team's performance, Lipu said, "Our batting was going great guns all through the tournament except in the final when the middle order collapsed. This is very usual in cricket. It was a bit frustrated when we lost our ninth wicket yesterday as we had a very poor score at the time. But thanks to Saiful and Salauddin who played a responsible knock taking the team score beyond the 200 mark. I think that was the turning point of our win yesterday. A 200-plus score had a big morale-boosting effect on our boys to fight the battle."

The manager emphasised on the importance of a team physiotherapist. He said a physio was a must for any international team.

A beaming BCCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP, was elated about the victory. Talking to The Daily Star, the BCCB boss said, "This victory was nothing but the outcome of a disciplined team work. With half of their strength, as four of the most senior players are facing a ban and Shanto injured, I think they have done a marvellous job."

This report would be incomplete without a few words about Hasibul Hasan Shanto, the right-arm medium-pacer who

College girl commits suicide in city

By Staff Correspondent

A college girl reportedly committed suicide at North Badda under Gulshan thana in the city early yesterday.

Maksuda Begum, 22, daughter of one Sirajul Alam of Purbapara, North Badda, hanged herself from the beam of their tin-shed house.

The family members found Makshuda, an HSC student of Siddheswari Degree College, hanging in her room and informed the Gulshan thana. Police rushed to the spot at about 8.45 am and took the body to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy, police said.

The reason behind the suicide could not be known immediately. An unnatural death case has been filed with Gulshan thana.

Bangladeshi couple killed in Saudi road accident

PABNA, Sept 16: A Bangladeshi medicine expert and his wife were killed in a highway accident in Saudi Arabia on Friday, family sources said here today, reports UNB.

Dr Mohammad Firoz Khan, 56, of Shalarga in the town and his wife, Khaleda Begum, 45, died on the spot at Khamij in Saudi Arabia when their private car collided with a jeep Friday evening.

Dr Firoz and his wife, living in Saudi Arabia for the last 17 years, were returning to their residence in Sira Abadia from Abha town.

The bodies will reach their village home next Friday, the sources said.

Protest against transfer of SBMCH Director

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 16: Dr Sheikh Alimuzzaman, Director, Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH), stands resolute today following allegations against him.

In protest, some 1200 3rd and 4th class employees of two hospitals in the town - the SBMCH and the Barisal Sadar Hospital - put under lock and key the administrative office and the outdoor sections of the hospitals.

They also demanded the transfer of Jaimal Abedin, Administrative officer of the SBMCH.

Later at a press conference, the employees said, they would cripple all work in the hospitals, except emergency, if their demands are not met within 72 hours.

Mother Teresa taken to hospital

CALCUTTA, Sept 16: Mother Teresa was taken to a Calcutta hospital to be examined by her doctors today after she fell from her bed and complained of light headaches, reports AP.

New system of local bodies

From Page 1

concept of local government, Prime Minister's Parliamentary Affairs Advisor and a presidential member of the ruling Awami League Suranjit Sengupta said. "It should be comprising representatives elected directly by the people and should not be mere extension of bureaucracy across the country."

Sengupta, who is also a member of the recently formed Local Government Commission (LGC), further said: "The local bodies should have power to collect revenue, plan their respective budgets and assert their positions in implementing the development programmes taken up by the central government."

Meanwhile, the Commission at a meeting yesterday finalised a set of questionnaire to be circulated among a cross section of people for their opinions on the possible structure, powers and functions of the local governments at different tiers of administrative units of the statecraft soon.

Meeting sources said, a set of 18 questions would be circulated among different categories of citizens including lawyers, writers, doctors, journalists, union parishad members and chairmen immediately after it is printed.

The eight-member Commission was constituted at the directives of the Prime Minister on Sept 10. The Commission is headed by Rahmat Ali. The other members of the Commission are Suranjit Sengupta of Awami League, Advocate Fazle Rabbi of the Jatiya Party (JP), A T M Shamsul Huq

Transport strike in Barisal from today

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 16: The Barisal District Road Transport Workers regional committee has called a transport strike for an indefinite period in 8 routes from tomorrow.

The decision was taken at a joint meeting of the leaders of the Barisal District Minibus Owners and Workers Union.

The strike has been called following terrorist activities and assault on a driver.

The eight routes where the transport strike will be enforced are Barisal to Pirojpur, Bhandaria, Jhalakathi, Nalchity, Bakerganj, Baufal, Patuakhali, Barguna, Amtali and Kheupara.

Welcome shower

From Page 1

Temperature in the capital, which rose to the season's highest on Sunday at 37.5 degree Celsius, fell to 35.2 degree Celsius yesterday.

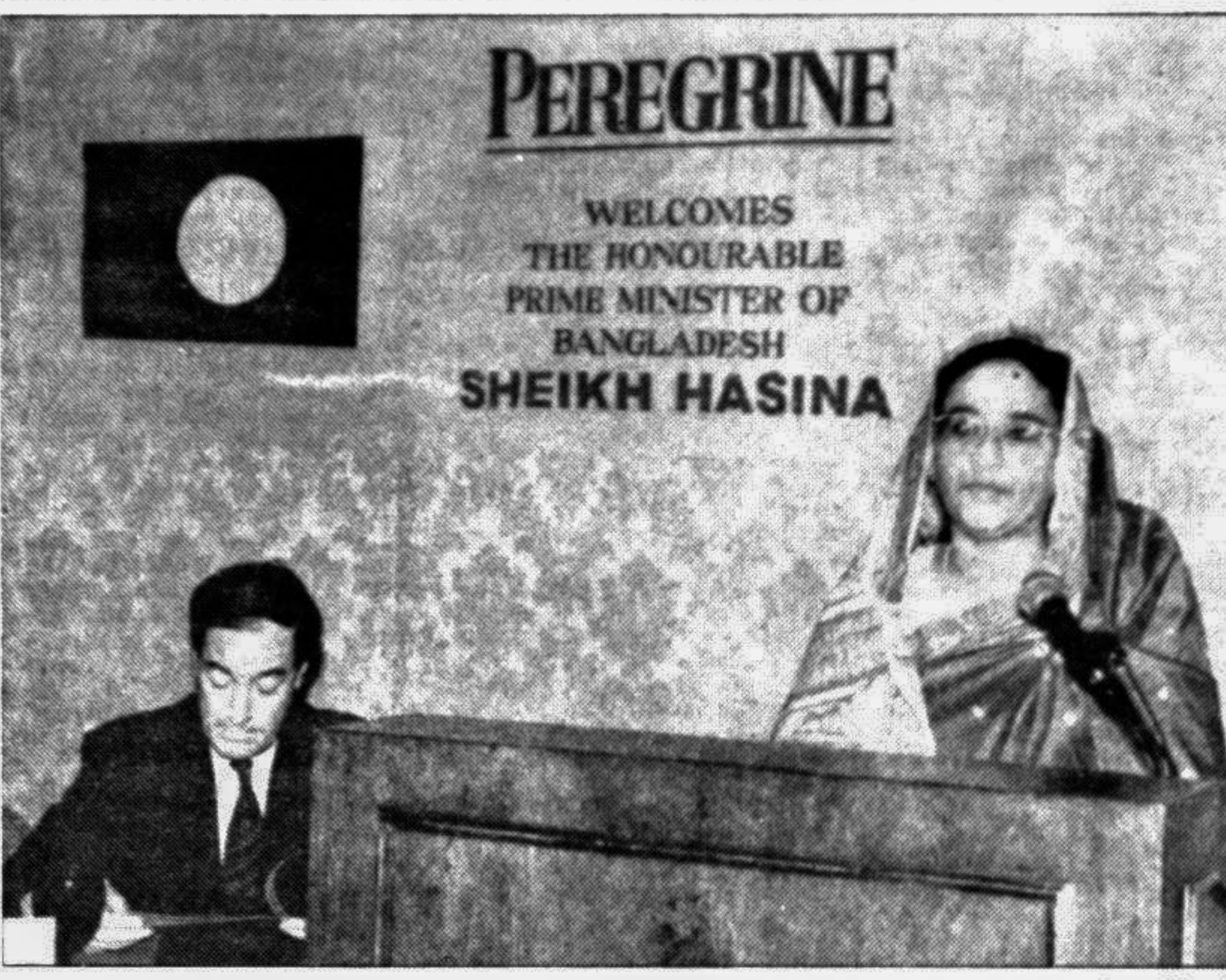
The highest amount of rainfall was recorded in Patuakhali at 72mm followed by 60 mm in Barisal. Rainfall recorded in other places are: Sathkira-27mm, Bhola - 20 mm, Cox's Bazar - 12 mm, Kheupara - 10mm, Mairajdecourt - 5 mm, Comilla - 4mm, Teknaf - 4mm, Kutubdia - 4 mm and Chittagong - 1 mm.

5 killed

From Page 1

mondi thana in this connection and the incident was being investigated, police sources said.

Minister of State for Housing and Public Works Afsaruddin Ahmed Khan and Minister of State for Land Rashed Mosharraf visited the spot.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressing foreign investors at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Hong Kong yesterday. — AFP/UNB photo

HK business leaders urged

From Page 1

Trust Company of the West, Invesco, Lombard Odier, Carlsson, GT Asset Management, ABN Amro, Europacific, Salomon Brothers Asset Management, Regent, Ki Pacific and W Carr and UBS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said Bangladesh wanted to allow privately operated mutual funds and that the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) was working on a set of regulations to be in place shortly. "Through legislation and administrative encouragement, we intend to widen and strengthen the capital market," she said.

Sheikh Hasina said Parliament had just passed the bill for establishment of Law Reform Commission which would continuously review and suggest changes in the legal framework to, among others, promote investment and establish non-discriminatory, speedy and cost-effective environment for various markets.

She said although Taka is convertible on current transactions for locals, it is fully convertible for foreign investors, whether portfolio or direct. There is hardly any entry-ban on foreign direct investment or any restrictions on the flow of funds in and out of the country, she added.

The Prime Minister said that her three-month old government had initiated a package of measures to improve the legal framework, identify impediments to investment and to facilitate private sector participation in setting up export processing zones.

Sheikh Hasina said that her government had already eliminated the lock-in period, reduced the tax on cash dividends of listed companies, and removed capital gain taxes on stock sales and bonus shares. Besides, "we will evolve system to allow either underwriting

Young man killed in city

By Staff Correspondent

A young man, who was found fatally injured on Tongi Diverision Road under Tejaon thana in the city, succumbed at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday morning.

Idris, 25, a worker of a motor garage in Sutrapur area, was found lying beside the road with serious assault and stab injuries at about 2 am yesterday. Mobile police took Idris to the DMCH where he succumbed to his injuries at about 6 am, police sources said.

An unidentified gang reportedly kidnaped Idris, son of Kalu Shankar of Munshiganj, from Dayaganj, Sutrapur area Sunday night, the sources added.

The gang assaulted Idris and left him in Tejaon area. The reason behind the reported killing could not be known immediately.

Sutrapur police said that they did not have any information in this regard.

3 extortionists held in city

By Staff Correspondent

Detective Branch (DB) police arrested three extortionists when they were collecting toll from a house at Razabazar in the city Sunday evening.

The arrested were identified as Ashiqur Rahman alias Javed, Javed Jahangir alias Hridaya and Nazrul Islam, police said. The arrested were the active members of an organised terrorist gang in Tejaon thana area, police added.

The BD team held the three gang members when they entered the residence of a businessman. Earlier, on Saturday morning the gang picked up the businessman and threatened to kill him.

They also sent a letter to his family members saying that he would be released if they paid a toll of Tk 10,000, police said. Later, after being assured by the family, the three went to the house at around 7pm Sunday to collect the toll money, police added.

Hasina

From Page 1

Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria, Home Minister Major (Retd) Rafiqul Islam, Mayor of Dhaka City Mohammad Hanif, Minister of State for Information Prof Abu Sayeed, chiefs of the three services, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Palestine Mohammad Shahta Zarab, Charge d'Affaires of China in Bangladesh Du Liancheng and senior officials were present at the airport.

One shot dead in Meherpur

MEHERPUR, Sept 16: A young man was shot dead and four others were injured with bullets in a recurring gang attack on their house at Kodalkati village in Ganngi thana last night, reports UNB.

Police said a gang of about 20 miscreants climbed rooftop of the residence of one Rezaul Haq at 11 pm and shot his son, Kamal, 20, to death when he along with his cousins were on the watch against possible attack.

BCL Shibir clash in Khulna

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Sept 16: At least 18 students were injured, four of them seriously in a clash between the activists of BCL and Islami Chhatra Shibir on the Paikgacha College campus yesterday.

The college has been closed for an indefinite period.

Trader succumbed to burn injuries

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 16: A local trader, wounded in an accident last Thursday, succumbed to his burn injury today at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, police said, reports UNB.

The victim, Azhar Uddin, 55, owner of 'Glass House' in the town's SS Road, received severe burn injury from an explosion of a phenyl bottle at his shop on last Thursday.

Moudud

From Page 1

EC fail to respond to this, the BNP may decide not to take part in any election in future which will certainly be unfortunate for the smooth transition of democracy in Bangladesh," he added.

Representatives of embassies and high commissions of the United Kingdom, the United States, France, China, Australia, Japan, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand and the Netherlands attended the meeting.

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan MP, M Mordshed Khan MP and former ambassador MM Rezaul Karim were present.

Moudud said: "The EC has not played a fair and neutral role and has failed to exercise the powers it has under the law... The EC having failed to act independently has caused a great harm to the future of democracy in Bangladesh."

He alleged that the design of the government was to win this (Laxmipur-2) seat by any cost, which they had done successfully to the peril of the nation and at the cost of the future of democracy in Bangladesh.

The EC, he alleged, did not take any action despite repeated requests and applications submitted to the CEC about the situation in Laxmipur area.

He told a questioner that before going to court he would seek redress from the election tribunal, "but I know what would be the fate."