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The Daily Star

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DHAKA MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1996 JAMADIUL AWAL 23, 1417 HIJRI

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crore from Sweden

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DSE MARKET

DSE price index 2005.24
Market capital Tk 14029.76 cr
Transactions in volume 1143565
Transactions in value Tk 29.89 cr

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Habitat Day '96
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NEWS BRIEFS

Sultan Mahmud new
envoy to Qatar

The government has decided to appoint retired Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud as ambassador to Qatar. Sultan Mahmud, who hails from Noakhali joined the then Pakistan Air Force in 1960. He also undertook various advance trainings in Iran and Soviet Union. During the War of Liberation, Mahmud served with the ground liberation forces in Sector One, reports BSS.

Shilpacharya Zainul
Folk, Crafts Museum

The Sonargaon Museum would be renamed as 'Shilpacharya Zainul Folk and Crafts Museum', said an official announcement yesterday. The decision was taken at a meeting to preserve traditional crafts properly and materialise Shilpacharya's dream, reports UNB.

BNP okays Cox's
Bazar committee

BNP central committee yesterday approved the party's Cox's Bazar district committee with Salauddin Ahmed MP as its convenor. The 24-member convening committee has been asked to form a full-fledged committee within 60 days, said a press release, reports UNB.

One robbed
of Tk 1000

By Staff Correspondent
One person was robbed of Tk 1000 near Mahakali bus terminal in the city yesterday morning. Khalifur Rahman, 37, a messenger of Library Science Department of the Dhaka University, was going to the bus terminal by an autorickshaw at around 10 am when a group of muggers who laid him and snatched the money at gun point.

Malaysia may freeze immigration of Bangladeshi workers

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 6:
Malaysia is considering freezing immigration of Bangladeshi workers after Premier Mahathir Mohamad's ruling party blamed them for the country's rising security and social problems, officials said today, reports AFP.

The National Security Council will evaluate inputs on the problems caused by the Bangladeshi in the country when it meets on October 16 before a decision is made, a security official said.

Mahathir's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) on Friday expressed grave concern over the social problems they said were caused by Bangladeshi who make up the second largest component of foreign workers in Malaysia, after the Indonesians.

Concerns have risen here following reports that Bangladeshi were involved in fights with local residents and that Bangladeshi men were abandoning Malaysian women

when their work permits expired.

UMNO, Malaysia's largest political party, decided at its decision-making supreme council meeting on Friday it was time to act against errant foreign workers before they became a security threat.

Malaysia's rapid economic

growth, averaging above eight per cent since 1987, and its acute worker shortage in recent years have led to the influx of expatriate labour.

Mahathir had told reporters that even before the problems were highlighted, he had warned about the social illness the presence of foreign workers was likely to bring in.

"Sometimes, we seek easy solutions to problems. Certain West Asian countries accept foreign workers more easily because West Asian themselves don't want to work," Mahathir had said.

"In Malaysia, there are also those who still don't want to work, probably waiting for the various industries to reach their doors," Mahathir had said, alluding to Malaysian workers who could now afford to be choosy amid an economic boom.

The government has been warning local industries to stop their reliance on expatriate

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Biswas prepares for farewell, Shahabuddin for oath

After 21 months of retired life, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed once again is returning to work-life as head of the state through an investiture on Wednesday morning.

He is expected to take oath as President at 10am on Wednesday (Oct 9) while his predecessor, Abdur Rahman Biswas, will leave Bangabhaban a day before, Deputy Press Secretary at the President House told UNB yesterday.

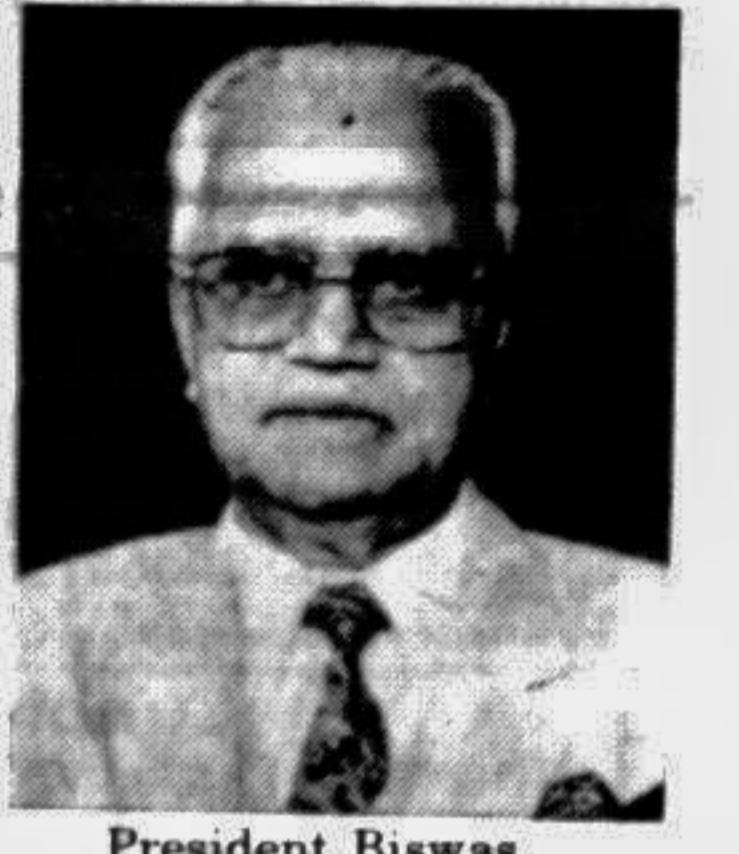
Biswas will go back to his own house at plot number 4 at Banababu 10 in the city. Shahabuddin is now residing in a rented house at Dhanmondi road number 8/A.

President Biswas is passing his last days in Bangabhaban hosting farewell reception for different professional and elite groups.

A man of strict principle, President-elect Shahabuddin Ahmed is not interested to talk to the press at this moment. "I can officially talk to you after taking oath, not before that," he had told reporters after his election.

But, when contacted yesterday afternoon, he simply told the agency: "I am well".

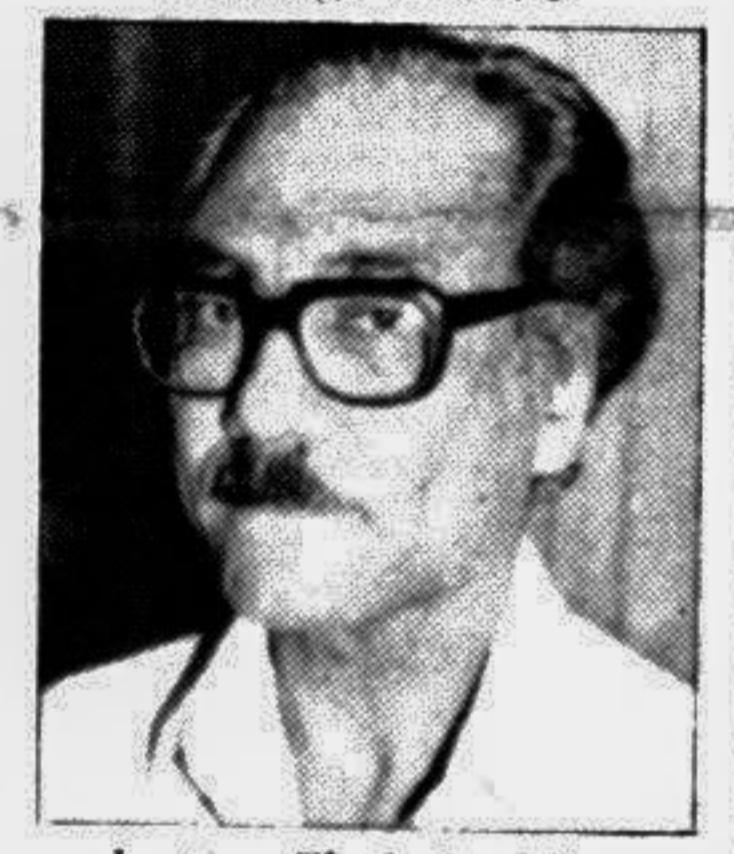
He was elected President unopposed on July 23 this year.



Though he was nominated by ruling Awami League, it is believed that he is the most acceptable personality of state among country's 12 crore people.

Shahabuddin headed a non-partisan government as Acting President after the fall of Ershad and earned acclaim in holding a free and fair election for the first time in 1991. At the time of his retirement as Chief

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Student thrown out of first floor room of DU hall

By DU Correspondent

on the face with the butt and they threw him out of the room.

Talking to this correspondent at the hospital Sarwar said that the outsiders also hit his girl friend as she tried to cry for help. Sarwar said his friends rescued his girl friend and managed her safe exit from the hall.

Sarwar was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital wherefrom he was shifted to the Orthopedic Hospital. Hospital sources said his right hand and left foot were fractured.

The outsiders entered Sarwar's room at around 1 pm and snatched on gun point a gold chain and ear-rings from his girl friend who had gone there to see him.

One of outsiders held a pistol on his face as Alim tried to cry for help. At one stage he hit him

Continued from the last page with the butt and they threw him out of the room.

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Transport workers' leader stabbed to death in city

By Staff Correspondent

A leader of the transport workers was stabbed to death reportedly by some of his rivals near Syedabad bus terminal in the city on Saturday night.

Nizamuddin Badal, vice president of the mini bus transport workers' committee of Dhaka Sylhet route died on Saturday night.

The gunman intercepted the car of Abdul Matin, director of a garments factory, and after taking control of the car at gunpoint they drove to Beparipara near Agrabad. They released the businessman after snatching the money, according to police.

Continued from the last page with the butt and they threw him out of the room.

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Steps to increase use of surface water

By Reaz Ahmad

With an alarming fall in ground water level in the city, government is now considering use of more surface water in meeting the demand for drinking water, official sources said.

Dhaka's lone water treatment plant at Chandnighat is now undergoing a Tk 154 crore BMRE (balancing, modernisation, rehabilitation and expansion) programme while a PCP (project concept paper) is being prepared for setting up of another water treatment plant in the city.

According to sources in Dhaka WASA, with the BMRE project of Chandnighat Water Treatment Plant (CWTP) going on, Sayedabad Water Treatment Plant already planned and PCP of another plant in the offing, the government is going for minimising pressure on ground water.

Dhaka's ground water level is falling by one metre a year, and the sources adding that the

government launched a comprehensive drive to make available some 9.45 lakh metric tons of diesel the country will require in the coming irrigation season which will be produced at home.

It was pointed out that a primary stock of 70,000 metric tons of diesel would be maintained everyday to ensure smooth supply during the period when massive farming of IRRI Boro paddy will take place in the country.

During the period, the demand for diesel in the northern districts of the country will be 3.19 lakh mt, pointed out a meeting in Dhaka yesterday.

A control cell will be set up with three oil companies at Bogra to monitor demand and supply of diesel from time to time.

Besides, a control cell will be set up at the head office of the BPC to monitor stock, demand, price, supply and movement of diesel in the northern districts of the country.

An inter-ministerial meeting will be held every month with secretary of the ministry in the chair to monitor stock and supply of diesel during the period.

7.50 lakh tonnes of diesel to be imported

By Staff Correspondent

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Bare-footed policemen performing their duty at the Secretariat premises submerged by rain waters yesterday. — Star photo

Meeting with Liaison Committee held Nat'l body for early talks with PCJSS

From A K M Zohurul Huq

KHAGRAKHARI, Oct 6:
The National Committee on Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) today held its first meeting with the Liaison Committee to find a 'lasting solution' to the CHT problem.

The close-door meeting held at the Khagrachari Circuit House expressed its 'best and sincere desire' to find a 'political solution' to the problem, according to meeting sources.

The National Committee expressed its desire to hold talks with the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) and urged the Liaison Committee to arrange such a meeting at the earliest, the sources said.

The rain water swept the streets in central Dhaka, creating a massive traffic jam, hampering work in the Secretariat and business in Motijheel Commercial Area, including trading in the bourse. It also flooded the compounds of houses of the poor as well as the high and mighty like the Mayor's family home in the old part

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bers Chittagong City Corporation Mayor Alhaj A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury, Dipankar Talukder MP (Rangamati), Bir Bahadur MP (Bandarban), Engineer Mosharraf Hossain MP (Mirsarai), and Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser, the finance and planning secretary of ruling Awami League, were present in the meeting.

Three members of the National Committee Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury MP and Syed Wahidul Alam MP of BNP, and Fazle Rabbi MP of Jatiya Party were not present.

Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong Sakhawat Hossain, DIG of Chittagong Range Ali Mohammad Iqbal, Director General of the Special Affairs Division Chowdhury Mohammad Mohsin, local GOC Brig Kazi Ashfaq, Deputy Commissioner Mohammad-Ismail and Superintendent of Police Anwar Hossain also attended the meeting.

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