

For Documents Door to Door delivery  
To 237 Destinations in INDIA

**BLUE DART**  
EXPRESS LIMITED

BANGLADESH AIR EXPRESS INT'L LTD.  
PLEASE CONTACT: Head Office: 9565114, Fax: 9565112, Guishan: 887771, Chittagong: (031) 712127, Khulna: (041) 25008



Finance Minister S A M S Kibria addressing as chief guest the inaugural session of a 3-day national convention on 'women and poverty,' organised by Women for Women, at the auditorium of the Academy for Planning and Development in the city yesterday.

— Star photo

## PM tells non-resident Bangladeshis

## Develop your country thru' investment

NEW YORK, Oct 26: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina here yesterday urged the non-resident Bangladeshis to develop their country through investment, reports BSS.

Everyone living abroad has feelings for his own soil. Therefore, if you make investment in Bangladesh it would help the country, she said while addressing the non-resident Bangladeshis at a New York hotel.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, Minister of State for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khasru, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim MP, chairman of Board of Investment and Secretaries accompanying the prime minister and some leading businessmen from Bangladesh were present.

The Prime minister had a very free and frank exchange of views with non-resident Bangladeshis on the country's present economy and politics.

Former FBCCI president Salman F Rahman and a leading businessman A S Mahmud took part in the discussion.

Sheikh Hasina said her government has been providing good opportunities to both for-

## Police, mob clash

From Page 1

angry people did not want to hand over the alleged mugger to police as they wanted the money to be returned first. The situation became volatile when the police asked Kabir to go to Thana and file a case, witnesses said.

Meanwhile, a large number of share certificates were allegedly damaged during the clash.

The Deputy Commissioner (East) of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, Naim Ahmed, was among those injured in the hour-long clash, police said. The injured police men were taken to the police hospital. The other injured were taken to different city clinics.

Police arrested Hobu while Faizul Kabir filed a case with Motijheel Thana in connection with the snatching. Police filed a case against the 21 arrested persons on charges of attacking the police. Motijheel police said.

The traffic movement on the busy roads of the Motijheel commercial area was suspended with the clash spreading from the Shapla Square to the Ittefaq crossing.

## Sparks protest

From Page 1

against him with different police stations in the city, police said.

Local people said that about 50 people, mostly teenagers, brought out a procession on the road near the Farmgate overbridge at around 1:30 pm protesting the arrest of Anwar. They were associates of Anwar, locals said.

At one stage the unruly youths started pelting stones on vehicles and ransacking shops beside the roads, locals added.

Police gheraoed the whole area and arrested eight persons. They were identified as Shuphi, 19, Mofazzal, 18, Ibrahim Khalil, 17, Fazle Elahi alias Dilu, 17, Mofiz, 18, Biddiyut, 17, Zakir Hossain, 15, and Abu Naser, 17, police sources said.

Police also picked up one Salimullah from the spot who was, however, later released as he was not involved in the rampage, police added.

A case was lodged with Tejgaon Thana in this connection, police said.

## 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, Kakrabi, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Email: dstar@bangla.net

# The Daily Star

## 3 Jamaat MPs quit NA seats

## Pak opposition stage anti tax strike

ISLAMABAD, Oct 26: Pakistani opposition parties and business groups staged a party effective anti-tax strike today and an Islamist party said police had rounded up thousands of its supporters to try to disrupt further protests, reports Reuter.

The Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) party said the security forces had detained more than 5,500 of its activists to prevent them from taking part in a march on Islamabad planned for Sunday.

Islamabad-based JI spokesman Ovala Qasim, said the party's leader, Qazi Hussain Ahmad, was in hiding. He is on the move to avoid arrest, Qasim said. He is being chased by police.

An Interior Minister spokesman said the JI figure for detainees was exaggerated, but could not say how many people had been seized. He denied that the JI leader was being sought.

All this fuss is a smoke-screen designed to hide what they know will be a failed event, he said.

Three JI members of parliament resigned their seats in the National Assembly (lower house) on Saturday following the example of Ahmad, who quit his seat last month in an attempt to put pressure on Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to resign.

Hartal observed at Dumuria

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 26: Hartal was observed today at Dumuria at the call of Khulna district BNP to protest 'terrorism' by Awami League activists there on Friday.

Life was paralysed in Dumuria as vehicles kept out the Khulna-Satkhira road and shops and academic institutions remained closed.

Local BNP leaders at a rally in the afternoon condemned the alleged attack at Gutidua on Friday and claimed that at least ten people were injured in the incident. They demanded exemplary punishment to the attackers and immediate transfer of the OC of Dumuria for allegedly giving cover to them.

About 150 researchers, development activists, NGO executives and journalists from different parts of the country are attending the convention which will review and discuss in detail the state of women and poverty in Bangladesh.

Electric cable seized

BARISAL, Oct 26: CID police seized 200 kgs of stolen aluminum electric wires from a factory here today.

Police said that acting on a secret information, they raided the factory at Kashipur under Sadar thana and arrested Nurul and Khalil Molla manager and proprietor of the factory respectively.

Muggers

From Page 1

As soon as she parked her car in front of a house in Lake Circus and came out, the muggers gheraoed her, brandished a dagger and threatened not to shoot. One of them stabbed Zubunnisa in her right leg and elbow and took away her hand bag which contained the money, her passport, an airline ticket and some important documents, police said.

Zubunnisa, wife of Alauddin Ahmed, a resident of Dhanmondi, was supposed to visit India shortly. She was taken to a local hospital, police added.

A case was lodged with Dhanmondi thana but none was arrested in this connection till last night.

## 3 shops, 6 houses gutted

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Oct 26: Three shops and six houses were gutted in a fire at Sadar road of Kalapara thana headquarters in Patuakhali district last night, witnesses said.

Two buses of Samity were reportedly damaged at Burhgate on Friday.

## Khaleda

From Page 1

Asked about the corruption charges against her and her family members, she said the government was afraid of her increasing popularity. This is why the charges were brought intentionally, she added.

"We cannot trust India... India has not been fair with us... India wants to transport arms and ammunition to its south-eastern states through Bangladesh... This would put our national sovereignty at stake," Begum Zia said on transit issue.

On the issue of the proposal for buying electricity from India, the BNP chairperson said Bangladesh has tremendous potential to produce more power and meet the domestic demand. The purchase of electricity will be a serious disincentive to the local industries."

Replies to a question, Khaleda said her government held talks with New Delhi at highest level to resolve the Ganges Water Sharing issue, but "nothing came off."

The Leader of the Opposition, however, promised to perform like a responsible opposition leader and extend full cooperation to the government provided Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina "rose from petty party politics and gave necessary importance to national issues."

Replies to a question, Khaleda said her government held talks with New Delhi at highest level to resolve the Ganges Water Sharing issue, but "nothing came off."

The Leader of the Opposition, however, promised to perform like a responsible opposition leader and extend full cooperation to the government provided Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina "rose from petty party politics and gave necessary importance to national issues."

Yasmin murder

From Page 1

permission to Barrister Amirul Islam and some others to appear for the prosecution, they added.

Some veteran lawyers including Justice Abdul Malik will come from Dhaka to appear for the defence, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the Special Judge's Court and its premises were packed today with people of all classes, some coming from Dinajpur, to witness the trial. Strong security measures were taken to maintain law and order there.

That withdrawals of around 40,000 cusec have been made

through the Farakka feeder canal during the 1996 dry season can be deduced if statistics of water flow available at Farakka point is compared with the quantum of water received by Bangladesh, said analysts close to the Water Resources Ministry.

In January this year, the average flow at Farakka was 1,07,000 cusec while Bangladesh received around 65,000 cusec. In February, it was 97,000 cusec at Farakka while Bangladesh received around 50,000 cusec; in March it was 82,000 cusec on the Indian side and 30,000 cusec on the Bangladesh side; in April it was 63,000 cusec at Farakka and around 16,000 cusec on the Bangladesh side while in May it was 73,000 cusec at the Farakka and 40,000 cusec on the Bangladesh side. In May this year, which is the last month of the dry season, there seemed to have been a significant aggregate increase, according to sources concerned.

The first agreement on water-sharing between Bangladesh and India was signed on April 18, 1975 by the water resources ministers of the two countries — Abdur Rab Seriabat of Bangladesh and Jagjivan Ram of India — following India's decision to test run the feeder canal of the Farakka Barrage. The agreement covering a 41-day period — April 21 to May 31 — provided that India could withdraw 11,000 cusec during the 10-day lean period in April when the minimum flow was 55,000 cusec and could increase it to a maximum of 16,000 cusec in the last 10 days of May when the flow at Farakka increased and could exceed 70,000 cusec as was also the case this year. It can be inferred that from the remainder of the flow, Bangladesh would have received 44,000 cusec wa-

ter during the leanest period in 1975.

Earlier, the then prime ministers of Bangladesh and India on May 16, 1974, expressed their determination through a declaration that they would mutually agree on an allocation of waters available during the periods of minimum flow.

Although India had said it would not run the Barrage before a permanent agreement was reached, it started unilateral withdrawals and commissioned the Farakka Barrage.

The 1977 MOU

In 1977, the two countries signed an agreement for sharing the dry season flow for a period of five years (1978-1982). In 1982, the two sides signed an MOU for sharing the Ganges flow during 1983 and 1984. In 1985, in the absence of an understanding there was no sharing of the Ganges flow. The two countries signed another MOU in November 1985, for three years from 1986 to 1988. Since the expiry of the last MOU, there has been no accord on the dry season of 1989.

In the agreement signed on November 5, 1977, it was worked out that the leanest water flow available at Farakka would be divided on a pro rata sharing basis, with Bangladesh receiving 60 per cent and India retaining 40 per cent. Accordingly, it was agreed that from the total flow of 55,000 cusec, India would retain 20,500 cusec while Bangladesh would receive 34,500 cusec during the lean period.

But to provide a shield to Bangladesh in case of any drop in flow, a guarantee clause was inserted in the 1977 accord which specified that Bangladesh would receive at least 27,600 cusec during any lean period, which was 80 per cent of the agreed quantum of 34,500

cusec.

**Proposed agreement**

The quantum of water to be shared under the proposed agreement will have to be based on a mutually agreed ratio, sources concerned noted. Earlier, based on the data from 1948 to 1973, the availability of

water at Farakka was agreed upon and experts feel that there is no need now to review these agreed figures, which showed 55,000 cusec at the lowest. More so, when the same level of water still exists at Farakka point.

In similar-warded statements Thursday, the US State Department and the British Foreign Office demanded that Myanmar's military rulers "immediately and unconditionally" release 78-year-old Kyi Maung, a soldier-turned-activist who was imprisoned in 1990 for political charges from 1990 to 1995.

**Delhi talks on terms, quantum of water**

From Page 1

all expatriate aid personnel are to be relocated. We have received authorisation for three flights from Baku to Uganda today," said Paul Stromberg, a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

"Plans are being drawn up for the total of 98 expatriates, UN and NGO (non-governmental organisations), to be taken out including 16 UNHCR staff," he added by telephone from Kigali.

**Zairean towns**

From Page 1

all expatriate aid personnel are to be relocated. We have received authorisation for three flights from Baku to Uganda today," said Paul Stromberg, a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

"Plans are being drawn up for the total of 98 expatriates, UN and NGO (non-governmental organisations), to be taken out including 16 UNHCR staff," he added by telephone from Kigali.

**Accident**

From Page 1

five were rushed to Jhenidah Sadar hospital.

A young man was killed when a tempo hit another one standing at Katakhali crossing on Magura-Monga road today. UNB quoting police said.

Mollah Abu Syed (28) who was in the tempo died on the spot.

A Sirajganj report says, one person was killed and 40 others injured as two passenger buses collided at Janglebari on Bogra-Nagarbari highway today.

Identity of the killed could not be known. Of the injured three were admitted to hospital and the rest were given first aid at the local hospital, doctors said.

Police said the accident occurred when Dhaka bound bus from Chilamari and another Bogra bound bus from Nagarbari collided head on at about 12 noon.

Another report says, a middle-aged man was killed and 15 others injured, five seriously, when a coach rammed a jeep on Chittagong-Khagrachhari highway in Manikchhari thana today.

Police and witnesses said the Khagrachhari-bound coach from Chittagong collided with the jeep from opposite direction at Garjiana area at about 5 pm.

Both the vehicles caught fire and an unidentified man receiving severe burn wounds died on the spot. The seriously injured others were rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

**Thakur**

From Page 1

13 from Chandina thana in Comilla district and was taken on police remand twice.

Earlier, on October 20, Lance Naik (retd) Sheikh M Younus Ali also made confessional statement to the CMM Court.

The CMM Court allowed review of the jail-keeping case in the second week of September while a receptionist-cum-resident personal assistant of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Mahtul Islam, filed the Mujib-killing case with Dhannondi police on October 20.