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NEWS BRIEFS

JS session adjourned
till Monday

The second session of the
seventh Parliament was ad-
journed yesterday till 4:15 pm
on Monday. Speaker Humayun
Rashid Chowdhury announced
the adjournment at 8:55 pm
yesterday, reports UNB.

ICDDR,B Trustee
Board meets today

The 35th meeting of the
Board of Trustees (BoT) of In-
ternational Centre for Diar-
hoeal Disease Research,
Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) begins in
the capital today. The three-day
meeting, to be chaired by
Chairperson of BoT Dr Maureen
Law, will review and consider
reports of the programme
committees, finance committee
report with regard to budget for
1997, and those of the personal
committee. A meeting of Donor
Support Group will also be held
on Monday, reports UNB.

Old man chopped
to death in Barisal

By Staff Correspondent
BARISAL, Nov 1: An Old
man was chopped to death in
broad daylight allegedly by his
son-in-law in the town this
month. The dead was identified
as Majid Commander. His son
Nasir, 25, was also injured in
the attack. According to police,
the killing is a fallout of family
feud. Police arrested the son-in-
law from the spot.

Taliban down
chopper: 7 killed

ISLAMABAD, Nov 1: Seven
people were killed today as the
Taliban militia shot down a
helicopter belonging to the
northern alliance led by General
Abdul Rashid Dostam, the
Taliban-run radio Shariat said.
The broadcast of the authorities
who now control Kabul moni-
tored here, said the helicopter
was downed in Maimana, capital
of northwestern Faryab province
amid heavy fighting which continued to rage
throughout the day, reports AFP.

1000 Pak Jamaat
workers freed

KARACHI, Nov 1: Some
1000 activists of the main funda-
mentalist Jamaat-e-Islami (JI)
party have been released from
various jails in Pakistan, party
spokesman Maqsood Hussain Tahir said here today.
He said the freed activists were
among more than 2000 people
arrested during a countrywide
crackdown on JI supporters,
ahead of an anti-government
sit-in planned by the party out-
side the national parliament in
Islamabad earlier this week,
reports AFP.

JS winter session begins BNP MP's remark on two ministers sparks debate

By Staff Correspondent

The inaugural sitting of the
Jatiya Sangsad's winter session
yesterday witnessed a brief debate
on 'induction into the council of
ministers of Sheikh Hasina two
persons who had allegedly opposed
the War of Independence in 1971.'

The debate started when
State Minister for Information
Abu Sayeed accused BNP legislator
Major (retd) Haifuzzuddin Ahmed
of making an 'untrue statement' in
the House.

Haifuzzuddin, while deliberating
on a condolence motion on a
freedom fighter, agreed with
Treasury Bench member Abdul
Kader Siddiki that many who
had opposed the war of inde-
pendence got opportunity to sit
in the House. The BNP legisla-

tor further said it was unfortunate
that two anti-liberation elements
had been inducted into the council of ministers of
Sheikh Hasina.

Accusing the BNP lawmaker of
making an 'untrue statement', the State Minister for
Information demanded: 'Haifuzzuddin must disclose the
names.' A good number of Treasury
Bench members were seen supporting
the state minister.

Speaker Humayun Rashid
Choudhury gave the floor to
Haifuzzuddin on the ground of his
'right of reply' but requested
him not to utter any such name
for the sake of maintaining an
atmosphere suitable for making
obituary references. Amidst
demands from some members

belonging to both the Treasury
and the Opposition benches
that the names be disclosed, the
Chair also sought cooperation
from Leader of the Opposition
Begum Khaleda Zia to avoid any
unfortunate situation on the issue.

At this point, Haifuzzuddin
was heard asking the Leader of
the Opposition whether he
should disclose the names and
she was seen hinting him not to
do so. Deputy Leader of the
Opposition Prof. Badruddoza
Choudhury and Abdul Mannan
Bhuyian were also seen dissuading
their party MP from doing so.

The Speaker was about to go
for the next business of the
sitting when Feroz stood up to
raise his question.

Home Minister Maj (retd)
Rafiqul Islam, BU, seemed offend-
ed when a Treasury Bench member,
Shamsul Haq advised him not to 'tarnish' the image

JS tidbits

By Nazmul Ashraf

Awami League lawmaker
ASM Feroz rose to raise a question
in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday
after Speaker Humayun Rashid
Choudhury declared thrice that the question-answer
session for the sitting was over.

'It is only two minutes to an
hour for the question session.
Can you finish by two minutes?'

After a while, a smiling
Speaker announced, 'Two
minutes are over.' However, he
allowed Feroz to raise the question
and the minister concerned to
reply.

The Speaker was about to go
for the next business of the
sitting when Feroz stood up to
raise his question.

Home Minister Maj (retd)
Rafiqul Islam, BU, seemed offend-
ed when a Treasury Bench member,
Shamsul Haq advised him not to 'tarnish' the image

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34 more on 'hit list' in Khulna 5 of rival outlawed party shot dead

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Nov 1: Five persons,
including three of a family
were shot dead allegedly by
the activists of outlawed Bip-
lobi Communist Party (BCP)
on WAPDA enclosure of Taltala
village under Dumuria thana of
the district on Thursday night.

Police today recovered the
bodies of five persons, including
three of a family who were
shot dead allegedly by the
activists of outlawed Bip-
lobi Communist Party (BCP)
on WAPDA enclosure of Taltala
village under Dumuria thana of
the district on Thursday night.

The dead, reportedly the ac-
tivists of rival Purba Bangla
Communist Party were identi-
fied as Mohamined Ali, 42,
Mizanur Rahman, 30, Abdur
Razzak, 35, of Hajrakathi vil-
lage under Tala thana and Inta-

Sheikh, 40, and his son
Habibur Rahman, 20, of Kapil-
muni village under Paikgacha
thana.

Police today recovered the
bodies from a paddy field.

The Police Super, Sathkira
said that the alleged killers left
a leaflet containing names of 34
persons on their chit list.

Police further said that the
killings might be an outcome
of leadership conflict between
the two rival parties active in
different areas of Sathkira and
Khulna districts.

The carnage has created
panic among the people of Tala,
Dumuria and Kapilimoni where
additional police forces have
been deployed as security mea-
sures, police added.

Bring misguided youths back to normal life: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh
Hasina yesterday made a fresh
call upon a section of the youth
community, who had gone
astray to come back to normal
life and utilise their talents in
national development efforts,
reports BSS.

'Our aim is to bring them
back to a decent and normal life
to utilise their thoughts and
talents in the nation building
activities,' she said adding.

'These youths were forced into a
confused life with arms given
by certain quarters to consolid-
ate their powers after 1975
episode.'

The prime minister asked
the Ministry of Youth and
Sports to take up plans to pro-
vide all help to these youths to
enable them stand on their own
feet and the government would
extend all its cooperation to
that effect.

See Page 12 Col 1



Jayewardene
dead

COLOMBO, Nov 1: Sri
Lanka's first executive head of
state, Junius Jayewardene died
here today. He was 90, report
agencies.

He had been suffering from
cancer of the colon, and died in
a private hospital with his
family at his bedside. Scores of
people were outside the hospital
when his body was taken to a
Buddhist funeral home.

Jayewardene, who took of-
fice in 1978, retired from polit-
ics in 1989 after completing
See Page 12 Col 2

CHT situation now under control: Home Minister

By Staff Correspondent

Home Minister Major (retd)
Rafiqul Islam told the Jatiya
Sangsad yesterday that the
overall law and order in the
Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT)
was brought under control soon
after the September 9
incident in which 28 non-tribals
were killed at Baghaichhari
in Rangamati district.

Appropriate measures will
be taken to stop recurrence of
such incidents after reports of
the probe committee and the
two parliamentary committees
are available, he said while
replying to some questions and
supplements in the House.

The Home Minister also in-
formed the House government's
plans regarding modernisation
of the police force and the coast
guard, condition of prisons and
the number of detainees and re-
covery of illegal arms.

Answering a question on the
CHT by BNP lawmaker
Nizamuddin Khan, the Home
Minister said that armed
forces, BDR and police deployed
there were instructed to tighten
security in the area after the
September 9 incident.

Besides visits by a number of
officials

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Uneasy calm at Longadu

By Morshed Ali Khan, back from Rangamati

The relation between Bengali settlers and Chakmas in the
Longadu and Baghaichhari areas in the Chittagong Hill
Tracts has not yet improved long after the massacre of 28
woodcutters on September 9, according to high officials at
the Rangamati Hill District headquarters.

A top official in Rangamati
requesting anonymity said
'Chakma students do not attend
schools or colleges, businesses
between the two communities have come to a halt and
logging has almost stopped there.'

This has created a vacuum in
the flow of supply of daily
commodities in those areas, especially in the remote parts of
the district, senior district officials pointed out.

They also reported that they
were preparing to distribute 250
metric tonnes of wheat in those
areas as reports of acute shortage
of food were reaching them
everyday.

'We are doing our best to
normalise the situation and have
partially succeeded in the
Baghaichhari area,' said Shah
Alam, DC of Rangamati when
asked to comment on the mat-

See Page 12 Col 4

Bodies of 28 woodcutters,
out of 33 kidnapped by the
Shantibahini, were recovered on
September 10 from a deep
forest at a valley near Chur-
rakhali, 30 Kilometers off
Longadu under Baghaichhari
and 110 Kilometers from
Rangamati. Officials said that
the woodcutters had been mas-
sacred on September 9.

The woodcutters had been
abducted from a meeting with
the Shantibahini who were al-
legedly negotiating how much
toll money the woodcutters
should pay for every cubic foot
of timber extracted from the
area, according to sources.

On September 7 and 8 some
of those woodcutters met the
Shantibahini toll collection
cadres but the meeting was
postponed till September 9 on
the ground that more participants
from the woodcutters should be present,' said a source.

It was also learnt from some
official sources that a top official
of the Divisional Forest Office
had visited the spot a day
before the tragic incident and
talked with relevant parties re-

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Revolver of PS to
Opposition Leader
seized at JS Bhaban

By Staff Correspondent

A revolver was seized from
the Private Secretary to the
Leader of the Opposition in the
Jatiya Sangsad while he was
entering the Sangsad Bhaban
yesterday afternoon, police said.

A police officer challenged
Zakirul Islam as the metal de-
tector bleeped while he was
crossing the VIP gate Number
One at around 3:45 pm, prior to
the inaugural sitting of second
session of the JS, said witnesses.

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Yasmin murder
case: Hearing
resumes today

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Nov 1: Hearing of
the Yasmin murder case will re-
sume in the Special Court here
tomorrow.

Court sources said charges
will be formed against the nine
accused in the case tomorrow.

Some eminent lawyers from
Dhaka including Barrister
Amirul Islam are expected to
join local lawyers to appear for
the prosecution.

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One of 3 corruption cases

Rao asked to appear
in court Nov 13

NEW DELHI, Nov 1: Former
Prime Minister P V Narasimha
Rao's legal problems deepened
today when a court summoned
him for an indictment hearing
in an alleged bribery conspir-
acy reports AP.

Prosecutors have charged
Rao with complicity in buying
the votes of four opposition
members of Parliament to re-
sue his minority government

The summons will increase
pressure on the 75-year-old Rao
to relinquish his last position
of influence as chairman of the
Congress Party's faction in
Parliament.

Rao resigned as Congress
Party president in September.