

For Documents Door to Door delivery
To 237 Destinations in INDIA

BLUE DART
EXPRESS LIMITED

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



BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia speaking at a prize giving ceremony of 'Amra Zia Habo,' a children's organisation, in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Some city roads to be made one-way from Saturday

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) has decided to make some city roads and streets as one-way thoroughfares from Saturday as part of plans to ease traffic jams in the capital.

A DMP press release yesterday said the following roads will be initially turned into one-way roads.

The roads are: the Sadarghat-Islampur road-Nawabbari-Choto Katra-Badamati; the Bailey road crossing to Shantinagar crossing; the Siddheswari Girls College crossing to the Films and Publications Department crossing and the Siddheswari Girls College to Eastern Housing Apartment crossing.

The DMP has sought the co-operation of the people in implementing the one-way traffic system in the capital.

Two more fire victims die in Fenchuganj

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Nov 3: Two more persons have died from burn injuries they received in the fire incident that took place at Faridpur Natunbazar of Fenchuganj thana yesterday.

Rubel Ahmed, 10, died earlier.

The fire reportedly originated from a kerosene lamp at a grocery in the bazar. The two victims were identified as Mujamill Ali, 60 and Jabul Hossain, 8.

Golam Rabbani Rubal, 60, Shahid, 15, Salek, 16, and Jamir Ali, 35 are under treatment in the hospital.

PM: Four leaders

From Page 1

Dhaka Mohammad Hanif, educationists and intellectuals were present at the 210-minute long commemorative meet conducted by city AL General Secretary Mozaffar Hussain Chowdhury Maya, MP.

The Prime Minister said some quarters were yet very much active to justify the killings in '75. 'Killers can't roam around freely in a civilised country, they can't be termed 'revolutionaries' and those who do so can't escape responsibility for the killings, she noted.

She went on 'I can't believe that for long 21 years, this nation was represented in the international fora by some killers. Killers of '75 were rewarded with diplomatic assignments, to get a better job killing was the only qualification required.'

The Prime Minister said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman led the fight for independence in 1971 and took the new nation to an honourable position in the world community. Time has come. With our united efforts, now we have to restore our lost glory.'

Many people shed their blood for establishing franchise of the people and 'now our fight is against poverty. Through economic emancipation, we have to change the lot of the toiling masses. This will be the best way to turn Bangladesh into Bangabandhu's cherished 'Sonar Bangla' and implement the ideals of our great leaders,' Hasina said.

She came down heavily on her political rival BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia for reportedly saying that people had not cast votes for Awami League. 'I think, she (Begum Zia) is frustrated.'

Hasina regretted that in

Rashid's daughter says Arrest of my ill mother violation of human rights

By Staff Correspondent

Daughter of Col (ret'd) Khandker Abdul Rashid, a self-confessed killer of Bangabandhu, Mehnaz Rashid, yesterday charged the government with unleashing repression on their family members.

The government has violated the Constitution by arresting my ill mother in the darkness of night. It's a total violation of human rights,' Mehnaz told UNB at their Gulshan residence in the evening.

Mehnaz alleged that the policemen had abused her, her mother and younger sister Amina Rashid. She said they could not understand why her mother Jobaida Rashid should be arrested for the licensed firearm of her father.

'We would go for legal action and draw attention of the international community to the matter,' she said adding that a number of lawmakers of different countries had expressed sympathy to her over telephone.

She mentioned the name of one British MP, Lord Avery, who, she claimed, had talked with her by phone from London. 'My father also talked to me over telephone from London and said he is deeply shocked over the arrest.'

Mehnaz said her father did not flee the country and would return after completing his businesses abroad.

Referring to the changeover of August 15, 1975, Mehnaz said she was proud of her father for his involvement in what she called army action. 'This is not important who were involved in it... more important is that who was not,' she said.

BUET teachers' memo to PM tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

The teachers of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) will bring out a silent procession in the city tomorrow demanding resignation of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Mohammad Shahjahan.

According to a press release of the BUET Teachers Association, the processionists will march towards the Prime Minister's office to hand over a memorandum to Sheikh Hasina.

Meanwhile, the BUET teachers on strike since October 28, brought out a procession on the campus yesterday demanding immediate resignation of the Vice-Chancellor.

The teachers, who pledged to continue their strike, said normalcy on the campus could not be restored without the resignation of the VC.

BAU clash

From Page 1

Saturday's untoward incident. A group of students exploded crackers and forcibly drove out the students from the class rooms.

Another group of students brought out a procession on the campus. Two buses of the university were damaged by a group of unruly youths in Mymensingh town, causing injuries to driver Abdul Mannan.

The police raided Suhrawardy Hall on Saturday midnight and arrested two students.

Di in love

From Page 1

grandmother on a tour of the palatial building, says the Mirror. And she went to visit Khan's uncle, Omar in Stratford-upon-Avon.

The Princess has been a regular visitor to the Royal Brompton Hospital, where Khan has shown her round. She has visited many of the patients, and enjoys chatting to the staff.

If the marriage takes place, will it rock the royal family? Probably not. The royals, who are of German descent, have often married foreigners — the Queen's husband is Greek. Britain is now a multi-cultural society and marriages between Christians and Muslims are not uncommon. The Queen is lay head of the church of England and is officially entitled Defender of the Faith. But recently Diana's divorced husband, Prince Charles, has said, 'I want to be the defender of all faiths.'

She said at the time: 'There are hundreds of patients who are there without their loved ones, and they need a human presence.'

Recently she scrubbed-up to watch a heart by-pass operation, similar to those performed by Khan. This one was carried out by one of Britain's most distinguished surgeons, Sir Magdi Yacoub. He is now working with Sir Magdi as a member of his team at Harefields Hospital.

JS session

From Page 1

Sangsad is scheduled to meet at 11.30 am today to discuss in details the length of the current session and the issues to be discussed during the session.

A brief meeting of the advisory body was held on the opening day of the session on November 1, and the Prime Minister, who is a member of the committee headed by Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, suggested that the session could be a two-week one, sources in the Committee said.

DUCSU polls likely by Jan, says VC

The election to the Dhaka University Central Students' Union (DUCSU) and hall unions is likely to be held by January.

Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, who took over on September 30, gave the tentative time in an interview with UNB at his official residence yesterday.

'The university authorities are now trying to restore congenial academic atmosphere on the campus in order to hold a free and fair DUCSU election,' he said.

In this regard, the VC said all the dormitories of the university would have to be freed from outsiders and illegal arms-holders.

'To ensure an arms-free campus, law-enforcing agencies have already chalked out a master plan. According to the plan, a hunt for the terrorists will be launched very soon,' he said.

Regarding the police operation, Prof Chowdhury categorically said that from now police would not only raid some select rooms, they will also take stern action against the arms-holders.

The Vice-Chancellor emphasised changes in some clauses of the DUCSU constitution. 'We want to change a few clauses of the DUCSU constitution to regularise its election system.'

Prof Chowdhury said: There should be a system so that, if needed, the Vice-Chancellor, who is the DUCSU president, could take over the total body after the completion of its one-year tenure.

The VC said that he would immediately discuss the matter in the Senate. 'We also want to talk with teachers' association and different student organisations.'

In reply to a question about validity of the present DUCSU elected on June 6 in 1990, the VC said actually it has not effectiveness now.

He, however, said according to a clause of the DUCSU constitution the office-bearers lost their posts after expiry of their student life.

But Prof Chowdhury said, another clause says the office-bearers would continue their charge till their successors step in.

These two clauses are contradictory. But the first clause is much important than the second. So the present DUCSU has lost its validity,' he said.

To another question on President's remarks about moratorium on student politics, the VC said

the VC said politics and terrorism are different from each other. 'We should allow politics to take its own course.'

'Only for few terrorists we should not ban student politics forgetting about their glorious history in every democratic movement of our country,' he said.

But, he hastened to add, if the President, who is also the Chancellor of the university, decides to ban student politics, he (VC) would not contradict.

CHT leaders threaten movement for autonomy

Leaders of three CHT organisations yesterday urged the government to resume dialogue for a peaceful and permanent settlement of the Chittagong Hill Tracts problem, reports UNB.

They warned of launching a greater movement for autonomy if the problem is not resolved through dialogue immediately.

In a joint statement, General Secretary of Pahari Gano Parishad Probst B Khisha, President of Pahari Chhatra Parishad Sanchay Chakma and Vice-President of Hill Women's Federation Bartika Chakma aired fears of re-eruption of conflict for nonrenewal of ceasefire in the region.

They alleged that the present government failed to show respect to the hill people's confidence. The government also could not provide any clear-cut hopeful guideline against the policy of repression and time-killing tactics of the past government.'

He, however, said according to a clause of the DUCSU constitution the office-bearers lost their posts after expiry of their student life.

But Prof Chowdhury said, another clause says the office-bearers would continue their charge till their successors step in.

These two clauses are contradictory. But the first clause is much important than the second. So the present DUCSU has lost its validity,' he said.

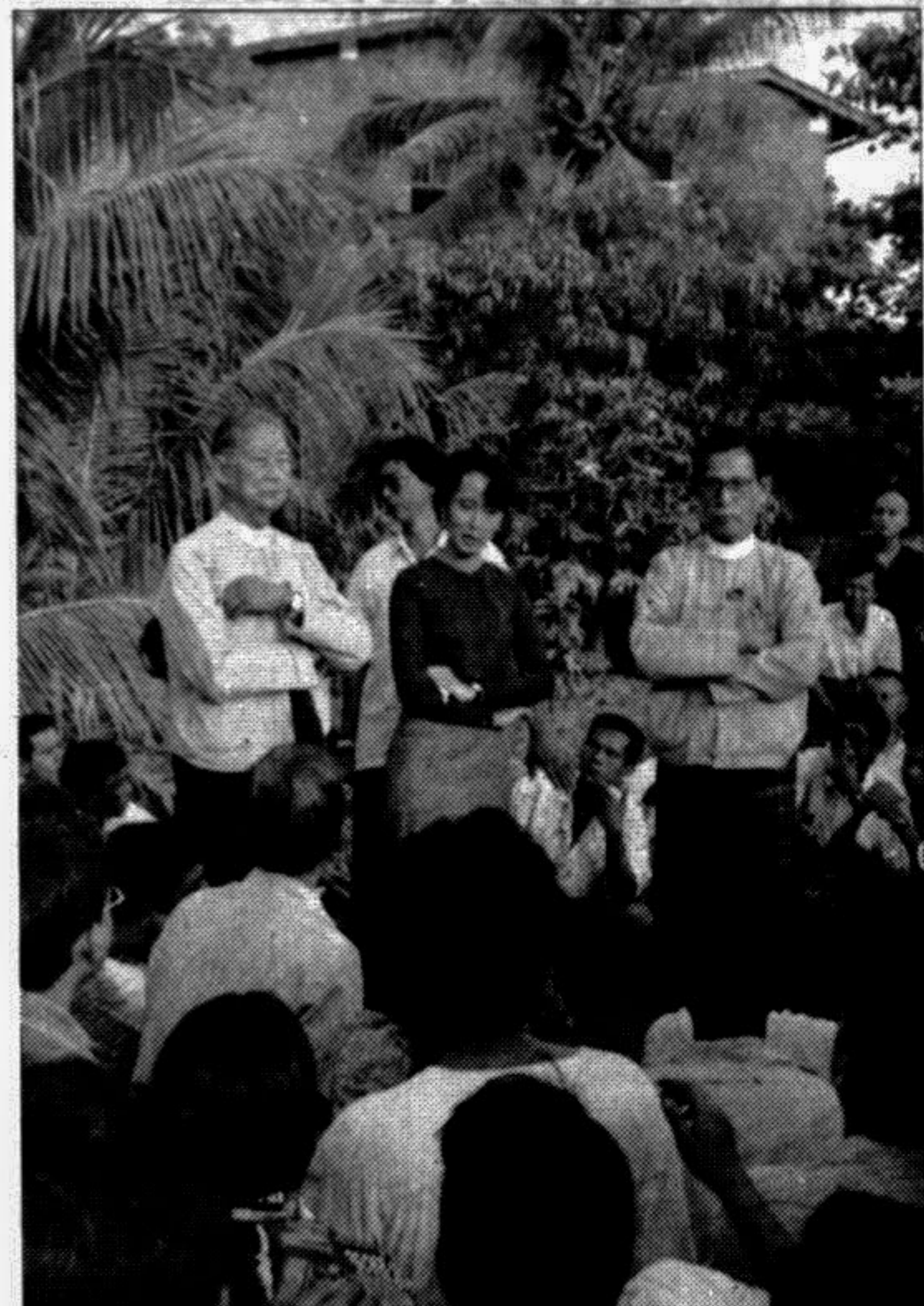
To another question on President's remarks about moratorium on student politics, the VC said

Razzak returns home

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak returned home yesterday after a five-day official visit to India for water talks, reports UNB.

He led a five-member high-powered Bangladesh delegation during the trip.

The minister, during the visit, met Indian Water Resources Minister Janeswar Mishra and held talks with him on the Ganges water-sharing issue.



Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi addressing supporters at an intersection near the Industry Ministry on Saturday after armed riot police prevented them from approaching her home. —AFP/UNB photo

Alleged leader of terrorist group held in city

By Staff Correspondent

The Detective Branch (DB) police yesterday arrested the alleged leader of an organised terrorist gang active in Rampura, Ulan and Badda areas in the city, police said.

The DB team held Shahidul Islam Liton Miaz from near the Rampura bridge in the morning and recovered one revolver from his possession. Later, following his confession, police also recovered another revolver from one of his relative's house in West Rampura, according to police.

Miaz and his gang, widely known as 'Miaz force' in the area, was allegedly involved in snatching, extortion and other terrorist activities in the area, police said.

Signboard

See Page 12 Col 7

demanding restoration of the signboard.

Police has been deployed in and around the town hall apprehending trouble.

When contacted, Deputy Commissioner Nazrul Islam said he has informed the higher authorities about the incident and was awaiting instruction.

A member of the BNP standing committee, Abdul Matin Chowdhury, while talking to reporters at the local BNP office this evening, alleged that the signboard was removed by some Awami League-backed people and demanded its restoration.

Electronic Toaster
Let's make things better
Philips
Transcom Electronics Limited
Official license of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets
Dhaka: 815306-9, 819625-9, 889993
Ctg: 501082, 503578, Khulna: 20304, Bogra: 6825

Depression over Bay likely this month

A couple of depression or cyclone is likely to form over the Bay in the current month, a Met Office forecast said yesterday.

A depression formed over the Bay barely a week ago and turned into a cyclonic storm that hit the country's southern coast early on October 29, killing at least 13 people and causing damage to property, including dwelling houses, crops and shrimp.

The long-range weather forecast also said northern parts of the country might experience winter during the last half of this month due to gradual fall in minimum temperature.

Minimum temperature is likely to fall in the rest of the country but cold weather may not be felt significantly there, weathermen predicted.

Barisal division may have the highest 40-50 mm rain against normal 56 mm during the current month.

Chittagong division may have 30-40 mm rain against normal 39 mm, Sylhet 25-35 mm against normal 32 mm, Dhaka 15-25 mm against normal 21 mm and Rajshahi and Khulna divisions 10-15 mm each against normal 12 and 16 mm respectively.

Villager

From Page 1

People of village gathered when news spread that police had arrested Surati Al in absence of his son Jhanu Mian, they accused.

Police claimed that they were compelled to open fire as angry villagers tried to snatch the arrested person.

Local people held a rally at Ramu thana Sadar in the afternoon protesting the killing. They demanded immediate punishment and trial of the persons responsible for the killing. A tense situation was prevailing in the area.

The body of Zebal Hossain was sent to the Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

Two separate cases were filed at the Ramu thana in this regard. One was filed on behalf of the relatives of Zebal Ahmed and another by the police.

Interpol

From Page 1

gation at the session, the IGP urged the Interpol to extend its assistance in combatting organised crimes, illicit trafficking of children and their exploitation on forced labour, sexual abuse, financial and economic crimes like money laundering, hundi exchange and underground financial institutions, counterfeit currencies and travel documents.

The week-long general session of the Interpol, an organisation of 177-member countries, elected Toshinori Kanemoto, Director General of International Affairs Department of National Police Agency of Japan, President for a term of four years. Kanemoto succeeds Bjorn Ericsson of Sweden.

CID: Statements

From Page 1

Investigation into the killings is on under separate cases filed with Dhanmondi thana, Labagh thana and Ramna thana.

Meanwhile, a case lodged with Cox's Bazar district court for 'offending the religious sentiment of Muslims' during the burial of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has been transferred to the Dhaka Metropolitan Magistracy, the sources said.

Load shedding

From Page 1

'mother vessel' for growth of industries the minister said that the government would go for bidding for the 300 MW Meghna Ghat Power Plant on January 5.

'This will be the first venture in private sector power generation. Five companies have already been short-listed by the BPDB at the pre-qualification stage,' he added.

Public opinion on autonomy of Betar, TV to be sought

A meeting of the Policy Formulation Commission on the autonomy of Bangladesh Television and Betar was held yesterday with its Chairman M Asafudowlah in the chair, reports UNB.

The meeting reviewed the related rules and regulations of BBC, NHK of Japan and Indian mass media, and the existing rules of Bangladesh Betar and Television.

It also took opinions from the senior officials of Betar and Television in this regard, said a PTD handout.

The meeting constituted a sub-committee to prepare a questionnaire to take public opinion on the autonomy of BTV and Betar.

BB: Shares

From Page 1

with the banks.

The central bank circular followed a comment by Governor Khorsheed Alam who, in a press conference on Saturday, said it should be investigated where the huge money is coming from to the capital market.

The two stock markets of the country have been witnessing an extraordinary boom for last few months as prices of many of the scrips have skyrocketed without adequate backing from the company fundamentals.

The action of the Bangladesh Bank, however, is seen by the banking people as a step which would leave a 'very little' impact on the businesses in the buoyant capital market.

The advance from the banks to the borrowers against share certificates is not significant, said the managing director of a leading private-sector commercial bank, commenting on the central bank's move.

He said most of the investors in the capital market purchase shares with their own money. However, nobody can deposit share to take loan to purchase new shares, the MD noted.

Right time

From Page 1

For privatisation, the government needed to improve its credibility, said Mary Shirley, Division Chief of the World Bank. 'That means the government should keep its promises.'

'If the government plans to keep the good units and sell bad units to private investors, how can we expect good result from privatisation?' said Al Husainy.

'Privatisation is a political process. Without political commitment, it is bound to falter,' said Owise Sadat of the World Bank. 'The profitable units should also be offered,' he added.

He also suggested relaxation of the terms and conditions for bidding correct valuation of the assets of the SOEs, making full information on the SOEs available to everybody before bidding and removing bureaucratic bottlenecks in the way of independent functioning of the Privatisation Board.

The speakers said that when the political leadership was committed for privatisation, it was being resisted by the bureaucrats and employees of the SOEs, thus slowing down the whole process.

Since privatisation of over 150 SOEs and utility services required time, the government should aim at improving their performances by giving them autonomy in decision making, the speakers observed.

Briton robbed of 2 cameras in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Nov 3: A British tourist — Andrew J Hewlen — was robbed of his two cameras at the Iwata terminal ghat on Saturday.

Andrew who has come here with his wife stated in his FIR that a young man snatched his cameras.

Kotwali thana has recorded a case in this connection.

Kailashtila

From Page 1

Nasir Uddin, Deputy Commander of Sylhet unit of MuktiJoddha Sangsad, Mahmud Hossain, Iqbal Hossain of Khelafat Majlis and Badepasha UP chairman Rafique Uddin.

The procession was participated by several hundred women. The demands include setting up a fractionation plant, and a Gas Turbine Power plant at Golapganj, cancellation of acquisition of lands in the name of Jalalabad Gas, and jobs for the local people.

Biman's Barisal flight remains suspended

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Nov 3: Biman's ATP service between Dhaka and Barisal, which was scheduled to resume today, remained suspended, Biman sources said.

District manager of Biman Mohammad Ali said that the scheduled flight was cancelled due to 'commercial reasons'. Sale of tickets started today and flights would be operated regularly from next week, he told The Daily Star.

DSE market

From Page 1

cent; Renata Ltd — 20 per cent; Modern Industries Ltd — 8 per cent; Rupali Insurance Co Ltd — 20 per cent; Apex Footwear Ltd — 21; Phoenix Insurance Co Ltd — 21; 1st ICB Mutual Fund — 60 per cent; 2nd ICB Mutual Fund — 42 per cent; 3rd ICB Mutual Fund — 28 per cent; 4th ICB Mutual Fund — 41 per cent; 5th Mutual Fund — 30 per cent; 6th ICB Mutual Fund — 20; 7th ICB Mutual Fund — 18 per cent; Square Pharmaceuticals — 35 per cent; Sonargaon Textiles Ltd — 12.5 per cent; Islami Bank Ltd — 18 per cent; Federal Insurance Co — 15 per cent; Pro-gati Insurance Ltd — 25 per cent; Eastland Insurance Co Ltd — 16 per cent; Reliance Insurance Co Ltd — 20 per cent; Tripti Industries Ltd — 17; Aramit Ltd — 5 per cent; Janata Insurance Co Ltd — 16 per cent; ACI Ltd — 20 per cent; Meghna Shrimp Culture Ltd — 12 per cent; Quasem Drycells Ltd — 25 per cent; Eastern Insurance Co Ltd — 10 per cent; Bangladesh Thai Aluminium — 17 per cent; Bangladesh General Insurance — 23 per cent; Bangladesh Lamps — 40 per cent; Bangladesh Hotels Ltd — 30 per cent; Monno Jute Stallers Ltd — 20 per cent; GQ Ball Pen Industries — 55 per cent; Lexco Ltd — 22 per cent; and Bangladesh Leaf Tobacco — 25 per cent.

The four companies which gave stock dividends are: Square Pharmaceuticals — 25 per cent; ACI — 25 per cent; GQ Ball Pen Industries — 50 per cent; and Bangladesh Leaf Tobacco — 20 per cent.

Sundarbans 'sick'

From Page 1

some scientists is to be behind the climate changes that have brought extraordinary weather shifts world-wide.

Environmentalists think the burning of fossil fuels is the main culprit behind global warming. The IPCC warns that further major changes to the world's climate are now probably inevitable and the south is likely to be hardest hit.

The Sundarbans are a wonderful 'barometre of change' says Thomas, because the water that feeds them comes from melting Himalayan snow that empties into the river Ganges and courses on down to the mangroves bringing with it particles of everything it encounters on its way.

By studying changes in water quality, water levels, sedimentation and tree growth in detail over a long time scientists can get a pretty good idea of changes occurring in the environment.

Thomas believes the forest offers a research facility every bit as important as the work done by the British Antarctic Survey into the eruption of vegetation on the shrinking Antarctic icecaps. 'Here we can study two activities in tandem — changing vegetation and its association with sea levels.'

Losing the forest would be devastating for the fisheries and therefore the economies of Bangladesh, Thailand, Myanmar and India, according to Fazlul Haque, a lecturer in

forestry at Khulna University. Because the trees provide organic matter for fish and shrimps to feed on, many species use the channels as breeding grounds and nurseries. 'Without this facility the fish stocks of the Bay and the wider Indian ocean would be damaged.'

Storm damage would rise, too. Should the Sundarbans be further depleted, Bangladesh and West Bengal in India would be exposed to the full force of the cyclones that whip up the Bay 12 times on average a year. At present the Sundarbans provide at least some protection from high tides and flooding, Haque says.

And wildlife would be badly hit. About 500 types of birds and 40 species of animal, including the globally endangered salt water crocodile, live in the forest, to top it all, Bangladesh would lose its only substantial timber resource.

The Sundarban reserve is a managed forest, and a regulated amount of timber is allowed to be taken for construction and hardwood.

The governments of India, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea and Australia might do well to keep a close eye on the Sundarbans story, for as Haque says, their own mangrove forests will suffer similar decimation if global warming is conclusively found to be behind mangrove sickness.